

Nunawading and District Historical Society Inc. NEWSLETTER



A0012235J ABN 44 352 041 634
Series 9. No. 9 June 2001

All mail to be addressed to P.O. Box 272 Mitcham 3132 - Museum Telephone 9873 4946

From the President

The 2001 Heritage Festival was another successful event, even though publicity was not as good as previous years, the numbers attending were very good. My thanks to all of you who helped for the effort and time you gave to make this day a happy and pleasant one. We were all delighted when member, Ian Nethercote, won the raffle for the Barbara Rogalski painting of Schwerkolt Cottage which was donated by the estate of our late member, Max Grant.

Victoria's celebration of the Federation of our Nation were very fitting and I hope you all saw or participated in an event. I never cease to be amazed at what we have achieved as a nation in so short a time. Our contribution to Federation was the interesting display of Federation memorabilia set up by Barbara Rogalski in the Mitcham shop, and our April Guest Speaker, John Lahey's history on the formation of our Commonwealth of Australia, with portrait photographs on slides of some of the political participants and their contribution to this event.

The City of Whitehorse is to launch the Heritage Trail on Sunday 27th May at 11am at Gardiners Creek, Box Hill, then in Furness Park, Blackburn at noon. We have a general invitation to members, but this Newsletter may be too late to inform you. The remaining interpretive signs will be gradually installed throughout the City, so look out for them.

Nunawading Arts Council is promoting the culture of Whitehorse on the 29th June - 1st July with a "Arts on Parade". The Society has been asked to have a display, but we need members to volunteer some time to staff the display. Please let Barbara or myself know by the meeting on 2nd June if you can help.

The Vic Roads contractor has removed the trees and began other works for the Deep Creek Road Bridge. Your Committee has arranged with Vic Roads to come to our August meeting to talk on the plans for the construction of the Freeway.

We have been very lucky with the identification of photographs in both the February and the April Newsletters. Mrs. Betty Saltzer, a friend of member Phyllis Johnson, was able to identify all but three students in the class from Mitcham State School in 1933, and member Rosalie Whalen, great grand-daughter of August Schwerkolt was able to advise us that the Schwerkolt family were photographed outside their beachhouse, "Mitcham". Our thanks for this information.

The Society is still looking for Street Directories to add to the collection. We would appreciate copies of these, which will enable change of land use to be researched.

Our thanks to Bruce Atkinson, MLA for Koonung Province, who printed this newsletter when our photocopier broke down.
Valda Arrowsmith

NEXT MEETING

Please note change of date for our next Meeting. Now Saturday 2nd June at 1.30 pm. at Local History Room, Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex, Deep Creek Road, Mitcham.

Guest Speaker - Doug Watkins
Subject - Lighthouses of Victoria

Whitehorse Community Arts on Parade
Friday 29 June to Sunday 1 July
Free Admission - Whitehorse Centre
Sunday 30th June at 2 pm
Max Grant Memorial Concert
Displays and performances throughout the weekend.
Ring Valda or Barb Keene if you can help with caring for our display.

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Society is to foster historical interest and knowledge. To collect, document, research, preserve and exhibit items that show how people have lived and worked in the development of the Whitehorse area from human settlement to the present day.

MOMENTS AT OUR OPEN DAY 1st APRIL 2001

Our Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex Open Day was once again a great success with many favourable remarks from visitors.



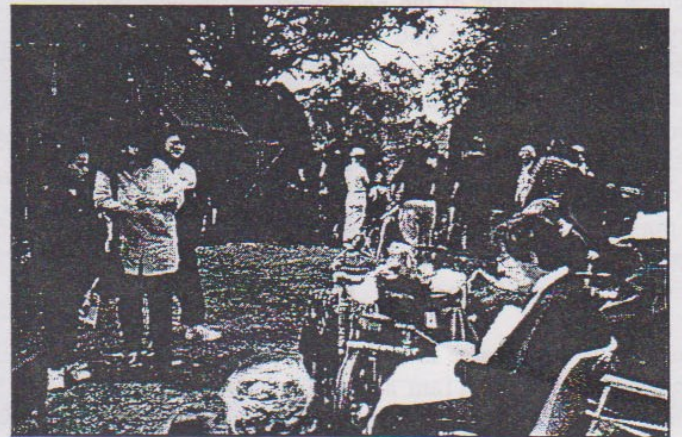
Members of the Victorian Re-enactment Society enjoy afternoon tea following their performance.



The Blacksmiths continue to interest young and old in their ancient craft.



Children really enjoyed the hula hoops and so did some of the adults!



The Spinners and Weavers impressed visitors with their skill.



Members of Rotary Club of Forest Hill worked very successfully with the sausage sizzle.



The workers spared a moment from the chore of packing up for this photo opportunity. Our thanks to all who contributed.

GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!

Victoria celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the Discovery of Gold this year and our near neighbours at Warrandyte lead the celebrations as gold was first discovered at Anderson's Creek, Warrandyte. The Mayor and Councillors of Melbourne had offered a reward of 200 pounds for the discovery of a workable deposit of gold. Louis John Michel, Licensee of the Rainbow Hotel in Swanston Street set off with a party of five to fossick in the Plenty Ranges and along the Yarra River. On June 30th, quartz gold was discovered and a few days later alluvial gold was found in the creek. The Council's reward never eventuated, but Michel was awarded one thousand pounds by the newly constituted Legislative Assembly. These diggings were to last more than fifty years, and many other famous goldfields were discovered in the early 1850's, making Victoria into a very prosperous colony and bringing many thousands of goldseekers who increased the population and brought many skills to the colony.

