

A vote of thanks to Rotary

ON Wednesday March 14 the Whitehorse Historical Society was honoured by a luncheon visit from members of the Rotary Club of Mitcham, which had recently donated a Canon DSLR 700D camera, with standard and macro lenses, a copy pod, two soft box lights and a seamless background stand. All of these are being utilised by our photographer Richard Conn in the photographing of documents and artefacts in our collection.

It was lovely to meet the various members who have taken such an interest in our organisation and we are indeed grateful for their continued support.

In the Mitcham Rotary Newsletter, their president, John Richard, wrote:

We were treated to a most enjoyable lunch meeting with our friends at the Whitehorse Historical Society.

Thanks to Peter McPhee for his coordination of the occasion, and thank you to the volunteers at the WHS for their hospitality. There were so many items on display that reminded the us all of things that were a feature of life when we were children, and all of the displays reminded us of the importance of recorded history and its preservation. The highlight was seeing the professional photographic recording of the archives while we were there. Our investment in the special camera equipment was so important in this enterprise, enabling future generations to refer to so many items from way back before our own lives began.

(Below): At the luncheon; (left): NA4800.1.2 A WWII Captain's uniform photographed with our new equipment.



NEXT MEETING

General Meeting 1pm Saturday 9 June 2018
Gary Presland: Local Indigenous Groups



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Members

IN the last newsletter I mentioned our intention to have a working day to review our future needs.

Vicki was our convenor and ten people attended and gave their input. The discussions raised both short- and long-term goals, the most immediate of which was to use the two new display cases obtained from the Blackburn Lake Society. After removing two old display cases the new glass cases now show some of our beautiful lace collection.

We are still debating where to most effectively house Yvonne's dolls house, as it is presently blocking part of the projection area. Finding a location for our models resulted in them being stored in the spaces under the shop front displays.

We are currently discussing our storage problems, because Museum Standards would like all workrooms to have the working area separate from the collection due to possible contamination. The storage problems will be tied to that – we will keep you informed.

On the workers' side, Kath and Rob Innes are on a five-week trip around England, and Maurie and his wife are touring Europe. Judy Hall has just returned after a hip operation (although she is still a bit wobbly) and Wendy Stanfield is about to have an operation on her knee. Eddie (our treasurer) and Lin are off to Malaysia to visit family; thereafter going on a cruise and returning in October.

During Kathy's absence we are most fortunate to have new member Patricia Fincham fill her secretarial role.

Another new member, Margaret Graham, is involved with our artifacts group and is making poppies for our Remembrance Day display.

Giselda Bannister too has now joined the Wednesday working group and is coping well with anything she is given to do.

Pat Richardson



Kathy Innes standing on the balcony of the apartment that she and Rob are staying at in London.

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APRIL MEETING REPORT



ON 14 April our guest speaker was Jan Davidson and her topic was "Grave Reflections" Jan has visited cemeteries all over the world, beginning her interest when she was fourteen.

Much later she was co-director of Melbourne General Cemetery tours, a position she held for 30 years.

She admits that her first go-to place in each city or town she visits, whether in Australia or overseas, is a cemetery. Part of her talk centered on grave inscriptions which were either very sad or provoked much laughter.

Pat Richardson

Your Committee in Action

ON 19 February 2018 a planning meeting was held to consider short- and long-term goals of the society. As part of the meeting discussion was held regarding the changes required in the Museum layout to incorporate the new display cases and re-locate the Dolls House from the Visitor Centre into the Museum.

