NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY - NEWSLETTER.

Price, 5c. JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1979.
Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical.

PRESIDENT & EDITOR.
Mrs. Jean Webster
VERMONT. 874-4210

SECRETARY
Mrs. E. Poole,
FOREST HILL. 878-2880

TREASURER
Mrs. S. Barker
13 Tortice St.,
NUNAWADING.

SECRETARY'S REPORT. The Life Presentation Luncheon held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Leach was a great success. The guests of honour were Jean and Fred Field and 22 members of the society were in attendance. After a delicious luncheon, provided by our members, Jean Webster, as President, presented Jean Field with her Life Membership, which Mr. Bawden & Shirley Jones had executed beautifully. Jean Field was very touched, and in response to the President's citation, which praised her hard work and dedication to the Nunawading Historical Society, Jean told of the help and fellowship she had received from her "friends" in the society. Altogether a delightful day. Thanks to all who helped to make it so congenial, particularly Mr. & Mrs. Leach for their hospitality.

The December meeting of the Society was attended by 20 members and 5 visitors. The Amendment to the Constitution, i.e. "That the Immediate Past President be eligible to sit on the Committee for a period of 12 months if she/he so desire." was put to the meeting and passed unanimously. At the request of the Society the Nunawading Council agreed that the Museum would be open for one extra day during the school holidays, - January, 17th.

Our speaker showed us a selection of slides from a trip overseas. Some truly delightful ones of the famous horses at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Their precision and grace quite won our hearts, particularly when they demonstrated the famous "Airs Above the Ground" routine. Then followed the story of the Passion Play at Oberammergau, in Germany. Mrs. Lang told us how the villagers made a solemn vow during the Plague, that if God saved their village, when all around were being wiped out, they would portray the Passion and Resurrection every 10 years for ever. Apart from gaps caused by wars, this they have done. We saw slides of the main characters, some wearing ornate, rich, beautiful robes like King Herod and the High Priests. Others were in simple homespun robes like Christus, Mary, their friends kin, and the disciples. The beautiful mountain scenery which forms a back-drop for the play, on its open stage, plus the lovely murals and flowerboxes outside the homes and shops of the village were all there for us to see. Stills of scenes from the play and many tableaux, showed what a huge undertaking it is, and what an enormous cast. Almost everyone in the village takes part, there are no outsiders at all. It was all very moving, and one was left with the impression that the people of Oberammergau truly live the play and honor their centuries old vow.

TENTATIVE DATES.

A STREET STALL AT FOREST HILL SHOPPING CENTRE

FRIDAY, 9th MARCH, 1979.

All proceeds towards cost of new showcase in Museum. PLEASE POT SOME CUTTINGS FROM YOUR GARDEN N O W '. Paper-back books and good quality magazines also sell well.

SUNDAY, 18th MARCH. WILLIAMSTOWN.
This trip is open to you and your friends, but bookings for the bus must be made early and fares paid with booking please.

MEMBERS are reminded that Annual Subscriptions became due at our Annual Meeting in October. $2.50 per person or $5.00 per family. NEWSLETTER ONLY - Subscription $1.00.

If you would like to receive the Newsletter regularly and are unable to attend the meetings we would be pleased to receive your $1.00 subscription.

18th FEBRUARY. Display and Sale of Paintings by Mitcham Arts Group in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage.

S Y L L A B U S. 1 9 7 9.

14th February:	Miss Bronwyn Jones: - "South America - Scenery & Ruins". Coffee Shop.	
14th March:-	Mr. Maurice Chatwin:- "Welsh Castles".	Coffee Shop.
4th April:-	Mr. J. Stansfield:- "History of Glass".	Coffee Shop.
10th May:-	Speaker from National Trust:- Mayor's Night. Willis Room.	
13th June:-	Mrs. Robin Da Costa:- "Gathering Material for My Book".	Coffee Shop.
11th July:-	Schools' Night:- Speaker supplied by Vict. Ass. Hist. Teachers. Subject: "How Gold Rush Affected Development of Australia". Willis Room.	
8th August:-	Mr. Bruce Wadeson:- "Ports & Harbours".	Coffee Shop.
12th September:-	Mr. Arthur Tonkin:- "Murray River Boats".	Coffee Shop.
11th October:-	Annual Meeting.	Coffee Shop.
14th November:-	Members Night.	Coffee Shop.
12th December.	Mr. Peter Young:- Forests Commi -ion.	Coffee Shop.

PLEASE KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

THE BOX HILL CAMP, by Shirley Jones.

Between the years 1885 and 1888 the Australian Impressionists Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin and Louis Abrahams set up a camp at Box Hill.

The railway line had been extended from Hawthorn to Box Hill by 1882 and easy access to this small township no doubt caught the attention of Roberts. He had known this area as a boy and remembered the magnificent bush beyond the settlement. He and his friends would surely have used the train to travel to and from the Box Hill Camp, their Melbourne studios, and their summer camps at the beaches around Port Phillip Bay.

The artists roamed the Box Hill area, painting the virgin bush working in the open air and imparting a sparkle of life to their works which led to the title of the 'Australian Impressionists'. They returned to their camp near Damper Creek, on David Houston's property, each evening and had many happy hours around their camp-fire discussing painting and many other topics. Other artists joined the camp, Arthur Streeton, Charles Condor and others who have faded into history, all came to join in the new exciting school of "Impressionists".

Some of Australia's finest works were painted at the Box Hill Camp and the local people, who often visited the camp and joined in their campfire evenings, were models for many of the paintings.

The beauty of the bush is evident in McCubbins "The Lost Child",1886 (National Gallery of Vic.,) and in Roberts "A Summer Morning's Tiff", 1887 (Ballarat Gallery -Vic.) also in other works and stands as an indication of how unspoiled and lovely the district must have been then. Condor's "Springtime", 1888 (National Gallery - Vic.) and Streeton's "Box Hill Evening", 1888 (Artarmon Gallery- N.S.W.) indicate how little settlement there was at that time.

The painters moved their "out of Melbourne" headquarters to Eaglemont and gradually with other artists, Davies, Withers and Phillip Fox, who came along in the next few years, the famed Heidelberg School was born.

Frederick McCubbin and his wife went to live at Wolseley Cres., Blackburn, in 1890. It was here in his busy backyard that he posed his family and friends for "A Bush Burial", 1890 (recently stolen from the Ballarat Art Gallery). Here too, Louis Abrahams posed for "Down on his Luck", 1889 (W. A. Art Gallery).

The vast tracks of bushland and open ground have vanished under houses, shops and factories but even today there are quiet and beautiful areas of bush, reclaimed in many instances, but gradually growing back to the beautiful bush that first captured the artists eye when the Box Hill Camp originated.

In the above article you will notice mention of Damper Creek; it was also called "No Good Damper Creek". Damper Creek crossed the Burwood Highway near the area now occupied by the Drive-in Theatre. It derived its name from an incident which happened when aborigines were plentiful in the area.

A teamster with his team and wagon, which contained a load of lime, camped for the night by the creek. During his absence the aborigines breached the load of lime, camped for the night by the creek, being under the impression it was flour. When they tried to make damper with it they quickly discovered the mistake.

From an account of a lecture by Cr. Collins on "Nunawading During the Last 16 Years" as reported in the "Box Hill Reporter" of 31st July, 1903.

(Thanks to our Archivist, Mr. Keith Patterson , for this item.)

WHERE ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN MACMILLAN, who last century owned the cattle run on the Morwell River.

The Shire of Morwell officially celebrates its centenary next March and a recently formed public committee is anxious to have the beautiful Macmillan Homestead restored and preserved in conjunction with the centenary. The homestead is built on a hill overlooking the Morwell River valley at Hazlewood, only 4 km. from the centre of today's Morwell. It is the last substantial relic of the district's pioneering squatter days.

If you have any information of the Scot,John Macmillan, the Macmillan Homestead Committee would like to hear from you. Write to the present owner, Mr. Jack Lawless, P. O. Box 94, Morwell, 3840.

HISTORY REPEATS.

In his chamber, weak and dying
While the Norman Baron lay,
Loud without His men were crying
'Shorter hours and better pay'.

ANON.

On 23rd November, 1978 some of our members were guests at the Box Hill Historical Society's final night for 1978. It was a most interesting evening's entertainment, a modern projection marvel; the Epidyascope allowed photographs, postcards, and small documents to be projected on to a large screen. The result was fascinating. Many members had brought along their postcard treasures and the audience was most appreciative.

Box Hill Society's first meeting for 1979 will be held on Thursday, 22nd Feb. (1st floor Box Hill Library). Speaker: Prof. Weston-Bates, who has recently published a book on Ballarat. All members of the Nunawading Society are cordially invited.

(Report by Shirley Jones.)

"You have probably heard the constant rumours of the existence of some unknown beast in the rivers & lakes of Port Phillip - under the native name "Bunyep" or "Bunyip". That there is such an one, whether round or square, fat or lean - and that of tolerable size - I have long been convinced. At last, Lonsdale writes me word that they have found the head of one in some stream near the Murrumbidgee, and that it has been brought down to Melbourne. According to description it must be a long snouted animal something of this shape: a long bill-like snout, the forehead rising abruptly, the eye placed very low - strong grinders, cavity for brain very large. The end of the snout is broken off but the blacks who have seen it say it ought to have two long tusks projecting downward at the termination."

This is an extract from "Letters of La Trobe".

What do you think? Do you agree with La Trobe that such an animal did or does exist?

(This item was researched by Mrs. Poole, SO IF YOU HAVE SEEN a "Bunyip" let her know).

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA. (from Royal Hist. Soc. Newsletter - Nov.1978)

The O.H.A.A. is open to all interested in gathering of historical information from oral sources. It is an interesting approach to history as it records the words of people and their differing views of events. Oral history methods and techniques are used in history, anthropology, sociology, libraries, archives, psychology, education, museums, folklore, music, literature and br dcasting. It opens up opportunities for original studies by school students, local history groups and family historians.

The Association has been formed to help and to guide users in the practice of oral history. It will do this by holding seminars, workshops, conferences and by publishing Newsletters and a Journal containing guides to current research, reviews, articles, news and bibliographies.

Annual subscription (July to July) is $10.00. This entitles members to copies of the various publications in that year. All correspondence to be addressed to:- Organising Secretary, Oral History Association of Australia, C/- History Dept., University of Western Australia, Crawley, W. A., 6009.

The Editor wishes to thank those members who have contributed material for this Newsletter, and I look forward to some equally interesting articles from other members. Ed.

SNIPPETS OF HISTORY.

