

The Whitehorse Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Series 20 no 6 - November-December 2012

ABN 44 352 041 634 Inc AO 012235J

History of Tally Ho Boys Home

Local legend has it that the well-to-do hunted across the open fields from Glen Waverley to a little pub at East Burwood called the "Tally Ho". The area took its name from the public house and the land was eventually divided into large holdings, one of which was purchased by the Hoadley family, of chocolate fame.

Meanwhile, in the slums of Carlton the Reverend George Cole, a Primitive Methodist minister, had begun rescuing young boys; many had come to the "big smoke" from the country to try their luck, only to quickly find themselves homeless and destitute. Reverend Cole had a dream of taking young boys away from the slums into the country and establishing a self-sufficient farm where they could live and work. To finance his plan, he undertook a series of fundraising preaching tours of New Zealand, South Australia and Western Australia.

In 1903, with the help of the Methodist Union he found himself able to buy the original 38 acres (15 hectares) of land owned by the Hoadley family, which was bounded by Highbury, Springvale and Burwood Roads. He then set about establishing a farm. Known in the beginning as the Tally Ho Boys' Training Farm, the totally self-contained property included several 24-bed dormitories for the boys who from 1905 attended its own school (No. 3588) and worked on the farm. Boys were educated at Tally Ho until the 1960s, when moves were made to educate residents at local schools.

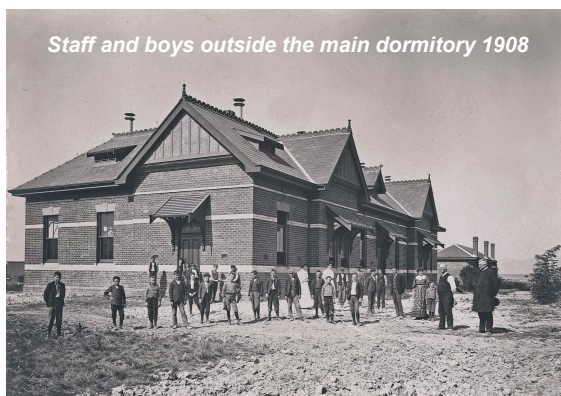
Cole was Superintendent from 1904–1919, teaching farm work to hardened delinquents while ministering to their spiritual needs. By 1919 the farm accommodated 100 boys and flourished as a

commercial venture. Under him, Tally Ho was a congregate institution and discipline was harsh; however, his successor from 1930, Edgar Derrick, abolished corporal punishment. Derrick believed that a bad boy was made, not born; hence reformation was possible "by removal from his old environment, the formation of new and more wholesome friendships ... and the development of an ambition to succeed".

In his 27 years at Tally Ho, Derrick earned a reputation as an innovator. Using the ideas of Homer Lane, an American, he created a society in miniature with its own courts and parliament constituted by the boys, all of whom had jobs for which they were paid; the money was used to buy food and clothing, to pay for entertainment and to

meet fines imposed by the courts for misdemeanours. Good behaviour was rewarded with stars that could be redeemed for extra privileges.

In the mid-1950s, reflecting the changing times, Derrick realised that the youngsters would develop better in a family-type environment. The dormitories were replaced with cottages for groups of 12 boys in the care of a married couple, and



Staff and boys outside the main dormitory 1908

the name was changed to "Tally Ho Boys' Village". During the 70s the centre began to accept wards of the state and in 1976 girls were admitted for the first time, but over the succeeding years changes in the philosophy of child care – along with the fact that the farm was no longer viable – saw Tally Ho Village finally close down in June 1986, having housed in its life an estimated 5000 children.

However, Tally Ho Youth Services were down but not out. As part of the Wesley Central Mission they subsequently opened up five houses, two in the inner suburban areas and three in the outer eastern suburbs, where 25 young people could be housed at any one time. They also included a non-residential program whereby volunteers from the community provided friendship and advocacy for about 15 youngsters living with their family.

With thanks to <http://www.findandconnect.gov.au> for extra information and the picture.

Next meeting: Saturday, 8 December, 1.30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

Speaker:

Dr Linda Young – 'House Museums'

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FROM THE PRESIDENT – VICKI JONES-EVANS

Dear Members

Thank you to all the members who came to the working bee on Saturday, 10 November. We had a good team of 12 people. This was especially pleasing as on Wednesday, 7 November, Euan McGillivray from Museums Australia (Victoria) conducted a workshop on Museum Standards for the Wednesday Working Group that stressed the importance of cleanliness and order in a museum.

The workshop was very informative and Euan answered many questions as well as posing some that challenged us; for example: Is a museum just a collection of old stuff or is its purpose to tell a story?

Our first meeting to be held in the Visitor Centre was very well attended. Anne Dixon's presentation on the history of clothing was excellent and afterwards the audience, which included non-members, were able to handle the clothes, fans and shoes – something we cannot offer with most of our collection. Later there was a buzz of conversation around the afternoon tea table in the Local History Room.

At the Spring Festival (see story on page 5) we endeavoured to present a display in keeping with the Festival's Tropicana theme. Our display centred on the subdivision of the land first into orchards – the fruit part of the theme – and then into housing. To get into the party mood side of the theme we had costumes from the 1970s, including our new acquisition, a man's green suit with the signature 1970s wide lapels, and wide trouser legs with cuffs.