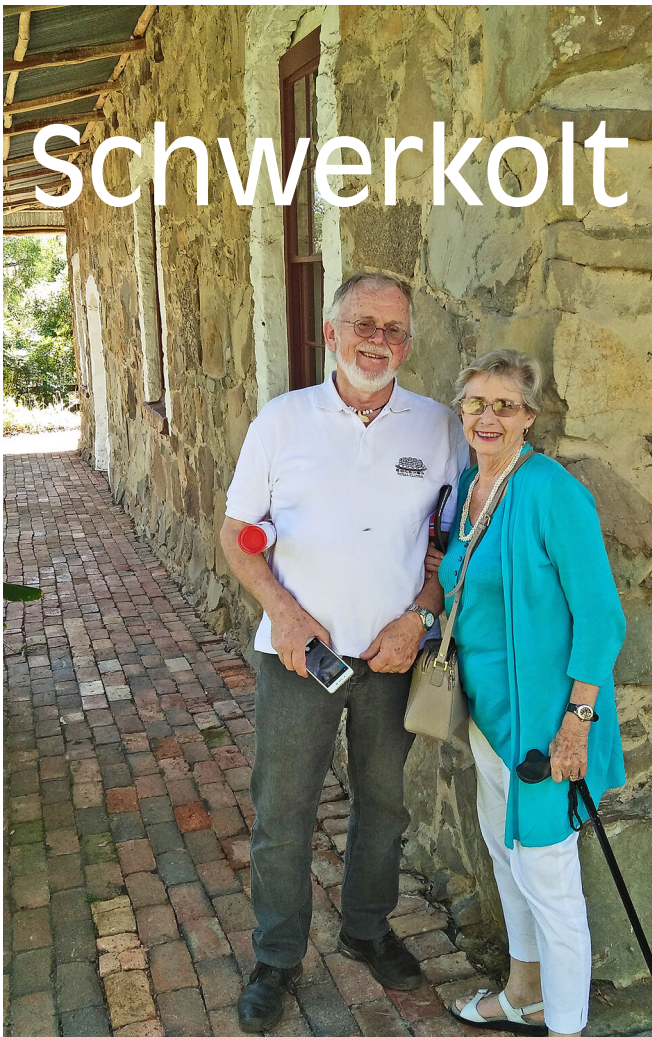
- **Lace Display Cases** – Display cases 7-17 and 7-18 are to be retired due

to the difficulty in accessing them and these will be replaced with the two new display cases obtained from Blackburn Lake. The new cases are now in position.

- **Dolls House re-location** – Discussion confirmed that the Dolls House is to be relocated to the area where cases 7.06 & 7.16 are currently located. To achieve this cases 7.14 & 7.16 will be disposed of and case 7.06 will be moved to the current location of case 7.14.

- **Cottage Kitchen Tile Repairs** – Vicki advised that as a result of meeting with the Council tiles will be replaced with appropriate modern tiles and any original tiles in good condition will be used for repairing damaged tiles in the Kitchen display area. Work will be undertaken by Council and WHS will supervise relocation of the artefacts to the Local History room. This will happen in July.

Schwerkolt family visit



(ABOVE): Rosalie shows Philip around the Cottage;
(BELOW): General view of Mr. Schwerkolt's Quarry in Adelaide, showing the gear with which the stone is carried to the trucks. (*Adelaide Observer*, Sat 28 Jan 1905 Page 26)



ON Friday 23 March Philip Evans, a South Australian descendant of August Schwerkolt, and his wife Heike visited Schwerkolt Cottage by prior arrangement.

Rosalie Whalen was there to meet her distant cousin and Kathy Innes was kind enough to be in attendance to open and then secure all the doors as we progressed around the Complex.

August Schwerkolt had nine children from his first marriage and Philip is descended from the third son, Augustus, who worked for Willis Bros. (quarry owners in Richmond) where he witnessed the introduction of the first Australian-made rock-breaking machine from Hope's Foundry, known as the Hope machine.

In 1883 Augustus was deputed by his employers to supervise the first tar-paved streets laid down in Adelaide. His family joined him there the following year.

In 1895, at the completion of this project, he decided to purchase and restart the quarry (*see picture, left*) known as the Mitcham* Railway Quarries Company's old plant, which had been standing idle for twelve years. While raising nine children he ran a successful business providing rock for road building and was the contractor for the stone required for the Outer Harbour breakwater, which involved delivering 100,000 tons of rock. Unfortunately this project was not a financial success story.

His older brother Emil joined him in South Australia and also purchased and operated a quarry there.

Rosalie is descended from the youngest son of the first marriage, Carl Benno Schwerkolt, who established a Bottle Merchant business in Prahran.

During their visit, Philip and Heike took masses of photos and were very impressed with the Cottage & Museum Complex and the way it is being maintained by the Whitehorse Council.

**South Australia*

*** Do you have any memories of your past that we could share in the newsletter? We would love to receive anecdotes that paint a picture of how things were in days gone by – not just what has changed, but actual living memories!**

From the Nunawading Reporter

CIRCULATING IN THE CITY OF NUNAWADING AND THE SHIRE OF DONCASTER AND TEMPLESTOWE AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS

Volume 66 Number 21

Friday, 5 June 1953

Price Threepence

CELEBRATION AND BONFIRE

—oOo—

CORONATION OBSERVANCE AT VERMONT

To provide some memorable occasion for the children for the Coronation of the Queen, the Vermont School Committee arranged a dedication ceremony and bonfire at the school on Monday, June 1, at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Amos, head teacher, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Mountney, conducted the brief service which commenced with a Coronation message from the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks. Then a short address to the children entitled "Serve the Queen," was followed by an address to adults, "The Queen's Service," which mentioned the dedication of the Queen to our service for her whole life, and also the meaning of the service of the Coronation at Westminster Abbey.

