NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1977 Price: 5 cents Number 62.

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Pres. Mr.W.Shortland Sec. Mrs. J. Shortland Treas. Mr. I. Barker,
96 Loughnan Road, 14 Tortice Ave.
RINGWOOD. 3124. NUNAWADING. 3131.

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ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting last October the following office-bearers were elected:-

President	-	Mr. W. Shortland
Vice-President	-	Mrs. J. Webster
Secretary	-	Mrs. J. Shortland
Treasurer	-	Mr. I. Barker
Research Officer	-	Mr. K. Patterson
Committee	-	Mrs. J. Field, Mrs. S. Jones, Mrs. P. Johnson, Mr. M. Chatwin, Mr. C. Tilson.

Our membership is slowly increasing, but the committee is concerned at small attendances at meetings. We appreciate the interest of those who pay the annual subscription, but it is discouraging when only a small number are at meetings, and it tends to dampen the enthusiasm of those who are carrying the main burden of maintaining our programme of meetings, collecting information about the past, recording and preserving our records, particularly as some of the original members are now becoming old and less energetic.

SYLLABUS FOR FIRST HALF YEAR

February 9 - Mr. C. Tilson - Preserving Photographic Records.
March 9 - Mayoral Evening - Entertainment by Mitcham Repertory Society
April 13 - Mrs. J. Field - Wedgwood
May 11 - Members Informal Talk Night
June 8 - Film of raising the Vasa (A Swedish warship, which sank off Stockholm more than 200 years ago).

All meetings will be at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, except the Mayoral Evening, which will be at the Willis Room, Nunawading Library.

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EXCURSIONS PLANNED

Two excursions have been planned for the first half of the year.
VISIT TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE - Wednesday, March 23. See Mrs. Shortland for bookings, a small charge will be made. We will meet outside the main gates of Government House at 1.55 p.m., and will be met by a representative of the National Trust, who will direct us to the State Entrance, and act as guide for a tour of the building. The tour should take between one hour and an hour and a half.

VISIT TO KYNETON - Sunday, April 17. Meet at Hanging Rock for a picnic lunch approximately 11.30 a.m. then go to the Kyneton Museum where we meet representatives of Kyneton Historial Society at 2 p.m. They will then show us over the museum and places of interest.

CHARMING BUILDINGS OF CARLTON AND NORTH MELBOURNE

Miss Bamford of Box Hill Historical Society, showed our November meeting a series of excellent photographs she had taken of houses and other buildings in Carlton and North Melbourne. The main feature was the variety of wrought iron decorations, mainly in verandahs and balustrades, but also in fences and gates and sometimes on doors, with motifs ranging from geometrical to floral, animal and bird. She also had photographs of some very pleasing architectural features of modest buildings.

THE HISTORY OF CARDS - Appropriately Mrs. S. Jones described the history of post cards at our December meeting,illustrating her talk with examples of hundreds of different types. Post cards were first used in 1870, and rapidly became very popular, until millions were being posted each year. They were of all types, from personal to scenic and comic. At the height of their popularity tourists who visited a place of interest seemed to spend all their time writing cards rather than looking at views, as if the main interest was in sending a card rather than admiring a view or understanding some local culture or history. The cards she showed were interesting in showing how fashions changed.

MUSEUM

The Museum building in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage is now close to the lock-up stage, so it is time for us to look out all the items of interest we are holding. We expect that we will choose a date on which everyone holding exhibits can bring them to the building, where they can be stored and sorted, in preparation for exhibition. We would appreciate lists of items held by individual members, so that we can have some idea of what is available and begin to plan how to display them. It would

also be a help if members canvass their friends for any articles they may hold which are suitable for display.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder. If you have not yet paid your subscription, we would appreciate receiving it shortly.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Some photographs of the district taken by members were shown at the last annual meeting. We cannot under-estimate the importance of these, as they give an authentic picture of what our area is like now. This may not mean much to us at present, but they will become very valuable within a few years. We are being constantly asked for photographs showing streets, shops, churches, other buildings, landscapes, etc., as they were some years ago. Changes are constantly occurring, and photographs taken at the time are the best possible record of how they were at some particular date. We collect records of the past, but we need also to preserve records of the present. It will be the past, and history, almost before we realise it.

