



# The Whitehorse Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Series 18 no 1– February 2010

ABN 44 352 041 634 Inc A0012235J

## The Whitehorse Historical Society Inc.

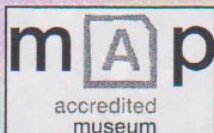
### Mission Statement

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.

### Contents

- ♦ Front page feature ....1 - 2
- ♦ Presidents report..... 2
- ♦ Diary dates.....3
- ♦ Membership & news.... .3
- ♦ From the collection.....4



**POD**  
Place of Deposit  
Accredited by the  
PRO Victoria



The Whitehorse  
Historical  
Society, Inc.  
acknowledges  
the support of the  
City of Whitehorse

## Building Better Museums Grant awarded to Whitehorse Historical Society

The Building Better Museums small grants program managed by Museums Australia (Victoria) and supported by the Victorian Government through the Community Support Fund was offered on a "by invitation basis" to small organisations with 5 or less full time paid staff in March 2009.

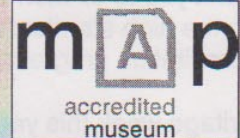
The Whitehorse Historical Society was a beneficiary of the Building Better Museums (BBM) Grant 2009 and the submitted project proposal for \$3826 was approved.

The WHS project requested the conservation of carts and acquisitions of display equipment. The grant funding enabled the WHS to purchase cart stand supports, acrylic display stands, and a powder coated metal flexible mannequin for 1800's costumes.

The WHS is most grateful for the opportunity to receive funding support through the Building Better Museums Grant allocations and commends Museums Victoria on this initiative.

Vicki Jones-Evans  
President WHS

## Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Re Accredited



The MAP re-accreditation has been completed for 2009 and the WHS has received re accreditation for the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum until 2014.

The 2009 assessment stated, 'the WHS operates at a very high standard and this group can be considered a role model for other small community groups', and that "the WHS Visitor Survey Form is to be used as a model for other MAP participants, again showing leadership in the sector".

MAP recommendations in this assessment related to refining some of the existing plans and practices in line with current MAP standards.

Overall a very satisfactory outcome and one all members can be proud of.

**Next meeting : Saturday 13th February 1.30pm**

**Speaker: Angus Watson**  
**The History of Victorian Municipalities**  
**1842-1995**



## From the President - Vicki Jones Evans

Dear Members,

Our Christmas meeting finished the year 2009 with a festive air. Christmas decorations adorned people as well as the tea table and we were entertained with Christmas music. Our speaker, Don Horsburgh talked about Puffing Billy and put us in a holiday mood. Thanks to our Secretary for her decorative touches.

It was sad to report that Ian Nethercote was unable to attend as he had been diagnosed with a brain tumour and was in hospital recovering from an operation. Ian will be in hospital for a long period while he has radio-therapy.

Peg West, a very dear member, passed away at the close of the year. Our thoughts are with Ken and their family.

At the meeting the Committee displayed the preliminary concept plans for the museum extension drawn up by the City of Whitehorse. Kaele Way and I have since had further talks with the Council. More detailed plans will be available for inspection by our Committee soon.

I am pleased to inform you that we achieved MAP re-accreditation with Museum Australia (Victoria). Thank you to all members who worked hard to maintain the high standards required by this important accreditation program.

Heritage week this year will have the theme "Celebrating Our Industrial Heritage" and we will be involved with lots of events again with Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup> our Open Day. We will also contribute to: a display in the Box Hill Art Space, displays in the Nunawading and Vermont South Libraries, and host a guided walk in Mitcham.

I wish a very Happy New Year to you all

### A Postscript and farewell!

*As editor of the newsletter over the last few years it has been my privilege to try and produce an interesting newsletter for all our members, unfortunately work and home are now all demanding so time to hang up my keyboard for a while!*

*I could not have managed without the assistance of the busy and dedicated Wednesday working group especially, Barb and Bob, Yvonne, Ted and Valda, Peter, Judith, Vicki, Kaele and not forgetting Ian Nethercote who took on the all important mail out.*

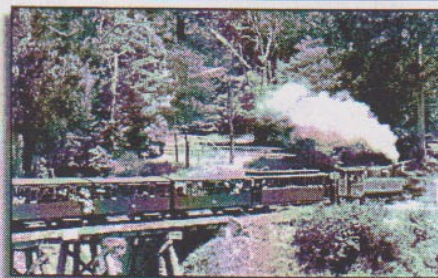
*I hope you are well very soon Ian! My thanks to you all for your support and friendship. Best wishes Jay*

## Christmas Celebrations



Don Horsburgh from the Puffing Billy Railway was guest speaker at the WHS December meeting.

Don has been a volunteer with the railway for eighteen years and gave an interesting account of the history of the Puffing Billy Railway.



PUFFING BILLY AUSTRALIA

### Christmas Celebrations

WHS members enjoyed some Christmas Cheer following the 12th December Special General Meeting.