In 1881, an English girl who had migrated to Australia wrote back:-

"We were, and are now quite sure, that if people of England had any idea of it, they would want to come out here in a body. I think what struck us most on landing was the beauty and tasteful dress of the Melbourne ladies; such a contrast to those of Manchester. Melbourne is a most beautiful town, but not all English, quite American. I never in my life beheld such a wealth of flowers - roses and geraniums everywhere, the latter forming hedges, higher than the one-storied houses. Then the air, so pure and clear, one could see for thirty miles, and Melbourne is innocent of smoke."

(quoted from the RINGWOOD BOROUGH NEWS).

BLACKBURN RAILWAY PROPERTY (9/1/1931)
Improvements needed.

"The completion of the pipe drain on the south side of Blackburn Railway station opens up great possibilities for the beautification of this point of town. The situation lends itself to the formation of gardens that would convey a good first impression to the visitor by train. Doubtless the Commissioners would welcome any offer to improve what at present is rather an eyesore. It is to be hoped that some responsible body will take this matter up, and investigate its possibilities."

Presumably someone did just that. While recently Blackburn business people and residents as well as Nunawading Council spoke out loudly against the possible loss of the gardens on railway land due to proposed alterations at Blackburn Station.

KNOW MELBOURNE.

St. Paul's Cathedral stands on the corner of Flinders and Swanston Streets. This site was originally used as a corn market and the first weighbridge was constructed here. In 1850 the land was granted to the Church of England and the foundations were laid for a bluestone structure for 600 people. Lithographs show this building which was demolished in 1880. In the same year the foundations for the present building were laid but it was not completed till 1891. The interior of the Cathedral is indeed beautiful, the cedar woodwork and the stained glass is outstanding.

(Well worth a visit next time you are in the city).

FLAGSTAFF GARDENS. (King St., frontage).

At the highest point of the gardens are two memorials; one of the signalling station and Separation celebrations, the other to pioneers originally buried in the area.

This peak, half a mile from the first settlement, was the nearest high ground, and takes its name from the flagstaff erected there in 1840 to signal the arrival of ships in the bay. It was also the place where the first of a series of bonfires were lit to announce the passing of an Act at Westminster to separate Victoria from New South Wales.

Looking westwards, the Victoria Dock can be seen. This was excavated in the early 1880's, when a big bend of the Yarra to the northwards was cut off by the Coode Canal, and the rest of the river widened and deepened to improve and increase port facilities. To the north of the Dock there was in the early days a large lagoon which was a breeding place for ducks.

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14 Tortice Street,
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S E C R E T A R Y ' S R E P O R T.

The Society had a very productive General Meeting on 14th February when we enrolled 6 new members, and learned that our Shop Window Display Case has been completed and is in use. I urge any members who have not seen it to pay a visit to the Museum and see our lovely things displayed to advantage. In appreciation of all the time and work Harold Bakes has spent at the Museum, the President presented him with a copy of Niall Brennan's "History of Nunawading".

We were entertained by Miss B. Jones with her commentary and slides of South America. These took us across the centre from the east to the west coast, showing huge waterfalls, the slopes of the Andes, Inca ruins and some of even older civilizations. The towns and villages are all influenced by the Spanish Conquistadors. We found the Indian population fascinating in their clothes, customs, crops and crafts. It was a very pleasant and informative evening.

Thank you to all who helped at the Forest Hill Stall on Friday, 9th March, and you will be pleased to know that we raised approximately $230.00.

A special welcome to new members, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Leo and Mrs. Lumrich.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

G E N E R A L M E E T I N G. ~~14th M A R C H.~~ April 4th

Coffee Shop: Speaker, Mr. ~~M. Chatwin on "WELSH CASTLES".~~ J. Stansfield "Hist. of Glass"

T H E A T R E N I G H T S.

27th April: MITCHAM REPERTORY GROUP'S presentation of "WATERS OF THE MOON".
Mitcham Memorial Hall, Mitcham. ALL TICKETS, $3.00
(Money to be paid no later than 14th March please.)

11th May: HARTWELL PLAYERS in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S, "THE HOLLOW".
Camberwell Civic Centre, Camberwell.
(Money to be paid by 4th April at latest, please).
ADULTS, $2.50, CHILDREN, STUDENTS, PENSIONERS, $1.00.

WILLIAMSTOWN TRIP.

SUNDAY, 18th MARCH is a sellout. We apologise to those who missed out on this trip. May we suggest that you book early for the Keilor Trip, Sunday 6th May.
(See article, page 4 for further details).

Bookings for any of the above may be made with the Secretary.

"THE MAN WITH THE DONKEY".

Every Australian who was at the Anzac landing knew "the man with the donkey", and when he died by machine-gun fire his last resting place was pointed out to late-comers with a thrill of admiration. The donkey fell almost beside its master. The man's name was John Simpson Kirkpatrick, though few knew his full title. He enlisted in the Australian Medical Corps, and was one of the ambulance bearers. On the day of the landing Kirkpatrick did his duty, forgetful of shot and shell and his own safety; all he thought of was the relief of the sufferers in Shrapnel Valley and Monash Gully. A Turkish pack donkey came wandering into the Australian lines, and Kirkpatrick "commandeered" it. That was how Kirkpatrick (Simpson as some called him) came to be known as the "Man with the Donkey". All that day and the next he gave the wounded drink and attention, and carried them astride to the beach. Then he was killed.

Kirkpatrick has not been forgotten by his townsmen of South Shields, although he served with the Australians. The following appeared in the "Newcastle Daily Journal" (England) of 17th Mary, 1918:- *"There was a large gathering in the Free Library, South Shields, to witness the presentation to that institution of a bronze statuette in memory of the late 'John Simpson Kirkpatrick', a native of the town. Executed by Mr. Bertram Pegram, the statuette, which was exhibited in the Royal Academy last year, represents Kirkpatrick, who was a member of the Australian Field Ambulance, bringing in a wounded soldier on his donkey. After the ceremony the Mayor handed to Mr. James Walker a large framed photograph of the hero, to be hung in the Tyne Dock*

Masonic Club. Mr. D. McNeill presented to Mrs. Kirkpatrick a framed picture of the statuette, and the Mayoress pinned on her breast a gold Australian military badge, which has been procured by the lady members of the library staff by means of a shilling subscription, at the same time handing her a bouquet of roses."

Original article from Box Hill Newspaper, 1918.

MELBOURNE HAS IT'S OWN STATUE TO THE MEMORY OF SIMPSON AND HIS DONKEY. IT IS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE.

THE ROLE OF THE RAILWAYS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. 1860 - 1890.

Roads in 1860 were nothing more than tracks cut by the passing of many coaches and buggies. Distances were great, horse drawn transport was slow, dirty and uncertain. Roads as we know them were unthinkable before the age of motorized transport. It is, therefore, understandable that railways were seen as a prime form of communication and transport. Their expansion over this 30 year period was the first determined attempt to overcome the two greatest barriers to Australia's development - scattered resources and vast distance.

Overseas investors provided the capital, and unlike investments made in pastoral and building enterprises, benefits from railway construction were usually considered on a long term basis. Profit or loss was not always the governing factor behind railway investment. The principle standard of judgment and the objectives varied from one colony to another and changed over the 30 years. The most frequently mentioned motives were railway revenue, extension of settlements, and the cutting of costs which would encourage greater productivity. This especially applied to the producers of bulk commodities such as wool and wheat.

Victoria and New South Wales were the major builders in the 1860's. South Australia and Queensland made little progress till 1872 and continued to expand over the following 15 years. Victoria's development was erratic because of its relatively restricted geographical boundaries and its denser settlements of population compared with the other colonies. Projects were completed quickly and basic changes of growth could be implemented with comparative ease. By 1862 Victorian Government Railways were running to the Ballarat and Bendigo gold fields. Goods to the goldfields became cheaper and arrived in better condition.

Development was not always directed towards assisting an undeveloped area although this did happen in Queensland. Extension of the railways here enabled selectors to turn from grazing to wheat growing. Wheat acreage in the Murrumbidgee area increased 900% and in the Riverina, N.S.W., from 8,000 acres in 1861 to 200,000 in 1891. It was, however, often strong political pressure that ensured a particular urban area was favoured by the arrival of the railway. Governments were attracted to other areas by the prospect of lucrative freight, and railways in turn facilitated the development of industries. For instance, the coal fields in N.S.W. which had the advantage of being close to port facilities, were greatly assisted. The building of a short railway line to carry the coal to the port was comparatively easy. Transport costs were cut and in addition the widespread use of steam engines ensured the steady expansion of the coal fields.

External economics and long run profit considerations were sometimes, but not always important. A railway terminal at Bairnsdale was linked with Melbourne in 1888, it acted as a natural outlet for the rich produce of the region and in so doing acted as a stimulant. But it was to be some years before the state would reap any substantial benefit from such activity.

Railways afford one of the best examples of the application of physical equipment to land. It linked population centres, stimulated settlement and industries and enabled ports to tap rich inland trade. In 1868 a line was opened to Echuca on the Murray River. This was an important port for toods travelling down the Darling and Murray Rivers and the railway line was built with the express purpose of attracting the wool and wheat from the rich Riverina district of N.S.W. to Melbourne ports. Country towns were being built near the new railway stations and in every town, in every colony, the station held a place of importance. Clustered nearby would be more buildings holding wool, wheat, timber, etc., arriving in or leaving the area.

The linking of the colonies' railway systems between 1883 - 1888 had some effect on politicians and the people seeing their land as an overall country. The Governors of each state and others expressed the wish that railway unity would in time result in the union of the colonies themselves. W. A. used railways as part of its price for becoming an original member of the Commonwealth of Australia. It demanded, and got, a railway line, built by the Commonwealth Government, from Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta.

Half of the public investment, excluding local government authorities, was in railways, leaving the other half to cover all other needs in the fields of water and sewerage, roads, schools, government offices and buildings. This could not help but detract in some way from development as many of these services were essential to real growth.

The colossal waste of resources, caused through the lack of any central government control and jealousy between one colony and another, must have retarded growth and development in many areas. All colonies, except Victoria, which continued to build the traditional 5 ft. 3 ins. broad-guage lines, had adapted railways to the Australian conditions and purses. Over long distances the narrow guages represented a great saving in construction costs. The difference in guages also meant greater capital outlay for the Governments of Victoria and New South Wales as they each provided engines and rolling stock to travel their section of the miles between Melbourne and Sydney. Goods had to be transferred at Albury, from one train to another as did passengers. It would be difficult to estimate the overall cost of this foolishness, or misjudgment, that was not rectified till the middle of the 1900's.

