



The Whitehorse Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Series 18 no 4 – July-August 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.

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

Extension to Museum Underway \$450,000 for works in Council 2010-2011 Budget

Extensions to the Museum will commence in 2011. \$450,000-00 has been allocated to extensions to the Museum. The extension will provide a formal seating area, screen projection, display walls and storage with a new entrance to the Museum and Local History room entrance.

The addition to the Museum space will also have provision for a new attendance desk and merchandise display area.

In the considerations of the Museum extension and the external design disability access and requirements have been met with a re configuration of pathways being undertaken as part of the project.

The extension will provide provision for the display of the extensive WHS photographic collection.



The WHS Committee and members greatly appreciated the assistance from Councillors' and staff of the City of Whitehorse in achieving this outcome for the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex. The WHS recognises the support and vision of the Council in this project and the importance of the Museum re accreditation. The Society has welcomed the comments of City of Whitehorse Mayor, Cr Bill Pemberton in a letter to the WHS. The Mayor wrote, "The Society is distinguished by being amongst a relatively small number of museums and heritage organisations that

achieved this standard. We recognise that holding museum accreditation is highly regarded within the museum and heritage sector and is an asset for the promotion of the facility within tourism networks. It is also a great asset to the City as one of the many unique cultural experiences for residents and visitors."

Next meeting : Saturday 14th August

Annual General Meeting commencing 1-30 pm
Guest Cr Bill Pemberton, Mayor City of Whitehorse
& Valda Arrowsmith OAM Celebrating WHS 45 years

Celebrating the 45th year of the WHS

From the President - Vicki Jones Evans

Dear Members

At the end of May Margaret Skey celebrated her 90th Birthday and the Wednesday Working Group joined together to congratulate Margaret. At the general meeting we presented



Margaret with a framed photo as a memento of the occasion.

On Monday 4th June, Melissa Hayes, City of Whitehorse Team Leader of Cultural Facilities and Programs, Architect Gosia Gaerys from Lovell Chen attended the management Committee meeting to present the plans for the Museum extension.

The Committee are looking forward to working with the

Council to the completion of this valuable addition to the Complex. As well as being a useful space for school and visitor groups it shall serve as a visible link between the buildings that make up the Complex.

Thank you to Helen Harris OAM for stepping in as speaker at our general meeting when Richard Carter had to postpone his talk to our October meeting. Helen spoke entertainingly on Policing in Whitehorse up to the 1920s with the kind assistance of Dr Gary Pressland and providing the computer images.

On a sad note we have to report that Ian Nethercote has returned to hospital and has been moved to a palliative care facility. On a brighter note, members will be pleased to hear that Ted Arrowsmith was well enough to attend the meeting on Saturday we were very pleased to welcome him back.

We had a wonderful attendance at the book launch which followed with invited guests swelling our numbers to 57. The donors of the Alwyn Till letters, Joan Walker and Anne Drew, were each presented with a copy of Yvonne's book. We sold out of our initial print run of 50 copies on the day and have since reprinted.

We would like to thank all our invited guests for their attendance. I especially would like to thank the Hon Bruce Atkinson MLC for his kind words of appreciation of the work done by the Society. His long association with our Society was acknowledged.

I would like to thank our active Committee for their hard work and support this year. Please think of joining the Committee. Management of our activities is an important aspect of our responsibilities. Participation on Wednesday is not a requirement of joining the management team. We welcome a wide range of views and experiences. This Newsletter includes nominations forms for our 2010-2011 Committee.

June Meeting

Richard Carter, our advertised guest speaker for the June meeting was an apology on the day. The reason being that Richard's son was to conduct the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House on the same day and the same time as the WHS meeting. Into the breach stepped the very able Cr Helen Harris OAM and husband Dr Gary Presland with a most interesting power point presentation on Policing in Whitehorse.

The information and history proved most interesting especially a report on Beno Schwerkolt who had his pocket watch and other items stolen. Since the talk, Helen has provided further copies of information on the subject for our collection.

We are delighted that Richard Carter will join us at our October meeting to present his much awaited talk:- From Horse Shoes to High Heels, Ringwood Shopping Centre and Eastland's 1858-2008.

Make sure this is in your Diary.

Kaele Way

HISTORY OF HOMES PROJECT

Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation with the support of the [City of Whitehorse's Indigenous Reconciliation Advisory Committee](#) are looking for Indigenous people who may have lived in children's homes or institutions in the Box Hill, Burwood, or Nunawading areas to share their stories.

We hope these stories will help raise community awareness about Aboriginal history of this area and produce a valuable document on the path to reconciliation.

