

Whitehorse Historical Society Inc.

Formerly Nunawading & District Historical Society Inc.

1965 - 2006



NEWSLETTER



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August 2006

From the President

As we approach our AGM for 2006 it is worth looking back on some of the many achievements of the last 12 months:

- * We celebrated forty years of activities
- * The Oral History project commenced
- * We have become a POD *
- * Whitehorse Historical Society were major participants in local heritage focused activities for the Commonwealth Games
- * We regularly mounted new displays and revamped some old favourites.
- * Delivered a successful community heritage day
- * Hosted a fashion show and talk, and through the commitment of regular Wednesday working group members continued to develop our databases and archive resources, cataloguing, researching and with much housekeeping. My thanks to each and everyone who has contributed in the past year!

The regular maintenance and the additional contributions of members means the Whitehorse Society continues to achieve its aims. New members and skills are however vital to continue all our activities and the AGM is an ideal time for members to share their ideas as to how we can do this.

Although I was unable to attend the last General meeting, all those who did were most appreciative of the fascinating talk delivered by David Best. Accompanied by two Aunts who had also worked in the business it was an opportunity to hear both David's and their perspectives of the

Dye and Ticking factory. David has promised to deposit a CD with his talk in our Archive and this will be available for members to access. As the cold weather closes in it is harder to leave the comfort of home. So if you do feel marooned or can only manage to get to the library elsewhere in this newsletter is a reminder of web sites with a historical focus, available through the internet.

I look forward to catching up with you all at our very special AGM

Judith Fry

**Next meeting of the Society
Saturday 12th August 2006
1.30 pm**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
Whitehorse Historical Society
At the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum
Complex**

The meeting will hear reports from office bearers and elect the committee for 2006-2007. Following the meeting members are invited to join in a session of

Collectors tales

Are you a collector? Do you have an item from your own special collection or one item of importance that you can share with members and tell the story behind the item? We look forward to seeing you and your treasure at the AGM.

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

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.

For the Archives – The Teacher's College War memorial 1914-1918

A new information brochure has recently been published on the origins of a Memorial to World War 1 located at the University of Melbourne. The memorial consists of two parts : a three light stained glass window and a pair of opus sectile hand painted tablets with one hundred and eighty three portraits of Teachers College students, alumni and staff. One hundred and ninety five names are also listed on the windows the central panel of which features what is thought to be one of the earliest depictions of an ANZAC soldier in stained glass. The memorial was completed and unveiled in 1920.

Sergeant Richard E. Hughes born in Torrumburry near Echuca in 1891 died at Bullecourt 3rd of May 1917 and one of those portrayed was discovered to have a local connection. He was a schoolboy who grew up in Vermont and later became a junior teacher at Mitcham. The source of this information was a commemorative issue of a College newsletter with images and brief biographies, entitled *The Trainee: Special War Number Sept. 1919*. Information on Hughes has been supplied for the Whitehorse Historical Society files. Pat Richardson is carrying out further research to discover if there is any link with the Hughes family who operated the Grocery store in Canterbury Road and the business on the corner of Whitehorse and Mitcham Roads.

Many of the other people portrayed who attended the Teachers College in Grattan St Melbourne came from all over Victoria.

The memorial is significant as a visual record of people, their names, year of graduation, their military ranks and non military service occupations and could be one of the few sources of images for some descendants or families of trainee teachers who attended the College between 1900 and 1918.

The brochure provides a summary of the College history, and a full alphabetic listing of names on both parts of the Memorial with colour images of the two parts of the memorial. Copies of the brochure can be obtained by emailing the editor of this newsletter or by phone: on 03 8344 7158

CENSUS TIME CAPSULE

You may have read that, on Census night, 8 August 2006, you will have the option of allowing your census data to be kept securely for 99 years by the National Archives of Australia. This is in line with the policies of many other countries, and as family history researchers know, will provide a valuable source of information for future generations. Security of these records is assured, and nobody, including government and private organisations, will have access to them until their release date in 2105.

A detailed information booklet will be distributed to you with the census form that your household will be required to complete, and you can also consult the 2006 Census website at www.abs.gov.au/census if you wish.