Railways radiated out from the port cities and, therefore, must take their share of responsibility for strengthening the trend of urbanization.

CHRONOLOGY OF RAIL CONNECTIONS - MELBOURNE TO GEMBROOK.

(Taken from Boronia Chamber of Commerce Supplement).

Melbourne to Punt Road, Richmond	8th March, 1859
Punt Road to Swan Street, Richmond	12th December, 1859
Swan Street to Pic-nic (Yarra River)	24th September, 1860

(These lines were built by the Melbourne & Suburban Railway Co. In 1865 they were purchased by the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay United Railway Co., which was taken over by the Victorian Railways Department in 1878.)

Hawthorn to Camberwell	3rd April, 1882
Camberwell to Ringwood	1st December, 1882
Ringwood to Upper Ferntree Gully	4th December, 1889
Upper Ferntree Gully to Gembrook	18th December, 1900

(The Hawthorn to Ferntree Gully portions were built for the Victorian Railways Department by private contract.)

Electrified Service to Upper Ferntree Gully, 12th October, 1925.

H O M E T H O U G H T S.

Nunawading! Nunawading!
Many thousand miles away
From the scenes of Freedom's triumph,
Still I think of you each day;
And your gardens by the Koonung,
Red and gold in summer shine,
How I long once more to see them,
Nunawading, home of mine!

Nunawading! Nunawading!
A score of years it seems ago
Since I left your gums and wattles
With the boys to fight the foe
Kings have gone and empires fallen
Since we reached the battle line - -
Now the transport's in the offing,
Nunawading, home of mine!

Nunawading! Nunawading!
Have your sons not played the game?
They who fell by Somme and Ancre
Sure have earned undying fame.
Now the clash of arms is over,
For our homeland we all pine ---
Don't you hear the boys returning?
Nunawading, home of mine!

(This poem was printed in the Box Hill Newspaper dated 16th December,1918. I hope the young writer got home safely.)

NORMAN LINDSAY REMEMBERED.

Norman Lindsay, Artist, Author and Sculptor was born on the 22nd Feb,, 1879, and this year the Victorian Government's Commemoration of a notable person is to be directed to his life and work. Your attention is directed to the Norman Lindsay Exhibition on display in the Irving Benson Hall of the La Trobe Library from 22nd February to 12th April, 1979.

B U N Y I P F O U N D.

We are pleased to report that the Bunyip (see our story Jan-Feb issue) is indeed alive and well and has taken up residence at the Commercial Bank of Australia.

What did you imagine a Bunyip looked like? Our C.B.A. model is a real with-it Bunyip. He stands some 6" high, sporting a green plastic body, quite plump, and has two very modern antennae.

The Commercial Bank of Australia kindly donated a number of their Bunyip Money Boxes to the Nunawading Historical Society for sale at our stall at Forest Hill on 9th March. We are most grateful for their assistance.

THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORTS:-

Several working bees have been held at the Museum recently and much tidying up and re-arranging of our acquisitions and records has been accomplished.

A number of magazine type papers have been passed on to the Nunawading Library., e.g. 1935 Jubilee edition of the short-lived paper "The Star". The Library at present displays these in glass cases, as part of relevant book exhibitions from time to time; but is planning to have photographic copies made which would become available for public use.

Wome of our fine collection of lace, crochet and embroidery is now out on display and is attracting much interest, so too is our new show-case for our valuable clothing. This is a fine piece of work and we owe a great deal of thanks to Harold Bakes for all the time, energy and hard work that went into its completion. Thanks too, to Wally Spooner for his assistance and to Mr. Eric Sunderland who helped Harold in the construction of the show-case, and to Able Demolitions for their help with suitable materials.

Volunteers are needed to assist with future working bees at the Museum. We would be most grateful for any help.

Doris Mattingly.
For the Museum Committee.

CORRECTIONS (with apologies from the Editor).

The Treasurer's address - 14 Tortice St., Nunawading.

Family Membership. $3.50 and not $5 as stated in Jan-Feb, issue.

Annual Meeting - 10th October, not 11th.

BUS TRIP TO KEILOR-SUNBURY AREA. SUNDAY, 6th MAY, 1979.

The bus leaves the Civic Centre, Nunawading in time to arrive at Keilor by 10.00 a.m. A guide from the Keilor Historical Society will join us at the "Overnewton Gatehouse" and point out the interesting areas around Keilor, including the "Organ Pipes" and the "National Park".
Lunch, (bring your own) will be at the M.M.B.W. Metropolitan Park "BRIMBANK", a very beautiful area, overlooking the Maribyrnong River. The afternoon will be taken up with a tour around Jackson's Creek - Bulla and Sunbury area. A cuppa will be available at the "Overnewton Gatehouse" before the bus departs for home at approximately 4.30 p.m.

BOOKINGS MAY BE MADE NOW. $4.50 adults, $2.00 children.
PLEASE FORWARD YOUR CHEQUE WITH BOOKING TO ENSURE A SEAT ON THE BUS.

HAVE YOU VISITED ? HAWTHORN - for the best Victorian architecture in and around the following streets:- Harcourt St., Isabella Gve., Elgin St., Hawthorn Gve.,and Coppin Gve.

DONCASTER: Schramms Cottage & Orchard Museum. Melway Map 33: J.10. Open Saturdays and Public Holidays. An 1875 stone cottage and a Museum built in 1870.

WAVERLEY Jell's Park, Jells Road, Glen Waverley. Melway Map 71: J7. M.M.B.W. metropolitan Park. Open daily. Future planning is for historic house, large lake, horse riding.

MITCHAM. Schwerkolt Cottage Museum. Deep Creek Rd. Melway Map 49: D8. Pioneer Cottage, 1864, furnished in the style of the day; also a Museum built 12 months in similar style, houses a fine collection of documents and many items of outstanding interest, including a collection of agricultural equipment. Open, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays, 2 - 5 p.m.

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Mrs. Jean Webster 874-4210 | Mrs. E. Poole, FOREST HILL. 878-2880 | Mrs. S. Barker, 14 Tortice St., Nunawading.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

We have had very interesting speakers at our last two meetings. Maurice Chatwin, with the help of his wife Val, showed us slides of some Welsh Castles they saw when overseas, and gave us a well researched account of the history and layout of these. In April, Joe Stansfield spoke on the "History of Glass" from 2000 B.C. to the present day. We were shown samples of pure glass, coloured glass, stained glass and leadlight glass for windows, and heard how glass making spread from country to country, until it became the huge industry it is now. Have you ever thought how much we use glass in our everyday lives?

The 44 people (including 7 from Kew Historical Society) who went to Williamstown had a lovely day. The weather was beautiful and the place fascinating. Williamstown was first visited by white men in 1803 but was named Williams Town in 1837 by the Governor of New South Wales in honour of King William 1V. Williamstown history covers the arrival of the first sheep and cattle farmers, convicts, gold rush, Victorian navy, ferries, water police, etc. and the museum contains many interesting photographs of sailing ships, historic buildings, etc. We were treated to the usual historical society brand of hospitality by the ladies at afternoon tea time. We all vowed to go back at the earliest opportunity. The Williamstown Museum is situated in the Mechanics Institute near the corner of Melbourne Road and Electra Street. It is open on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Our thanks to the Mitcham Arts Group for the day they gave at the Schwerkolt Cottage complex, and to our ladies and Warwick who served tea throughout the day. We are now $18.00 richer for their efforts.

DATES TO REMEMBER.

10TH MAY:	MAYOR'S NIGHT.	Members please remember to bring along supper. Small plate of savouries and one of sweet biscuits or suchlike.
15TH MAY:	WORKING BEE AT MUSEUM.	9.30 a.m. We need your help.
2ND JUNE:	KRAZY WHIST.	At WEBSTER'S, 1 PARANDA CRT. VERMONT. (Please note new address) $1.00 and small plate of supper. See you there!
13TH JUNE:	GENERAL MEETING	Mrs. Robin DeCosta "Gathering Material for my book". This should be of particular interest to all those budding authors or to those engaged in researching family history.

It is regretted that owing to lack of manpower (woman/person power?) we decided at our last general meeting, not to go ahead with the proposed display at Blackburn North Shopping Complex.

MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The past week, 22nd - 29th April saw a record attendance at the Museum. The complex was open 5 out of 7 days and had two large parties from local schools and a ladies organization on specially arranged visits.

Two ceiling roses from the Mitcham Railway house have been mounted and are now on show at the Museum. When you see them you'll realize just how much time and effort Harold Bakes and Shirley Jones put into their removal and presentation in their present form. Shirley denies that she is looking for more plastering jobs.

Working Bees not only maintain the high standard at our Museum, they improve the presentation and assist members to become familiar with our acquisitions. This is

MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT (Cont.)

also another way to really make friends with your fellow members.
THE NEXT WORKING BEE - TUESDAY, 15TH MAY. 9.30 a.m. MUSEUM. Do come and help.

Specially imported Captain Cook Commemorative Cards (Captain Cook died in 1779) are available. 50c. large. 25c. Postcard.
New stocks of Schwerkolt Cottage and Australian Paintings, 20c. ea. are also on sale at the Museum or at any of our meetings.
May we suggest you look at these with the idea of birthday greetings, etc., particularly to interstate or overseas friends and family.

FORGOTTEN TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP ??????? The Treasurer would be pleased to receive your subscriptions. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP, $3.50. SINGLE MEMBERSHIP, $2.50 NEWSLETTER $1.00.

H O R S E T R O U G H.

The Nunawading Historical Society is pleased to have in its possession a "Horse Trough" which once served the horses of this city and is soon to be located with the farm equipment at the Museum. I feel it is fitting that we should know something of their history.

Horse troughs were erected throughout the City of Melbourne and within the boundaries of Nunawading through the good will and kind thoughts of Annis and George Bills. The troughs were constructed of concrete and had inscribed upon them, "Donated by Annis & George Bills, Australia". The most significant thing about this inscription is the word, "Australia".

The cement troughs were erected from a bequest left by Annis & George Bills for the welfare of animals, and as this bequest covered the whole world the name "Australia" seen on the inscription here is significant. Drinking troughs for animals were found in nearly every country of the world and in Ireland they were erected for donkeys.

George Bills was born at Brighton, England in 1859 and came to Australia as a young man. When he died in 1927, after some personal bequests, the income from the residue of his estate was to be used for providing drinking troughs for horses, for the purpose of preventing cruelty and for the alleviation of suffering of animals in any country. Subsequently more than 500 troughs were erected in Australia, and some in overseas countries. Where a trough was established the local council was responsible for the provision of the foundation, to keep the trough clean and to maintain a supply of fresh water. Troughs were supplied until the outbreak of the Second World War. Afterwards, with the decline of horse traffic the same need no longer existed.

