NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

February - March 1973 · Price 5 cents Number 43
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Pres. Mr M. Chatwin
44 McCulloch St.
Nunawading 3131
Phone 874-2487

Sec. Mrs J. Webster
674 Canterbury Rd.
Vermont 3133
Phone 874 4210

Treas. Mrs S. Barker
14 Tortice Ave
Nunawading 3131

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FEBRUARY MEETING On Wednesday 14 February, at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, we will have as our Guest Speaker Mr Ken McIntyre, a member of the Box Hill Historical Society. His topic will be "Cook's Portugese Predecessors", a subject which Mr McIntyre has made an extensive study of in the past and has furthered his knowledge on his recent visit to Portugal. We can look forward to a very interesting talk.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS The following office bearers were elected for 1973 at our Annual Meeting on 10 October 1972.

President: Mr M. Chatwin. Vice-Pres: Mr K. Patterson. Secretary: Mrs J. Webster. Treasurer: Mrs S. Barker. Committee Mrs Jean Field, Mr & Mrs Higginbotham, Mr C. Tilson and Mrs Anis Poussard.

PROGRAM FOR 1973

February 14	Guest Speaker - Mr K. McIntyre - "Cook's Portugese Predecessors"
March 14	Guest Speaker - Mayor of Nunawading Cr F.T. ~~Tyler~~ Taylor "Environmental Comparisons between Country & Urban Living
April 11	Guest Speaker - Mr Alan West, Curator in Anthropology, National Museum - "Victorian Aboriginal Relics"
May 9	Guest Speaker - Jean Field - "Historical Interests from Abroad"
June 13	Guest Speaker - Mrs Dorothy Goble MLA " A Short History of Parliament House"
July 11	At Wesley Hall, The Avenue, Blackburn. Higher School Certificate Students' Night. Details to be advised.
August 8	W O R K N I G H T
September 12	Guest Speaker - Colonel G. Palmer - "The Salvation Army's Inala Village"
October 10	Annual Meeting
November 14	Guest Speaker - Mr Ross Holloway - "Tyntyndyer Homestead and it's place in Local History"

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Churches of Nunawading (Past and Present will be continued as research material comes to hand.

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HISTORY OF THE NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY (1965-1972)

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

At a public meeting on 17 October 1965, in the Mayor's Room at the Council Chambers, it was decided to form the Nunawading and District Historical Society; (later the name was changed to Nunawading Historical Society) to encourage the study of local history and preserve Australiana generally. Since the Inaugural Meeting on 22 November 1965, regular monthly meetings have been held and these now take place in the Coffee Room at the Civic Centre on the second Wednesday of each month at 8 pm. Subscriptions are: Family Membership $3, Single $2 Student 50 cents. Members at once commenced to gather as much information on the beginning of Nunawading as they could, by interviewing older residents and recording all they could find out about the early days of our district.

PUBLICATIONS

A year after the commencement of the Society, a two page "Brief History of Nunawading" was produced. This proved very popular with local school children for use in their studies, so last year it was updated by Miss E. Ronaldson. It now comes in the form of a booklet called "A Short History of Nunawading" and sells for 30 cents..
A bi-monthly newsletter is sent to each member and has proved to be a great means of communication.
Our records were greatly appreciated by Mr Niall Brennan, who was happy to cull items from them and follow up clues they revealed for material for his book "History of Nunawading:, commissioned by Nunawading City Council and recently published.

PROGRESS

Ever since the Inaugural Meeting, Society members have continued to collect, restore and preserve items, documents, maps, sub-division plans etc., in order to obtain, as near as possible, a correct history of Nunawading. To mention a few of the collections: Mrs Pat Faggetter has photos and facts about the Slater family and their herb and perfume business. Mr Keith Patterson specialises in collecting maps and records of land sales and sub-divisions, Mr & Mrs Field have wonderful display material on the pottery industry dating back to the 1880's and before. Our President, Mr Chatwin, has done a splendid job of binding our collection of local papers and at the Secretary's home there is a miscellaneous collection of items given to the Society from time to time. Through our member, Miss Eleanor Ronaldson, we were fortunate to get possession of some orchard machinery, now stored at the council depot.

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AIMS

The Society has presented petitions and plans to the Council for a "Home" for the Society; a place to keep these treasures of bygone days and archives to house our records and historic books. Of two plans submitted, the Council has approved of the second one and we feel confident that, before long, this plan will be a reality and there will be a place where local citizens and visitors can browse through photos, records and items of historic interest. We know that once our Museum is established, many more treasures will be unearthed and passed on to us for preservation and display.