Mr. Mountney lead the prayer which thanked God for our place in the family of British peoples, for our Queen also, and asked for God's blessing on her and we, her people, dedicate ourselves individually to her service. One minute's silence followed a declaration of dedication, after which the national anthem was sung. The festoon lights (kindly lent by the Vermont Football Club), were switched off at this time and a portrait of the Queen, draped with national flags, was brightly illuminated. This concluded the service of dedication.

The bonfire was then lit in the playground and a fireworks display gave great enjoyment to all present, especially the children. The school committee wishes to thank the Lucknow Progress Association for its generous donation towards the cost of the fireworks.

WILL THE DUKE BE KING?

—o—

CORONATION DELAYS SOLUTION

A facet of the Coronation which has been overlooked is the complications that could have arisen had the Queen given her Consort any rank and title other than he enjoys at present.

It was announced from London this week that in the latest edition of Burke's Peerage the editors have appended a note stating that there is precedent for creating the Duke of Edinburgh King Consort. This may be a feeler to test public opinion which in Britain at least, as learnt from a public poll last year, is overwhelmingly in favour of this solution of what is actually an awkward procedural and dynastic problem.

Tudor Precedent

The precedent comes from the reign of Mary I when the not so young Queen more than gratified to get a husband at all, least of all such a husband as her first-cousin-once-removed, Philip of Spain, could withhold from him nothing, even at the expense of the deep resentment of her loyal subjects. Philip was created King Consort of England months before his father's abdication made him King-in-fact of the Spains. Incidentally and strangely he was also titularly King Consort of France since the English sovereigns still claimed that throne.

Any delay in defining a reasonable position for the Duke of Edinburgh as Queen Elizabeth's Consort is not caused by her Majesty's unwillingness, or because the Duke is unacceptable to the British peoples—on the contrary, rather is it because the title he is to be given would create complications at the Coronation. The Duke is at present in actual fact a Prince Consort and, aside from the matter of the arrangement of a few details, it was not difficult to plan his part in the Coronation ceremony. A part he could have played equally as well if he had had the title Queen Victoria gave her husband.

But if the Duke of Edinburgh were created King Consort difficulties would arise at once. He would in fact have been in the position of a queen consort at the Coronation of a king regnant. He would have had to be crowned.

This immediately poses many questions of which the first is the problem of a crown. Whereas there are several crowns for queen consorts there are none for king consorts. The two Coronation crowns of British sovereigns—St. Edward's Crown and the Imperial State Crown—are for the reigning monarch alone, also another—the State Crown of India. Although a crown could be altered it is no doubt felt that such a departure from custom as to crown a prince, who was not the Sovereign, would be unprecedented and likely to create opposition. There is also the question of the prolongation of the already long Coronation service to be considered.

Position Must Be Defined

The Duke of Edinburgh's position must be established soon as the creation of Prince Charles as Prince of Wales will give that young man precedence over his father. Also at present the Duke has only precedence next the Queen when she is present, and on other occasions as the junior Royal duke must give way to the Dukes of Windsor and Gloucester.

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FROM THE COLLECTION . . .



NA4702

Australian Army Tankard with Australian rising sun badge on front. Tankard is made of pewter with a glass base. On the tankard all the conflicts that the Australian fought in are commemorated from World War I to Vietnam. These are: World War I, World War II, Mesopotamia, Flanders, German New Guinea, Gallipoli, France, Palestine, World War II, North Africa, Crete, Malaya, S.W. Pacific, Timor, New Guinea, Java, Bougainville, Borneo, Greece, Syria, Singapore, South Africa, Korea, Malaya, Vietnam.

Received from the Returned Services League, Mitcham Sub-Branch, 26 McDowall Street, Mitcham, when it closed early 2014.



NA4697

Binoculars metal 14cm x 13cm. Leather around hand pieces, Bakelite eye pieces. Brass adjusting lenses and leather lanyard for holding around neck. Circa 1914. As used by the military during WWI.

Received from the Returned Services League, Mitcham Sub-Branch, 26 McDowall Street, Mitcham, when it closed early 2014.