MINING IN NUNAWADING

There have been vague rumours of mining in Nunawading, but it has been hard to find anything definite. As usual, a lead has come from some other line of research. The Ringwood people were inquiring about their antimony mine, and found in a report submitted to Parliament in 1878 a note beneath statistics of antimony ore raised - "From a mine at Nunawading 930 ton 17 cwt were obtained."

POST OFFICES IN NUNAWADING

The following are the dates on which post offices in the City of Nunawading were opened:-

Official Offices

Blackburn	10 Jan. 1876	- Opened as Blackburn Creek, name changed to Blackburn 12 March 1883.
Vermont	1 Nov. 1881	- Originally named L. L. Vale, name changed to Vermont 1 August 1885.
Mitcham	1 June 1884	- The first post office was at the railway station.
Nunawading	1889	- Known as Tunstall until the name was changed on 1 November 1945.
Blackburn South	2 Feb. 1954	- Was an unofficial office, raised to official status 2 September 1957.

Non-Official Offices.

Blackburn North	2 May 1955
Burwood East	Between 1906 and 1913 - Closed 5 July 1976
Forest Hill	1 July 1949, Closed 3 August 1976
Forest Hill Centre	15 November 1965
Kinkuna	1 October 1950
Laburnum	12 November 1962
Mitcham North	1 August 1960
Nunawading North	2 September 1963, closed 1967
Parkmore	1 November 1962
Rangeview	15 September 1955
Vermont East	1 June 1964
Vermont South	22 October 1974

MEMORIAL WINDOW

"Clink", the newsletter of the Inter-Church Council has a short history of Christ Church, Mitcham. It mentions a memorial window showing the birth of Christ, given in memory of John and Eliza McClelland, who came from Ireland, to settle in Box Hill in 1863. He selected 80 acres in White Horse Road, Mitcham about 1868, which he used as a market garden. They built a wattle and daub house which was extended as the family grew. The property was divided among the children and the house, known as "The Elms", which is more than 100 years old, has been moved to 113 Springfield Road.

K. A. PATTERSON.
Editor.

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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96 Loughnan Road, 14 Tortice Ave.
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PRESERVING PHOTOGRAPHS

Clive Tilson, at our February meeting, outlined what should be done to preserve photographs. Negatives are more important than prints. They are seriously affected by heat, light, humidity and air pollution. They are best kept in envelopes, plastic for preference, and stored in a metal cabinet which is kept somewhere free from heat and humidity. Handling is a problem as acid on the skin affects them adversely, so the less they are taken out the better. Mr. Tilson also gave us formulas for preservatives for treating wood and leather - particularly for the binding of books.

MAYOR'S NIGHT

Once again we had a good representative attendance at the Mayor's Night in March, with visitors from a number of neighbouring societies.
Box Hill is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this month and Waverley has won the preservation of one of their earliest houses, which they intend to set up as a museum.
Doncaster reported the death of Mrs. Green, their president for several years, who has always been very active in civic affairs as well as in their society.
The entertainment for the evening was provided by the Mitcham Repertory Society. It took the form of a play reading. The piece chosen was a short reconstruction of the social history of N.S.W. during Sir Charles Darling's governorship, when Wentworth and Wardell were pressing for much more self-government and the social structure of the colony was changing as free settlers began to displace convicts and emancipists. The exasperation of Darling with newspaper editors who criticised his administration and confusion of land-owners who found they could no longer exercise despotic sway over their employees were well brought out.

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APRIL MEETING

The subject for the meeting on April 13 is a talk by Mrs. Jean Field on "Wedgwood."

MAY MEETING

Brush up your memories of the past in preparation for an informal talk night by members on May 11. This will be a chance to exchange information and enlarge our knowledge of early events.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

All who went on the excursion to Government House were greatly impressed with the magnificence and beauty of the building. At least 45 attended and they were shown over the public rooms by guides from the National Trust. Features that impressed us most were the entrance, reception hall and ballroom. All, including the ceilings, were highly decorated in gold leaf. The entrance is beautiful and the reception hall excellent, with a deep green carpet with so fine and deep a pile that it was described as being like walking on velvet. A drawing room, very large and high, with two fireplaces and window opening on to a courtyard garden, had a fine display of paintings on loan from the National Gallery. The only painting of a former governor was one of Sir Rohan Delacombe. It is hoped that a more complete gallery of former governors will eventually be developed. The ballroom, as big as that of Buckingham Palace, still has its original floor of Queensland cedar. It is decorated in pale blue and gold, with marble fireplaces and three thrones on a dais. A dining room seats 50 at a banqueting table. It was at one time remote from the kitchens, but a small kitchen has now been built into an adjoining room, so that meals can be served reasonably hot on state occasions.