TOURS

Tours of other districts near and far, are an important part of our year's program. We have toured the City of Melbourne, this year the City of Nunawading. Other day tours have been to Ballarat, Bendigo, Maldon, Sunbury and the Mornington Peninsular, whilst some members have taken the opportunity to attend country Conventions to see Swan Hill, Geelong and this year Wangaratta. On November 25, we will join Ringwood Research Group on a tour of the Narre Warren districts.

EDUCATIONAL

Except on "Work Nights:, there is a Guest Speaker at each meeting. Speakers are selected for a talk on a topic of historic interest. At the September meeting our own member, Mrs Sharpe, will speak on "Woods Point", whilst at our November meeting Mrs Marjorie Tipping, President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, will tell us about the "Early Convicts at Sorrento, in 1803".

Each July meeting is designed for the benefit of Higher School Certificate students of Australian History in our local and nearby schools. On this occasion, the Guest Speaker is a Professor of History from one of the Universities, and we hire Wesley Hall in order to accommodate the students who are invited. This year, we were fortunate to have Professor Geoffrey Blainey as the speaker and Wesley Hall was filled to capacity.

Throughout the year our members were asked to speak at local schools and other organisations. At present, through a generous donation from Rotary, a kit of enlarged photos is being prepared for use on these occasions.

CENTENARY YEAR

We close this history with our busiest year yet. We started Centenary Year with the aim to find:

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(1) The Citizen who has lived the longest length of time in Nunawading
This is Mrs Louisa Smith, aged 93, who has lived all her life in this district and born not far from her present home in Rooks Road.

(2) The oldest house still occupied as a dwelling
This is in Springvale Road, formerly owned by the McClelland family and orignally situated in Whitehorse Road, opposite the Civic Centre. It is now owned and occupied by Mr & Mrs G. Florio and their son Carl.

(3) The oldest business still operating
This is Vitclay Pipes Pty. Ltd. (formerly Commonwealth Potteries) established in 1873 by the White Bros. whose garden edging tiles can still be found in some gardens in the inner suburbs.

The above findings did not come about without a lot of research and members of our Research Committee are still far from satisfied with their work for the Centenary Year. They aim to record the names of all the pioneer families of the City of Nunawading as we know it today, and to establish the most important facts about their early days in the district. Because we have moved from farming and orchards, to residential and industry, our past history is certainly an interesting one.

The climax of the Centenary Year was the "Wild Colonial Ball" in the almost completed Central Library. Our Council is certainly to be commended for giving the citizens of Nunawading such a unique opportunity to celebarte the occasion.

THE FUTURE

The years to come could be busier even than this one. There is so much to do, to learn, to seek and preserve. We must also record all the important events that are taking place in our city right now. As far as the Historical Society is concerned, it is just the beginning. There is still so much we do not know about our district. Only last week we found our first photo and papers of William Witt, M.P. and first Shire President and probably, he could go down in history as our most important figure. Now we have found his grand-daughter, who lives in Ringwood and has so much material to pass on to us, we will not rest until we know all there is to record about that gentleman.

And so it goes on and on and I feel sure the years to come are going to be busy and fruitful ones.

Compiled by Anis Poussard, Hon. Secretary. 28.8.1972.

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A. H. Poussard (Editor) 89 -3383

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April - May 1973 Price 5 cents Number 44

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Pres. Mr M Chatwin
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Sec. Mrs J. Webster,
674 Canterbury Rd.
VERMONT 3133
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Treas. Mrs. S. Barker
14 Tortice Ave.
NUNAWADING 3131

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APRIL MEETING

On Wednesday, April 11th., at 8.00 p.m., at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, we will have as our Guest Speaker Mr. Alan West, Curator in Anthropology at the National Museum of Victoria. His subject is "Victorian Aboriginal Relics". This is an opportunity to hear about this interesting subject, much of which could be linked with our own local history. Don't miss it.

MAY MEETING

May 9th. W O R K N I G H T.
Same place, same time, and plenty of work for all. Please come.

1973 PROGRAMME ALTERATIONS

The following alterations have been necessary in order to fit in with the availability of our Guest Speakers:

May 9th. Work Night

July 11th. Guest Speaker Jean Field "Historical Interests Abroad".

August 9th. H. C. Students night at Wesley Hall.

Guest Speaker Dr. Ian Turner of Monash University, "World War 1".

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URBAN OR RURAL When the Mayor of Nunawading, Cr. Frank Taylor, gave a talk at our last meeting, although the attendance was small, owing to illness and inclement weather, those present were treated to a very interesting and informal address. It can be assumed our present Mayor is a 'country boy at heart". The talk was followed by a general discussion on all points brought to light and it was obvious to all that the country and the city, each need each other, in order to make our world the kind of place we want to live in.

