

Garden Reserve from here there was nothing to show much sign of a garden to be seen. However, I discovered Mr Longley. He was alone engaged digging a large circular bed in the centre of the Garden. This bed contained a good collection of herbaceous plants and flowering shrubs and a good specimen of Cupressus Lantroliana (??)planted in the middle. To describe all of the class of plants that I saw would make this paper too lengthy. I will write more about our beautiful gardens and our lovely Lake at some future time if required.

BOX 130

22/12/1921 Letter to Matthew Baird MLA from Fred Engleton. Legislative assembly of Victoria.

Re. distribution of Peony roots from Mrs Hockey of New York. Mrs Hockey was a leading amateur Peony cutting expert and was making the gift as a means of connecting good will between the two countries.

21/2/21. From HA Constable. Ebenezer Sunday School picnic- request for hot water.

February 1922. Applications for the position of temporary Caretaker at the Statuary Pavilion from:-

E.Humphrey. Stawell St letter box. Ballarat east.

Percival Kay

R.W.Negri. 11 Little clyde St, ballarat.

John Tregal\.

Henry Robotham

1922. Application for "markee" for Goldem point Sundau School piconi ath the Gaedens.

9/3/1922 To the City Clerk From R.J.Gribble.

Dear Sir. I have been consulted by Mr CA Brittain, the lessee of your Council of the building at the Botanical gardens Reserve and known as the Gardens Pavilion.

My client has leased the building for a period of three years from 1/11/21 at an annual rental of L 110 being an advance of L 20 per year beyond the rent paid by the previous tenant. A short time ago, as your Council by resolution decided that the provision of section 59 of the police Offences Act1915 and a new instruction to all trades that the local police had been given definite instruction to take action against any trader who in the future failed to observe the provisions of the said section. This being the position taken by your Council it is obvious that if my client can only trade from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and further it is doubtful what further goods are included in the word "confectionary" in the said section my

client will be in a heavy loss – when it is remembered that that your Council jointly with the then Council of Ballarat east about October 1916 passed a joint resolution to the effect that officers of your Council be instructed to carry into force section 49 and proceed against all offenders. It is clear that at the time my client was accepted as the Council's tenant that the council had no intention of enforcing section 49 or enforcing its provisions and allowed the law as far as section 49 was concerned to be a dead letter. My client was induced to lease the social building in the belief that he could trade as the previous tenant – all day Sunday. Again, there is no question that the best period at the gardens is from December to April and the best days public holidays and Sundays.'

These being the facts if my client is compelled to carry out the provisions of section 49 he will suffer great loss and is entitled to compensation from your Council. He therefore asks that your council will for the future make an allowance in his rent from L110 a year to L80 a year.

16///1922. Letter from the Federated Municipal and Shire Council Employees Union seeking permission for the use of the lorry and harness at the Botanical Gardens for the Union procession on 8 hours day and permission for some foliage for the decoration be made.

10/8/1922. Letter from S.G.Thompson, Curator of the Park, Sunshine – H.V.McKay Pty Ltd requesting plants for filling a glasshouse. He notes contributing plants and flowers previously in aid of Ballarat orphanage.

21 /8/1922 See below from Brittain and Ronaldson

24/8/ 1922. Letter from CA Brittain, lessee of the Pavilion at the Ballarat Gardens requesting transfer of lease to Messrs CC Brittain and A.J.Ronaldson. (*George Morton – subject to payment of legal fees.*)

7/9/72 From B and R re. Payment of legal fees.

Until 1926 the fernery was locked every night at sunset. Re-opened every morning. Measured 460 feet by 63. Pulled down in 1926 and a new one built 2/3rds of the original size. Fell into disrepair until the 1970s when it was replaced.

1920s Gardens area at this time were surrounded by low expanded metal fence with capping on top. It had 12 or 13 old style cyclone gates which were opened by Tom Beaumont every morning and closed at sunset. Water boiled on wood fired copper and sold for 2d for 2 quarts. Picnickers would line up with

Billies and Teapots. North and South parklands or reserves totally closed with galvanised iron fencing.
Removed in Tom Beaumont's time (? date)

1927 South Glasshouses demolished.

? 1930s, Tram track removed 7 or 8 feet nearer lake necessitating removal of row of pines.