Reply to Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation, PO Box 248, Kerrimuir Post Office VIC 3129, or email residential2@optusnet.com.au

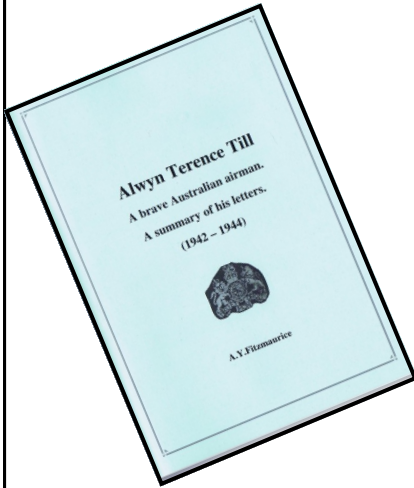


FAREWELL TO JENNY

The Committee and Wednesday Working Group said farewell to Jenny Walker on Wednesday 7th July. Jenny has been working

with the society in areas of research and historical writing and is now moving to a fulltime position with Context Pty Ltd a heritage community and environment consultancy. Jenny will be undertaking research,

The Alwyn Terrence Till Letters



On Saturday 12th June the WHS launched a publication prepared and research by WHS member Yvonne Fitzmaurice. Alwyn Terrence Till A brave Australia Airman A summary of his letters (1942-1944)

The Whitehorse Historical Society received a donation of letters and photographs from members of the Till family through the auspices of Joan Walker and Anne Drew beneficiaries of Alison Till's estate. Following lengthy research involving internet searches and historical fact finding a wonderful summary of the letters of Warrant Officer A.T. Till was compiled and published.

The original letters were received by the Whitehorse Historical Society and considered to be of such importance that they warranted a place in the State Library of Victoria Manuscript Collection. In November 2007 this was accomplished.

At the launch of the publication Joan Walker and Anne drew advised that letters and photographs from the American correspondence to Alwyn Till's Mother. The letters were lent to the WHS for appraisal and copying. In the correspondence Mrs Caldwell, writes mainly of her local American affairs and her family's involvement and concern for Alwyn.



As a result the portions pertaining to Alwyn have been copied for our files. The letters continued for a number of years which suggests that a genuine friendship was formed between the two families



The WHS Committee and members were pleased to welcome Till family members Joan Walker and Anne Drew on the day. Other guests included The Hon Bruce Atkinson MLC, Cr Raylene Carr and Cr Helen Harris OAM, Dr Gary Presland, Peter and Barbara McPhee from Healesville RSL .

President Vicki Jones-Evans launched the publication thanking Yvonne for her work in producing the document. At the conclusion of the launch the booklet was available for purchase with the Author on hand to sign the copies. To the delight of all concerned the booklet was sold out on the day.

A reprint of the publication has been arranged and the Alwyn Terrence Till publication can be purchased from the Museum and History Room for \$5-00 per copy or by contacting Secretary, Kaele Way on 9877 1901.

Burwood High School Reunion On Saturday 2nd October, a reunion for the original students of Burwood High School will be held in celebration of the Schools' 55th Year. Deakin University is now situated on the original school site. Past students from 1955 are being sought. Enquiries on the reunion can be made to Susan Webster on 99885 3235

Doncaster Reporter 13 November 1953

Travellers Return

Two Mitcham couples who returned late last week from a motoring holiday along the Murray Valley to Adelaide are Mr and Mrs F. Crawford and Mr and Mrs W Lucas of Whitehorse Road. They report beautiful weather for all of the 16 days they were away and prospects of a most bountiful harvest from the appearance if the country where crops are looking absolutely splendid. At Boundary Bend, near Robinvale Victoria at the garage there they met an old acquaintance, Max Vane, formerly of Vermont. His prospects from his own account are good, too his old friends will be glad to hear. The Mitcham party had its only misfortune on the first day from Melbourne when a split tyre caused a puncture and there was a delay till the trouble was rectified and the new tyre fitted.

Whitehorse Historical Society Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 14th August 1.30pm



**Annual General Meeting &
45th Birthday Celebration**

Special Guest; Mayor Cr Bill Pemberton &
Valda Arrowsmith OAM Celebrating 45 years of the
Whitehorse Historical Society.

Saturday 11th September

Working Bee Please come along and lend a hand.

This is an important working bee prior to our Open Day.

Sunday 12th September

Heritage Open Day at Schwerkolt Cottage and
Museum Complex 12 noon-5pm

Sunday 3rd October- Bunning's Nunawading 8-30am-5pm

Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunning's Store Nunawading
8-30am-5pm Helpers needed. Contact Kaele on 9877 1901

Saturday 9th October 1-30pm Special General Meeting

Speaker Richard Carter Horse Shoes to High Heels
Ringwood Shopping Centre and Eastlands 1858-2008

Sunday 24th October

City of Whitehorse Spring Festival
Civic Centre Nunawading

Saturday 13th November

Working Bee Please join us for the morning.