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POINT NEPEAN TOUR

For those who like to have plenty of notice of proposed tours, we present the itinerary for one we expect to do on Sunday, September 16th.

9.30 - 10.00 a.m.	Departure.
12 Noon.	Meet representatives of Nepean Historical Society at Collins Memorial. Short talk on early settlement 1803 and visit Settlers' Graves.
1.00 - 2.00 p.m.	Stop at Back Beach Sorrento for picnic lunch (each take own lunch). Visit new Coppin's Lookout where magnificent view of Ocean and bay is obtainable.
2.15 p.m.	Visit Point King where Lieut. Murray first raised the Union Jack and took possession of Port Phillip in the name of King George III.
2.30 p.m.	Visit Quarantine station (yet to be confirmed) visiting Ticongenga Memorial, Heaton's Memorial, the early cemetery, Cheviot Beach, and the Holt Memorial Plaque.
3.30 p.m.	Visit Nepean Historical Museum.
4.30 p.m.	Leave Sorrento and drive home via Arthur's Seat, where a magnificent view of the Western Port and Port Phillip Bay is obtained.
6.30 p.m.	Expected time of arrival home.

This information has been supplied by the Secretary.

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FITZROY GARDENS

We have received from Mrs. Iris Fryer, a very interesting collection of historical facts about the Fitzroy Gardens. With thanks to Mrs. Fryer, they go into our Archives.

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Subscriptions are now due. Please send your cheque to the Treasurer.

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RESEARCH Recently Mr. Keith Patterson came across the following information on THE FIRST LAND SALES IN NUNAWADING

The area east of Middleborough Road was surveyed and advertised for sale by auction from 1855 onwards. At that time it was the policy of the Government to sell land by auction at a reserve price which was usually £1 an acre for country land, but might occasionally be higher. If land was unsold it was open for "selection", that is, it could be bought by anyone who made a cash offer of the reserve price. The money was used partly for public works and partly to finance an assisted immigration policy.

Allotments in Nunawading varied from 69 acres to 240 acres. At the first sale, 22nd. October, 1855, land offered was all in the southern section. The only buyers were, John Holland of Mulgrave and Charles Burrell of Plenty. Burrell, James Riley of Melbourne, Joseph Wilks of Nunawading, William Jones of Melbourne, and Patrick O'Connor of Sandhurst, selected the remainder within the next month.

Three days later most of the area between Middleborough and Springvale Roads, Koonung Creek and the south side of Canterbury Road were offered. William Williams of Nunawading paid the highest prices, £1/11/- and £1/7/- and acre, for two allotments on the north side of Whitehorse Road, nearest Middleborough Road. William Heading of Kew paid £1/2/- an acre for the next. Thomas Blood of Boroondara, and James Cook of Hawthorn, also paid £1/2/- an acre. James Cousens of Sandridge, bought three allotments and Patrick Riley of Melbourne, bought two. Holland bought two, and John Lobb of Brunswick, bought one.

Before the end of the year almost every remaining allotment had been taken up by Joseph Orr of St. Kilda, who bought four allotments, Patrick Riley, two allotments, John Woods of Collingwood, six allotments, William Morton, three allotments, William Clisby, one allotment, Nelson Polak, one allotment, William Jones, two allotments, William Tranter of Hawthorn, Fred Whitman of Hawthorn, Charles Cook of Nunawading, R. Kefford and Edward Wilton, one allotment each.

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CONDOLENCES

During September it was learned, with deep regret, of the sudden death, whilst holidaying in N.S.W., of one of our foundation members, Mrs. Hilda Boxshall. The late Mrs. Boxshall had a remarkable memory, and having lived most of her life in Mitcham, had first hand knowledge of early incidents in the history of Blackburn and Mitcham.

This proved invaluable to the Society at its commencement and again during our Centenary Research. On behalf of the members, sympathy was extended to Mr. Boxshall and his family, at the time of their loss, and we trust that Mr. Boxshall will soon feel like joining us again at our regular meetings and share our common interest.

More recently we heard of the passing of Jean Field's father, and also Eleanor Ronaldson's father. Both these members have received expressions of sympathy from our Society.

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ACQUISITIONS

We have been fortunate to receive a 1904 single shot Winchester rifle for our historic collection. The donor Mr. George Nethercote, of Boronia Road, Vermont tells us it was first used in the area bounded by Kooyong and Glenferrie Roads, the present site of Scotch College. We are very grateful to Mr. Nethercote for thinking of our Society when disposing of such an interesting item.

Whilst on the subject of historic items, it is interesting to note in a letter from Korea, that brass vases, urns, incense burners etc., are more likely to be 1,000 years old than 100 years. Many of these are being sold cheaply these days, usually to be melted down to make new articles with an untarnishable finish. We know someone's luggage is going to be overweight on his return home.