GIFTS TO SOCIETY

We have received from Mr. Verhees an early model of a food mixer. It is hand-operated, but has beaters very similar to those of the latest models, working on planetary action, and a lemon squeezer on top. The date and make are unknown. Any information would be very welcome.

Ringwood has given us some photographs from their collection. They are of Mitcham station, a Mitcham football team and what appears to be a picnic. All are undated and we hope to identify the people in them and discover an approximate date.

Mrs. Champion has given us a miner's cap, pick and shovel.

MUSEUM

The Museum in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage is almost at lock-up stage. The stone faced building with pitched galvanised iron roof

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MUSEUM contd...
merges well with the cottage and the surroundings. The display space inside the building is 37 feet by 23, and an exterior, open space is 50 feet by 25. There is also a work space and kitchen with interior measurements of 9 feet by 23. The exterior space will be occupied by farming implements collected by the Schwerkolt Cottage committee. Some have for years been on display in the grounds of the cottage, others have been stored at the council depot or on private properties. All have been restored and put into good working order, and they will form an excellent collection of the implements used in our district. The Historical Society will be responsible for the arrangement of the interior display. We are arranging to obtain some display cases, and are beginning to sort out what we have to place on display.
Late in March members of the committee met Council officers at the building to plan what cupboards, filing cabinets, map drawers, work benches, etc. will be needed to store our records and exhibits. As soon as these are installed, electrical fittings in place and doors hung, we will be able to bring in all the material we have. We shall then have to sort it all, plan and set up all the displays.
This is going to be a big job and we shall need the help of everyone available. The display space is good, with a tiled floor and bagged brick interior walls, giving a rustic appearance which will form a neutral background to the displays.
The Council has offered us its help in preparing our exhibitions and has asked us to let it know how we propose to organise and staff the museum. This is something we shall have to consider and arrange as soon as we can.

LOCAL ROADS AND STREETS

Why they are where they are and who made them.
Quarry Road and Cook Street, Mitcham. Report by a Crown Land 1868 in the Public Record Office:-
"The track to the quarry which runs diagonally through Cook's 42nd holding is undoubtedly the best and nearest at present for the carters of stone, but it entirely spoils Cook's land for cultivation or pastoral purposes--------- This track leads out of Cook's land into the sold land and therefore is only of use until the owner of this land shall forbid trespass thereon. ---------- The surveyed road through Cummin's allotment is very good until it comes within about a quarter of a mile from Marshalls Gully and there it wants a hill cut down and gully filled up.

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Cook offers to do this for £6 – if this were done it would afford sufficient access to the quarry and be in my opinion the most serviceable road".

Railway Road and Blackburn Road, Blackburn. Letter from the secretary, Shire of Nunawading, 1889, also in the Public Record Office. "I am directed to inform you that the fee simple of Railway Road and Blackburn Road is in the Freehold Investment and Banking Company, City. The roads were made by them and have been handed to and taken over by the Council. If necessary to their proclamation the Co. will transfer to the Council at any time. Part of Station Road was also vested in the same Co. and handed to the Railways Commissioners, which with a strip excised from the title of one Thomas Cook forms the Road, Transfer of this to the Council can also be obtained if necessary." (The Freehold Investment and Banking Company was one of the most notorious of the Land Boom companies).

State of White Horse Road about 1870. A petition from Ringwood residents, also in the Public Record Office.

"We have at the present time to go down to the corner of Mr. Setford's fence and up a hill known as Blood's Hill, one of the worst roads with the exception of White Horse Road in the Colony of Victoria."

"THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME" is the title on a subdivisional advertisement for the Tunstall Town Estate in 1926. The land, owned by Mr. J.J. Kelly was on the ~~east~~ west side of Springvale Road, between White Horse Road and the railway. Twenty shop sites and 40 building blocks were offered. Half the area is now occupied by the Community Youth centre and sports ground. Mr. Kelly lived on the White Horse Road corner, shown on the map as "This would be a splendid site for the new Town Hall" A picture theatre and two shops, still standing, were shown at the corner of Springvale Road and the Oval Way. Among other attractions were 74 trains a day, and the city only a journey of 30 minutes. One of the original advertisements is in the Vale Collection of maps, La Trobe Library. We have a copy.

