



The Whitehorse Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Series 19 No 6 November-December 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.

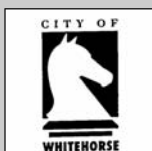
To collect, document, research, preserve and exhibit items that show how people have lived and worked in the development of the Whitehorse area from human settlement to the present day.

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*The Whitehorse Historical Society,
acknowledges the support of the
City of Whitehorse*

Thank you to our Volunteers

Afternoon tea at the Whitehorse Arts Space was enjoyed by members of the Whitehorse Historical Society in recognition of the contribution of our members to the activities associated with this years Heritage Week .

This year's Heritage Week theme, Whitehorse @ Work provided a great opportunity to display photographs and artefacts reflecting the industrial history of the area. The display of ceramic tiles, pottery and clay works featured in the exhibition at the Whitehorse Arts Space and received a great deal of interest from visitors over the two months.



Jacque Nichols-Reeves, Curator of the City of Whitehorse and Gillian McCarthy Arts Officer, (pictured with Vicki Jones-Evans and Kaele Way) hosted the afternoon and welcomed the members of the WHS to the exhibition. This exhibition was a collaboration with items from the collections

belonging to the Whitehorse Historical Society, the Burwood History Group, the Box Hill Historical Society and the City of Whitehorse Art Collection.



WHS Members enjoyed afternoon tea at the Whitehorse Arts Space

MUSEUM EXTENSION UNDERWAY

Building works on the \$450,000-00 Museum extension begins

With the allocation of tenders for the construction work concluded work on the Museum commenced on the 22nd November with the finishing date expected to be late April 2011.

The plans are on display in the Local History Room.

Next meeting : Saturday 11th December

Special General Meeting commencing 1-30 pm

Speaker: Ian Moodie

Education and Assets Co-ordinator, Parkside City of Whitehorse

"Going, Going but not Gone"

From the President - Vicki Jones Evans

Dear Members,

After a very busy year the Wednesday Working Group will be finishing up on Wednesday 15th December and resuming on Wednesday 19th January 2011.

In November our last working bee for the year prepared the museum, local history room and cottage for the busy insect seasons of spring and summer. We dusted, vacuumed and laid out insect traps. Thank you to members who attended.

Next year will see the new extension to the Museum which will provide disabled access to the museum, an assembly area for groups, additional wall space for photo, document and map displays and a new "shop" area. The Committee are looking for some new merchandise possibilities for additional fund raising. Despite a very wet spring day, we had a successful "behind the scenes" open day celebrating History Week and the Committee plan to hold another such event in autumn. Welcome to our new members, Robyn Whitefern and Rex Jeperson.

The Society has received a Victoria 175 Grant from the Public Record Office of Victoria (PROV) of \$1700 to publish Pat Richardson's book "Spiders in the Loo". Pat is busy working on the book and we look forward to the launch in the new year.

Our Christmas meeting will be a happy finish to the year with the very entertaining speaker Ian Moodie from Parkside City of Whitehorse. If you have a memorable bird sighting to report Ian will, I am sure, be pleased to hear of them.

I wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Vicki Jones-Evans

October Activities

October has been a very busy month for the WHS members and friends.

October 3rd -Bunning's Sausage Sizzle Fund-raising. This fundraising event was a great success and thanks is extended to all members who gave their time on the day. Barbara Gardiner 's report on the day can be found on page 4.

October 9th -Richard Carter was our Special Guest Speaker at the October General meeting. His talk on the history and development of Ringwood and the Eastland Shopping precinct brought back many memories. Entitled " Horse Shoes to High Heels Eastland"

October 24th-The WHS participated in the City of Whitehorse Spring Festival and provided a colorful display of hats of various shapes and sizes designed around 1950-1960.

October 31st-2010 Heritage Week Open Day. The day created a lot of interest in the work the Society undertakes and many visitors enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea. New member applications have been received and we look forward to welcoming those new members to our December meeting.

Hats on Display at the Spring Festival

The WHS featured some of the beautiful hats from the collection at this year's City of Whitehorse Spring Festival. The hats were a bright edition to the display and were an interesting talking point for visitors on the day. Featuring a variety of hats from the 1950's these items from the collection are now in the Museum and will be on display until the end of January.



Spring Festival Volunteers.
Peter Simmenauer, Vicki Jones -Evans
& Valda Arrowsmith OAM.



Looking the part
President Vicki Jones-Evans



A selection of
wonderful headwear

The History of Nana Ogden's Shop at Rangeview

As researched by Frances Warren and Dorothy Clode (Ogden)

Mrs Ethel Ogden was renting a house in Carween Avenue and took note of an empty block of land on the corner of Carween Avenue and Mitcham Roads. She approached the owner of the land , Mr Tweedle, a builder who had lived in Carween Avenue.

She put forward a proposition that if he built a shop there, she would lease it and sell produce. Mr Tweedle was agreeable and the shop with attached residence was built in 1934-35.