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A. H. Poussard (Editor) 89-3383

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44 McCulloch St.
NUNAWADING 3131.
Phone 874-2487

Sec. Mrs. J. Webster
674 Canterbury Rd.
VERMONT 3133
Phone 874-4210

Treas. Mrs. S. Barker
14 Tortice Ave.
NUNAWADING 3131

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JUNE MEETING

On Wednesday, June 13th. at 8.00 p.m. at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, we will have as our Guest Speaker, Mrs. Dorothy Goble M.L.A., whose subject will be "A Short History of Parliament House". Mrs. Goble is well qualified to speak on the subject and we are delighted that she is able to visit us so soon after the election. This recalls one of our earliest excursions, when Mrs. Goble invited us to visit Parliament House.

JULY MEETING

Mrs. Jean Field will be the Guest Speaker on Wednesday, July 11th. Her subject will be "Historical Interests Abroad".

WORK NIGHTS

The May meeting took the form of a work night. Attendance was small, but more progress was made in indexing of newspapers. There is still much to be done, so if anyone cares to volunteer, they can be given plenty of indexing and sorting to do.

ABORIGINAL RELICS

Mr. Alan West, Curator in Anthropology at the National Museum, described, with the aid of slides, relics of the aborigines, when speaking at our April Meeting. Among relics he described were many cave drawings and other marks of their occupation which few Victorians realised existed or had been found.

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OPENING OF NUNAWADING LIBRARY

The central Nunawading Library has now been opened at the Civic Centre, and is very busy. We are making arrangements with Miss Pavey for the storage of our documentary material under such conditions that it will be in safe keeping, but readily available to members of the Society at all times.

MUSEUM AND DISPLAY AT SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE

There seems a good prospect that the proposed museum at Schwerkolt Cottage will be built shortly.
In preparation for this we would ask members to check what material they hold which might be displayed or stored at such a museum. It also seems advisable to inquire what other material of historical value is available and would be donated to illustrate the history of the district.

MRS. GOBLE RE-ELECTED

Congratulations to Mrs. D. Goble on her re-election to the Legislative Assembly as member for Mitcham.

POINT NEPEAN TOUR

We expect on Sunday, September 16th., to make a tour of the Point Nepean area, including interesting points around Sorrento, Point Nepean, and it is hoped the Quarantine Station. Those who are interested should make a note of the date.

STUDENTS' NIGHT

Dr. Ian Turner, of Monash University, will speak on "World War 1" at the Higher Certificate students' night at Wesley Hall, Blackburn on August 9th.

REGIONAL MEETING

Box Hill Society will be hosts at the next regional meeting, which will probably be in March next year. There will be further particulars later.

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NEW BOOKS

Mrs. Jean Field's book, "Gray Ribbon to the Border", the story of the Hume Highway, has now been published. Hawthorn Press are the publishers and the book sells for $5.95.
Mrs. Jean Uhl has also published "Call Back Yesterday", a history of the Parish of Eumemmering, in the Dandenong district. It is published by J. Lowden of Kilmore.

NAMES OF STREETS

There are nearly 1,000 streets in Nunawading, and in many cases their names commemorate early settlers. Often they are the only memorials, so it would be valuable to have an explanation of how each street received its name, before this is forgotten. If you know something about your street, or those nearby, please let Mr. Patterson know.

EARLY SUBDIVISIONS

Several of the early buyers of land in Nunawading were optimistic enough to sub-divide their allotments into smaller townships and try to sell small building blocks as early as 1859 and 1861. In some cases the sub-divisions have left their mark on the present street plans, although none seems to have been a success and few, if any, building blocks were sold. Norwich, for instance, can be located by the peculiar right-angle turns of Morack Road, Vermont. It was originally intended to be a ring road around a small village, which was to be surrounded by vineyards.
William Morton sub-divided an area between Whitehorse and Central Roads long before the railway was built, and named the proposed town "Studley".
Morton also had another village site, which he did not name, along Creek Road, Mitcham. The long road, without cross-streets, reflected the town-planning concept that the area should consist of small farms, extending from one road in front to another road in the rear.
"New Brunswick", also on land bought by Morton, was on the west side of Heatherdale Road. Brunswick Road led in its direction.
Another un-named village was planned for the north-east angle of the intersection of Mitcham and Canterbury Roads. This area was originally bought by Nelson Polak.
On Whitehorse Road, in the north-west angle of the intersection with Springvale Road, was the planned village of "Springfield". The sub-division, made by Patrick Riley, is much the same as the present

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streets between Nunawading State School and Whitehorse Road. It was intended that it should be partly surrounded by small farms on both sides of Springfield Road, stretching down to Junction Road, and extending along Whitehorse Road.