The Alkoomie Estate, along Carween Avenue, Mitcham, was auctioned in November 1920. One of the original advertisements for this is also in the Vale Collection and we have a copy. It included the railway time tables, showing about 25 or 26 trains each way on week days. Electric light and power passed the estate and water mains were only 250 yards away.

K. A. PATTERSON
Editor

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WEDGWOOD CHINA.

The contribution of Wedgwood to the making of fine pottery was described by Mrs. Field at the April meeting, when Box Hill combined with us. Wedgwood had experimented with many minerals mixed with clay to produce all kinds of colours and developed designs greatly superior to the heavy and crude vessels previously available. He became so expert at making delicate articles that he was able to export fine porcelain to China, where it was considered superior to the best they had made. Mrs. Field's talk was illustrated with examples of Wedgwood's work.

REMINISCENCES.

Mrs. Leach told our May meeting about the McDonnell family, who came to Heatherdale as railway gate-keepers in 1883 and had a store at the corner of Mitcham and White Horse roads. Later they bought the hotel, which was the social centre for the Mitcham Football club and featured as the "Glenrowan Hotel" in the first Kelly Gang film, made in 1906. The family were very interested in amateur theatricals and Red Cross during the 1914-18 war. Mrs. Hester McGlone, widow of the licensee of the Harvest Home Hotel, from 1896 kept the Post Office in her home and gave land for St. John's Catholic Church. Archbishop Carr, a cousin of Mrs. McGlone, conducted the first confirmation in the Church in 1904. Dr. Drake, who lived in McDowall Street, conducted a T.B. Sanitarium where the Whitefriars College now stands.

Miss Cole spoke of her memories of her father's association with the Australian Tesselated Tile Co.

JUNE MEETING.

About three centuries ago Sweden launched a great warship the Vasa, which immediately sank in Stockholm Harbour. A few years ago it was found and being still in good condition, was re-floated. This was a remarkable salvage feat.

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Miss Eileen Barker will tell the story, with pictures, at our meeting on June 8.

HIGH SCHOOLS NIGHT.

Dr. Robson, of Melbourne University, will again be the speaker at the High Schools Night in the Willis Room at the Library, July 13. His address last year was well received and we look forward to this meeting.

SYLLABUS

The remainder of meetings for this year are:-

August 10 - Mrs. Ward (Teacher at Mitcham Technical School)-Woodcuts
Sept. 14 - Mr. Laurie Dunn - Film of Old Buildings of Melbourne.
Oct. 12 - Annual Meeting.
Nov. 9 - Mrs. P. Faggetter - Herbs.
Dec. 7 - Mrs. Leach.

PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK.

Our version fortunately did not follow that of the film. There was a good attendance, meeting at the Rock, and after working up an appetite by climbing to the top, or thereabouts, everyone was ready for lunch, followed by a less strenuous tour of the Kyneton Museum, where we were accompanied by a member of the Kyneton Historical Society, who explained the exhibits, which added greatly to our understanding and enjoyment. We were particularly interested to find that Miss Forbes was born in Kyneton, and had given a number of items to the museum.

MUSEUM

A sub-committee of K.A. Patterson, C. Tilson, J. Martin and Mrs. Leach has been appointed to make arrangements for our museum and the building itself is almost ready, except for connection of lighting and alarm systems.

SECRETARY.

Mrs. Shortland has had to resign her position as Secretary owing to other commitments. Members of the committee will attend to secretarial duties until the annual meeting.

VISIT TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

Mr. George Cox, M.L.A., has arranged a visit by our society to Parliament House on the evening of Wednesday, October 5.

A LIFETIME OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Mrs. Robin Da Costa has prepared notes of the activities of Mr. Alex. A. Jamieson, who has lived in Blackburn for more than 50 years.

