

Whitehorse Historical Society Inc.

Formerly Nunawading & District Historical Society Inc.

1965 - 2006



NEWSLETTER



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December 2006

From the President

President's Report

As usual the Historical Society has had a busy time recently. Heritage week commenced with the Wisteria party at the Schwerkolt Cottage and museum complex followed by guided walks around the City of Whitehorse during Seniors week.

All of these activities were well attended and swiftly followed by the Whitehorse Spring festival. At this event the WHS displayed two wedding dresses from our extensive collection, one dating from the 1800s and the other a contrast from the 1960s. The City of Whitehorse Council provided the Society with a grant to fund the repair of the 1800's dress.

A visit by Mr Rob Hulls the Minister for Planning(Vic), to the Schwerkolt complex marked the donation to Whitehorse of the area of land better known to many of us as "the Horse Paddock". This was the original site of the first Schwerkolt Cottage, an orchard and a flower farm. This donation ensures that this important site can be more easily preserved - and after all the efforts of the Council and the Historical Society it was a landmark day for us all!

At our October meeting Jay Miller told us of the Mt Isa Underground Hospital and Museum, a complex developed in the 2nd world war and set up with regular hospital equipment and furniture, only to be forgot-

ten until the 1990s. Jay also mentioned some intriguing aspects of Mt Isa's history.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Valerie Marshall who has not only become a member of the Society but has also joined our Wednesday working group.

Don't forget our next meeting, the last for the year, is on the 9th of December.

I would like to thank all the members for their contribution over the last year and on behalf of the Committee wish you a happy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

Judith Fry



*Mt Isa
Underground
Hospital ward
Photo by Jay
Miller, 2006*

**Next meeting of the Society
Saturday 9th of December 2006**

1.30 pm

*By popular request
The Glen Singers will perform*

Please bring a plate to share

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.

The Hoadley Family by Yvonne Fitzmaurice

Hoadley's chocolates and sweets are a well-known established brand name in Australia, a result in one sense of accident and necessity!

Abel HOADLEY was born 10 September 1844 at Willingdon, Sussex, England, the only son of a blacksmith, Peter Hoadley and his wife Elizabeth Ann, nee Wheeler.

In England Abel was apprenticed to a draper and grocer, but his health failed and he was sent by his family to Melbourne in 1865 in the hope the sunshine would benefit him. Abel grew stronger and became a nurseryman before obtaining land at East Burwood where he started an orchard. Whether he married before buying his land or afterwards is unclear, however by the 1880s he and his wife were established as orchardists.

On 14 November 1868, three years after his arrival and aged 24 years, he married Susannah Ann Barrett at the United Presbyterian Church at Fitzroy. They had fourteen children.

It is reported that Hoadley's road to success began with a storm that completely stripped their trees of fruit which was ready for harvesting. Mrs Hoadley collected the fruit and made jams in the copper under the chestnut tree. Her idea became Rising Sun Jams which was later taken over by the Australian Jam Company. The business grew and by the late 1880s Hoadley opened a small factory in South Melbourne, trading as A Hoadley & Co under the trade mark of the rising sun. The business expanded rapidly and the five storey premises, The Rising Sun Preserving Works, were built in 1895: jams, jellies, preserved fruits, candied peels, sauces and confectionery were made by a workforce as large as 200. Late in 1901 there were four preserving factories, and a large confectionery works near Princes Bridge. Hoadley acquired the old-established firm of Dillon, Burrows & Co. He extended his range to vinegar, cocoa and chocolate. 800 people were employed at the height of the season, and in the early 1900s Hoadley was by far the largest Victorian customer of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. In 1910 the jam business was sold, and in 1913 when Hoadley retired from business Hoadley's Chocolates Ltd was

formed. He was known to have a paternal attitude towards his work force for whom he supplied well-equipped dining rooms in the clean and well aired working premises. As a devout and active Methodist he supported the establishment of the Central Mission in 1893 and remained on the board as a treasurer and executive for many years. In 1903 when the mission decided to extend its rescue of boys by establishing a country home, Hoadley offered his 38 acre (15. ha) Burwood orchard for £1000, some £500 less than the market price. It, with an adjoining property, became the nucleus of the Boys' Training Farm at Tally Ho.