Another project connected with Nunawading was financed by this estate, namely, the R.S.P.C.A. Rescue Center at East Burwood. This was opened in 1964 by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Rohan Delacombe, and provides a rescue service for injured stray animals.

By his will Mr. Bills directed that the name of his wife, Annis, who died before him, should be placed with his on every trough. The first troughs to be erected under the bequest were situated at the corner of Haymarket and Sydney Roads, near College Crescent; at the corner of Sydney Rd. and Walker St., and at St. Kilda Road, opposite Nolan Street, and on the corner of Barton St., Hawthorn. (Does anyone know if these troughs are still in service?)

No doubt many of you will remember the Mitcham Horse Trough situated Kerbside outside the Mitcham Hotel in Mitcham Road. Many a good horse waited there patiently while his master too sort refreshment.

RESEARCHED BY JEAN FIELD.

THE RESTORATION OF WERRIBEE PARK.

Werribee Park was acquired by the Government of Victoria in 1973 for future generations of Australians, as part of our heritage. The house was designed by James Henry Fox for Thomas and Andrew Chirnside, and built between 1874 and 1877. This magnificent Italianate mansion is not only a splendid example of the fleeting but dramatic squatting lifestyle, but it is also a rare, exciting and successful transplantation of the grand, traditional, English country house and formal garden to a young, affluent and alien environment.

The restoration of the mansion has been carried out by the Interim C/tee of Management of Werribee Park under the auspices of the Premier's Department. The restoration of the interior to its original appearance, c.1880, is the result of the Public Works Department craftsmen working in collaboration with the Building Sub-

THE RESTORATION OF WERRIBEE PARK (cont.)

Committee of the Interim Committee of Management.

The restoration does not aim to turn Werribee Park into a new building and everything possible has been done to retain the character and identity of the building. About 20 of the original pictures and one third of the original furniture imported from John Taylor and Son of Edinburgh in 1876 will be on view in the house. The restoration of the furniture has been carried out by many dedicated craftsmen. The furniture is distinctively Scottish and "plain but good", it looks old, but has that loved and cherished look too.

If you have not visited Werribee Park I would recommend it to you. The grounds are extensive and to walk among those stately trees and catch a glimpse of the house through the shadows takes one very quickly into another age. The mansion is open daily except Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the grounds open till 8 p.m. during summer. Admission $2.00 adults, pensioners and students, 50c.

K N O W M E L B O U R N E.

Recently when we visited Williamstown we were told how most of the shipping anchored in Port Phillip Bay, off Port Melbourne or Williamstown. From Williamstown, it was an uncomfortable nine mile journey by horse or bullock dray, or about the same distance up the river in some kind of small boat. Port Melbourne was only three miles overland from the city but at the end of that journey the traveller arrived at the Yarra, which had no bridge to the main settlement on the other bank.

We had just travelled across the West Gate Bridge; it was almost impossible to imagine the Yarra with no connecting roadway from one bank to the other, and so -

Ferries were used from the first days of the settlement. The first regular ferry was a small row-boat on which no animals could be carried so horses and cattle were swum or walked across the Yarra at a reef or series of rapids close to Princes Bridge. It was above this point in 1838 that William Watts established the first punt. His conveyance was not unlike two huge bullock drays lashed together and passengers paid 2d. each, with 1/- for a gig and 2/6 for a loaded dray. A little later a larger punt was introduced, pulled backwards and forwards across the river by a rope, and all passengers were expected to lend a hand.

In 1840 the Melbourne Bridge Company was formed but it was not till 5 years later that their plans bore fruit and the first bridge across the Yarra was erected just below Princes Bridge. It was 17 feet wide and cost some $530 to build, but it was soon realized that a bigger and better bridge was necessary. In 1846 the foundations were laid of a bluestone and granite bridge, which had a span of 150 feet and was one of the longest bridges of its kind in the world at that time, being only two feet shorter than the London Bridge. Massive 2½ ton granite blocks were used extensively in the construction, and each took eight bullocks two days of hard work to drag to the river. The bridge was named Prince's (the apostrophe having long fallen into disuse) after the 4 year old Prince of Wales, later Edward V11, and cost considerably more than the estimated 10,000 pounds. Prince's Bridge was officially opened in November, 1850, as part of the Separation celebrations in Melbourne, by Governor LaTrobe. It was replaced in 1886 by the present bridge, which is 99 feet wide and 400 feet long and very similar in appearance to Blackfriars Bridge in London. The spandrels are ornamented with the coats-of-arms of the various institutions who contributed to its cost.

To cater for the growing suburbs south of the river several additional bridges were built between 1850 - 1860. The wooden Hawthorn Bridge at Bridge Road, Richmond, erected in 1852, and replaced by an iron bridge in 1860, and reconditioned in 1930 was first. The next structure was erected at Johnson Street in 1857, but due to flood damage this was pulled down and replaced in 1876. Studley Park Bridge, built in 1857, was always known as the "Penny Bridge", because the penny toll was collected by a Mr. Halfpenny. This bridge has long since disappeared. The Hawthorn railway bridge was built in the 1860's when the railway station was the terminus of the city line four miles long. The other bridges along this stretch of the river were built much later. For example, the Church Street Bridge was built in 1924. Its ancestor was of iron, originally built in England for the Crimean War. By the time it was completed, the war was over, and it was sent to Victoria where one half was used at Church Street and the other at the Barwon River, Geelong. Swan Street Bridge took so long to build that it became a favourite subject for cartoonists, and apparently no one was willing to open it officially. On the 16th June, 1953, the barricades across the roadway were down and traffic began to cross.

While bridges were being added to the river, ferries and punts continued to operate, for the river traffic could not keep pace with the increasing traffic in the city. As late as 1886 David Newell paid two thousand and twenty-two pounds annually as lessee of the Spencer St., ferry, & the King St. one was not closed until 1890.

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED HOW SERIOUS PEOPLE LOOK IN OLD PHOTOGRAPHS? WONDERED WHY? ---

The absence of smiling faces was because photographers discouraged that sort of thing. Perhaps it's a comment on the difficulties in the young colony but people found it impossible to maintain a smile for the time it took to take a photograph, and when the smile slipped the picture blurred. To make sure that would not happen the photographer would demand a serious expression and just to make doubly sure of no movement, hidden neck braces and clamps were often used.

Freedom Studios of Sydney were leading photographers of the Australian colonies. Established in 1848, just 9 years after the invention of photography, the business was still operating in 1976, making it possibly the oldest photographers in the world.

Photography in Australian colonies 100 years ago got its greatest boost from Bernard Otto Holtermann, a young German who struck it rich on the Hill End Goldfields in 1872. Holtermann decided to use some of his fortune to assemble a collection of photographs of the chief gold-mining areas and the principal cities of New South Wales and Victoria. Some 3000 photographs were assembled and Holtermann took them to the American Centenary celebrations in Philadelphia in 1876 with the idea of attracting immigrants to his adopted country. The exhibit won awards in Philadelphia and at the Paris Exposition in 1878.

Holterman returned to Sydney, where among other things, he introduced German-style lager beers. The photographic collection of some 3000 negatives was lost for some years, then re-discovered by Holtermann's grandson in 1951. It was presented to the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

Remember our society is always interested in old photographs of the district. Of people who lived here; of schools; buildings; transport or perhaps just a photo of the street you live in. Things and places change so quickly, we need to be ever aware that today's happenings are indeed tomorrow's history. You may donate photos to the society or we would willingly have any photo of interest copied at our expense for our records.

B L A C K B U R N L A K E. - Researched and written by DORIS MATTINGLY.

That old and oft-repeated query - Exactly how and when was Blackburn Lade made? After much research on the subject, it seems that we must accept several pieces of information which do fit together reasonably well; and this is as far as we are likely to be able to go.

The Nunawading City Council has in its archives notes stating that an orchardist in the early days here had a dam in the vicinity.

Newsletter No. 40 states that in the obituary of T. R. B. Morton in 1923 the Freehold Investment Banking Co. was credited with having made Blackburn Lake. While in the "Eastern Times: of 28/2/1962, a brief history of the McClare family stated that Thomas McClare (1870-1956) had worked on the construction of Blackburn Lake in 1888. This certainly fits into the era of the Company's activities.

Newsletter No. 58 quoted an article from the "Leader" 9/9/1916 about the Deaf and Dumb Flower Farm at Blackburn. This described Blackburn Lake as being 23 feet deep in one place, where an old clay pit was included.

A former resident of Blackburn reported that there had been an antimony mine in the vicinity of the present lake, and that several uncovered shafts were left when work ceased. Because of the potential danger, the local Council diverted the creek into these holes and incorporated the old dam, thus forming a lake. Some years ago, Dr. J. McAndrew, a local geologist very interested in our research, searched mining records for confirmation of this story. He found that there had been various trials or tests for antimony - which was mined for some years not far away at Ringwood - but not enough was discovered to justify further work. He explained that these 'tests' (to miners and geologists) would doubtless be known to the public as 'mines'. He thought that this information went far to justify the story told by the local man. He had a map from the Mines Department of 1800 with the lake in it, and we know, of course, that people went boating there and picnicking on the banks of the Lake some years after that. According to Mrs. Zerbe, a local resident, vandals eventually moved in and began to destroy the boats and consequently boating ceased.

An extremely interesting supplement to the above was published in Newsletter No. 63. Ringwood people, enquiring about their former antimony mine, found a report submitted to Parliament in 1878, containing a note in the statistics of antimony ore raised: 'From a mine at Nunawading, 930 ton 17 cwt. were obtained'.

Even if we do not find any more information about the beginnings of our lake, we may well continue to be proud of it and to feel we are indeed fortunate to live near it.

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY -- NEWSLETTER.

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PRESIDENT & EDITOR.
Mrs. Jean Webster
VERMONT.
874-4210.

SECRETARY.
Mrs. E. Poole
FOREST HILL.
878-2880

TREASURER.
Mrs. S. Barker.
14 Tortice St.,
NUNAWADING.

SECRETARY' S REPORT.

The meeting on 10th May was a social night, co-hosted by the Mayor, Cr. Harding & Mrs. Harding, with members of other Eastern Societies as guests. Although there were only 40 who braved the inclement weather, it was a happy and successful evening. Mrs. M. Thompson, of the National Trust, was an interesting and fluent speaker who explained why and how the Trust categorize antiquities, with examples. Cr. Harding read the citation to Nancy Leach's Life Membership, and then presented it to her. George Cox, M.P. took some photos of this for posterity.

