

## FAMILY DAY MAGIC

**T**HE day started (during setting up) with an anxious phone call: Is it still on? The query was the result of concern about the weather. The caller need not have worried: the sky had cleared by the time Family Day opened, and except for a smattering of rain (to provide variety), the day was a popular and unqualified success.

Indeed, Sunday had not finished before we received the sort of email that, as Kathy said, makes it all worthwhile:

*Dear hard working crew,*

*My family and I attended the day at Schwerkolt today and I wanted to write and thank you. We adored the lively yet down to earth atmosphere. And the lack of carnival rides, fairy floss, flashing lights and gimmicks.*

*Thank you to everyone in the community who took the time to share their craft with us and the kids, for their generosity of spirit and patience.*

*We had a lovely time with Vicky making some lace, Echo painting, Richard and Val at the lathe & woodworking, spinning wool, blacksmith, Meccano, trainsets, the house, egg & spoon/sack races, sausages and bread from Rotary and the gorgeous scones from the kitchen.*

*Back to a slower simpler more mindful time.*

*If you have an email list I would be pleased to be added to make sure we can put next year's event in our calendar too.*

*Thank you again!*

*Michelle & kids*

See pages 6 and 7 for more photos and details of a very enjoyable part of the Whitehorse Heritage Week.



Photo by Richard Conn

**NEXT MEETING**

**General Meeting 1pm Saturday 5 October 2019**

*Dr Gary Presland*

*The Economics of Aboriginal Society*



# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

*Dear Members*

**W**ITH a cold front approaching we were holding our breath that the weather would be kind for Heritage Family Day and it was. A record 1,460 visitors attended.

Thanks are due to Kathy for organising the event and for baking large amounts of goodies for the kitchen and the cake stall. Harley was the excellent co-ordinator for the day as well as doing the set up and pack up work with help from Bruce, Chris and Bob. Judy and her family and friends did a great job running the kitchen.

Our volunteers on the day put in a lot of work. Rosalie, on the raffle, Wendy in the kitchen, Patricia, Patrice and Kathy's friend Tracey on the cake stall, Barb and Bob with the children's games along with Margaret, Meg and

Lyn supervising the picnic races. Richard was busy helping out taking photos supported by Rob with the Car Club.

Council staff and attendants under Julie Jones and Hannah Milne kept the car park under control, conducted tours and a survey and supervised the gumboot throwing. Councillors Prue Cutts and Ben Stennett helped Peter on the sausage sizzle and Cr Raylene Carr came to lend support.

We are also grateful to Mitcham Rotary, Whitehorse Manningham Library, all the craft, art and trade demonstrators, the Studebaker Car Club, Brumbies Bush Band, Jamieson's Run animal farm, face painters, Jellis Craig for a marquee and the Working Dogs demonstration provided by Council. The Community Grant from Council helped to provide some of the activities.

Our new Committee is the same as before except for Yvonne Fitzmaurice retiring. Patty Boxhall gave an excellent talk at the AGM on Museums.

Sunday 20 October is Whitehorse Spring Festival. If you would like to help out on our stall for the day please contact Kathy or myself.

We will welcome back Dr Gary Presland to talk on the Economics of Aboriginal Societies at the next meeting. I hope to see you there.

*Vicki Jones Evans*

Our team of Sausage Sizzlers



## Are you descended from a *David Clark* passenger?

To mark the 180th anniversary of the *David Clark's* dropping anchor in Hobson's Bay on 27 October 1839, a reunion is planned for Sunday, 27 October 2019, at **Gulf Station, 1029 Melba Highway, Yarra Glen**. Descendants of those 229 passengers are invited.

To receive more information as plans progress, email now to: [davidclark1839@gmail.com](mailto:davidclark1839@gmail.com) (that should be easy to remember!)

Please share this message with other descendants.

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# AUGUST MEETING REPORT



I must admit that I didn't expect to be terribly interested by this presentation. I thought it would be mainly about how WHS works: I suppose a case of familiarity breeds contempt! I was pleasantly surprised when Patty Boxhall started talking and realised that she was going to address the history of museums as a whole. MUCH more interesting!