Abel Hoadley died of cancer on 12 May 1918 at his home, Bella Vista, Kew, leaving an estate valued at probate as £58, 946. He was survived by his wife, four daughters and four sons. All of the sons were involved with the business.

In the 1930s, after the Wall Street crash of 1929 the firm was on the verge of bankruptcy. An imaginative marketing of candy bars, notably the Violet Crumble, named by Mrs Abel Hoadley after her favourite flower helped re-establish the firm. During the postwar period there were a number of mergers, the last with an English firm in 1972 and becoming Rowntree Hoadley Ltd

The tenth child Charles Archibald Brookes Hoadley, born on 1 March 1887 at Burwood, became an explorer, educator and a scout leader. He completed mining engineering and science degrees at the University of Melbourne.

After spending two years with Broken Hill Proprietary Co Ltd and late in 1912, he joined (Sir) Douglas Mawson for a year in the Antarctic. He covered many hundreds of miles in Queen Mary Land and Kaiser Wilhelm Land where he met the German geologist, Drygalski for whom he had great respect.

In January 1916, as the first Principal of the Footscray Technical School he played a large part in developing the geology, metallurgy, science and surveying areas.

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WHS Dates for your Diary

2006 meeting dates

Saturday 9 December

Christmas Celebration
with the Glen singers at 1.30 pm

2007 - Our first meeting - Saturday 10th of February.

Speaker: Margaret Rackham who will
speak on "The History of the Nunawading
Community Gardens"

**Wednesday working group starts:
17th of January at 10am.**

Membership news

Just a reminder that all members are welcome to
come along to the Wednesday working group.
This is also a good time for people to drop in for
self directed research.

Cataloguing the Collection - Current Status

Artifacts	3911	Items catalogued
Documents	5534	Items catalogued
Photographs	3320	Items catalogued

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.

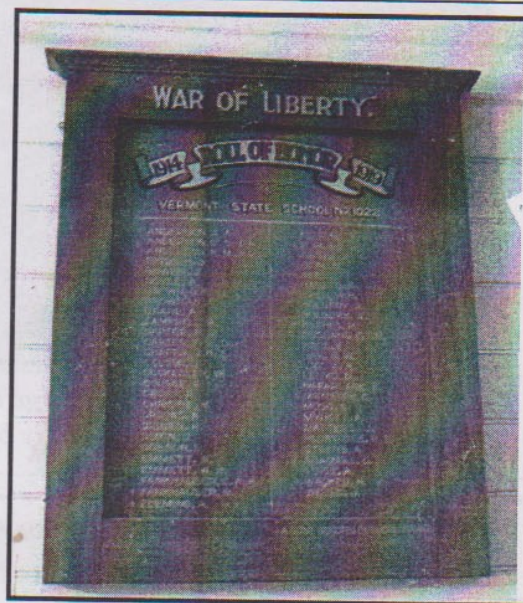
**Box Hill Cemetery Records &
Nunawading Gazette for 1964-1974**
available on microfiche for research

For those considering a pork roast for
Christmas dinner here's a conversation
starter, a fact dating to the 1600s from
Geoff Inkster .