We had an extremely good attendance to hear Robin Da Costa tell us how and where she obtained the material for her book, "A Picturesque History of Blackburn", on 13th June. It entailed a great deal of research and outlay of money for such things as Death, Birth and Marriage Certificates, and even to the extent of being locked in an ante-room during lunch hour, to get what she needed. However, Robin found churches, municipalities, private folk and services, (e.g. Postal and Rail) very helpful. A long process of elimination led her to believe that "Blackburn" was named for James Blackburn, an early engineer, who was instrumental in Yan Yean Reservoir being built, amongst other things. To cap off a very absorbing night, Robin presented the N.H.S. with many of the documents she had gathered, plus some old photoes she had rescued from the Civic Centre.

On 6th May, a bus load of 38, including 10 folk from Kew Hist. Soc., left at 8.45 a.m. for a day as guests of Keilor Hist. Soc. We arrived at the Overnewton Gate-house at 10 a.m., where our hosts had a welcome morning tea ready for us, under very adverse conditions, - as the Keilor Hist. Soc. are restoring this old building, which was the gatehouse to Overnewton Castle, built in the 1840's by William Taylor. It was quite bare inside, no water on, but they had a roaring fire going, in the lovely old fireplace. It is only lately that Keilor Hist. Soc. have been given much support and assistance, as the Council, when it existed, were not interested, - unlike our own! Taylor was called, "Father of Keilor", was Shire President 23 years. We could not see over the castle of 20 odd rooms, as it is occupied. He built the east wing in 1859 and had a chapel imported pre-fab from Holland. Keilor, named by James Watson, is Gaelic for "Plenty", must have presented a wonderful sight to the eyes of early settlers, with its valleys along the Maribyrnong River and Jackson's Creek. Jackson built the first mud hut in Sunbury, and in the valley which bears his name, is to be found the Organ Pipes National Park, where we saw the basalt columns, Keilor Plains, Rosette Rock, etc., and were shown how the area is being re-vegetated with the original native trees. The famous skull was found in the Maribyrnong Valley, and is estimated to be 8 - 1200 years old. Keilor boasts the first irrigation in Victoria, and as well, had one of Caroline Chisholm's shake down houses there, near the first bridge over the Maribyrnong. Lunch was partaken at Brimbank Park, a new M.M.B.W. park on the Maribyrnong, just south of Keilor. A delightful spot, scenic and restful, for which the M.M.B.W. has many interesting plans for the future.

After a tour of Keilor and Sunbury, seeing such things of historical interest as the places where stood the Junction Hotel, a staging post for Cobb and Co. on the way to Bendigo, the Police Paddock for horses for the gold escorts, also buildings now standing such as Keilor Hotel, Court House, etc., we went back to the Gatehouse for afternoon tea, and thence back to Nunawading.

The Krazy Whist at Webster's was a happy night and netted us $18; our thanks to Noel and Jean. Doris reported a good roll up to the Working Bee at the Museum, but although quite a lot has been accomplished, we will need more in the future.

The Gazettes which Maurie Chatwin has so painstakingly bound since 1966, are to be handed over to the Nunawading Library, for safe-keeping, on the condition that we will have access to them at any time.

I have copies of forms to register persons who arrived, or were born in Victoria before 1900. These were sent by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria; can you help in their research? Does any member of your family, or a friend, come into this category.

DATES TO REMEMBER.

11th July: SCHOOLS' NIGHT. Willis Room, Civic Centre. 8 p.m.
Speaker, Mr. A. Nunn, B.A.Hons. History & Political Science.
Subject: "The Gold Rush" and how it affected the development of Australia.
Members are requested to bring small plate of supper.

8th Aug: GENERAL MEETING. Coffee Shop. 8 p.m. Guest Speaker: Mr. Bruce Wadeson and his Subject is: "Ports and Harbours".

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

BLACK THURSDAY.

Black Thursday has its origin in the devastating forest fire that swept Victoria almost from the Murray to the sea, causing much damage and distress. When the disaster occurred, on Thur. 6th Feb., 1851, Victoria had only a few months before been separated from New South Wales, but, as yet it did not possess its own parliament, which was then in the making. Its population was small, and apart from two settlements - Melbourne and Geelong - was mostly scattered through the pastoral fields of the colony. Its forests were only lightly thinned, and the life of the people was mostly rural, for the gold discoveries were a thing of the future.

The year 1851 had opened dry, and remained rainless. The sun was scorching forests and fields, herbage had withered, trees become sapless and lifeless and as dry as tinder. When the wall of fire rose up and commenced its progress in a southerly direction the whole countryside was hopelessly inflammable. Native animals capable of moving at a fast pace were driven from their haunts and raced madly on in an effort to escape a terrible fate. It is said that the white-eyed insectivorous blight bird transferred its home to New Zealand as a result of the experience of Black Thursday. Flocks of these birds settled in the Dominion in 1851. Its natural haunts had previously been the eastern coasts of Australia and Tasmania.

Black Thursday was a truly national disaster. Great loss of life occurred, the homes of the country folks being caught. The sweeping fire, which travelled at a great speed, allowed few opportunities for escape. Whole families were incinerated, and stock of all kind was shrivelled up by the flames.

The scene, viewed from Melbourne, was chiefly remarkable for a lurid red sky, thick with smoke and flame, and giving forth the pungent odor of eucalyptus. Now and again the summit of Mount Macedon would show up amid the veil of smoke, revealing pyramids of fireworks. On the streets and buildings of Melbourne poured showers of cinders and ashes, burnt leaves and twigs, fragments of which also reached as far as the decks of vessels.

In the graphic language of a writer of the time:- "Out of the North a mighty wind arose, gathering in volume and velocity, until it attained the power and speed of an irresistible hurricane, and presently the air was all aflame. It kindled everything it touched. It advanced with appalling speed. The forests were all ablaze, sending up huge tongues of fire, crowned by some palm trees of smoke. Incandescent globes of igneous gasses literally leaped through the air, like living things smiting everything they touched, and sparing nothing in their swift mission of destruction. Farm houses, station homesteads, splitters tents and shepherds huts were consumed, in some instances before their unhappy inmates could escape from them, so that whole families perished together, and their homes became their tombs!"

MOTHER SKIPTON'S PROPHECY.

1. *Carriages without horses shall go*
   And accidents fill the world with woe.
   Around the world thoughts shall fly
   In the twinkling of an eye.
   Waters shall yet more wonder do,
   Now strange, but shall be true,
   The world upside down shall be,
   And gold be found at root of tree.

2. *Through hills man shall ride*
   And no horse or ass be at his side.
   Under water men shall walk,
   Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk,
   In the air men shall be seen
   In white, in black, in green
   Iron in the water shall float,
   As easy as a wooden boat.

3. *Gold shall be found and found*
   In a land that's not now known
   Fire and water shall wonders do
   England shall at last admit a Jew,
   The world to an end shall come
   In eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

(No doubt Mother Skipton's mistake is all too easy to find. But what of the rest? Consider that Mother Skipton was born at Knaresborough, Yorkshire, in 1840 and lived for the span of some 70 years.)

BOOKSHOP WITH A BONUS.

The Bookshop in the National Trust's new headquarters, TASMA TERRACE, 4 PARLIAMENT PLACE is a delight for all those who like to browse and really enjoy the selection of a special book. It offers a wide range of publications on subjects ranging from preservation of towns, individual buildings, wildlife and countryside - to art and cooking. It is also building up a stock of specialist American and English material on the conservation and rehabilitation of old buildings. The Bonus - access is through the hallways of two of the Tasma Houses in which the Trust has done its first "authentic Victorian" fitting out, with wall papers, paint colours and furniture appropriate to the period.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO LIVE IN 1916?

Jan Shortland (one of our members) kindly gave the society a copy of a letter written by her father setting out many memories that he felt would be of interest to his family. I feel sure that all our members will also value them. Thank you, Jan.

"In 1916 I started work as a clerk with Mt. Lyall Co. at 7/6 (seven shillings and six pence) weekly, and even in 1925 my ambition was to reach a salary of 10 pounds per week, on which to eventually retire. This I based on the cost of living at that time, and allowed for saving enough to live during my retirement. At that time there was no superannuation available for employees. The old age pension, which was only a pittance, was looked upon as being applicable to poor people who had suffered misfortune because of illness, etc., or inability to work. There did exist organizations like the Smith Family financed solely by donations from people who could afford to do so, and regarded it as a privilege to help those in distress. Public Hospitals were also solely financed by donations. In those days, on a wage of 5 pounds weekly, we were able to have enough to build an account towards the cost of marrying and on a wage of 7 pounds it was possible to raise a family - pay a deposit on a house with payments spread over a number of years. Living costs were, of course, very low; e.g.:- 1 3 course meal 1/-; ice-cream and soft drinks 1 penny; postage stamp, 1 penny; hair-cut for adults 6 pence; cable tram fare, 1 penny from Preston to Clifton Hill, then 2 pence to the City. Our Army pay in 1914-18 war was5 shillings per day for a private and on return to Australia soldiers had accumulated sufficient back pay to buy homes and have a family. Amusements were cheap, such as 6 pence to see silent pictures and there were picture theatres in all suburbs. It was common for people to have gatherings in homes frequently for indoor games and to sing around the piano. Dance halls were plentiful, and most people enjoyed frequent all day trips down the bay on either the Hygeia or Weeroona paddle steamers to Queenscliff or Sorrento, both having bands on board and refreshments. They sailed every day and often at night. There was also the Edina which sailed every day to Geelong. On Saturdays, league and association football was just as attractive as it is today. Cricket, tennis, hockey and other forms of sport were popular with most young and not so young people, much more than today. There was much attraction in concerts and music halls in the suburbs and in the city picture and live theatres. At the Exhibition almost every day there was amusement inside or in the area. We heard Melba sing many times at the Exhibition free of charge as my dad was Chairman of the Trustees, and we met her afterwards for supper."

Does the above bring back memories? Does it make you realise that many others would be interested in your recollections of the past. Why not write a similar letter for your family. Don't forget the historical society too, we would be pleased to have more material of this nature.

EXTRACT FROM THE SOCIETY'S NEWSPAPER FILES. (Researched by M. Chatwin).

NUNAWADING GAZETTE: JULY, 24th, 1968.

Auction of old Nunawading Council Furnishings at the old Council Chambers, Whitehorse Road (now C.R.B. Offices).