Whitehorse Historical Society DIARY DATES

Meetings are held at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex.

Saturday, 9 June
1.00pm General Meeting

Gary Presland

Local Indigenous Groups

Saturday, 11 August
1.00pm Annual General Meeting

Vicki Jones-Evans

A History of Lacemaking

Saturday, 13 October
1.00pm General Meeting

James Nicholas

Mystery of Fairyland – Kew

Whitehorse Historical Society 2018 WORKING BEES

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

Working Bees commence at 9.30am and finish around 12 noon with morning tea.

Saturday 8 September

Saturday 10 November

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

Statistics

Photographs catalogued	-	4273
Artefacts catalogued	-	4822
Documents catalogued	-	7474
Museum visitors March–April		509
 Facebook 'likes' to April	-	730

Is this where you live?

COCHRANE STREET, MITCHAM

DR Stanley Warrender Cochrane (1880 – 1950), born in Islington, London, arrived in Melbourne with his parents and siblings c1884. The family settled in Hawthorn.

Stanley was educated at Camberwell Grammar School, Melbourne University and the Royal Melbourne Hospital where he completed his medical training. To gain full qualifications he returned to Britain in 1913 to work at the teaching hospitals in Glasgow and Edinburgh. This was followed (by law) with a one year residency in Hastings, Sussex. Two years after his return he married Edith née COLLIS. There were no children of the marriage. Edith died in Mitcham in 1951.

In March 1918 he joined the Australian Imperial Forces Medical Corps, with the rank of Captain. Three months later he embarked for London, where in September he was posted to the 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen and later to the front line Casualty Clearing Stations [CCS]. Four months leave in England followed, when he gained post graduate work at the London Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital. After returning home in 1920 he continued to be particularly interested in the welfare of returned servicemen.

In the same year, 1920, he started his practice at Mitcham, in a small shop on the south side of Whitehorse Road. In about 1929 he bought from Dr F J Drake a plot of vacant land and a house which had a surgery attached. This building, at the corner of Harrison Street and Mitcham Road, was retained as a hospital for maternity and general cases. It continued to operate until approximately 1945.

Prior to buying his first car in the late 1920s his transport was a large black bicycle, with his medical bag balanced on the straight handle-bars. To onlookers he appeared very dignified as he rode past in his bowler hat, bowtie and formal morning suit.

Stories abound about his willingness to make house calls at all hours. He was recognised as a generous man with a 'very warm heart', who was sorely missed by the local community when he died aged 69. He had been in practice for approximately thirty years.

Yvonne Fitzmaurice



(Above): NP1792
Dr Stanley Cochrane.
(Below): NP1791.2

Warrender Hospital and Surgery run by Dr Stanley Cochrane, Harrison Street- McDowall corner, Mitcham – site now occupied by R.S.L. Originally Dr Cochrane's extremely large home, the hospital became two private family dwellings when its activities as a hospital ceased. Dr Cochrane had consequently built a private residence/surgery on the corner of Mitcham Road and Harrison Street.



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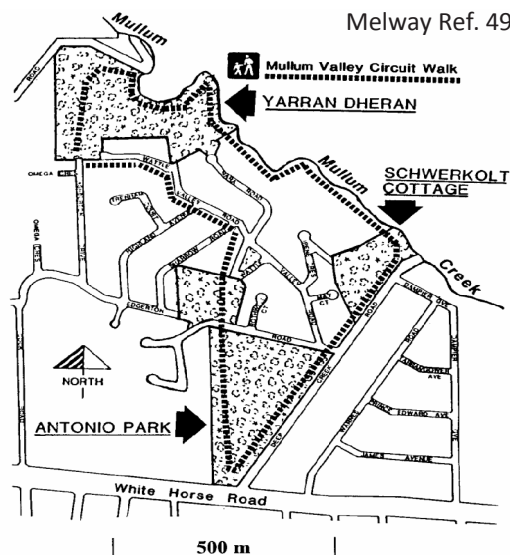
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Copy Deadline for next WHS Newsletter: Wednesday, 11 July 2018

The Whitehorse Historical Society Inc.

Mission Statement & Acknowledgement of Country

"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 City of Whitehorse area."

"In the spirit of reconciliation, Whitehorse Historical Society Inc. acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of the land now known as the City of Whitehorse, and pays respect to its elders past and present."



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Whitehorse Historical Society Local History Collection & Place of Deposit

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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.

The Whitehorse
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acknowledges the
support of the
City of Whitehorse.



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