

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc. *Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!* December - January 2007 Newsletter No. 4

3 December DECEMBER HERITAGE WALK

Malvern Park & Glen Iris Estates, East Malvern
(bounded by Waverley, Darling & Malvern Roads)

Sunday 3 December 2006 at 3pm

Meet at All Saints Church, Darling Road cnr Olive Street

Non-Members \$5
Members Gold Coin Donation
(+ optional \$5 for Walk Book)

Coronal c1935 Reg No 519



12 December CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA TO THANK THE VOLUNTEERS!

Join the members of the Malvern Historical Society at Northbrook at 10.30 am on Tuesday 12 December and hear about the wide range of projects the volunteers have worked on during 2006. RSVP Jane: 0438 515 631

22 January JANUARY HERITAGE WALK

Waverley Road Shopping Centre, Fisher and Hughes Streets

Monday 22 January at 7pm

Meet East Malvern Community Bank cnr Waverley Road and Fisher Street, East Malvern

View the display from 6.30pm. Enjoy supper after the walk.

Non-Members \$5
Members Gold Coin Donation

David Armstrong outside the Terminus
Estate Agent 1927 Reg No 6548



2007 Diary Dates

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 4 February 10.30am | Chapel Street South Yarra Walk Prahran Hist. Soc. Jenni 9509 9978 |
| 11 February 3pm | Jackson's Paddock Toorak,
(bounded by Toorak, Kooyong, Malvern, Hopetoun Roads) |
| 18 March 2pm | Brocklesby, Huntingtower and Mercer Estates, Armadale
(bounded by Glenferrie, Malvern and Kooyong Roads and High Street) |

Gideon Rutherford FAMILY RESEARCH

To mark the 150th Anniversary of Local Government in the area now known as Stonnington the Malvern Historical Society commissioned family historian Lois Comeadow to undertake research on Gideon Rutherford and his family. Gideon Rutherford was the first Chairman of the Gardiner Road Board in 1856

Gideon Rutherford
c 1856 Reg No 6614



Stop Press!

The Malvern Historical Society's latest book 'Walk into History 3, Six more great walks in Stonnington' by Steve Stefanopoulos was launched at our November walk. Members and the public enjoyed exploring the Town Hall Estate Walk, one of the areas covered in the book. The site of the first sale of Crown land, subdivisions with late Victorian and early Federation style houses, and the expansive open space along Gardiners Creek and the Malvern Valley are just some of the areas featured in the book.

3UZ Radio Station at
Chadstone 1960 Reg No 1591



Thanks for your support during 2006. Enjoy the Festive Season!

Stonnington Gardens - Hedgeley Dene

Hedgeley Dene Gardens were formed along an early watercourse. Initially land had been purchased in this area by William Harwood in 1856. In 1877 solicitor, Edward Charsley bought both the Harwood land and the surrounding property naming his farm *Hedgeley Dene* after Hedgerley in England close to where he was born.

The (Royal) Melbourne Golf Course was formed in 1891 and *Hedgeley Dene's* land was used for part of the 18 hole course. By 1902 the Maidment family owned a dairy farm on the land and its dam and waterhole, known as 'Maidment's Lake', formed watery obstacles along the 8th and 9th fairways of the golf course. Golfing activity ceased in 1909.



Edward Charsley and family c 1880 Reg no 7345

When Alfred Sydney Baillieu subdivided the dairy farm in 1911 the Maidments moved to Kardella Street. New streets, which would service 142 building allotments, were created. An area reserved for 'drainage' later provided land for the future gardens.

The Malvern City Council also purchased land from the Estate, hoping to use it for tennis, bowling and croquet. A covenant on the title ultimately prevented this type of use.



Charsley family at the pavilion on the lake at Hedgeley Dene Farm c 1880 Reg no 7344



Hedgeley Dene Farm c1880 Reg no 7346

Soldiers returning from WW1 were given jobs planting trees, beautifying an area which had for a time been used as a quarry and a tip.

In 1924 F.L. Reeves, Malvern Council's Parks Curator, put forward a comprehensive plan to fully develop the area as a park by planting native and exotic trees, redeveloping the water-feature (adding an island and some rustic timber bridges), improving pathways and later adding electric lighting. During the Depression, garden projects provided work for the unemployed.