Patty began by observing that the concept of a museum grew out of the aristocratic practice that had grown up in medieval times of accruing collections referred variously by names such as "cabinets of curiosities" or "closets of rarities". These were the result of the discovery of new worlds, exotic cultures and climes. Objects of antiquity were gathered and taken home for personal satisfaction, as a display of worldly travel and as a physical demonstration of knowledge. Indeed, it was not until in 15th Century Florence that the term "museum" was used to describe a collection, and since the late 18th century the term has been used to describe a building for the storage and exhibition of historic and natural objects.

Using her well-selected display of images, Patty described how in the 17th century the museum "went public", with the establishment in Basel, Switzerland, of the first university museum in 1671. Another early museum was the Ashmolean, opened in Oxford in 1683.

Public access broadened the scope of a museum's operations, creating the need for behind the scenes scientific study, conservation and restoration of objects, as well as consideration of how best to display collections. Initially this was with walls crowded with heavy glass cases filled with ancient ceramics, textiles or natural history specimens; however by the 19th century European museums were experimenting with cultural history arrangements or dioramas – the practice of placing objects in rooms that gave the visitor the feeling of walking through different stages of history.

Of course, Patty's talk eventually progressed to the growth of museums in Australia. The two earliest forms of colonial cultural development started in the two oldest colonies, New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. In Hobart in 1827 the first Mechanics Institute in Australia was founded – just three years after one had been established in London. The first public Museum was established in Sydney in 1827 with the aim of procuring "many rare and curious specimens of Natural History". The collection was housed in many different buildings around Sydney until a purpose-built structure was opened to the public in 1857.

A feather in the cap of Australia's museums, says Patty, is the Adelaide Botanical Gardens Museum of Economic Botany, considered to be the last remaining purpose-built colonial museum in the world; much of its collection dating back to the original museum display 130 years ago.

At this point in her talk, she uncovered the process by which museums, including WHS, define what is relevant to a collection. This is called *Significance Assessment*: the studying and understanding of the meanings and values of objects and collections, providing a process and framework for analysis that can be used to determine the appropriateness of any item to a collection.

Patty concluded with a description of the procedure as applied at WHS, and a half-hour talk was over seemingly almost before it had begun!

Chris Gray



PICTURES (from top): Patty shares her knowledge; Engraving of Ferrante Imperato's cabinet of curiosity, Naples 1599; Adelaide Botanical Gardens Museum of Economic Botany.



## THE BOY BUSHRANGER.

At the city court, on the 6th inst., William Parsons was charged on remand with robbery under arms, and shooting with intent to kill. Charles Speight, carrier, living in Collingwood, said he was on the Ringwood-road, coming towards Melbourne, on the 4th inst., about ten o'clock. He was walking at the side of his horse. The prisoner came round to the opposite side of the horse, and, presenting a pistol, said, "Your money or your life." He was about three yards off. Witness took a £1 note out of his pocket and gave it to the prisoner, saying it was all he had. The prisoner said it was not, and ordered him to turn out his pockets, which he did.



The prisoner then asked him if his mates had got any money. Witness had three mates with him following his dray, the nearest of whom was about fifty yards off. The prisoner then left him, and witness saw him

stop Gregory, who turned out his pockets. The prisoner then went up to Dickinson, and again presented the pistol. Dickinson turned out his pockets, and witness saw him shake his handkerchief. Dickinson raised his arm towards the prisoner, and witness heard a shot. The prisoner then rushed off, and witness with the others, chased and overtook him. The prisoner was bleeding very much from the neck. They dragged him down to the drays, and on getting him there they tied him to him to one of them. He asked to be taken to a doctor.

On meeting a constable the prisoner was given into custody. James Gregory stated that he was driving a wagon behind the previous witness, when he saw the prisoner come out of the bush. After stopping Speight, he came up to witness, and told him to stand, saying at the same time "Your money or your life." Witness had nothing to give him, and the prisoner then went towards Dickinson, who was about fifty yards off. Witness heard the report of the pistol, and saw the prisoner run away. Peter Dickinson, carrier, said he was travelling with the last two witnesses near Ringwood on Monday.