BOX 164

5/7/1934. Thanks for 60 begonia tubes from Orange.

July 18th 1934 Letter from Mrs John Bell Wilson (Born January 3rd 1855.) Born on the site of the gaol in a tent in 1855, now aged 80. Family are buried in the Cemetery. 14 children, 42 grandchildren, 56 great grand children. Maiden name - Sophia Boldock.

8/9/1934 Thanks fro water lilies, rooted systems, from Dept of Public Works, Melbourne.

13/10/1934 Letter from W.Lindsay reporting the death of two white swans possibly due to 2 dogs or an old gander.

17/10/1934 Memo from Tom Toop notifying advancement from Gardeners Labourer to Gardener –
Tom Beaumont and Reg Middleton who had commenced as boys, "apprenticeship" – 6 ½ years and "improvers" - 2 ½ years. (i.e. commenced work in 1924 j.g.)

4/11/1934 Letter complaining of poor condition of Curator's house.

11/12 1934. Letter from George Morton. Re. Hot Water. Supplied by Curator Toop at 12/6 for the first 100 then 5/- for each additional 100.

BOX 169

1935 Gardens staff sent flowers and foliage for the Lord Mayor's Fund, Metropolitan hospital and Charities.

24/7/1935

From Hugh Linacre to Col. Morton,

1938 The low fence around the Gardens were removed.

Quercus Robusta Oak adjacent to the east path, unusually low as possum ate out the centre growing stem when young and never grew another central stem. Said to be grown from an Oak in Churchill's country estate.

PROV 2500/000/164

Mrs Ida Buckley

On the 8th of January 1934 Mrs Ida Buckley wrote to the Mayor of Ballarat:-

"Dear Sir. The plaque (Doulton stoneware tablet) to the memory of Adam Lindsay Gordon which I cabled you about and accepted to be erected on Craig's hotel is leaving on the Commonwealth and Dominion liner "Port Chalmers" next Tuesday, January 9th.

The Agent general for Victoria, Mr Richard Lipton, has very kindly arranged for it to be sent out, care of the Captain and addressed to you. I am writing by this post to Mr Angus Greenfield, to make arrangements to have it sent to Ballarat on its arrival. Mr Linton thought it might be an idea to make it a feature of your Programme- but I leave it entirely to you. Messrs Doulton have sent invoices to Messrs Rudders Ltd., a customs agent, market St. Melbourne and I am sending Mr greenfield instructions how to put the tablet on I am sending Mr Greenfield instructions how to put the tablet on and i am willing to pay. I trust you will like the plaque; similar ones are on many of the houses all over London where famous people have lived at one time or another."

On 13th March 1934 she again wrote to Mr Darling: - "Many thanks for your letter of 20th Feb. I am so glad to hear ...the Citizens of Ballarat like the tablet. Mr Greenfield will obtain it when it is cleared, it is addressed to me, and he intends to ...the position chosen at Craig's."

However, she was not so happy when she wrote on 14th April 1934: -"I have heard it is suggested that the tablet to the memory of Adam Lindsay Gordon should be put in a cottage he lived in. When I offered it was for Craig's where he conducted the livery stables. I feel you will see it best there but I thought it better to write to you saying my wish. Inside the entrance or outside the front door as they are often done here that way."

On 13th May 1934 she wrote: - "As I was present at Westminster Abbey yesterday I thought I would like to send you the enclosed papers to put amongst your records of Ballarat as the town is mentioned in them. The Ceremony was very impressive and the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke very well. I am also sending you under separate cover the copies of the "Daily Telegraph" containing references to the ceremony before and after. I shall be interested to know exactly where at the Craig's Hotel the tablet is to be put, as it should certainly be in some part of the building, either in the hall, the dining room or on the outside front since the inscription on the tablet says that the poet was connected to the livery stables here.

I should be very much obliged if you could kindly have sent to me 3 copies of the "Courier" containing an account of the unveiling of the tablet as I shall be very interested to read all about it."