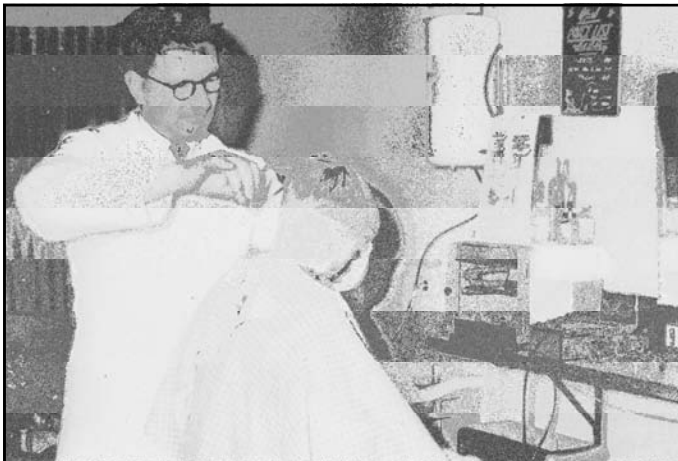
It was Mrs. Ogden who gave it the name "Rangeview".

Mrs Ogden made home made products -cakes. pies, pasties, jams and also sold groceries. Tables and chairs were provided and refreshments served. People were always calling in for a chat.

Profits on lollies were not substantial, as many littlies only had to say, It's my birthday today, Mrs Ogden", to be given a handful of sweets. Mrs Ogden had an arrangement with Norman's, a grocer on the corner of Whitehorse and Mitcham Roads. If she ran out of stock her daughter Dorothy would run up to Mitcham to get whatever the customers wanted, before going to school in Vermont.

After they left the shop and Aunty Dot (Dorothy Ogden) married local lad Ted Clode in 1946. The marriage was reported in the local paper and mention was made of Mrs Ogden's naming the shop "Rangeview" and a photo of the original sign she had erected.

Article by Joy Ogden.



Arthur Riley
Rangeview Barber
Photo taken in late 1950's
NP36609

This is Vermont

The publication "This is Vermont" revised by Tim Shambrook, was launched on Thursday 4th November at the Vermont Primary School and copies will be available at the WHS Local History Room next month. A review of the book will be featured in the February Newsletter.

Ray Meagher knows the area well and has written the following in relation to the early passenger bus services "in the early 1920's the original service between Mitcham and Vermont was a horse drawn vehicle owned by Mr Burke who was probably a friend of my grandfather James Meagher. Mr Burke and my grandfather decided to purchase a motorised vehicle during the 1924-29 period. One paid for the chassis the other the coachwork. I am not sure how long this bus service operated. Both my grandfather James and my Uncle Patrick at the age of 14 drove the bus. The eventual demise of this bus service happened when Mrs Burke and my grandmother Mary Meagher, who was a formidable lady, had a row. What happened to the bus I do not know. Eventually my grandfather James and Uncle John who was the blacksmith, carried out sustenance work on the Kew Boulevard, swapped jobs as my grandfather found the labouring work too hard and did the blacksmith work as needed all for the princely sum of 10/- per week for a married man. My Uncle John did the labouring work".

Book Review

Vanishing Burgesses - Emerging Citizens
by Angus B. Watson 2010

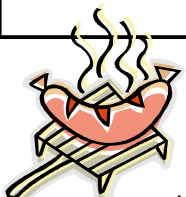
WHS member Angus Watson has followed up on his 2003 book, "Lost and Almost Forgotten Towns of Colonial Victoria" with this substantial listing of local government bodies from 1842 to 1995.

In the period of rapid growth in Victoria which resulted from the gold rush starting in 1851, large centers were requested by the government to petition to become municipal districts. Most of these were nine square miles or less in area. Introduction of the four tier system of cities, towns, boroughs and shires and their relationships with Road Boards is dealt with in relation both to metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria.

Most of the book comprises details of their boundaries, status and administrative and demographic changes (using census data). Some of these changes were quite complex, and some of the stories associated with them are an often amusing insight into local attitudes and politics.

Those fortunate enough to hear Angus' talk to the Society in February 2010 will have heard some of these stories. This solid work of scholarship, the product of eight years research, is another essential reference for local and family historians interested in the development of Victorian rural and metropolitan areas during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Angus has also compiled a series of large scale maps of boroughs, towns, and cities established up to 1901. These may be lodged with the State Library of Victoria in the future, but contact Angus if you would like to look at them for the time being. The book has been donated by Angus to the Societies collection in the Local History Room, and is available for purchase for \$40. Contact Angus on 9878 0174.



Sausage Sizzle Bunnings Nunawading

It was an early start for the Gardiner's as Bob headed off at 7am to Woolworths, Eastland to collect 80 Kilograms of sausages, the bread had been picked up on Saturday and the sliced onions on Friday afternoon.

Wendy and Ray came to help transfer the goodies, picking up ice on their way, so we arrived at Bunning's well before 8.30 am and the sausage sizzle had begun!

Our excellent teams of sizzlers worked really well under hot conditions, so we were able to keep up with our enthusiastic buyers. When the money was counted, we had a good profit of over \$1600. Many thanks to all who helped on the day

Barbara Gardiner

History Week Open Day

On Sunday 31st October the WHS participated in History Week 2010 providing a Glimpse behind the Scenes in the Local History Room highlighting the workings of the WHS Committee and members in the management of our collection and Museum.