THE HAWTHORN BRIDGE TOLL

When the Nunawading District Road Board was established in 1857 an important part of the local revenue was received from tolls collected on the Hawthorn Bridge. This was very common in Victoria, the money being used to make necessary roads and build bridges.

The following scale of charges was adopted in February 1858:-

Every sheep, lamb, pig or goat	½d
Ox or head of neat cattle	1d
Horse, mare, ass or mule	3d
Cart, dray, waggon, wain or such vehicle drawn by horses or mules, with wheels less than 4½ inches in width - For each horse	1/6
Ditto, with wheels more than 4½ and less than 6 inches	1/-
Ditto, 6 inches to 9 inches	7½d
Ditto, more than 9 inches	4½d
Cart, dray, waggon, wain or such vehicle drawn by bullocks - Less than 4½ inches, per bullock	1/-
Ditto, 4½ to 6 inches	9d
Ditto, 6 to 9 inches	6d
Ditto, 9 inches	3d

(Tyres to be flat and level throughout their entire width. All circular tyres, those made in two or three widths, or having projecting bolts, heads or nails to be charged at the same rate as 4½ inch wheels).

Every spring cart constructed to carry goods, drawn by not more than one horse	1/-
Gig, chaise or other such carriage constructed to carry passengers, with two wheels, drawn by one horse or other animal	6d
Ditto, drawn by two horses or other animals	1/-
Coach, chariot, or other such carriage with four wheels and drawn by one horse or other animal	1/-
If drawn by two horses or other animals	1/6

and three pence for each additional horse.

Tolls payable one way only if going and coming the same day. Tolls on asses, when drawing, to be one-third the toll on horses. Carts laden with manure (provided that their wheel tyres are not less than 4½" in width) to pass free of toll and such carts passing through any gate empty for the purpose of obtaining manure to have their toll repaid on their return so laden. The toll-keeper lived beside the gate, and was available to open the gate and collect toll day and night. This seems to have become burdensome, because the Hawthorn Bridge toll gate was closed at 11.00 p.m. after January, 1857.

K. A. Patterson - Editor.

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Sec. Mrs. J. Webster 674 Canterbury Rd. VERMONT 3133 Phone 874-4210

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AUGUST MEETING

Dr. Ian Turner, of Monash University, will speak on "World War 1" at the Higher Certificate students' night at Wesley Hall, Blackburn on Wednesday August 8th. (Please note the date. It was in error in the last Newsletter).

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Colonel G. Palmer, of the Salvation Army, will be the guest speaker on September 12th. His subject will be "The Salvation Army's Inala Village" The village, built as an old peoples' home, is in the grounds of what was for many years, an old men's home, and has a very high reputation, with a correspondingly long waiting list of people who wish to live there. It is a quiet but vital piece of work which has been going on for many years, and will probably continue for very many more.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Mrs. Goble, M.L.A., showed many illustrations of different stages in the building of Parliament House when she spoke at the June meeting. A great deal of her information was prepared by the Parliamentary librarian from records held at Parliament House which increased the interest of her talk.

HISTORICAL SCENES ABROAD

Mrs. Field's talk on Historical Interests from Abroad at the July meeting was well illustrated with pictures taken on her tour of Europe, ranging from old English Manor Houses to Greek temples. It was a wide-ranging, very diversified review of Europe.

OPENING OF WINE CELLAR

The re-constructed wine cellar at Schwerkolt Cottage was opened by the Mayor (Cr. Frank Taylor) on Sunday 22nd. July. Members of the Society visited the newly-discovered cellar on an excursion of Nunawading last year. It had been discovered when men working on unemployed relief began clearing away fallen earth from a small hollow which had been described as the site of a wine cellar, and which the Committee of Management wished to restore. Instead of a small dug-out, which they had expected, it was found that a tunnel six or seven feet wide led about 50 feet into the hillside. Several tools, and a huge padlock

which was apparently used to secure the door were also found. Since then the Council with assistance from Wynns Pty. Ltd., have cleared away debris and re-roofed the cellar. Stone walls on either side were still in good condition, so that it was easy to determine the size and construction of the cellar. It is now completely restored, with gravel floor, new roof logs, and stocked with a grape basket, cart, barrels, demi-johns and other implements used in wine-making. The whole is lit by concealed lights, and it is open to the public whenever the cottage is open.

There was a large attendance at the formal opening, including a number of members of the Mornington Historical Society. Most were surprised at the size and sound construction of the cellar.

After the opening there was a small wine-tasting, with wine supplied by Wynns. Mr. Grace, of Vermont Winery, also assisted to assure the authenticity of the re-construction.