A delicious Morning Tea provided

Saturday 11th December 1-30pm Special General Meeting

Speaker: Ian Moodie, Parkside City of Whitehorse
Christmas Meeting & Celebration

WORKING BEE

If you are a member of the WHS and would like to contribute to the important activities of the Society a wonderful and rewarding way to contribute is to lend some time at the Saturday morning working bee. The working bee planned for Saturday 11th September is an important one as things need to be clean and tidy for the major event of the year, the 2010 Heritage Open Day on Sunday 12th September.

Please give me a call if you can help.

Kaele Way Secretary 9877 1901

REMINDER

**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

Cataloguing Statistics

Photographs	-	3656
Artefacts	-	4291
Documents	-	6149
<i>Visitors to Museum June 138</i>		

New Member

A warm welcome is extended to Arthur Lunt of Ringwood who is helping on the computers with the Wednesday working group

Membership Fees

WHS Members and friends are advised that subscription fees for 2010—2011 are now payable.

Kindly complete the Application/Renewal form enclosed with this newsletter and return it ASAP to our membership officer Barbara Gardiner.

Heritage Open Day 2010 Sunday 12th September from 12 noon-5pm

Fun for all the family - Free Entry, Free Entertainment

Special attractions- 1pm Tip Top Tom, Magic & balloons. 3pm Picnic Races
Fun for all with Face painting, an Animal Farm, Fun with Bubbles, Electric Train display, a sausage sizzle, tea, coffee and cordial provided.

Displays and entertainment provided by :-The Lace Making Guild ♦Melbourne Meccano Club♦Koonung Wood Turners♦ Jameson's Run Animal Farm ♦Box Hill Spinners and Weavers ♦ Vermont Lions Club♦ Art in Bark ♦Forest Hill Rotary ♦Tip Top Tom

Raffle drawn at 4-00pm

Notice of Meeting
The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Whitehorse Historical Society Inc
will be held at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex, Deep Creek Road Mitcham
commencing at 1-30pm on Saturday 14th August 2010
AGENDA

1. Welcome & Apologies

2. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting August 2009.

3. Business arising from previous Minutes

4. President's Report

5. Treasurer's Report

Presentation of Annual Statement
Auditor's Report
Appointment of Auditor for 2010-2011
Confirmation of Public Officer

6. Determination of Annual Membership fees

7. General Business

Election of Officers and Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee
Nominations are called for the positions of:

President –
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Ordinary Members of the Committee (7)

8. Close of Annual General Meeting

Please advise apologies to Secretary Kaele Way AM JP 9877 1901

☐

Whitehorse Historical Society AGM 2010
Nomination Form

As a financial member of the Whitehorse Historical Society I, _____
accept nomination for the position of:-

☐ President

☐ Vice President

☐ Secretary

☐ Treasurer

☐ Ordinary Committee Member (7 positions)

Signature _____ Date ____ - ____
(Financial Member of WHS)

Nominated by :-(name) _____ Signature _____
(Financial Member of WHS)

Seconded by :-(name) _____ Signature _____
(Financial Member of WHS)

•Please note all nominations must be signed by two financial members of the WHS and have the consent of the candidate. •As per the Constitution, Clause 22 (6) A candidate may only nominate for one office, or as an ordinary member of the Committee. •The completed nomination form must be received by the WHS Secretary seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 14th August 2010

WHS Committee Contacts

President: Vicki Jones-Evans
9873 3383 -
vicki@xi.com.au

Vice. President: Valerie Marshall
9803 4434

Secretary: Kaele Way AM JP
9877 1901
kaeleway@bigpond.net.au

Treasurer: Bob Gardiner
9874 6592
bobnbarb@iprimus.com.au

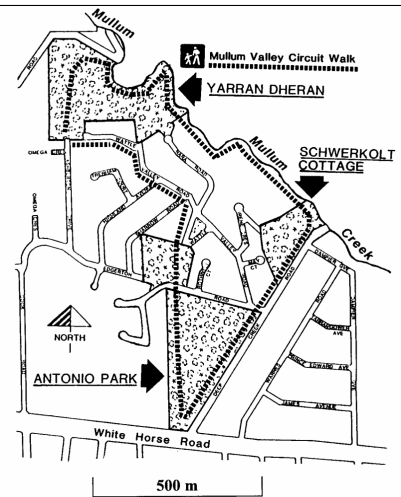
Local History Room: (03) 9873 4946

Newsletter support group:

Editor: Kaele Way AM JP
Yvonne Fitzmaurice
Wendy Standfield
Peter Simmenauer

WHS internet site:
www.vicnet.net.au/~ndhsinc/
Email: 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 : 25th August 2010**

From the Collection

Trinket Box C1890

Embossed Sterling Silver lid
With cut glass container

This can be viewed in the Museum in Display
Case 07.13



NA 688



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