****Negative of Gordon attached with a "Boots" (English Chemists) negative folder.**

A pencilled note beneath the letter by Col Morton states "Mrs Ida Buckley, a daughter of James Jennings. Married a son of Chas. Buckley. Buckley and Nunns and Sons."

NOTICE. From M. J. Martell (Chairman) F. W. Marxsen (Hon. Secretary)

Adam Lindsay Gordon Memorial cottage.

The Cottage will be opened by the Governor of Victoria, Lord Huntingfield, on Wednesday next at 11-45 sharp and we trust that ypu will be present on this memorable occasion.

It is the intention to have lunch at Craigs Hotel with the "Gordonian" visitors from Melbourne after the ceremony and if it is your intention to join in the function please advise the Hon Secretary by Tuesday, 14th July.

6/4/1900 From Town Clerk To Mrs Longley. I beg to acknowledge you s of 4th inst. and in reply am directed by his Worship, the Mayor, to inform you that the date named in your letter will be convenient to Council . (->Lingham)

UNIT 127 (8118/P1)

Page 737 26/3/1974 To Mr N Morris SEC of Victoria 1 Wendouree Pde. Ballarat
From R.J.Sharp

Dear Sir. At its meeting last evening Councillors expressed concern that a number of spotlights for the Statues in Sturt St are not operating. Specific reference was made to one of the statues adjoining the floral clock and the major statue immediately west of Armstrong St.

During general discussion concerning lights several Councillors commented that lights are sometimes in operation for extended periods and I would be pleased to know of the maintenance checking which is carried out by the Commission. Yrs faithfully R.J.Sharp

8118/P1 Unit No 113

17/3/1976

P 174

To - Mr V. Greehalgh
Panorama Drive
Currumbin Beach
Gold Coast Qld. 4223

Dear Mr Greenhalgh.

re. Prime Ministers Avenue

Further to my last letter of 13th October, when I advised of the disappearance of the bronze bust of Mr Gough Whitlam from the Prime Ministers' Avenue in the Botanical Gardens, I regret to say that there has been no information of its whereabouts. This is most regrettable as it is now 6 months since it was removed.

The Council feels that it should now be considering its replacement, as the lettered pedestal stands without its bust. In this we seek your advice as to whether you still have the original bust and, if so, would it be available for another casting? We will be writing to Mr Lemon to come to Ballarat on Sunday, perhaps, to check on other busts and give an opinion whether the base of other busts are sturdy enough or need reinforcing onto the pedestal. Perhaps future busts may require more robust bases where they are fixed to the pedestal. It is regretted that the likelihood of wanton damage may influence the matter.

At present the Council is considering a public lighting scheme of the gardens and the Prime Ministers Avenue as a further security provision.

The cost of this replacement, and a further bust of the present Prime Minister, is a matter of some concern as the Trust Fund is greatly depleted. Your valued advice in our predicament would be much appreciated.

I trust both you and Mrs Greenhalgh are keeping well and Enid and I send our kindest personal regards. We read of the storms and cyclone that visit your area but in your home you probably have a great deal of protection from the Currumbin Headland. We may also see you later in the year.

Yrs etc. F.J.Rogers

8118/P1 Unit No 133

17/3/1976

P 175

To - Mr F.J.Lemon
Non Ferrous Founder.
Cochranes Rd.Moorabbin 3189

Dear Mr Lemon. You may remember that some 5 months ago I phoned you regarding the removal of the bronze bust of Mr E.Gough Whitlam from the Prime Ministers' Avenue at the Botanical Gardens. The bust has not yet been recovered.

I have written to Mr Vic Greenhalgh today informing him of the situation and seeking his advice regarding a replacement. He still has the original work, I believe.

We also discussed the possibility of you coming to Ballarat, perhaps on a weekend, to inspect the other busts in the Prime Ministers' Avenue, and give an opinion whether they are all strong enough where they are bolted to the pedestal, and if strengthening is recommended. We would also like to talk about the replacement casting, and how this is carried out.