A few bottles of wine, bearing a special "Schwerkolt Cottage" label have been put down in the cellar. They are not to be opened before 2000 A.D.

A pleasing feature of the opening was the amount of publicity given by newspapers, radio stations and the Forest Hill Shopping Centre, which will assist in making the Cottage known.

VISIT TO MORNINGTON PENINSULA

The Society's excursion to Sorrento and the Quarantine Station will be on Sunday, September 16th. The bus will leave the Civic Centre at 8.45 a.m. and is expected to arrive at the Collins Memorial, Sorrento at 11.00 a.m. We will then meet Mr. Ronaldson, President of the Mornington Historical Society, who will act as our guide. Permission has been obtained to visit the Quarantine Station, so we should see many places of interest. Miss M. McGaw, 51 McCulloch Street, Nunawading (phone 874-5966) is taking bookings and fares, which are $2.50 a head.

C.B.A. BANKING CHAMBER

The National Trust has sent out a special Newsletter about attempts to preserve the banking chamber of the C.B.A., Collins Street, Melbourne. The chamber has been classified, but the building is to be demolished. The Trust hopes to save at least the chamber and have it incorporated in any new building.

LAND PRICES

Recently land in Terrara Road, Vermont was sold at auction, and building blocks brought $14,000, $15,000 and $16,000. This is a great contrast to prices in the 1860's, when they were first bought from the Crown at £1 an acre, and even fifty years ago, when Mr. G. Morton valued land in that area, mostly under orchard, at £100 to £125 an acre.

T.R.B. MORTON OF BLACKBURN

Mrs. Wainwright, one of our members, is a grand-daughter of Thomas Richard Burrowes Morton, a leading personality in the Nunawading area for more than thirty years, whose house in Gordon Crescent, near Blackburn railway station, is one of the landmarks of the district. From the recollections and records of Mrs. Wainwright and her cousin Mrs. D. Bullen, supplemented with other documents, the following information about T.R.B. Morton has been obtained.

His father, George Pickering Morton, arrived on the "Earl of Charlemont" from Ireland in 1854. The ship was wrecked at Barwon Heads, without loss of life, on 18th. June 1853. He was appointed to the Victorian civil service in July 1853, and became Clerk of Petty Sessions at Anderson's Creek in January 1858, then Warden's Clerk in 1863. He apparently resigned in 1865.

His son Thomas was born in Collingwood on 12th. March 1854 and was educated at Wesley College, when his father was living in Windsor. He was late starting school, but matriculated in nine subjects, and was noted as being good at figures.

When he was 34 years of age he was secretary of the Freehold Investment and Banking Co., one of the most active land and finance companies of the time. This company bought up more than thirty small farms in the Nunawading area, and he came to live in Blackburn with his wife (nee Louisa Mary Esther Morgan) when there were only four houses in the town. This company is credited in obituaries of T.R.B. Morton with having made Blackburn Lake and built the old Morton Hall, which was on the site of the present Blackburn branch of Nunawading Library. His house, which he named "Clonmore", occupied a very pleasant position overlooking the station and was in a part which seemed naturally suitable for a superior residential area. He was selected to the Nunawading Shire Council in 1888, and his contacts with the financial world of Melbourne were of great value as the Shire negotiated its first loans for street construction. The Freehold Investment and Banking Co. was also active in street construction, because a letter received by the Local Government Department from Nunawading Shire Council gave a list of streets made by them, including part of Blackburn Road and Railway Road, in 1890.

The following year a new company, of which Morton was a director, Blackburn and Tunstall Property Co., took over the Nunawading lands of Freehold Investment and Banking Co. Some of the shareholders were connected with the earlier company, and one or two were Blackburn residents. The value of the lands was nearly £250,000, but the new company failed to raise enough money to pay for them, and as the Land Boom burst it was unable to sell land to meet its obligations. The land reverted to Freehold Investment and Banking Co., which was

placed in liquidation.
This was a crisis period in Morton's life, and he seems to have tried to sell his Blackburn house, but failed. In the course of liquidating the Freehold Investment and Banking Co., he established an estate agency, with headquarters in Queen's Walk, Melbourne, a building demolished to make the present City Square. For some time he was in partnership with George Coghill, with branch offices in Box Hill and Canterbury. For many years he was steadily selling off the assets of failed Land Boom companies, mostly residential land in the eastern suburbs and country land near Western Port. His son George joined him in the business and at one time they were conducting weekly sales in Box Hill, Lilydale, Healesville, Launching Place and Emerald, which were the regular market days for all the small farmers of the district.
He retired from the Council in 1897, but was re-elected two years later and remained a member until his death in 1923. He was president in 1891-2, 1900, 1909-10, 1918-9, and had to contest only one election in more than 30 years.
From the time he came to Blackburn he took a great interest in St. John's Church of England, and had been secretary of the Vestry from the opening of the church in 1890 until 1920. A memorial tablet was unveiled in 1925.