Another war and its aftermath saw manpower and resources diverted elsewhere. Hedgeley Dene Gardens fell into a long malaise until 1978 when it once again received some long-overdue attention.

The polluted lake was cleaned out, new trees planted and other necessary work done; resulting in a new lease of life which brought back not only the ducks, but film crews, weddings and a happier public – winning the State Garden Competition in 1980.



Maidment wedding at Hedgeley Dene Farm 1907 Reg no 222

Hedgeley Dene Gardens is considered to be one of the most unique linear, Edwardian municipal gardens in Melbourne. The Gardens are featured in 'Walk Into History 2 – six more great walks in Stonnington' (2005) by D.Foster and S. Stefanopolous

Who's Who in Stonnington - James McAlpine.

James McAlpine 1791 - 1861

One settler in the Parish of Prahran before 1840 was James McAlpine, born in 1791 on the Island of Islay, Inner Hebrides, west of the mainland of Scotland. His parents James and Elizabeth were land holders and farmers. Between 1819 and 1832 he lived in the West Indies on the Island of St. Vincent. He returned to Scotland in 1835 and married Isabella Jane Macoll. Isabella was born in 1813 at Invernesshire, Northern Scotland, the daughter of an Episcopalian Minister.

When the Schooner 'Agnes' arrived at Geelong from Hobart on 9 April 1839, among the cabin passengers listed were Mr. J. McAlpin, Mrs McAlpin and two small children.

The Register of the Presbyterian Baptisms in the District of Port Phillip 1840 records the following entry.

"James Hugh, son of James and Isabella McAlpine, was born on the 3 Oct and baptized on the 13 Oct". Their address is recorded as Keeyee Keet Creek. They were living at this time close to Kooyong Koot Creek, which we know now as Gardiners Creek.

In June 1840 McAlpine neglected to renew his licence as required and the land was granted to Peter Ferrie. Reference to legal action taken by McAlpine was mentioned in an earlier article (Local History News No 2.) The full report appeared in the Port Phillip Gazette on 12 Jan 1842.

In 1841 James McAlpine and his partner James Farmer began to build a hut at the top of Gardiners Creek at Laburnum (Blackburn). They then left that area and went further downstream to Main Creek (also part of Gardiners Creek) where they established themselves on land which is now part of the Box Hill Golf Club. Eventually after a number of disputes concerning straying cattle and trespass, the partners sold out in February 1845 and James McAlpine moved to Gippsland.

James died on 21 Oct 1861 at *Springbank* near Tarraville, and is buried in the Alberton Cemetery. Isabella Jane McAlpine (nee Macoll) died on 4 August 1872 aged 59 years. She is also buried in the Alberton Cemetery.



James McAlpine

EXTRACTS FROM JAMES MCALPINE'S OBITUARY

"He arrived in this district in 1845 and has ever since uniformly laboured with an energy and perseverance equalled by very few and surpassed by none.

He constructed on the Tarra Rivulet and worked for many years the first flour mill in the district besides devoting a large portion of his time in farming and grazing.

Although the deceased was for a long time before his death prevented by illness from stirring abroad, yet his friends and others who had occasion to see him on business were always rewarded in their visits to his retired chamber by a lively and interesting conversation".

"A large concourse of people, principally on horse back followed his remains to the Alberton Cemetery on Wednesday last and not a few of the store keepers on the Tarra signified their sympathy for the bereaved family by keeping their shops closed partially until the funeral had passed.

A long time must elapse ere his household will be able to reconcile to the blank now created."

James Hugh McAlpine - 1840 - 1924

The children of James and Isabella included Annie and Elizabeth born in Scotland before the family migrated to Victoria in 1839, James Hugh born in 1840 at Kooyong Koot Creek and Donald, Ronald and Isabella born after the family left this area.

James Hugh is listed as a ratepayer on land at Tarraville in 1866. He married Margaret Anne Smith on 15 June 1870 at Tarraville, Gippsland. At this time he is listed as a carrier with a dwelling. By 1872 he appears as a butcher owning a butcher shop and dwelling at Foster. James Hugh McAlpine owned a house and store at Turtons Creek in 1874 and in 1877 he is listed as a butcher with 126 acres at Warrigul Creek.