The Auctioneers, J. B. Thomson & Co. of Nunawading and E. M. Purdy,Pty.,Ltd., of Collins St., Melbourne sold the furnishings of the old Council Chambers for a total value of $1,900. Items sold, included the Mayoral Chair, $15, Town Clerk's Desk,$105, Glass Topped Council Table, $60.

Council officers think the auctioned furniture was made for the old Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham Council Chambers, built in 1928, the Mayoral chair would have been occupied by 31 Mayors, several of them for more than one term, ranging from Cr. Mock to Cr. McCall.

One thing the Council did retrieve was the Foundation Stone, laid when the Chambers were rebuilt.

The immediate Past Mayor, Cr. G. Walsh said 'that the chair was an important relic, I would have bid for it myself if it were not strictly forbidden by the Local Government Act.'

NUNAWADING GAZETTE: JULY, 31st, 1968.

The Nunawading Gazette has retrieved the historical Mayoral Chair for the City of Nunawading. The chair was auctioned to a South Yarra woman on 18th July,for $15. This has been made possible by the generous agreement of the buyer, Mrs. Gunther, who readily agreed to sell it to the Gazette Management for the price she paid, $15, and the Gazette in turn has made a gift of the chair to the Nunawading City Council.

Both the Mayor (Cr. C.R.T.McCall) and the Town Clerk (Mr. J. Brown) hailed its return. Mr. Brown said the Council will have a silver plate engraved for it now, and will decide where the chair will be permanently displayed.

The President of the Nunawading Historical Society (Mrs. J. Rocznick) said: 'I am delighted, this highlights the need for a District Museum other than Schwerkolt Cottage, where objects like this can be displayed.' The Sec. of the Soc.Mrs. G.Mattingley said, 'We felt it was a shame when the chair went, this is indeed good news.'

KNOW MELBOURNE.

THOMAS SWALLOW'S ENTERPRISE.

One of the adventurous Englishmen who came to Australia in the gold digging days was Thomas Swallow, arriving by the ship, City of Norfolk, in 1853. He spent 12 months on the fields at Ballarat, but evidently the nuggets were not as easy to find as he had been led to believe, and he returned to Melbourne and set up business close by the beach at Sandridge - now known as Port Melbourne, as a biscuit maker. It was in that year that Victoria s first railway was built between Melbourne and Sandridge - by the old Hobson's Bay Company. Ships' biscuits in those times were a popular form of food, but the long voyage across the world, through tropic and salt sea winds, did not improve the quality of imported biscuits, and the fresh biscuits from Swallow's new factory found a ready demand. In a couple of years the factory was a busy enterprise in extended premises, and after five years Mr. Swallow took in a partner, Mr. W. H. Ariell.

Mr. Swallow was an enterprising man, who was never satisfied with his business unless it was expanding. He liked to venture into new fields, to add new activities to his enterprise. It is said that his firm was the first in Australia to make self-raising flour. In 1874 he decided to add canned fruit to the firm's range of products, bought land near Shepparton, in the Goulburn Valley, and engaged in the industry for some years. Another new interest was added to the business in 1880, when the firm established a sugar plantation near Cairns, Qld. A year or two later it engaged in the manufacture of plum puddings and a large cake making plant was installed at the factory. In 1888 the business was formed into a limited liability company, with Messrs. Swallow and Derham managing directors. (Mr. Ariell died in 1877).

Mr. Swallow died in 1890, but his policy of extending the activities of the business was carried on under Mr. Derham's direction. In 1901 the company purchased a dried fruits processing shed at Mildura from which it supplied the factory with raisins and other fruit ingredients for its cakes, puddings and biscuits, with the surplus sold to both local and overseas markets. The company also established an ice-cream factory, and at Dandenong it had a factory for the production of dried and compressed vegetables and other prepared foods.

How many products still bearing the Swallow & Ariell lable are still on sale in our supermarkets?

ADVERTISEMENT.

2½ MILES SOUTH OF STATION A 10 ACRE BLOCK.

On a 10 pound deposit at Mitcham. Nothing to pay for 12 months and balance - 90 pounds - payable over 10 years, equivalent to 5/- weekly. Handy to station, school, post office. 13 Miles from the city by metalled roads, fronting Dandenong Creek, suitable for market gardening, fruit and lemon growing, poultry and pigs.

PLEASE! STOP RINGING! This advertisement was dated 20th November, 1903.

LAND BOOMERS IN NUNAWADING.

In the 1880's Nunawading was a countryside of small farms with a railway from Melbourne to Lilydale recently completed. This attracted a lot of land speculators who tried to make a killing with offers of rural building blocks within easy reach of the city.

Speculators who can be identified include:-

Freehold Investment & Banking Co. Most of Blackburn around the station and several areas in Nunawading and Mitcham. Total, about 1,000 acres.

Imperial Banking Co. bought from the Royal Land Co. 80 acres in Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, east of East Doncaster Road.

City Investment & Finance Co. 476 acres of South Vermont, on Dandenong Creek & north of Burwood Road.

Gascoigne Investment Co. 40 acres along Terrara Road, Vermont.

Standard Investment Co. About 60 acres of Rangeview between Mitcham & Rooks Road.

Springfield Estate Co. 66 acres along Middleborough Rd. between Whitehorse Rd. & Springfield Roads.

Bank of South Australia 36 acres east of Middleborough Rd., near Katrina Street.

Blackburn Township Estate Co. About 40 acres south west of Blackburn Station.

London Discount & Mortgage Bank. About 40 acres, south of Canterbury Rd,, around Blackburn South State School.

Bay & Mountain View Co. The corner of Burwood and Middleborough Rds., and about 80 acres north of Burwood Road, astride Holland Road.

Burwood Heights Co. 87 acres south of Burwood Rd., immediately west of K-MART.

In addition, a land agent, Howard Tapley Clarton, had almost 140 acres south of Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, east of the station. He became insolvent and tried to make a secret composition with his creditors for ¼d. in the pound. Mr. Justice Molesworth rejected his application on the grounds that it was "not for the benefit of his creditors!"

(RESEARCHED by Mr. Keith Patterson).

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY. - NEWSLETTER.

PRICE: 5c. SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1979.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical. Category "B".

PRESIDENT & EDITOR
Mrs. Jean Webster
VERMONT.
874-4210

SECRETARY
Mrs. E. Poole
FOREST HILL.
878-2880

TREASURER
Mrs. S. Barker
14 Tortice Street,
NUNAWADING.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr. Bruce Wadeson from the Ports & Harbour Trust told something of the history of this body and its responsibility for the maintenance of the Victorian coastline from the border of South Australia to that of New South Wales. It is also responsible for the shoreline of Port Phillip Bay and the navigation channels for the ports of Geelong, Lakes Entrance and Portland.

The Annual Meeting of the Society is coming up fast - OCTOBER, 10th. Our greatest need for 1980 is a new Secretary and I would ask you all to give serious thought to how you can help.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING. 12th SEPTEMBER COFFEE SHOP 8 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Tonkin will speak on "Murray River Boats".

"On 29th and 30th July, 1879, a representative gathering of councillors from all over Victoria met at the Melbourne Town Hall to consider the formation of a league of municipalities throughout the colony'.

The enlarged powers of self-government conceded by the "Australian Colonies Act of 1850" did not cover Crown Land and the revenue derived from them, nor did it include responsible government. However, Victoria was separated from New South Wales and was provided with 2/3 elected and 1/3 nominated Legislative Council, as were South Australia and Tasmania. The councils of these colonies could now make laws on some matters hitherto decided by the British Parliament, the electoral system; Local government the judiciary and customs duties.

Between 1871-1891 hundreds of small country towns with population ranging from 50 - 500 people developed in the farming areas particularly along the railway lines. Marked growth occurred in larger centres in N.S.W. but in Victoria former mining towns frequently declined unless they found new industries. Most depended for survival on the development of surrounding farmland. In the more stable wheat - sheep belt, towns developed industries to process local products; flour mills, wool-scours, meat freezing works, etc.

Towns also served administrative purposes through land offices, customs houses and local court-houses. The assumption of municipal status increased local government duties; greater revenue and expenditure were involved in the creation of primitive sewage disposal systems (buckets and night carts) water supply and gas works. Civic pride grew correspondingly.

At the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901 the Municipalities of Victoria presented an address to His Royal Highness George Frederick Ernest Albert, The Duke of Cornwall and York on his visit to Victoria.
Part of that address read: *"The Municipalities humbly ask your Royal Highness as the most noble representative of His Majesty the King to accept the assurance of their loyal allegiance to the Throne and devoted attachment to the Person of His Majesty, Edward the Seventh".*

At the same time an address was also presented to the Right Honourable John Adrian Louis, Earl of Hopetoun, former Governor of Victoria, who was appointed first Governor-General of the new Commonwealth.

Nunawading in 1901 had a population of 4,400 and the Council Members were:

President:	F.B.R. Morton	Shire Secretary:	John R. Kefford
Councillors:	S. McGhee	C. D. Hall	Joseph Aspinall
	Leonard Bayley	A. J. Smith	John Hoskings
	Fred J. Andrew	Alfred Rawlings	George Blood
	Alexander Hunter	J. F. Fankhauser	M. Wilson
	Edward Bishop	W. G. Loun	

THE PLACE NAMES COMMITTEE.

When the Royal Historical Society began some 70 years ago interest was stimulated in the recording of place names. A Committee was formed but due to the rapid mapping of Australia, it was necessary to co-ordinate the work, and in 1965 an amendment of the Survey Co-ordination Place Names Act was passed. The Place Names Committee first met in 1965. The greater part of our early names came through the surveyors, especially the aboriginal names, the Act was to endeavour to bring together the practical work of the surveyors and mappers. Members of the Place Names Committee include Chief Draughtsman in the Dept. of Lands and Survey; Surveyor and Chief Draughtsman of the Office of Titles, Chairman of Town and Country Planning Board; two nominated members (one appointed by the Municipal Assoc. of Victoria and one by the Royal Historical Society. Statutory Committee can only do what they are authorized to do, and the main purpose of the Committee is to lay down the proper spelling of place names. The Committee handles many problems and in cases of doubt the local Historical Society local organizations, and local residents should be considered. Upper and Lower Fern Tree Gully at one time thought of changing their names and Bilby was suggested for Upper Fern Tree Gully. This would have perpetuated the name of a man who had a cattle run in that area in the early days. The Dandenong Valley Authority asked the Place Names Committee to affix a name to a creek not previously named, in the Shire of Knox. Local Associations were approached for their views. Local interest and local people are the vital concern of the committee. Another matter is the question of an apostrophe in a place name, particularly roads. As the roads are made and become Council and Government property, so the apostrophe has been dropped. To ensure that a permanent record is made, local Councils must proclaim in the Government Gazette any change of name of street or road. In 1858 - 1860 land could be sub-divided without official approval. Some of the blocks were square, and fronting two roads was a common practice. Along Whitehorse Road between Mitcham and Ringwood were such place names as New Brunswick & Studley, but these villages were never developed. Quite a lot of land was "jumped" or, more legally, acquired by adverse possession. Between Koonung Creek and Whitehorse Road in a large area between Springvale Rd. & Surrey Rd. stood the town of Springfield. Springfield Rd. was known as Walker's Road., and Surrey Road as Barnes Road. It is thought that this might be connected with an area near Whitehorse Road owned by a man called Barnes.