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1922 - Became interested through business and social visits to the Steel family, of Lake Road.
1924 - Bought land in Parkside Street.
1925 - Commenced correspondence with M.M.B.W. about extending water mains along Central Road. Began building.
1926 - Correspondence with the shire about street lights, culverts and street construction. Re-formed the defunct Boy Scout Group.
Held position of Group Scout Master for 15½ years.
1927 - Secretary Morton Recreation Reserve committee for 18 years, during which it established a baby health centre, showing of films, re-grading and forming 2 ovals, laying 130 yards athletic track and other improvements.
1927-31 - Founder and Hon. Secretary Blackburn Amateur Swimming Club, arranged facilities at Blackburn Lake. Instructor for Herald Learn to Swim Drive.
1927-68 - Active in Federal, State and Municipal elections. Campaign secretary for 9 Councillors.
1928 - Member of committee, later secretary, Blackburn Progress Association. Negotiated for improved railway services. Later president
1928-9 - Organised two very successful carnivals on Australia Day week-ends, which raised £800, divided between Boy Scouts and Morton Park improvements.
1930-40 - Member of committee Blackburn Horticultural Society for 10 years.
1931 - Assisted to establish Newark Grammar School, formation of auxiliary of the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind. For 34 years organiser of the Annual Fair and three button-selling days a year. President Blackburn Football Club and established the club's accident and injury fund.
1932-38 - Member Ringwood District Football Tribunal.
1932-34 - Hon. Sec. and organiser Centenary of Melbourne (Blackburn) street beautification programme, which supplied and planted trees, with stakes, for 4/- each.
War Period - Active in all local war effort appeals, including V.D.C., badge selling, etc., which raised about £17,000 for the Lord Mayor's Patriotic Fund.
Enlisted 29/1/43 - Discharged 1/3/46 - Corporal M.I.D.
Joined the R.S.L. - Captain table tennis team, hospital visitor, secretary Blackburn sub-branch for one year, appeals officer 22 years, area captain Churchill Memorial Scholarship Appeal; sold badges for

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Anzac Day, Poppy Day and Legacy at Blackburn station.
1954-56 - Melbourne Olympic Games - Organiser Victorian section of the Olympic Torch Relay and assisted in planning the course from Cairns to Albury.

Mr. Jamieson is still living, but is now in poor health. He seems deserving of some recognition.

GOLD RUSH?

Mrs. Da Costa has obtained from the Mines Department copies of documents dealing with a reported gold discovery in our district in 1894. Mr. Lillington of Blackburn found quartz he believed gold-bearing and asked the Department to investigate. A departmental expert looked at small veins of quartz in the railway cutting at Box Hill Cemetery and a road cutting nearby in Canterbury Road. He was not impressed and nothing came of it.

K. A. PATTERSON
Editor.

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Restoration of "Wasa" - Descriptions of old shipbuilding methods and ultro-modern methods of preservation were combined in a talk by Miss Eileen Barker, illustrated by a film from the Shell Co., at our June meeting. At the time of Gustavus Adolphus, more than 300 years ago, Sweden was the dominant military power in Northern Europe. To secure his hold on the Baltic Sea Adolphus ordered the construction of a great warship the Wasa. A Dutch shipwright was engaged and the ship was to be exceptionally large, mounting more than 60 great guns and carrying a crew of about 500. The method of building was to have only a very general plan and to search the forests for trees of the right size and shape to cut timber for various parts of the framework. Building then went ahead according to the materials available. The ship was of oak, with ornate carvings and decorations from the figurehead to the stern. When it was launched it was found to be top-heavy, but it was allowed to begin its first voyage from the ship yard before it received its full crew and only lightly ballasted. It did not even get out of Stockholm harbour because a gust of wind capsized it and it sank in more than 100 feet of water. By a remarkable feat of salvage some of the guns were recovered and later used in European wars.
The ship was then forgotten until a few years ago when a dredge brought up fragments of timber. Divers found it was still in a good state of preservation and it has since been raised. This was a difficult operation, taking a considerable time. It was moved to a dry dock and restoration work has been going on for several years. The chemical composition of the timber had been changed by the long immersion in sea water and it was likely to shrink and split as it dried. It has been kept constantly wet and sprayed with chemicals to prevent timber deterioration. As this work has been carried out to restore the timber a number of sections have had to be re-built. The ship is now taking its original shape and appearance. It is one of the most interesting sights on any tour of Stockholm.

First World War - Australia did not really "come of age" as commonly asserted during the First World War of 1914-8, Dr Robson said at our High Schools Night in July. Instead, marked divisions were opened in the community. One section, prizing the connection with Britain, was heartily in favour of going to war; another, aspiring to complete national independence, preferred to stand aside. Australia was not in imminent danger so the argument between them turned on how much potential danger there would be if Germany won the war. Campaigns and conscription referenda aroused the utmost bitterness between the rival parties. W.M.Hughes was an enigma. He had been a member of a Labour Ministry and would have been expected to be strongly nationalist but he became the leader of supporters of the imperial connection. After his first conscription referendum had been had been lost he had to face a general election and was returned without trouble because he was the only possible leader for the nation while it was at war. Dr Robson doubted whether Archbishop Mannix had a great deal of influence on the results of the referendum, but he had been important because he asked awkward questions about the policy and conduct of war. The war itself was of a kind unknown before and generals were unable to find a way of breaking the stalemate on the Western Front, while England, for the first time, heard the sound of guns in Europe.