Ballarat, at this time of the year, is very beautiful and I would hope that you can come in the near future. Please let me know, so that arrangements could be made at this end. We would be happy to look after your wife and family if they could come with you.

Vandalism is a very costly expense and it is regretted that we seem to be stuck with it in these enlightened days,

Yrs etc. F.J.Rogers.

8118/P1

Unit 133

20/5/1976

P256

To Victor E Greenhalgh
10 Panorama Drive, Currumbin. Qld 4223

Dear Mr Greenhalgh

Thank you for your kind letter of 8/5/76 confirming that you have generously offered to provide the plaster casts of Prime Ministers G.Whitlam and J.Gorton, and, if required, one of Malcolm Fraser. This news was received by the Mayor, Cr.Maurice Brown and the Councillors with gratification and sincere appreciation. We are happy to accept your offer and understand that you would want to complete the Fraser bust in your own time - using his visits to the Gold Coast as occasions for sittings. This will suit us as our finances in the fund have suffered from the present unfortunate vandalism, and the need to strengthen the bases of five other busts by blocking in the back of the shoulders. This is about to be completed by Mr F.Lemon and we will pick them up on Monday next. Some of the Trust fund is tied up in Government Inscribed stock which it would not be to advantage to cash at this time.

The Council is only too willing to bear the expense of cartage and castings of the two casts you have and the Fraser bust in the future. Would you be able to send them down to us as soon as convenient? We would then deliver each to the new firm - Peter Morley, Meridian Founding, for casting, as we are able to commission him. I spoke to him on the phone today and he assured me of an excellent job {equal to Lemon's} and thought that you may not need them to be sent back for checking before pacing in the gardens. Do you think this would be satisfactory? I shall leave it to you entirely to decide. He was at Lemon's factory today when I phoned and seems to work closely with Mr Lemon. You said you know Mr Morley and were happy with his work. Mr Lemon ceases work when our present job is completed. The Stonemason would be sure to fix them, extra strongly, on the pedestals to prevent further vandalism. The Gardens lighting scheme is nearly complete and will be switched on in a week or so. It will include the Prime Ministers' Avenue and front sections of the Gardens area.

We are unfortunate that one of our staff was recently on holidays in Queensland and would have brought the busts in their cases back, but we missed out on contacting him soon enough. Enid and I will be coming north towards the end of June but will not be returning until the end of July, a bit late I'm afraid. (Enid....friends)

Strangely enough, this week, a film company about to make a feature film of Australian History and early Irish rebellion, was here seeking a life or larger life statue of Queen Victoria. They told us that our Sturt St statue was the only one of that size in Victoria!! They want to make a plaster cast of her head using a rubber based mould to do so, and assured us there is no likelihood of statue damage. The idea is that a plaster cast can be pushed over in a scene in the film and the bust smashed. They need that size to get it properly photographed. We are taking all safeguards and getting best advice. Our "Queen" is considered to be outstanding and the best in the land. It certainly is a majestic piece of sculpture. Please accept again our grateful thanks and we trust that you will be able to send the two casts to us in the near future. Yrs etc. F.J.Rogers

8118/P1 Unit 133 26/5/1976 P 293

To-Mr G Douve
12 Dixon St, Clarence Park S.A. 5034

Dear Mr Douve

I am sorry to have taken so long to reply to your letter about the Statue of Queen Victoria, but I have been trying to check out the information you sought.

If any alteration was made to the Orb then it was not done within the living memory of those with whom I have spoken. Should any information come to light in the future, I will pass it on to you

Yrs etc F.J.Rogers

[**** The New Age Encyclopedia states:- " The Orbs. The orb and cross together are held to signify the domination of the Christian religion over the world. There are two orbs, the queen's having been made on the occasion of the joint coronation of William and Mary. The King's Orb is of polished gold, studded with large pearls, rubies, sapphires and emeralds and is larger than the Queen's." The accompanying photograph shows the Orb with a cross on top. Presumably, Queen Victoria would be holding the King's Orb for the Statue, but the Orb on the statue in Ballarat does not look like the illustration and this may have prompted the correspondence from Mr Douve.