In November, VicRoads is having a series of public meetings regarding the future use of the Healesville Freeway Reservation section between Springvale and Boronia roads. Valda and I will be attending, and will report at our next general meeting. The Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society has been very busy organising a petition for the land to be retained as open space. Our Society's interest is particularly focused on Strathdon House at the Springvale Road end and, at the Boronia Road end, the Goodwin House and the property that was the Nethercote Orchard. The proposed police station on the land that was Wobbies World, next to Strathdon House, is also of concern to local residents.

The name of Kaele Way AM, JP has been added to our Honour Board in the Local History Room. We have also updated the board to record the society's name change in 2004.

Dr Linda Young, who annually brings her Museum Studies students from Deakin University to visit us, will be our guest speaker for the December meeting. We will again be in the Visitor Centre, as Linda has promised lots of lovely photos of house museums.

As always, we have had a busy year; we look forward to the same in 2013 after a month of rest.

I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Vicki Jones-Evans

Cataloguing Statistics

Photographs	-	3948
Artefacts	-	4530
Documents	-	6541
Visitors to Museum Sept/Oct (Open Day excluded)	-	227

New Members

A warm welcome to our new member

Mrs Anne Payne of Blackburn.

We hope she will enjoy her time with the Society!

Barbara Gardiner

October Meeting: THE HISTORY OF COSTUME



Guest speaker at our October meeting on Saturday the 13th was Anne Dixon. Anne originally trained as a librarian, but after reading a particular book, *Shattered Silk*, she was inspired to follow history by collecting clothes. She bought her first garment – a black tea gown, for \$125 – in Chapel Street, and spent \$300 for the services of a conservator.

Anne liked to prowl around antique shops, both here and in the U.K., looking for suitable clothing – including underclothes, everyday dresses and lovely evening wear. Also, menswear of all sorts. Then she discovered eBay; eight hundred garments later, she noted that only had two failed to be delivered. Items usually arrived in a variety of conditions, so she learnt to do repairs herself when necessary. Her collection ranged from hats and beach wear to stockings, shoes and other items.

The oldest dress in her collection dates from the 1830s and has an interesting feature; it has pockets in the underskirt. It is also divided, to allow for riding a horse.

Anne showed us a pair of Mary Jane shoes from the Victorian era that feature fine embroidery, using tiny black beads. Also a fox fur muff from Scotland that doubled as a handbag. Then on to undergarments – from the 15th century, it is thought that shifts were all ladies wore until drawers were invented, in their variety of designs, nearly 400 years later.

Wedding dresses were not always white; many colours were used. If the bride was a widow, she wore black when remarrying.

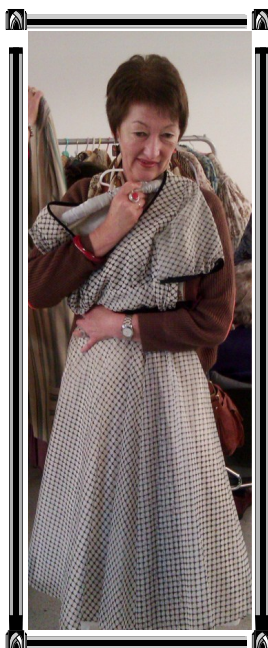
Now to the 20th century. In the 1960s hotpants were a favourite – for those that could wear them. In the 1950s the New Look designed by Dior was lovely, with a full skirt and heaps of stiff petticoats. During World War II, with the use of material restricted, skirts had to be skimpy. Shoulder pads were very big, and covered buttons were a feature.

During the 1930s there were bias cut skirts; 1920s dresses were of a simple design, very flat across the bust, but evening wear was often very glamorous. In 1912 the style known as Titanic developed, with layers of underskirts. Earlier, in 1900, two-piece suits were popular, made of printed silk. During the reign of Queen Alexandra high-necked dresses were in, as it was rumoured that she wanted to hide a scar on her neck. Jewellery was also designed for the same purpose. Princess Diana often wore one of the queen's pearl chokers.

In the 1890s, hand-embroidered dust coats were worn to protect the dress underneath. During the 1860s some machine-made garments started to appear, with hooks and eyes for fasteners, and silk bustles, together with dust catchers on the hems of dresses to allow for easy replacement. A brooch was often worn at the high neckline.

Seven petticoats were necessary during the 1850s, six being of white cotton and one of horse hair for stiffness to hold the skirt in a good shape.

What a wonderful display of what has gone before our present day-fashions – many, I am glad to say, that are no longer necessary, particularly the CORSET!!



by Valerie Marshall

VALE

MARIE JACK 9/11/1920 –14/8/2012

Marie was the wife of Walter Jack (dec.), who was born in Berlin. His parents, Mary (who inherited Schwerkolt Cottage) and Emil, were on their way from the USA to Melbourne via Germany when World War 1 broke out. They eventually returned to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Marie and Walter married and visited Australia in 1990. He was thrilled to visit the cottage built by his grandfather, August Schwerkolt, and that it was being so well cared for and cherished by the community.