Brass Rubbings - Many people in England are very interested in Brass Rubbings. They take impressions of inscriptions and decorations of brass plates on tombs in old churches for use as wall hangings etc. It has become so common that some churches have had to restrict the number of rubbings that can be taken so that the inscriptions will not be worn away. Mrs Ward, a teacher at Mitcham Technical School, will speak on Brass Rubbings at the meeting on August 10.

Film of Old Buildings - Our meeting on September 14 promises to be exceptionally interesting. Mr. Laurie Dunn, who has won a number of prizes for amateur films, will be showing a film of old Melbourne buildings.

Museum - We are now able to move our material into the museum building. If you have something stored away, ring Mr. Patterson (878-3162) to arrange a time to take it to the new building in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage. All articles for the museum should be accompanied by a list, showing whether they have been given or lent, and the names of people who have given them. All articles will have to be numbered, catalogued and arranged for display. We have received three large showcases on permanent loan from the National Museum, but will have to find several others, both upright and horizontal. We would be glad to hear of any available, perhaps from some shop closing down.

Visit to Parliament House - The next issue of the Newsletter will be at the beginning of October, so it is advisable to note that Mr. George Cox, M.L.A., has arranged for our Society to visit Parliament House on the evening of Wednesday, October 5.

Royal Historical Society - If anyone wishes to join the Royal, subscriptions are now due. It costs $10 for a metropolitan membership, which entitles members to a number of privileges. Particulars can be obtained from their rooms 459 Collins street, Melbourne (Phone 62-1929).

Early Landholders - In the Victorian Public Record Office there is a petition by a number of owners and lessees of land in Nunawading in 1857 for a pound for straying cattle. We have a copy, showing 40 signatures, many of them holders of land in our area. Others were in what is now Box Hill. Among them are John Lobb, on whose land the abortive village of Norwich was surveyed; James Delany, hotel-keeper, whose name was given to what is now Canterbury road; Luke Sinden, in whose house some early meeting of the Nunawading Shire Council were held; William Clisby, one of the first purchasers of land in White Horse road, and later head teacher of Sagoe Common School, on the present site of Box Hill High School; Patrick Riley, a land speculator who bought a lot of land in Nunawading; James Tainton, a well-known resident of East Burwood; Thomas Lavidge, an early member of the Shire Council; John Holland, after whom Holland road was named; Richard Kefford, purchaser of the land where Forest Hill Shopping Centre stands James Fisher, leader of the "Fisherites".

Early Sub-Division - In 1882, when the railway to Lilydale was under construction, Byrne, Vale & Co. sub-divided land between White Horse road and the railway just west of Heatherdale road, Mitcham. The allotments were mainly about 1 acre each, but at the corner of Heatherdale road there were two of three acres. On the corner was a brick building of eight rooms and two shops. South of the railway there was a school house and garden.

Free Rail Passes - A sub-divisional advertisement of T.R.B.Morton & Coghill, apparently in the 1890's, for land along Central road, Blackburn, includes in its inducements to buy, that a scheme of the railways to give a free pass to builders for a short time, and then reduced fares, would apply to buyers of the land.

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President - Mr. W.Shortland
96 Loughnan road,
Ringwood, 3134

Treasurer - Mr. I.Barker
14 Tortice Ave.
Nunawading, 3131

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Opening of Museum

We expect to open our Museum in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage, on November 20.

The building will have an interior display area more than 30 feet by 20 feet, and outdoor area, devoted to agricultural and similar implements, about 50 feet by 20 feet. It has been built in a style to harmonise with the Cottage, with exterior wall of rough stone and a high gable roof. The interior will be floored with tiles. Beside the display area there will be a section for storage and preparation of displays, with facilities for light refreshments.

We have been given on permanent loan three upright show-cases by the Science Museum, and have bought three others from a shop which is ceasing business. Mr. Bakes, one of our members, is giving us a flat show-case and we are investigating the possibility of making up other cases ourselves.