[**** World Book Encyclopedia states -" ...the Orb, a globe of gold surmounted with a cross signifying the rule of Christ over the world"]

We need to check the incoming correspondence for this date.]

Unit 143 May 1979

p.9. 1/5/79

To Mr Edbrooke, Weights and measures Office, Melbourne Observatory Building, South Yarra, Vic 3141.

Dear Max. Thank you for your assistance regarding my query on the Australian Eastern Engineering Co. 86 Alexander Ave. Greensborough, Vic 3038. After contacting the Able Scale Co. I am advised that Australian Eastern Engineering Co. no longer exists, the Company being succeeded by Eastern Scale Co. PO Box 52 Greensborough 3038. Thank you, G.R.Coulson Inspector, weights and measures.

p 126 9/5/79

To The Manager, Eastern Scale Ltd. PO Box 52 Greensborough Vic 3038.

Dear Sir. I believe you are the owner of the coin operated weighing machine situated at the Ballarat City Council Botanical Gardens Statuary Pavilion, Ballarat.

Would you kindly contact Mr H Wright, deputy Town Clerk City of Ballarat tel 313277. My reason for this request is that the particular weighing instrument is considered as historic interest and would you be interested in negotiating to enable Council to assume ownership? Council would need to obtain Ministerial approval to retain the existing Imperial chart. Hoping you may favour me with your early reply, yrs faithfully, G.R.Coulson

p 311 29/5/79

To The Manager, Eastern Scale Co.Ltd.

Dear Sir. Thank you for your letter of 15th inst. regarding the coin operated weighing machine situated at the Botanical Gardens, Ballarat. When you are next in Ballarat would you kindly arrange to visit me, Yrs faithfully, G.R.Coulson

p.258 21/5 1979

To Mr J.A.Lauchetts. Lodge Bro Pty Ltd. PO box 52 Northlands Centre 3072

Dear Sir. I refer to your letter of 16th May 1979 containing your quotation for \$825 for replacing the broken arm, hand and bowl of the marble statue "Hebe" and wish to advise you that Council accepts your price and would appreciate commencement of work on this as soon as possible. Please find enclosed order no.16552 to cover same. Yrs faithfully R.A.Nuttall.

Unit No 165

p.130 12/11/1984. To the Editor, "The Australian" 437 St Kilda Road Melbourne 3004

Dear Sir. re. Prime Ministers' Avenue, Ballarat Botanical Gardens. Our reference 453/9/5

Professor Claudio Vely (10 Nov) expresses his concern at the omission of the name of J.C.Watson from the nomenclature used for naming electorates. The good professor can gain comfort in knowing that such an omission does not occur in Ballarat. "The Prime Ministers' Avenue" in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens contains the bust of every Prime Minister, (momentarily with only one exception, and, of course, includes all the old incumbents - Watson, Page, Forde etc. The one temporary exception is the present Prime Minister - the commissioned work has been completed and delivered (but not in the manner of John the Baptist) - and awaits installation with all his predecessors. Yrs. faithfully, Ian Smith, Town Clerk.

Box 165

p.60 5/12/1984

To Mr W.Bell 308 Yarrowee Parade Ballarat.

Dear Bill. Queen Victoria Statue, Sturt St. Median Gardens, Gold figurine. Our reference 172/1/1.

We have received from the Ballarat Police Station the gold winged angel statue which you handed in to the police on 2nd. December. This is the small statue which came off the large figure of Queen Victoria in Sturt St. On behalf of the Council I thank you for your public spiritedness and honesty in handing it in to the police. Your action is much appreciated. Yrs faithfully I.C.Smith

p.80 5/12/1984

To Officer in Charge, Ballarat Police Station 19 Camp St, Ballarat

Dear Sir. Queen Victoria Statue - Golden Figurine. Our reference 172/1/1

Mr E.C.Dale is authorised to collect the Golden Figurine from the Queen Victoria Statue which is currently being held at the Ballarat Police Station. Yrs faithfully I.C.Smith

p.97 Of interest 8/1/65 Letter to the Royal Horticultural Society in London re. George Longley and Cruickshank (see Mosman File). Also Council records 483/3/2 3/6/1987 Unit No.187 June 1987.

