

MALMSBURY MECHANICS INSTITUTE

The institute, as an organisation, was founded in 1862. To begin with they used the old Caroline Chisholm shelter shed building as a meeting room, after it had been 'renovated' for the purposes of a council chambers by the newly-formed Malmsbury Borough Council.

Once the Town Hall was built, the Institute had more use of the building, but the State Government decided to sell the land which comprised the shelter shed reserve. After lobbying from Council, the site was subdivided and one of the allotments was purchased by the Borough which quickly sold a portion of it to the Mechanics Institute. By then the shelter shed was in disrepair.

By 1876 a new building was under construction, consisting of two rooms and a corridor. There was a lull in activity some time later but in 1895 the foundation stone for a hall at the rear was laid and construction was completed in 1896. Red tape over the design of a public building held up the official opening of the Federal Hall until January 1897.

By the middle of the 1900s the library ceased functioning and the institute declined. In the 1970s the building was handed over to the then Shire of Kyneton and is currently owned by their successor, Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

In its lifetime, the building has been used by the Malmsbury Mechanics Institute, as an IOOF Lodge, billiards hall, craft centre, BINGO hall, dance classes, a bank agency and many other functions. With a new resurgence in community activity, funding for much-needed structural works have been acquired to give it a new life.

RESEARCHING LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY AT
MALMSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Opening Hours: 9am—2.30pm Fridays Feb-Nov

Please make an appointment prior to visiting

CLOSED TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

Other times by prior appointment.

To do supervised "self-research", please phone or email research coordinator Dr. Susan Walter on:

(03) 5423 9383 or

malmsburyhistorical@gmail.com

A FEW DAYS BEFORE YOUR PLANNED VISIT to ensure

volunteers will be on hand and can prepare for your visit

No digital cameras or memory sticks/flash drives allowed on the premises without prior arrangement.

No pens allowed during research, pencils only please

Fees:

Supervised on-site research (members free):

\$25 half-day (9am-12pm)

\$30 full day (9am-2pm)

Research Conducted by research committee:

\$50 per surname

**MALMSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
71 MOLLISON STREET
MALMSBURY 3446 VIC**

Phone: (03) 5423 9383(President Susan Walter)

Website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~malmhist>

Email: malmsburyhistorical@gmail.com

Research: malmsburyhistorical@gmail.com

[Please mark research requests as: ATTN: Research]

**MALMSBURY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.**



WE SERVE TO PRESERVE



<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~malmhist>

SERVICES GUIDE

CURRENT AS AT JULY 2022

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON
FORTHCOMING EVENTS, INFORMATION SOUGHT
AND LOCAL ATTRACTIONS.**

In 1987 a local committee was formed to research the history of Malmsbury and to organize a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Alexander Fullarton Mollison in the district. The site of Mollison's head station of his pastoral run "Colliban" later became the site of the township of Malmsbury. Once the celebrations were over, the group continued to meet, initially as a constituent group of the Malmsbury Advance Association. After about a year or so, the group became incorporated as a separate entity called the Malmsbury Historical Society Inc.

Our area of interest is mainly Malmsbury but our collection also covers the surrounding arrears of Drummond, Denver, Edgcombe and Green Hill.

The Society's home is the historic Malmsbury Mechanics Institute, formerly the site of one of Caroline Chisholm's shelter shed for travellers

Malmsbury Historical Society meets monthly from February through to November. Visitors and researchers are welcome at our Friday open days and other advertised events. We recommend making an appointment to ensure we have members on hand to assist you.

We are also a Class B Place of Deposit (POD) with the Public Record Office Victoria and hold locally relevant Temporary Public Records. These are marked "POD" in our adjoining list of holdings

LIST OF CURRENT HOLDINGS

DESCRIPTION	FORMAT
<u>Baptism and Burials:</u> Malmsbury St John's C of E Baptisms (complete)	Searchable database
Taradale C of E Baptisms (complete)	Searchable database
Malmsbury Cemetery Register To circa 1990	Searchable database
<u>Malmsbury Borough Council Records</u> Malmsbury Borough Rate Books (1863-1894)	Searchable database
Malmsbury Borough Burgess Roll (incomplete)	Photocopy
Malmsbury Borough Letter Books (incomplete) ca 1867-1907	Photocopy
<u>Periodicals:</u> Newspapers (Index in progress) ca 1850s-present. Index to real estate advertisements in progress.	Digital & hard copies & searchable database
Victoria Government Gazettes (1856-1891, Index covers 1849-2000)	Hardcopies & searchable index
<u>Family History:</u> Local family history trees	Searchable database
Local family history folders	Hard copy
Local and family history publications	Hardcopy
Local History subject guides	Hardcopy & searchable text
<u>Images:</u> Photographs (various subjects) (See also Victorian Collections website)	Searchable database & hard copies
Maps	Digital & hard copies

DESCRIPTION	FORMAT
<u>PROV POD Records:</u> Malmsbury Waterworks Trust Records: Rate books 1938-1966 Cash/receipt books 1937-1976 Ledger 1934-1987 Malmsbury Waterworks Trust, first meeting 10/12/1937 to Dec 1990 (Inaugural) Arrears 1978-1983 Kyneton Shire Waterworks Trust 1949 to 1957 Shire of Kyneton, Malmsbury Riding Water Rate Register Oct 1929-Sep 1938 Other POD Records: BOM Rates Cash Book Oct 1889-1915 Kyneton Shire, Loan Ledger 1923 to 1980+	Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy Hardcopy
<u>Electronic Resources:</u> Victorian Birth, Death and Marriage Indexes Victorian Inquest Index Goldfields Hospitals Admissions	CDRom CDRom CDRom
<u>Malmsbury Mechanics Institute:</u> Library book catalogue (1890s and 2008) Borrowings book (1890s) Membership receipts	Searchable database Hard copy Hard copy
<u>Community Records:</u> Rechabites, Horticultural Society, Rifle Club, School committee etc.	Hardcopies
<u>Other Local Records and Information</u> Malmsbury and district ephemera Miscellaneous documents (BDM certificates, titles, Index of local probates from PROV etc) Various government reports (e.g. Vicroads, Vline, Heritage, Mining)	Hard copies & searchable index Hardcopies
<u>Land records:</u> In addition to rate books we collect and catalogue diverse information relating to land history. This strengthens our ability to assist researchers with researching the history of land. If we do not have the resources we can show you how	Various: ask us for further details