All this is costly and our funds have been exhausted by buying three cases. We are therefore asking interested people for donations towards the expenses of setting up the museum. They should not be great, and we are keeping them as low as possible, but it will be impossible to produce a reasonable display for less than a few hundred dollars.

Anything, from a dollar to fifty or more, will be very welcome. We want this to be worth visiting. We do not intend to skimp on anything that will set a high standard. A lot of effort will be put into the project by several who have the responsibility for setting up the exhibits. They deserve the support of all our members and former members.

Contributions can be sent to our treasurer, Mr. I. Barker, 14 Tortice Avenue, Nunawading.

Film of Old Buildings

Our September meeting, on Wednesday 14, in the Coffee Shop, will be a most interesting one. Mr. Laurie Dunn will be showing films of many of the old buildings of Melbourne. Mr. Dunn is a very successful amateur film-maker, and has won a number of awards for films he has made. He deserves a good audience, and his programme will be well worth seeing

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Nunawading, 3131

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Brass Rubbings - Mrs Ward talked about Brass Rubbings at our August meeting, using a number which she had made in England to illustrate the types and styles of brass memorials in English churches. Brass plates were used from about 1200 to mark the tombs of wealthy or important people. At first they could be afforded by only a limited number of people In later centuries when the power of the aristocracy began to wane and a wealthy middle class developed, they became more numerous. The aristocracy about 200 years ago adopted memorials in the form of marble statues. There were hundreds of brass tablets in churches but many were accidentally or deliberately destroyed and some were taken off to be used again, so that there is now only a limited number left. They are of particular value, showing details of clothing and armour of different periods. It is possible, by using a tough paper, placing it over the plate, and rubbing it with a type of crayon, to reproduce the patterns engraved on the plates. Three different colours are used, according to the pictures desired.
Within recent years interior decorators have discovered they are very suitable for wall-hangings and so many people are making them that the plates are being worn away. Each moderate-sized rubbing takes two or three hours, but Mrs Ward found one American woman who expected to pay for a trip to England by the sale of rubbings she had made.
Churches were now restricting the number which could be made, charging fees for rubbing and in some cases no longer allowing it

Famous Melbourne Buildings and Bullock Teams - Films which have won prizes in competitions here and overseas were shown by Mr Laurie Dunn at our September meeting Mr Dunn had researched, prepared, filmed and edited each himself and showed them in a thoroughly professional manner, without any break, even between films. The first was of notable buildings, including interiors of banks of the Land Boom period a nd the G.P.O. clock tower. A commentary was included in the sound track. Work on this film took 1,000 hours, spread over two years, choosing the best times for filming, getting permission from some organisations for special shots, after which he edited it for showing, which reduced it to a running time of 29 minutes. His second film, chosen for topical interest, was of the Royal Show. It was a series of scenes from two successive Shows, to get the best possible conditions of light and weather. The third, showing a day in the life of working bullocks, needed four days of filming, spread over two years. This film deserves permanent preservation because it showed how timber-fellers felled trees, bullocks dragged them from the forest and loaded them on trucks. It was filmed at Hillend, near Moe and the sound track incorporated all the natural bird-calls of the forest, recorded as the film was photographed
It was a programme well worthy of showing as commercial documentaries

October Meeting - Our Annual Meeting, on 12 October in the Coffee Shop, will feature some of the articles and documents which will be displayed in the museum. The main business will be election of officers and arrangements for the opening on 20 November

November and December - Speakers at the meetings 9 November and 7 December will be Mrs. P Faggetter and Mrs N. Leach respectively.

Visit to Parliament House - Mr George Cox, M L A., has arranged for us to be conducted over Parliament House on Wednesday, 5 October. We meet at the front door, top of the steps at 7.15 p.m.

Museum

Items for exhibition in our museum are now being collected. We have a good selection of domestic equipment, including camp oven, iron kettle and butter churn. Some are more elaborate, like an early Edison phonograph, with cylinder records and Kodak slide projector, with glass slides. Toilet articles, such as manicure sets, powder and rouge sets, are well represented and we are well off for sewing machines, as we have been given six. For washing clothes we have a copper, wash-board and mangles, but would like a wringer, which would have been more common.
Schwerkolt Cottage has a comprehensive display of farm equipment, and we can add some hand tools - scythe, spalling hammer, miner's pick, etc.
Children's possessions are nearly all books, many from the 1880's, when books for children were very new. Some school books give an insight into education last century. The only toy we have is a doll, so we would like more, for preference at least 50 years old.
A large variety of clothing is at present being cared for, washed, ironed and mended. We shall need many dress forms to show it, so please look out for them.
The best part of our display will probably be the bricks, tiles and pottery. A large quantity, representative of all the work in the district, has been collected since our society was formed.
We have to thank particularly Mr W Spooner, who has made up one show case, and is assembling a second.