After corroborating the evidence of the two preceding witnesses, he said: When the prisoner stuck up Speight, he had no idea what he was doing. The prisoner came to witness and presented the pistol, and told him to turn out his pockets, saying, "I want your money." Witness said he had no money, and the prisoner then said, "Turn your pockets out or I'll shoot

you." Witness went up towards him, and turning out one of his pockets he rushed in and seized the prisoner's arm with his left hand, and turned the pistol up. The pistol was on full cock, and the prisoner had his finger upon the trigger. It went off immediately, the ball passing through the prisoner's chin.

The prisoner ran away and dropped the pistol, which the witness picked up. The pistol produced was the one in the prisoner's possession. James Phillips, pawnbroker, in Bourke-street, identified the pistol produced as one he had sold the prisoner on the previous Saturday. When the prisoner bought it he asked witness if he would guarantee that it would kill a man at fifty yards. Witness asked him what he wanted it for, and he said "nothing particular." He said he came from New South Wales and had been in Melbourne three years previously. Witness was suspicious of the prisoner by his conduct, and gave information to the police.

Constable G.8, stated that the prisoner was given into his custody by the three previous witnesses. After cautioning him in the usual manner, he admitted the charge and said he intended to stick up every person between there and Wood's Point. The prisoner declined to say anything and was committed for trial. During the examination of witnesses the prisoner acted with the greatest coolness, and appeared to be totally careless as to the result of the inquiry. As was expected, the prisoner is a native of New South Wales, and only arrived in Melbourne a few days ago.

It could be the last waltz . . .

# VANDALS STEP IN: THREAT TO DANCE

● By SIMON KINCH

**A small group of vandals could force abandonment of Crescendo - Nunawading City's popular young people's dance.**

The vandals did more than \$200 worth of damage to carpets and fittings at last month's Saturday night dance at the Nunawading High School hall and theatre complex in Forest Hill.

The Crescendo dance committee—comprising mainly students from Nunawading High—has repeatedly reimbursed the hall committee of management from dance receipts to pay for the damage.

Nunawading High executive member of the hall committee of management, Mr Richard McLean, confirmed last week that the Crescendo dance had been suspended pending a conference with the dance committee to discuss problems.

Crescendo, launched last year by a committee of young students to provide regular entertainment for young people, has boosted its attendances to about 700 at each of its bi-monthly Saturday dances.

### Burns . . .

Student Neil Chenery, 17, of Deanswood Rd, Forest Hill, who has assisted the committee throughout the dance's development, said last week:

"It is a great pity to see the possible downfall of a function which has provided good entertainment for many young people in our community."

Neil said the small group of vandals—they burnt holes in carpets

by dropping cigarettes in the hall's foyer and toilets and damaged furniture—had escaped detection despite strict security patrolling by volunteers.

"Subsequently all proceeds from the dances have been pouring into repair costs and the responsibility is laid on the dance committee."

Neil said he hoped an increase in security, greater public support and covering of the carpets could minimise damage and foolish behavior so that the popular dance could continue.

Mr McLean said that with a \$250,000 school and community complex in the John S. Hoare building the committee of management had to review all aspects of the Crescendo dance.

The review meeting, which would also be attended by Nunawading Council representatives, would be held early next month.

Next Crescendo dance would be scheduled for later next month.

The noise level from pop groups playing at the dance could also continue.

■ Turn to page 13



● Two young Malaysians, Tan Choon Seng, 19 (left), and Mary Tan, 12, who successfully underwent open heart surgery in Melbourne recently, were guests of Mr and Mrs Alan Black, of Crest Gve., Nunawading, last week.

Both young people were brought to Australia by the Melbourne Jaycees for heart surgery not available in their own country.

hospital four days after her operation, returned home last week. Tan Choon Seng will return later.

The visitors are pictured above with Mrs Alan Black, whose husband is immediate past president of Melbourne Jaycees.

Mary Tan who was able to walk down four flights of stairs at St Vincent's Hos-

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- Road barriers get a reprieve — P.3.
- Women in frocks — P.26.
- Jarman wants action on jobs — P.5.
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- Centre to help slow learners — P.7.
- City staff get safety lessons — P.9.

## Open go

This week appears on pages 21 and 22.