### Thanks to Jay Miller from all at WHS

*On behalf of all WHS members I extend our thanks to Jay for her great contribution to our Newsletter. We are all most grateful for her insight and knowledge she shared with us and her great work as our Editor. Best wishes Jay and thank you. Vicki-Jones-Evans*



## Whitehorse Historical Society Dates for your Diary

Meetings are held at the Local History Room  
Schwerkolt Cottage & Museum Complex

**Saturday 13th February 1.30pm**

Speaker: Angus Watson  
The History of Victorian Municipalities  
1842-1995

**Saturday 10th April 1.30pm**

Speaker: Pam Chambers  
The History of Blackburn Red Cross

**Saturday 12th June 1.30pm**

Speaker: Richard Carter  
From Horse Shoes to High Heels  
Ringwood Shopping Centre & Eastlands  
1858-2008

*Watch this space in next issue for further  
dates and speakers in 2010*

## Thanks to Forest Hill Rotary Club

The President and Committee of the WHS gratefully acknowledges the generous donation received from the Rotary Club of Forest Hill.

The Rotarians once again provided a delicious sausage sizzle throughout the Open Day at Schwerkolt Cottage last September. From their fundraising on the day the club has contributed monies raised towards Rotary projects such as the installation of a watering system at the NADRASCA Farm in Morack Road Vermont.

To assist in the work of the WHS the Rotary Club donated \$100 from their takings on the day. Many thanks to all.



**WORKING BEES—2010**  
Please make a diary note and  
join us on the day.

March 13th Saturday

May 8th Saturday

July None (too cold!)

September 11th Saturday

November 12th Saturday

Working Bees commence at 9.30 am and finish around 12 noon with a great morning tea. Please come and help even if you can only offer an hour of your time.

## OUR 1800'S LADIES COSTUME COLLECTION

We should be very proud of our costume collection which spans c1860 to 2000.

These are mostly ladies clothes but we also have some very nice examples of children's clothing. The number of items of men's clothing is limited as men tended to wear their clothes out before replacing an item.

From the 1800s we have eleven ladies ensembles, three of which are wedding gowns and one a going away outfit. The earliest is possibly c1860s and is a lovely two tone pink stripe gown we acquired from the Box Hill Historical Society.

In addition to these eleven ensembles we have two black skirts from c 1890 and a black jacket from c 1880s.

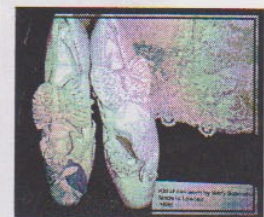
Five of these ensembles are currently on view in the museum and one is in the wardrobe in the parent's room in the cottage.

We also have lingerie, nightwear and costume accessories from the 1800s.

Here are some photos of some of these ensembles.



*Vicki Jones-Evans*



*More photos on page 4*

## Cataloguing Statistics

Photographs	-	3650
Artefacts	-	4248
Documents	-	6115

## 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**



## WHS Committee Contacts

**President:** Vicki Jones-Evans  
9873 3383 - [vicki@xi.com.au](mailto:vicki@xi.com.au)

**Vice. President:** Valerie Marshall  
9803 4434

**Secretary:** Kaele Way AM JP  
9877 1901 [kaeleway@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kaeleway@bigpond.net.au)

**Treasurer:** Bob Gardiner 9874 6592  
[bobnbarb@iprimus.com.au](mailto:bobnbarb@iprimus.com.au)

**Local History Room: (03) 9873 4946**

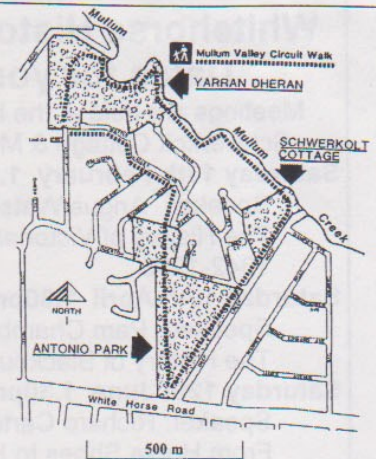
## Newsletter support group:

Kaele Way AM JP  
Yvonne Fitzmaurice  
Wendy Standfield  
Peter Simmenauer

**WHS internet site:**  
[www.vicnet.net.au/~ndhsinc/](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~ndhsinc/)

**Email:** [whitehistory@hotmail.com](mailto:whitehistory@hotmail.com)

**Postal Address:** P.O.Box 272  
MITCHAM Vic 3132



Melway Ref. 49 D7

**Copy deadline for WHS Newsletters first Saturday of the month preceding the meeting month.  
Next deadline : Wednesday 24th February 2010**

## From the Collection



Cat no. NA2552



Cat no NA1149



ISSN 1328-2395



**Sender:** Whitehorse Historical Society Inc. & Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex.  
Deep Creek Road, Mitcham, Vic, 3132 (Melway Ref. 49 D7)  
If undeliverable please return to P.O.Box 272 Mitcham, Vic 3132,