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K. A. Patterson - Editor.

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Pres. Mr. M. Chatwin
44 McCulloch St.
NUNAWADING 3131
Phone 874-2487

Sec. Mrs. J. Webster
674 Canterbury Rd.
VERMONT 3133
Phone 874-4210

Treas. Mrs. S. Barker
14 Tortice Ave.
NUNAWADING 3131

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ANNUAL MEETING The Annual Meeting will be held at the Civic Centre on Wednesday October 10. As usual there will be no guest speaker, but members are asked to bring along half a dozen slides which are likely to be of general interest, and photographs of themselves as children. The photographs are to be the basis for a guessing competition, with perhaps a prize for the best guesses.

NOVEMBER MEETING The last meeting for the year will be on Wednesday, November 14. Our speaker will be Mr. R. Holloway, of Tintindyer homestead, Swan Hill. Besides owning this property, which is classified by the National Trust, and open for public inspection, Mr. Holloway took the leading part in establishing the Pioneer Village at Swan Hill.

WORLD WAR 1 Dr. Ian Turner of Monash University described World War 1 at our annual Higher Schools Certificate night at Wesley Hall in August when we had the usual good attendance from secondary schools. Dr. Turner described the changing techniques of war which led to stalemate in which large forces fought over an area about twice the size of Melbourne, with heavy losses and little territorial gain. The war bega with high spirits and hopes that it would last long enough for Australians to enjoy an adventure, but as fighting became bogged down into apparently futile destruction many became appalled and horrified. On the other hand there was a strong feeling of comradeship among most of the soldiers. Among its more important effects in Australia was the bitterness arising from the conscription issue and the splitting of the Labour party, and the great gap of understanding between fathers who had fought in the war and their sons who had not. Each approached new political and international problems from widely different premises.

INALA VILLAGE Something of the life of old people was described by Col. G. Palmer at the September meeting. The Salvation Army, which had a Men's Eventide Home at Pakenham bought a property of 22 acres in Middleborough Road in 1910 and moved men and buildings to it for greate convenience in administration. Those buildings were still in use in 1945, although they were becoming out of repair and no longer adequate for good accommodation. However they could not obtain a permit to demolish them until they were deliberately let become uninhabitable. In their place a complete set of new buildings for old men and a

village of small units for couples or single women were built. Residents can attend to their own meals, etc, or arrange to eat in a communal dining room, and are free to come and go as they please. Nearly 400 people live there, in what is called "Inala" and nearly 100 old men in the other part of the property. This does not meet the full needs for accommodation for old people, as the Homes have a waiting list of 1,000 people wishing to come in.

EXCURSION TO NEPEAN AND SORRENTO A very enjoyable excursion, in glorious weather, attracted 37 people to the Mornington Peninsula on Sunday, September 16. The party met Mr. Ronaldson, of the Nepean Historical Society, at the Collins Memorial at Sorrento, and he acted as guide. Among the places visited were Sullivan's Bay site of the first settlement, platform of the old railway at the pier, the terminus on the ocean beach, the Quarantine Station and cemetary, and the museum at Sorrento, a model for our own proposed museum. A feature of the tour was the opportunity to visit the end of Point Nepean, a place not usually open to the public and beyond the end of the road.

SPEAKERS FOR NEXT YEAR The programme for next year is now being prepared, and most meetings have been filled, but there are still no speakers arranged for some. Any suggestions for possible speakers would be welcomed.

GAOL PADLOCKS At our last meeting the society was shown two padlocks presented to us by Mr. J. Harris. They had been given to his father, who repaired locks at some of the gaols, and came from Pentridge. If any members know of, or can locate historical relics of any kind we would be glad to receive them, as we hope to have our building shortly to place such things on display.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYORESS Our secretary, Mrs. J. Webster, is now Mayoress, as her husband has been elected Mayor. We congratulate her, and hope she will have a happy and not too strenuous year of office. Unfortunately this means we will have to find a new secretary, who should be elected at the annual meeting.