Agricultural Implements - Mr Hallett, of the Science Museum, has catalogued farming and other implements which are displayed in the open area of the museum building. Items he pointed out as very valuable or significant are:- A Myer Orchard Spray Unit, made in U.S.A. about 1915, fitted with a Ronaldson Tippet engine made at Ballarat, which is still in working order. The spray was contained in a wooden barrel because of the corrosive nature of sprays used at time. A single-furrow mould board plough, made by Daniel Harvey, of Box Hill about 1905 for orchard use and ploughing close to trees.

Museum Donations - Setting up our museum is not a cheap operation, although we are keeping our costs as low as possible. We could easily spend thousands of dollars, but by doing all we can ourselves we expect to limit expenditure to a few hundred. However, we have to find all the money we can and would be very grateful for cash donations. Ian Barker will receive all the gifts you can give.

Farewell to Mrs. Field - Mrs. Field, one of the most notable of our foundation members, is leaving the district. Mr Field has retired and they are going to live at Sorrento. At the last meeting we gave her a copy of "Public Buildings of Australia" and a tree for the garden as reminders of her time with us. Mrs. Field has been secretary of the Schwerkolt Cottage committee since it was formed and a foundation member of the Tree Preservation Society. She was also authoress of "And So Today", one of the earliest histories of our district. The Council also arranged a farewell gathering for Mr and Mrs Field in recognition of their activities.

"Loch Ard" Centenary - Next year will be the centenary of the wreck of the "Loch Ard" at Port Campbell. The Victorian government, in conjunction with the Loch Ard Commemoration Committee, has arranged a series of competitions for children and adults, for essays, paintings and model-making. Prizes are tickets for air travel to Rome and various parts of Australia. Particulars and entry forms are available from Mr. Shortland at our next meeting.

Tree Preservation - Mrs Field has given us a quantity of material relating to the early years of the Tree Preservation Society, including a pamphlet "The Choice is Yours", produced in 1960. It urged people building to examine their blocks and try to preserve native plants, transplanting them when necessary, and included a list of trees, shrubs and smaller plants which grew naturally in the district.

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Museum

Our museum is almost complete and will be officially opened by the Mayor (Cr. Brown) on Sunday afternoon, 20 November, at 2 p.m.
We have to thank a number of our members for a great deal of work in collecting material during the last 12 years, storing and caring for it until we had a place to house it. Many others have helped greatly by attending working bees to clean and prepare material for exhibition. It has been a concerted team effort and without it we could not possibly have been ready in time.
The articles on exhibition will illustrate all aspects of life in this district in the past. A particularly good section will be that of women's clothing. Another will illustrate the pottery, brick and tile making industries,most of which began during the 1880's. Domestic appliances, such as cooking utensils, toilet articles, crockery, ornaments and early means of entertainment will occupy a large section. Smaller sections will feature tools used, children's toys, books and school text-books, types of chairs, sewing machines, office equipment, documents and pictures relating to our history and some local curios.
We expect this to be a satisfactory and interesting exhibition, but it will probably not be a final and static one. We anticipate that other items will come in , and will replace some already on display. We also have many more items in some sections than we can put on show at one time, so we will probably be able to change the exhibits periodically.

Annual Meeting.

Our annual meeting was held last month under very difficult conditions because it was during the period of power restrictions. The following were elected:-

President - Mr. W. Shortland Vice-President - Mr. C. Tilson

Secretary - Mrs. A. Poole Treasurer - Mrs. S. Barker.

Research Officer - Mr. K. Patterson

Committee - Mr. N. Spooner, Mesdames S. Jones, P. Johnson, J. Shortland, N. Leach

Representative on Eastern Historical Societies - Mr. M. Chatwin.

December Meeting

The December meeting will be on Wednesday, 14 December, not 7 December as previously announced. The speaker will be Mrs. N. Leach, and her subject - Early Memories of Nunawading.