(From a talk by H. S. McComb, a past president of the Royal Historical Society, to N. H. S. 11/10/67.

THE NUNAWADING MESSIAH by Mr. Derek Duke. 9/4/1969

Fisher was born in England and with little education ran away to sea. When his ship visited Melbourne during the gold rush he left it to hunt for gold, then settled in Nunawading just as it was being opened up for settlement. He came in contact with some "Christian Israelites" whose movement had developed from the followers of Joanna Southcott, who in the early 19th century in England had claimed to have had a number of visions and revelations. They dressed in the style current in Joanna Southcott's time and held rigidly to a number of doctrines not generally recognized by established churches. As a particularly promising young man, Fisher rapidly assumed a position of leadership and attracted a number of followers from the Christian Israelites and apparently from another rather similar group.
They had a chapel at the north-western corner of Springvale and Canterbury Roads, but their membership, numbering about 100 was widely scattered from Nunawading to Richmond and to Oakleigh.

FROM NUNAWADING GAZETTE, Wednesday, 15th November, 1972.

About 100 years ago, the word "mangle" bore no relationship to what happens on the road. A mangle was an imposing piece of domestic machinery, large enough to fill the average home laundry of the day. Nunawading Historical Society was presented last week with such an appliance by Mrs. Jennie Wagg of Middleborough Road, East Burwood.
The 3-roller mangle stands about 6 feet high, has a 5-leaf spring like a car spring to exert pressure on the rollers and has a handle attachment to a large fly wheel.
The manufacturers were G. H. and G. Nicholls, Bank Street, Dundee, and the date 1820 is cast on the frame.

Mrs. Wagg's grandmother had it and gave it to her mother when she was married 93 years ago.

You can see this mangle at the Society's Museum adjoining Schwerkolt's Cottage.

The Society is appealing to other residents for relics of the early days that would be suitable for display in the Museum.

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KNOW MELBOURNE.

In 1845 Governor LaTrobe set aside, what is now the site of the Botanic Gardens, for public gardens. John Arthur, the first curator, was appointed in March, 1846 and when he died 3 years later he was succeeded by John Dallachy. He continued the very successful work of Arthur and assisted the young Horticultural Society which staged several shows in the gardens.

In 1857, Baron von Mueller, who had been appointed Government Botanist in 1852, was appointed the new curator. A rather quaint, heavily built, bearded German of the old school and a scientist with an extraordinary ability and capacity for hard work, The "Baron" quickly became one of the best-known identities of the city.

As Government Botanist he made a series of remarkable journeys to improve his botanical knowledge of Australia. He covered the Buffalo Ranges, the Goulburn River District, parts of south-east Victoria and Wilson's Promontory - 1500 miles of country that was virtually unexplored and very sparsely settled. During a second journey he added hundreds of new plants to an already long list of discoveries, and on his next trip through the Alpine region of Victoria he added dozens of new specimens of Alpine plants. He suffered many hardships, lived off the land, and worked continuously.

After he took over the Botanic Gardens, book after book, appeared under his name. He published more than 40 volumes in English, Latin and German, wrote on an average of 3,000 letters a year, and sent samples from the gardens to more than 150 scientific societies all over the world. Despite a small staff and a poor water supply, he replanned and enlarged the gardens considerably and set about the scientific arrangement of plants and flowers.

Many critics disagreed with his dictum that botanic gardens were 'mainly scientific and predominently instructive'; they demanded that more attention be given to the aesthetic side. The Baron resigned in 1873 and although he lost no salary and continued as Government Botanist, he always remembered what he considered a slight.

In the year of his appointment he established the National Herbarium of Victoria in the Domain, where it remained until 1934 when Sir McPherson MacRobertson provided a new building in the south-west corner of the gardens. After von Mueller resigned, he continued his botanical work and became so well known that his name was given to a glacier in New Zealand, a cataract in South America, a cape in Antarctica, a mountain in Spitzbergen.

The Baron's successor, Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle, made the gardens what they are today. He was a landscape gardener and enlarged the grounds and, for almost forty years wrestled to improve the hundred acres under his care. He planted many of the spacious lawns, patterned the park with attractive paths, shady walks, grottoes and flower-beds and converted the old swamp into a lovely lake of clear water with island and bridges and tiny promontories, which became the home of many types of duck and wild fowl.

John Cronin followed Guilfoyle; and his name, with those of William Laidlaw and Frederick Rae as well as earlier directors, is cut in stone on the towering bluff just inside the Alexandra Avenue entrance.

"NUNAWADING, HOME OF MINE"

A few months ago the Newsletter reproduced a poem "Numawading, Home of Mine" which was published in the Box Hill Reporter in December, 1918. It purported to express the thoughts of a soldier at the end of World War 1. The author was unknown.

In the Reporter of 20th December, 1918, the poem is signed "M.H.Blackburn", 16/12/18, so it was apparently not written by a soldier.

The Postal Directory for 1918 lists only householders in Blackburn and the only one with initials M.H. is Michael T. Hayes, but other sources mention a Mrs. Mary Anne Horkings as living in Blackburn for three years before her death in 1923. I would nominate her as the writer.

Researched: Keith Patterson.

C O R R E C T I O N.

JULY - AUGUST NEWSLETTER.

MOTHER SKIPTON'S PROPHECY.

Mother Skipton was born in 1488 and not 1840.

With apologies from the Editor and thanks to those members who pointed out the error.

BRICK AND TILE COMPANIES WHICH OPERATED IN NUNAWADING FOR A SHORT TIME AND HAVE LEFT LITTLE TRACE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES.

MITCHAM BRICK AND POTTERY COMPANY, LTD.

This company was formed on 9th May, 1885 to buy 50 acres at Mitcham from John McGlone for 6,000 pounds and manufacture bricks, tiles, earthenware and similar goods. Nominal capital was 25,000 pounds in 100,000 shares of 5/- each. By June 29th, 1886 2,940 pounds had been received. The largest shareholders were John McGlone with 8000 shares, apparently received in part payment for the land, and promoters of the company, who received 1,000 shares each for their trouble. The first directors were, Francis Tranmer, insurance manager, C. S. Peterson, house decorator, Walter Ernest White, builder, Robert Pilgrim, clerk of works, Gustav Lachlan, John Lamont Dow, M.L.A., Isaac Roff and Alexander Galletly, publican. Its assets at that time were the freehold property, 5,066 pounds 10/- and stock and plant 240 pounds 12/-, but 1,500 pounds was owing on the property and 1,319 pounds 5/6 on bank overdraft.

A year later the works were in full operation, but an unusual drought had retarded output. They were making bricks and tiles - pressed bricks for facing and hand-made for building - also fire bricks and tiles which had been used by the Metropolitan Gas Co. In the strained condition of the money market the general board was obliged to request Messrs. Peterson, Lachal and Roff to become security for an advance of 7,500 pounds and had given a mortgage over the property. The accounts showed assets of 8,893 pounds 5/10 against an overdraft of 7,542 pounds 7/9 and a loss of 2,209 pounds 2/9 for the year.

On 21st May, 1891, Roff reported that no manufacturing had been done for two years or more and that he owned the property. Lachlan was later a partner with Thomas Bent in a land boom company. Dow was a director of one of the most notorious boom companies. M Mitcham Brick was shown on a plan of 1892 as owner of about 100 acres on Heatherdale Rd.

TUNSTALL BRICK & POTTER CO. LTD.

Tunstall Brick & Pottery Co., Ltd., was one of a group of companies associated with the Anglo-Australian Investment and Banking Co. Ltd., which had developed from earlier speculative companies.
This company was formed on 31st May, 1888 by William Kelty, general manager of the bank, C. R. Staples, banker and an accountant. A return of shareholders, made on 30th June, 1890, on a printed form of the bank, with the name altered, showed that of a nominal capital of 100,000 pounds, only 11,293 pounds 15/- had been received and shares were paid up to only 10/- in the pound.

A year later the bank disposed of its holding of 17,500 shares and R. W. Staples, brother of the bank's director, had disposed of his 1,000. The bank itself ceased trading in August, 1891, and in October it was decided to wind up the company voluntarily. Apparently it had made few bricks, if any. R. W. Dilly and Lomer Andrews were joint liquidators.

Dilly, C. R. Staples and Haroldson were all later sentenced to imprisonment for fraud in connection with the bank. The 1892 map shows the Brick Company's property at the corner of Whitehorse Rd. and Rooks Rd., where the Council Depot is now situated.

MONARCH TERRA COTTA CO. PTY. LTD.

This company was formed on 21st March, 1914 to carry out an agreement made the previous December to buy a patent owned by Charles Lewis Wiber, engineer, of Brighton, and appoint him Manager for three years of a company to manufacture bricks, tiles, terra cotta and earthenware building slabs and anything made of clay and burnt in kilns. Directors were Wiber, two farmers and two builders, all from Brighton. Shares were one pound each and 28,560 were paid for in cash. Wiber received 9,250 apparently for his patent. Its registered office was Victoria Street, Mitcham (now the northern end of Rooks Road).

One year later the company decided to wind up voluntarily and in 1916 the liquadotor reported that liquidation had been completed.

THE HISTORY OF FLOWERS.