Between 1878 and 1883 he was a Truant Officer at Tarraville. After leaving Tarraville James and Margaret lived for some years in Bendigo and then retired to Elsternwick. James died on 2 May 1924 aged 84 years.



Photo of the family of James Hugh McAlpine Reg no 7414

STONNINGTON HISTORY COMMITTEE

Malvern Council minutes (1879 - 1912) have been microfilmed and are now available at Toorak Library. Malvern's artworks have been photographed with the digital images now on CD Rom and the Southern Cross newspaper (1978 - 80) is being prepared for microfilming.

TAKING LOCAL HISTORY INTO THE COMMUNITY

Recent walks, talks and visits have been well supported. We have received excellent publicity in the Spring issue of Malvern Matters, the Glenferrie Road Business Association newsletter, the newsletter of the RHSV and in recent editions of both the Melbourne Weekly and the Stonnington Leader. The MHS website and a copy of the Museum Australia Award were prominently displayed at the 'Taskforce Community Agency-Working Edge' Annual General Meeting recently.

DONATIONS TO THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION

"Cattanach Jewellers 1874-2004 Towards Brilliance" by Ari Unglik donated by Margaret McNamara

Collection of scanned images including Lloyd Street State School and newspaper photos of the State Governor Lord Stradbroke at Stonnington 1921 donated by Ken Dickinson and Zelda Smith

Extensive collection of scanned images of Armadale Uniting Church donated by Robin Ahin.

Photo of Adwalton School - loaned for copying by Mary Carter



Adwalton 1934 Reg 9565

ORAL HISTORY IN STONNINGTON

The 2005/06 oral history project has been completed. Stories recorded and transcribed have related to a wide range of themes including the Malvern Baseball Club, Yodgees in Glenferrie Road, the Depression and the war years and memories of school days. Discussions have recently been held with Aysin Akdeniz, Stonnington Council's Cultural Diversity Planner and Oral Historian Lesley Alves to finalise our next project. Interviews for the 2006/07 Multicultural Oral History Project funded by a City of Stonnington Community grant will commence shortly.

INFORMATION NEEDED

The Salvation Army is seeking help gathering together their story in Australia, particularly their involvement in local districts. Stonnington links include local resident Peter Cousin providing accommodation for Major James Barker, the Territorial Commander of the Salvation Army and his wife Alice in 1882 on the present site of *Stonington*. During their nine month stay in Malvern many prayer meetings were conducted in Cousin's barn, the "Hallelujah Barn" as it came to be called in the early issues of the Salvation Army paper 'War Cry'. Also, part of the film 'Soldiers of the Cross', claimed to be one of the world's first feature films, was filmed on the tennis court of *Belgrave* Dandenong Road, East Malvern in 1899. If you can help contact Lindsay Cox, Territorial Archivist. P.O. Box 18137, Collins Street, East Melbourne 8003.



Peter Cousin
c1880
Reg no 6616

Welcome new members!

Welcome to new members Pam, Hugh and Chris Weaver, Robyn Desmond, James Hornby, Don Weston, Francesca Di Mattina, Greg Shalit, Miriam Faine, M. Robinson, Zora Bryce, Lorraine Sage.

Have you enjoyed viewing the photos in this issue? Photos from the Stonnington Local History Collection appear with their reference number. To view an enlargement and to read more go to the web site below. Material for the history articles has been researched from the Stonnington Archives.
www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/library/history/catalogue/historysearch

East Malvern
Community Bank Branch **Bendigo Bank**
300 Waverley Road, East Malvern. Phone 9563 6044

Malvern Historical Society Inc (A7682)

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www.vicnet.net.au/~malvern

The Malvern Historical Society Inc is a member of the Stonnington History Committee, an affiliated member of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, a member of the South Metro History Group and has been appointed by the Public Record Office of Victoria as a Place of Deposit for non-permanent public records.

OTHER STONNINGTON HISTORY CONTACTS:

Stonnington Local History Service www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/history • Tel: 8290 1360 • Tel: 8290 7160
Prahran Historical and Arts Society P.O.Box 8649, Armadale Vic 3143 Tel: 9509 9978 www.vicnet.net.au/~phas