" Sometimes to have pork in the house was
quite special. When visitors came over the
bacon would be hung up to show off. It was
a sign of wealth that a man "could bring
home the bacon". A piece would be cut off
to share with the visitors or guests and eve-
ryone would sit around "chewing the fat"



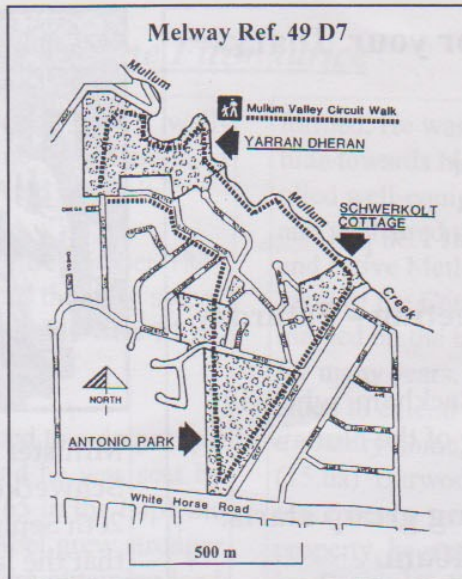
**Minister Rod Hulls on a landmark visit to
Schwerkolt Cottage Museum Complex** on
20th September 2006. Mr. Hulls announced
that the land, locally known as the "horse
paddock", and which was part of the origi-
nal Schwerkolt property, had been given to
the Whitehorse Council . Grants were avail-
able for a heritage study of the site. Since
then Heritage Victoria have completed a
review and added the whole Schwerkolt
site to the Victorian Heritage Inventory.



Vermont Primary School, No. 1022. Honour Board.

Recently we were able to visit this school estab-
lished 137 years ago to see this Honour Board to
those who served in the 1914 - 1918 world war.
The Honour Board has recently been refur-
bished and is located in one of the rooms of the
original Vermont Primary School which was
moved from its site, at the corner of Canterbury
and Mitcham Roads, to the present Nurlindi
Road School in May, 1992.

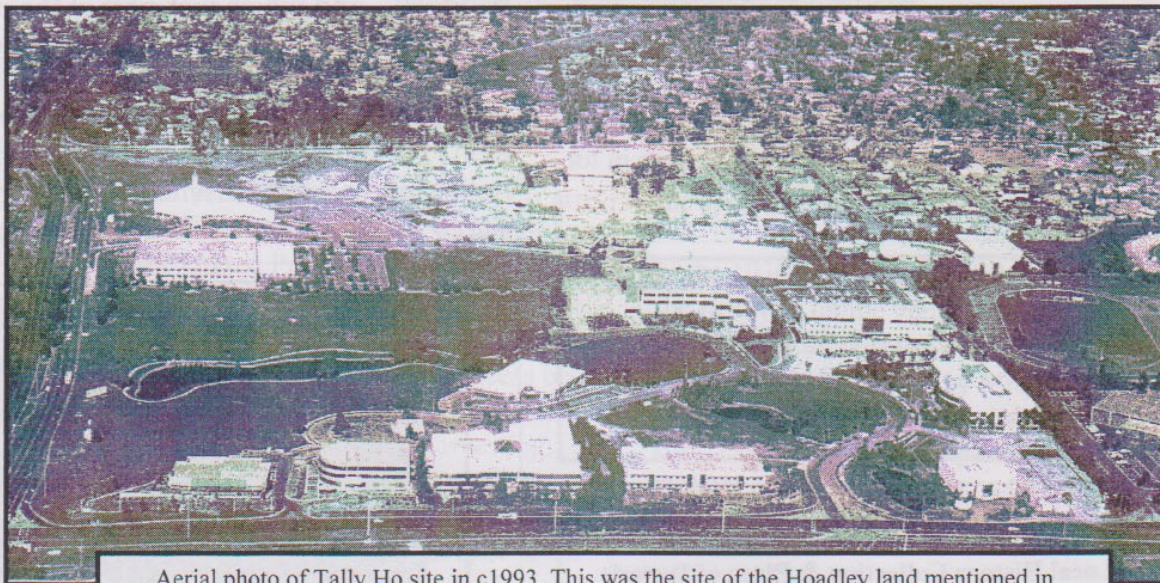
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 City of Whitehorse



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Aerial photo of Tally Ho site in c1993. This was the site of the Hoadley land mentioned in Yvonne Fitsmaurice's article on page 2. Now a Tally Ho Technology Park.

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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