CENTENARY OF BOX HILL CEMETERY This is the centenary year of Box Hill Cemetery. Before the cemetery was established most funerals had to go to other districts, except for a few in the grounds of the little new churches. The new cemetery was to serve all denominations and trustees were elected to represent the different demoninations at a meeting on 22 March 1872. However the first meeting of the trustees was not until 10 June 1873, when they had to decide urgently to approve a tender for fencing. A government grant of 10 was available, but had to be claimed by 30 June. There must have been earlier informal meetings, as land

had been set aside for burials and the western half of the present cemetery had been reserved. The first burial was of Jessie Smith, a three-year old girl form Nunawading, buried in the Independent section. The service was conducted by Mr. Pentland.
The first trustees were W. Ellingworth, G. King, J. Aspinall, Robert Sutton, Charles Bedford, Stewart Sargeant and G.P. Gatter. Sargeant lived on the south-east corner of Whitehorse and Middleborough Roads. There is a Sargeant Street in the area now, and streets in Box Hill are named after Ellingworth, Aspinall and Bedford. William Clisby, who bought land near Williams and Whitehorse Roads, Blackburn, was appointed secretary in 1875. A number of our pioneers' graves are in the cemetery.
To mark the occasion, new gates have been installed at the Middleborough Road entrance.

CAMPBELLFIELD MANOR HOUSE Several of our members were intrigued by an advertisement in August offering for sale the Manor House, Campbellfield. This house is classified by the National Trust and has been open for public inspection for some time, but it has not attracted much attention. The house was built by an early settler about 1854 and has been added to extensively. It was bought by Mr. J. Johnson, a scrap metal dealer, who paid $135,000 for it and spent $65,000 on restorations and antique furniture. He added tea rooms and barbecue areas, and was trying to develop another part as a reception room, but found that the returns were insufficient for him to continue.
As the house stands in five acres of land in Camp Road, only a quarter of a mile from the Hume Highway, the property seems to be very valuable and to have some potential for motel, guest house or similar use. The core of the property is a solid bluestone building with formal front porch and charming attic rooms, which make a real gem of a building. Additions have not been so happy. What is described as a ball-room has been added to one end, also in bluestone, and similar in style to the original building but with incongruous floor to ceiling windows. Other additions have been made in weatherboard, contrasting badly with the bluestone, and the tea rooms, in very modern style, beside an equally modern swimming pool destroy the atmosphere of last century.
The house and two acres of land were offered at auction at the end of August, and were passed in at a little more than $100,000. Mr. Johnson said that he was prepared to wait for an offer nearer the real value of the property.

LIVERMORE'S PROPERTY SOLD The apple orchard in Morack road owned by Mr. Livermore has now been sold and will be sub-divided into residential allotments. We regret this, as it is the last substantial orchard in our district, but it is inevitable. We tried to have a small portion retained as a sample of the fruit-growing that was the mainstay of Nunawading for nearly 100 years, but it was not possible.

To make a record of the fruit growing industry the Council has allotted $100 to prepare a photographic record of the property, and has asked the Blackburn and Mitcham Film Society to do the photography. We have been asked to assist and Mr. Tilson will confer with the Film Society.

SIX AND A HALF INCHES OF DESTINY A railway centenary is being recorded by a book published by the Australian Railways Historical Society, "Six and a Half Inches of Destiny". The title refers to the difference between the railway gauges of Victoria and New South Wales, and the publication has been inspired by the centenary of the railway from Melbourne to Wodonga, completed in 1873.

DISPLAY AT FLOWER SHOW We have been asked to make a display at the Vermont Flower Show, which will be at the Vermont Scout Hall on Saturday October 20. Pictures, maps and documents will probably be used and some members of the society may be called on for assistance.

MATTHEW FLINDERS BI-CENTENARY The two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Matthew Flinders will be recognised next March by a series of events organised by the South Eastern Regional Committee. They will include displays, memorials, a re-enactment of events of his visit to Port Phillip and a ferry cruise following his course around the bay. The dates are March 16 and 17.

REGIONAL MEETING Box Hill, as host for the 10th. regional conferences, has arranged to have the combined meeting on Saturday March 30 in the new Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library. The main feature of displays will be photographs and films.

STORY OF A CEDAR CHEST Mrs. Mattingley tells the story of a cedar chest belonging to a Blackburn family. A Shepparton family, going on the land after 1869, built a house of local logs which is still in use today, but covered with weatherboard. It is much cooler in summer than weatherboard additions. In adding to their home they bought a cedar mantelpiece which some Melbourne relatives were discarding, and it remained in use until a few years ago, when with the addition of a few scraps of cedar, it was made into the chest. So the past lives on, even if in some new form.

VALUATION OF SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE In 1927 the house and land of Schwerkolt Cottage were under the control of the Public Trustee as Ensery Property, and Mr. G. Morton was asked to make a valuation of the property, then occupied by Mr. A. L. Burns. His answer, a copy of which is in a letter book owned by Mrs. Wainwright, described it as nicely situated, practically all cleared except for shelter trees with an old iron-roofed four-roomed stone cottage in bad repair. He valued it at £30.