After Walter died, Marie continued to make annual donations to our society.

She was a gracious and lovely lady and will be sadly missed.

Rosalie Whalen

December 4, 1953

FILM UNIT AT BLACKBURN



MEMBERS OF A FILM PRODUCTION PARTY from Melbourne University "shooting" a scene at the Blackburn Lake. In the neighbourhood a film to take an hour to show is being made. On the shore in this view are cameraman John Anderson, and Lindsay Tassie, and (on right) director Gil Brealey. Out on the raft, in one of the principal roles of the story, is John Storey, a law student. *Age Photo*

Whitehorse Historical Society Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday, 8 December, 1.30 p.m.

General Meeting

Speaker Dr Linda Young – 'House Museums'

Saturday, 9 February 2013, 1.30 p.m.

General Meeting

Speaker Don Gibb - 'What is good local history?'

Working Bees 2013

**Please make a diary note and join us
on the day.**

Working Bees commence at 9.30 a.m. and
finish around 12 noon with a great morning
tea.

Saturday 9 March Saturday 14 September

Saturday 11 May Saturday 9 November

**Please come and help even if you can only
offer an hour of your time.**

From the

Nunawading Reporter

December 21, 1982



Picture: WAYNE LUDBEY

RETIRED plumber Fred Auden shows one of the devices he has knocked up to "drought-proof" his Box Hill South home.

Mr Auden, 73, has managed to squeeze the maximum usage from almost every drop of waste water this summer.

So much so that he hardly needs to use a hose on his lush garden during the 7-9 p.m. restricted time imposed by the Board of Works.

The contraption in the picture is made from a baby carriage wheel, some foam rubber off-cuts, a straight

pipe and a couple of nuts and bolts.

It is used to block an out-fall drain from the roof. This causes any water from brief rain-bursts to flow back onto the Auden garden instead of down into the sewer.

A similar stopper is used on the drain pipe leading from the Auden bathroom. this causes shower, basin and bath water to irrigate flower beds.

Mr Auden has connected a hose to the drain taking water from his laundry. This allows him to direct waste water from the washing machine and sink to any part of his backyard.



NA2820.1-3



Dress – Three-piece, 1960

This handmade, knitted and crocheted three-piece dress in a Gold colour was made by Jean Gorsuch in 1960. The wool was purchased from the Treasure House, a wool, toys and children's clothes shop in Station Street, Mitcham. This was a very fashionable at that time as knitted and crocheted garments were making a comeback. This was also one of the first Lurex thread wools.

NA2966.1-2



Kookaburra Brand Bathing Costume – Male

Made in Australia

This two-piece male bathing costume dates probably from the 1920s. Made of wool, it is navy blue with cream fleck and cream band around the neck edge of tunic. The pants have a tie waist band.

NA1070



ILLUSTRATIONS – Print

Ornate wooden frame of picture depicting boy and girl in period costume entitled "The Wanderer Found". Unsigned, the print was a supplement to "The Australasian" of Saturday, 25 December 1897.

FROM THE COLLECTION

SPRING FESTIVAL PACKS THEM IN



Sunday 21 October was a mild and windy spring day – fitting for the start of the Spring Festival at Whitehorse. The Historical Society had set up two tables at the entrance to the Council chambers, as instructed, then arranged books and other items pertaining to the local area and relating particularly to the 1970s.

The items that attracted most attention were the Green Man's Suit with its dark green velvet bow tie – typical of the 1970s!!!! The delightful female model wearing a long, purple and white dress teamed with another in a knitted trouser suit of the same period. These items brought comments from our visitors, who remembered those years. There were many people milling around, perhaps because it was the usual Market Day. Our members chatted to anyone interested in the local area and had a generally social day, discussing the Society and what it stood for as a connected member of the Whitehorse community.

by Valerie Marshall

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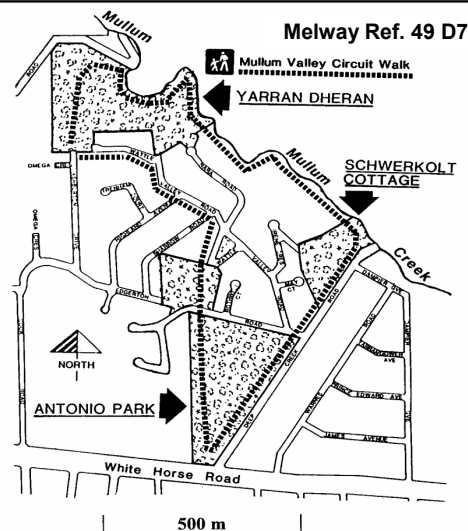
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Copy deadline for next WHS Newsletter: Wednesday, 16 January 2013



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.

POD

Place of Deposit
Accredited by the
PRO Victoria

CITY OF



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



REMEMBER

**Whitehorse Historical Society
Local History Collection & Place of Deposit**
Open 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. 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.

Sender: Whitehorse Historical Society Inc. & Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex
Deep Creek Road, Mitcham, VIC 3132
If undeliverable, please return to P.O. Box 272 Mitcham, VIC 3132

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