Many flowers are known to have been in existence in various ways since ancient times. THE IRIS, was known in Egypt; THE ORRIS ROOT, signifying wealth, was planted on graves by Mohammedons, in the belief if poor in life, you would have wealth in the next life. Louis X11, took this as his standard in the Crusades, later became 'fleur-de-lis. Homer mentioned CROCUS, Egypt also, and Solomon. The Romans knew well the NARCISSUS, or DAFFODIL. Probably the oldest flower is the MADONNA LILY. From India came the DIANTHUS, or CARNATION, used in beverages, also well loved in Spain. Grown in English green-houses in 1754 and its name originated in the 4th century B.C.
LOTUS - Egyptian vases of 2500 BC. FERNS & TREES specialised by China more than flowers.
ROSES - from Iran brought to Europe by Alexander the Great. Used for centuries as badges in Cathedral windows (York Cath.) and in France in 13th & 14th century. Used as emblems in the States, namely, New York, Iowa and Columbia.
A wonderful collection of Aust. Flower paintings was produced by botanist Ellis Rowan.

PRICE 5c. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1979.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical. Category "B".

PRESIDENT & EDITOR.
Mrs. Jean Webster
VERMONT.
874-4210

SECRETARY
POSITION VACANT.

TREASURER.
Mrs. S. Barker,
14 Tortice Street,
NUNAWADING.

The President in her report at the Annual General Meeting held in October spoke of the highlights of 1979:

Increased Membership
Greater attendance at Meetings
The various interesting speakers

A number of social events including visits to the theatre; a luncheon; two full day trips; and a Krazy Whist evening.

The conferring of Life Membership to Mrs. Jean Field and Mrs. Nancy Leach for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the Society over many years.

Thanks were expressed for the valuable assistance of all outgoing Office Bearers and Committee with special mention of the work of our retiring Secretary, Mrs. Teddy Poole who had carried a great workload as our numerous activities increased during her two year term of office.

Attendance at the Museum continues to increase and a high standard has been set and maintained by members led by the Museum Committee. With special thanks to Harold Bakes and his helpers who constructed our shop window showcase; to Frank Bawden who looks after our public relations in his own special friendly style.

A vote of thanks too to Miss Kitty McGaw who so quietly looked after that all important supper again this year. You'll be pleased to hear that she kindly agreed to continue the good work.

To all our members whose attendance, interest and friendship makes the Society function a special thanks.

Mr. Maurice Chatwin presided at the election of Office Bearers and Committee for the ensuing year. The following were duly elected:

President and Editor of Newsletter: Mrs. Jean Webster
Vice President and Minute Secretary: Mrs. Shirley Jones
Secretary: - No nomination and position urgently needs filling
ANY NOMINATION FOR THIS POSITION COULD BE PUT FORWARD AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING.

Treasurer: Mrs. Shirley Barker
Programme Secretary: Mrs. Doris Mattingley
Social Secretary Mrs. Phyllis Johnston
Committee: Mesdames Leach and Poole
Mr. K. Patterson, Mr. M. Chatwin
Mr. W. Shortland, Mr. W. Spooner
Representative to Eastern Region of Historical Societies: Mr. M. Chatwin

U R G E N T.

S E C R E T A R Y N E E D E D.

With the appointment of a Social Secretary, Programme Secretary and Minute Secretary the workload of this position has been lightened considerably. This Society, like any other, cannot function in a satisfactory manner without executive and I would ask you to give this your urgent consideration.

JEAN WEBSTER, President.

D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R.

24th November: MOTOR RAIL TRIP TO HEALESVILLE.

2.14 train from Lilydale to Healesville. Approx. cost $2.50 to $3.00.

The motor rail train to Healesville is to be cancelled in the near future. This may be your last chance of travelling with friends on this interesting journey.

30th November: STREET STALL AT WHITEHORSE PLAZA.

Donations of items for sale, i.e., plants, cuttings, books, glossy magazines, paper-backs and odds and ends, in fact any saleable item would be most welcome. Staff also needed on the day to look after the stall.

Continued Page 2.

D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R (Cont.)

13th February, 1980: FIRST MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1980.

In the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage from 6.30 p.m. onwards. Bring a Picnic Tea. Members are invited to bring their husband/wife or a friend.

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of our friend, Pat Faggetter. Pat was an active member of this Society for many years. Her work in planning the garden at Schwerkolt Cottage was performed with a great deal of knowledge, thought and love. I feel sure that all those who had the honour of knowing Pat will remember her whenever we wander among this garden's beauty.

BOOKS DISCOVERED AT NUNAWADING LIBRARY.

RIVERBOATS by IAN MURDIE

This book is crammed with stories of the river-skippers of the Murray, Darling and Murrumbidgee and gives vivid pictures of the life on the riverboats during the eighty years in which they played an important and colourful part in Australian life.

"Hundreds of skippers and steamers come out of the vanished past and steam across the pages of "Riverboats", carrying stores and passengers to isolated stations and townships and throbbin back to the Victorian and South Australian river-ports, loaded high with wool."

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THE SURVEYORS by MARGARET GOYER KERR.

Written by Goyer's granddaughter this book tells of the expedition to the Northern Territory of South Australia which led to the founding of the settlement there. George Woodroffe Goyer was Surveyor-General of South Australia and is perhaps best remembered for his "Goyer's Line" of rainfall. (Based largely on his observations of vegetation changes, particularly of saltbush it corresponds roughly to the modern twelve-inch rainfall).

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Would you like to assist in making this a regular feature of the Newsletter? The Library has a large collection of books with an historic background and we would be pleased to hear of those you may have read and enjoyed.

COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICES.

Before 1947, Commonwealth social service benefits were paid under various acts. On 1st July, 1947, with the passage of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947, all Acts providing social services benefits were amalgamated. This Act eliminated certain anomalies and obsolete provisions and changed the title 'old age pension' to 'age pension'. The word 'Consolidation' was dropped from the short title of the Act in 1954. Social Service benefits provided by the Commonwealth and the date each came into operation are as follows:-

Age Pension . . .	1st July, 1909
Child Endowment . . .	1st July, 1941
Child Endowment - student children . . .	14th January, 1964
Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service . . .	10th December 1948
Funeral Benefits . . .	1st July, 1943
Guardian's allowance for widowers and other unmarried age & Invalid pensioners with children in their care . . .	14th October, 1965
Invalid Pensions . . .	15th December, 1910
Maternity Allowances . . .	10th October, 1912
Sickness Benefit . . .	1st July, 1945
Special Benefit . . .	1st July, 1945
Supplementary Assistance (age,widow's,invalid pensions)	15th October,1958
Unemployment benefit . . .	1st July, 1945
Widow's pensions . . .	30th June, 1942
Widow's pensions - children's allowances . .	2nd October, 1956
Wives' and children's allowances for pensioners who are invalids . . .	8th July, 1943
Wives' and children's allowances for age pensioners,	14th October, 1965.

(From the Commonwealth Year Book, 1967 Edition).

G. Hawley Stancomebe, writer and publisher, will be the tutor at the Historic Buildings of the Northern Midlands of Tasmania Summer School conducted by Adult Education, Tasmania from 5th - 12th January, 1980.

Twenty five to thirty people will live in at one of the historic buildings of the area, -'The Grange',which is leased by Adult Education from the National Trust for use as a residential college.

Each day bus tours will be conducted to important old buildings in the surrounding towns and at night there will be illustrated lectures about the buildings and their architectural development and about antique furniture.
Detailed notes about the places to be visited are issued to all participants. The fee of $155.00 covers full accommodation, bus hire, lectures and transport back to Launceston Airport or the City of Launceston. Accommodation is in 2 or 3 bedrooms. For $205.00 you can have bed and breakfast at a nearby hotel and all other meals at The Grange. This is the 16th Annual Historic Buildings of the Northern Midlands Summer School. Many people enjoy it so much they return again.. and again. For more information or to enrol write to:-

Adult Education Enrolments, Box 874J, G.P.O., HOBART. 7001.
Cheques payable to "Adult Education".

(From the R.H.S.V. History News).

"T H E B U L L E T I N"

In the 1880's there was an outburst of creative activity in Australia which can be linked with a growing dislike of English tradition and an increasing Australian naturalism.

The main organ of the new expression of Australian feeling was the Sydney Bulletin. The first issue of this paper appeared on 31st January, 1880, a scrappy looking product of 8 pages, costing 4d. However, the issue of 3,000 copies sold out and the second issue of 4,000 sold at a reduced price of 3d. In less than 5 months the "Bulletin" was regularly selling 10,000 copies. Support was immediate and overwhelming, especially from the journalists who were given the opportunity to write more freely than previously, and from reformers of all kinds - socialists, anarchists, republicans and the disciples of tax reform.

Contributions from every part of Australia began filling the mail bags of the Bulletin and it soon became a paper half-written by its readers. It expressed the views and criticisms of the whole community.

J. F. Archibald and A. G. Stephens guided its policy of "Australia for the Australians" and the Bulletin through its pages attacked English snobbery, apeing of Enlish ways by the wealthy Australians, false respect for wealth and titles and all aspects of British imperialism. It attacked the banks and shipping companies which it claimed were exploiting Australia's prosperity. It mocked politicians, Church leaders, overseas visitors, and anyone who was guilty of snobbery, bigotry and dishonesty. It popularised democratic ideas and encouraged Australian writers.

It was said of the Bulletin that "half Australia writes it; all Australians read it" and from 1889 was referred to as "the Bushman's Bible". This was not because it was full of country yarns, but because it drew country and city together. The "Aboriginalities Column" communicated bush life to the city worker and at the same time assured the bushman of his importance. Other columns told the bushman what the city was doing and kept him informed. Many columns like "Society", "Pepper and Salt" and "Brief Mention" mingled city and bush together.

Young men such as Joseph Furphy, Banjo Paterson, Steele Rudd and Henry Lawson all got their start in the "Bulletin". Their stories were popular, but it must be remembered that only about one-third the poems and stories in this paper dealt with Australian subjects and there was a steady demand for important literature. The "Bulletin" could be found in bars, barber shops, cafes and elegant homes. Writers were beginning to describe the land they knew - the droughts, the bushfires, floods, selectors, squatters, city larrikins, etc. The "Bulletin" above all championed the under-dog and encouraged the spirit of mateship.

A D U L T D E A F I N V I C T O R I A.

Mr. W. Parkinson, Sec. Adult Deaf & Dumb Society to N. H. S.10th Sept. 1969.

Prior to 1860 all handicapped people were regarded as having no standing in the community and deaf and dumb people were put into the old asylums.

In 1860 a married couple in Windsor began a school for deaf children with one pupil. The school grew and they moved to Prahran in 1864 and to the present site in St. Kilda Rd. in 1866. Here a system of sign language was evolved by hand signs and thus some education could be given to these people. In 1883, 14 men began an organisation for adults in a Baptist Church Hall in Melbourne. In 1891 they moved to the Y.M.C.A. hall and in 1904 to a Congregational lecture hall. In 1909, with a

(Cont. page 4.)