## GARY AUGUSTINI HAIR AND SCALP CLINIC

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# Heritage Family Day



## DIARY DATES

Meetings are held at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex

**Saturday, 5 October**

**1.00pm General Meeting**

*Dr Gary Presland*

*The Economics of Aboriginal Society*

**Saturday, 7 December**

**1.00pm General Meeting**

*Wendy Lee*

*Tivoli Tales*

**Saturday, 1 February**

**1.00pm General Meeting**

*Richard Conn*

*Restoring Old monochrome Photographs*

**Saturday, 4 April**

**1.00pm General Meeting**

*Ross McMullin*

*Will Dyson, War Artist*

## 2019 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 9 November***

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

## STATISTICS

Photographs catalogued	-	4273
Artefacts catalogued	-	4887
Documents catalogued	-	7566
Museum visitors July–August		193



Facebook New Page 'likes' to date 797

# Heritage Family Day

(continued from page 1)

## Thank you for support:

- Mitcham & Forest Hill Rotary Clubs
- Koornung Wood Turners
- Whitehorse Manningham Libraries
- Melbourne Meccano and Electric Trains
- Box Hill Spinners & Weavers group
- Lace-makers Vicki, Liz and Leonie
- Gunther Ilgoutz – Blacksmith
- Echo Wu – Chinese Brush Painting
- Also Terry Kourtis – Vivere Coffee Cart
- Jellis Craig for supplying a marquee

Thanks also for the excellent entertainment provided by Brumbies Bush Band.

## Raffle Prizes:

### 1st: Coffee Hamper

Donated by



### 2nd: Fair Trade Hamper

Donated by



### 3rd: Chocolate Hamper

Donated by



### 4th: Charlie's Auto Museum Family Pass



### 5th: Charlie's

### Auto Museum Double Pass

Donated by Charles Schwerkolt

### 6th: \$10 Gift Certificate

Donated by Ground Café 619



## Winners:

1st: Sam

2nd: Ria (pictured)

3rd: Kerri McManus

4th: Judy & Harley Hall

5th: Philip Daw

6th: Karen Ballinger



## WHS Committee Contacts

### President

Vicki Jones-Evans  
9873 3383

### Vice-President

Peter McPhee

### Secretary

Kathy Innes

### Treasurer

Eddie Tan

Local History Room (03) 9873 4946

Rear Museum Building  
Schwerkolt Complex  
2 – 10 Deep Creek Road, Mitcham

### Newsletter Team

Chris Gray  
Wendy Standfield

### WHS website

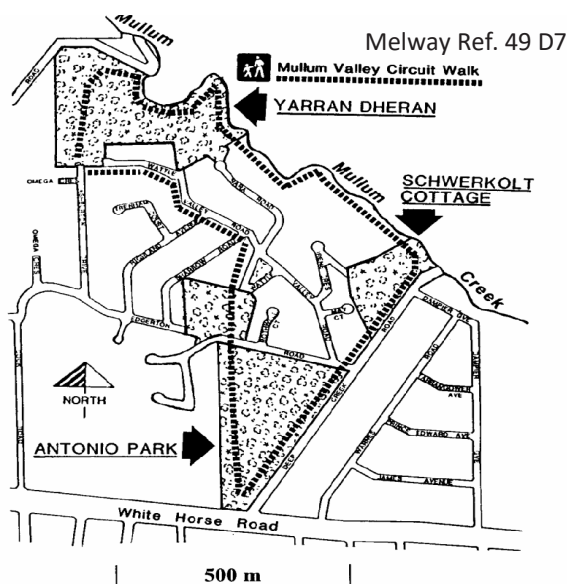
whitehorsehistory.org.au  
facebook.com/whitehorsehistory

### Email

whitehorsehistory@hotmail.com

### Postal Address

P.O. Box 272  
MITCHAM Vic 3132



**Copy Deadline for next WHS Newsletter: Wednesday, 6 November 2019**

## 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."*

CITY OF



WHITEHORSE

### REMEMBER

#### Whitehorse Historical Society

#### Local History Collection

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.

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



THE WHITEHORSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF MICHAEL SUKKAR MP, FEDERAL MEMBER FOR DEAKIN

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