The Society strongly urges you to allow your data to be preserved for future research.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

A Membership Renewal Form is enclosed in this Newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM and will be ready with my receipt book to accept any fees being paid.

June Ventouras

NOMINATION for COMMITTEE

Included in this Newsletter is a nomination form for Committee members to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting on 12th August.

To achieve the aims of the Society we need members to participate by nominating for the Committee. I do urge you to consider this.

WHS Dates for your Diary

2006 meeting dates and guest speakers

Saturday 14 October

Margaret Rackham History of Nunawading Community Gardens at Forest Hill

Saturday 9 December

Christmas Celebration
Singing Group and afternoon tea.

2006 Heritage & Seniors Week

This annual event planned for the first week of October .will be launched with our own Heritage day at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex on

Sunday October 1st at 2pm.

Look out also for the program with other Springtime activities being hosted and organised by the City of Whitehorse.

Display News & dates

A selection of our 1960's toys have been on display at the Nunawading Library during July and has created interest amongst the children and the parents, as well!

A new display in the Museum features a beautiful wedding dress of Brussels lace first worn in 1886. Three descendants have worn the gown at their weddings in 1941, 1950 and 1973. Images of three of the brides are included in the display

We have also installed a 1920's fur coat.

Cataloguing the Collection - Current Status

Artifacts	3835	Items catalogued
Documents	5511	Items catalogued
Photographs	3296	Items catalogued

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome two new members, Lynn Ford of Warrenwood and Janiece Plehn of Mitcham and we look forward to seeing them at our activities. Janiece has already joined our Wednesday Group.

Oral History Project

A reminder that the Oral History project invites the participation from any City of Whitehorse residents who were post-war migrants to Australia. The program is guided by the standards and ethics of the Oral History Society / Association?. If you are not sure how an Oral History is recorded and would like to participate or refer someone you know please ring the Society with questions about the project on 9873 4946 and leave your name and a contact number or address.

Can You Help ?

Barry Sheffield from the Box Hill Historical Society has sought research assistance and has a request for the help of WHS members and readers in locating elusive images.

I am desperately seeking digital copies of photographs of the old Vermont State School building when it stood on the corner of Canterbury and Mitcham Roads (post c. 1950) , Does anyone know of photographs that were taken when it was under threat of demolition? Please contact Barry on: 9730 1587 or barrysheff@primus.com.au

Victorian Association of Family History Organisation

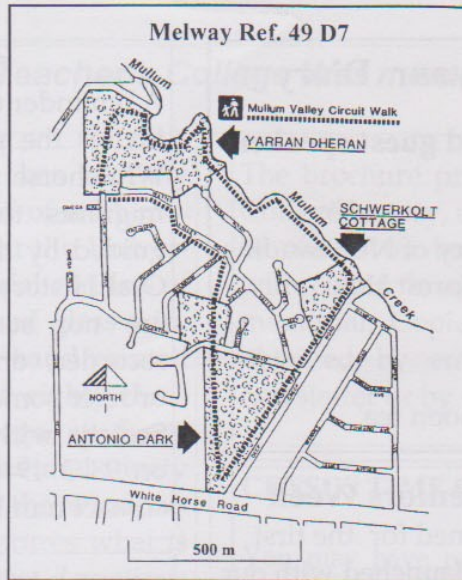
FAMILY & LOCAL HISTORY TREASURE CHEST
On Saturday 19th August 2006 9am - 5pm at
Dalllas Brooks Centre 300 Albert St.,
East Melbourne
\$10 entry fee

Many activities including access to consultants in tracing family history both in Australia and overseas including
Genealogist Nick Vine Hall
For more details contact:
03 95606257 or email:
pmeade@now.com.au

REMEMBER

Whitehorse Historical Society
Local History Collection & Place of Deposit
*open 10.30 am to 2.30 pm Wednesdays. Visitors welcome.
Ring 9873 4946 for an appointment at other times.*
Box Hill Cemetery Records & Nunawading Gazette
for 1964-1974 available on microfiche for research

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Deadline for notices relating to heritage or any other activities for inclusion in the newsletter need to be supplied to the editor usually by the 12th of the month preceding the next meeting.



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