SATURDAY JUNE 30TH 2001 - PROGRAM OF EVENTS AT WARRANDYTE.

TENT CITY - STIGGANTS RESERVE, WARRANDYTE 11 am till 4.30 am

Experience life in the gold diggings!
Damper and Billy Tea will be served!
Pan for gold in the Yarra River!
Listen to Paradiddle Bush Band!

DISCOVERY RE-ENACTMENT GOLD MEMORIAL ROAD CARPARK (road will be closed to car access)

2 pm for a 2.30 pm start
Players from the Warrandyte Theatre Company will re-enact the discovery at the very spot Louis Michel struck gold. Descendants of Louis Michel will be in attendance.

WARRANDYTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM AT THE RESTORED POST OFFICE (built 1876)

111 Yarra Street, Warrandyte
10am till 5pm
See an extensive range of historical photographs and artifacts from the mining days.

GOLD MINING TOURS - 12 noon and 3 pm
Tours leave from Warrandyte Historical Society Museum.
Stout Footwear and a torch recommended.

HISTORICAL DISPLAYS Warrandyte Community Centre (Yarra Street)

KID'S STREET PARTY -12.30 pm till 1.30 pm
Behind the Community Church (next to Stiggant's Reserve)
Dress the kids in costume and enjoy the food, fun and music.

BUSH DANCE - 8 pm till midnight Tickets - \$20 each
Bookings essential - ring Daniela Galatoulas on 9840 9362
Dance to the tunes of Paradiddle. Finger food provided.

(Having attended a few Warrandyte Festivals, I can guarantee a good day. The Community at Warrandyte get involved and conduct these events very well. Barbara Gardiner)

Welcome to new members - Clare Knyvett of Donvale, Vicki Evans-Jones of Mitcham, Charles and Lorraine Findley of Mitcham.

The City of Whitehorse presents two exhibitions from the Public Record Office of Victoria at the Box Hill Town Hall Art Space, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill 9-5 Monday to Friday - from 4th May to 29th Jun.

LUCY'S STORY - THE STORY OF LUCY BELL SINGER
CAMPBELL
BIGAMY, THEFT AND MURDER -
THE EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF FREDERICK
BAILEY DEEMING

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

A big thank you to all those members who gave their time and effort to make our Open Day on 1st April 2001 such a great success. This day is an opportunity for the Society to "show off" to the local community and its success can be gauged by the many favourable comments such as "This day just keeps getting bigger and better".

Don't forget the change of our next meeting date to June 2nd at 1.30 pm, when Doug Watkins will be talking to us about "Lighthouses of Victoria"

I am pleased to report that Ted Arrowsmith is recovering from his major surgery and has returned to his duties at our Wednesday Working Group (although for reduced time). We are all pleased to welcome him back. Barbara Keene

Cataloguing the Collection - Current Status

Artifacts	2823 Items catalogued
Documents	2798 Items catalogued
Photographs	2306 Items catalogued

THANKS:

for the provision to the Society of space to display our photographs.

John Cybula, Estate Agent, 108 Canterbury Road Blackburn South, and

Ian Armstrong of Drake & Co, Estate Agents
483 Whitehorse Mitcham

REMEMBER

Box Hill Cemetery Records and Nunawading Gazette for 1964-1974 available on microfiche for research.
Nunawading and District Historical Society Local History Collection - open from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm on Wednesday
Visitors welcomed. Ring 9873 4946 for an appointment at other times.

President

Valda Arrowsmith 9874 1414

Secretary

Barbara Keene 9874 4919

Treasurer

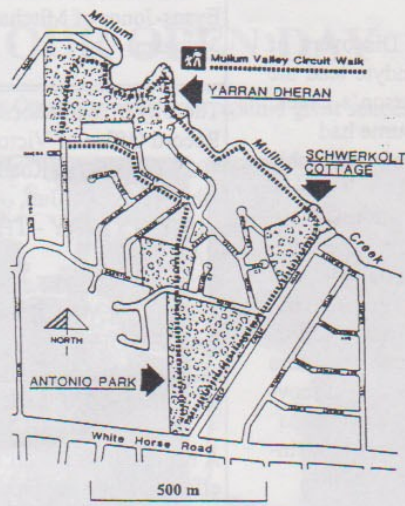
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Our Society on the Internet.

www.vicnet.net.au/~ndhsinc/



Melway Ref. 49 D7



*Nunawading and District
Historical Society, Inc.
acknowledge the support
from the
City of Whitehorse*

Museum Accreditation Program

Mr Mr Mr
Accredited Museum

ISSN 1328-2395



CAN ANYONE DATE THIS PHOTOGRAPH?

BLACKBURN FOOTBALL CLUB DANCE
AT
MORTON HALL,
BLACKBURN

*Nunawading and District Historical Society Inc.
Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex.*

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