p.287 January 1985

To Mr P.Nicholson. 44 Melrose St. Nth Melbourne 3051

Dear Peter Prime Ministers' Avenue, Botanical Gardens, Ballarat -Bust of J.M.Fraser. Our ref 453/9/5 TC "10"84

Ever since the Fraser bust was added to the Prime Ministers' Avenue it has drawn constant comment, both as being "different" to the rest of the collection, it is a different colour, too big and it is not a good likeness (this is probably a matter of personal opinion). Now that the Hawke bust is in position, Fraser to be more incompatible than before. We realise that it is a delicate situation - Fraser was done by Vic Greenhalgh towards the end of his life and took some time for him to complete. The Council itself is concerned but not unanimous as to whether Fraser should be replaced. It has asked me to enquire from you an estimate of your fee to commission a replacement of Fraser. You might want to comment on the matter.

Hawke looks good and is attracting considerable attention. So far he has remained unscathed, but vandals attempted to dislodge Watson. We have had the mason secure it and check on all the others. Kind regards Ian Smith.

Box 167 Page 167 9/5/85 Of interest -letter re Blizzard Statue, Sovereign Hill

p.130 Letter to Mr H.G.Mitchell Unit 5 Buckingham Court 1532 Sturt St, Ballarat re. information regarding George Longley.

Unit 173

23/4/1986 ref.453/9/5

To Mr P.N. Greenhalgh. 116 La Perouse St. Griffith ACT 2603

Dear Mr Greenhalgh. The replacement Fraser bust has now been received and I will expect it to be installed during the next month or so when the mason is available. As agreed, the bust sculpture by your father will be returned to you. We will arrange for this to be done at our cost and i will advise you as soon as it leaves here. Should we have it sent to you at your address ? Yrs etc. I.Smith

Unit 188

1/7/97 To Mrs S.Lindsay 10 Cumber...Court, Clifton Springs 5/65/1

re. Thomas Edward Rooney. Thank you for your further letter about your great uncle, Thomas Edward Rooney. We have no record or knowledge of a plaque in the gardens bearing his name but I enclose a copy of a brief history of the Gardens and you will see that he is mentioned in that history. I hope this information will assist you. Yrs faithfully, H.G.Wright Assistant town Clerk.

Unit 189 August 1987

4/8/87 To The Editor. The Sun Newspaper. Flinders St. Melbourne 3000

Dear Sir. I have had the opportunity of reading your page 1 feature of the 15th July "Bob scrubs a treat" Thank you for your excellent coverage og this unique collection which is, of course, a walk through history lesson. It is a collection of which he are justly proud. One factual correction to your report - it was the Whitlam's bust, not Fraser's that disappeared and was subsequently found and returned. After its disappearance we had a replacement made and now we have two! Some peculiar suggestions have been made as to what to do with the spare one! Yrs faithfully I.C.Smith, acting CEO

14/8/97 5/65/4 ICS: BTM

To Mrs Patricia Degers. 36 Thompsons Road Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Dear Mrs Degers. Thank you for your letter of 15th July and your offer to meet the cost of obtaining and erecting a plaque commemorating Thomas Thompson as the designer of the Burns Statue. Your kind offer is accepted. It occurs to us that if a plaque is to be placed on the statue identifying the design, for the historical record, it ought also to identify the sculptor who carried out the work. We propose therefore that the plaque would read - Designed by Thomas Thompson

Sculptured by John Aday, Italy.

We would meet the cost of the additional wording. I would appreciate your comments. Yrs Faithfully. IC Smith,acting CEO.

25/8/87 To Mr John Morcom. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 18/8/87. Thank you for your offer to contribute \$250 towards the renovation works of the Ned Williams Monument. The acting City Engineer has been asked to investigate. All Bicentennial projects and funds have been finalised for some time. Yrs faithfully, I.C.Smith Acting CEO.

End of first group, essentially up to 1900. Printed 20/1/09 Group 2 resumes at 1900