LtoR Vicki Jones-Evans, Cr Phillip Daw, Cr Raylene Carr & Cr Ben Stennett enjoying the special afternoon tea.



Visitors enjoyed afternoon tea and we welcomed City of Whitehorse Councillors, Raylene Carr, Phillip Daw, Ben Stennett and Andrew Munroe. Many enquiries and questions were answered for our many visitors and

two new members joined on the day. Many thanks to our volunteers who assisted on the day and a special thanks to our impromptu harmonica player, who provided a delightful musical interlude.



Kaele Way

Whitehorse Historical Society Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 11th December 1-30pm General Meeting

Speaker: Ian Moodie Education and Assets Co-ordinator,
Parkside City of Whitehorse
"Going, Going but not Gone"

Saturday 12th February 1-30pm General Meeting

Speaker: Ian Penrose Yarra River Keeper Association

Saturday 9th April 1-30pm General Meeting

Speaker Gerry Robinson

Saturday 12th March Working Bee 9-30am-12 Noon

All members welcome to help on the day. Delicious Morning Tea will be served. Please advise coordinator Barbara Gardiner if you can lend a hand. Contact Barbara on 9874 6592

Meeting Dates for 2011

General Meetings will be held on the following Saturdays commencing at 1-30pm:-

12th February, 9th April, 11th June, 13th August AGM,
8th October 10th December

Working Bees will be held on the following Saturdays commencing at 9-30am concluding at 12 Noon.

12th March, 14th May, 10th September, 12th November



The President and Members of the WHS extended their warmest best wishes to our long time member Bill Gray on the occasion of his 90th Birthday. Best wishes Bill from all at WHS

Publications for Sale



Alwyn Terrence Till
A brave Australian
Airman A summary of
his letters (1942-1944)
A.V. Fizmaurice
\$5-00 per copy



Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Ted Arrowsmith
\$5-00 per copy

To order contact the Secretary on 9873 4946

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	-	3784
Artefacts	-	4312
Documents	-	6212
Visitors to Museum Sept/Oct		260

St Luke's Vermont

Parishioners of St Luke's Anglican Church Vermont have kindly donated their early parish records to the Society's collection.

They include:

Minutes of meetings 1906-1940

Preacher's books 1906-1949

Scholars' admission book 1906-1910

Correspondence 1930-1937

The Magnet (monthly church paper) 1905-1920

Contact (St Luke's Newsletter) 1958-1974

We are most grateful to St Luke's for these valuable research resources, and hope to have them catalogued and available for reference soon.

Peter Simmenauer



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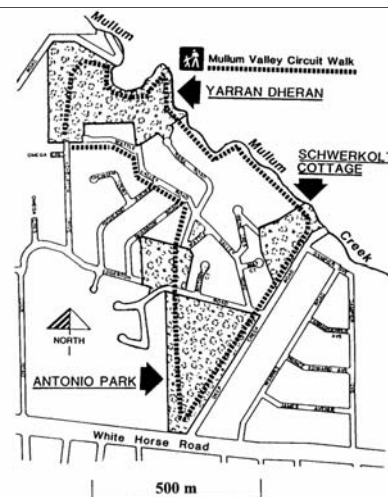
WHS internet site:

www.vicnet.net.au/~ndhsinc/

Email: whitehistory@hotmail.com

Postal Address:

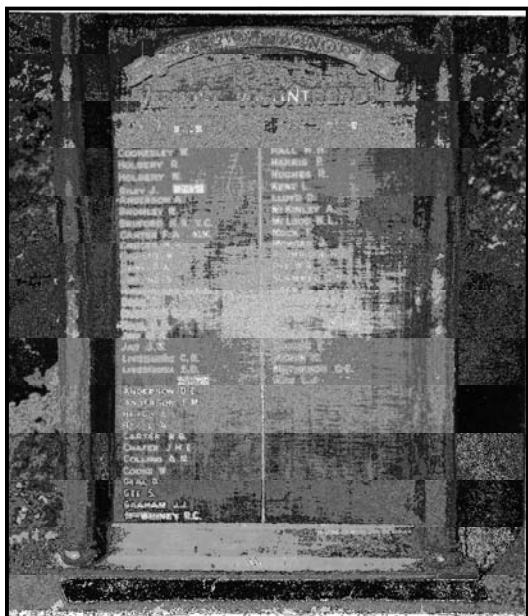
P.O.Box 272
MITCHAM Vic 3132



Melway Ref. 49 D7

**Copy deadline for WHS Newsletters first Saturday of the month preceding the meeting month.
Next deadline : 3rd January 2011**

From the Collection



Vermont Volunteers Honour Board

Originally hung in the Mechanics Institute, Canterbury Road Vermont, this board listed the names of residents of Vermont who volunteered for service in the 1914-18 war.

Lost when the hall was converted for use by a local scout group, the only record was this photo in the Societies collection.

Through Ted Arrowsmith, Peter McPhee, then President of Mitcham RSL, instigated a grant application for replacement of this board, which is now undergoing the application procedure.

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