

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc. Keeping Stonnington's History Alive! August - September 2008 Newsletter No. 14

26 August Stonnington Landmark Brochures

During 2007/2008 the **Malvern Historical Society** received a **Stonnington City Council** grant to produce seven brochures on Stonnington landmarks. The sites chosen are: **Northbrook, Stonnington City Centre, Prahran Town Hall, Stonnington, Malvern Gardens, Victoria Gardens and Central Park.**

The brochures will be launched at our August meeting. **Stonnington Local Historian Di Foster** will talk about the history of these sites and present a slide show featuring photographs from the **Stonnington History Collection.**

Stonnington Council Chamber, Stonnington City Centre, corner High St and Glenferrie Rd, Malvern.
(Entry via Glenferrie Road entrance closest to Police Station)

Tuesday 26 August 2.30pm - 4pm
Cost: Non-members \$5 Members Gold coin
All welcome! Bookings essential Sets of brochures available at the meeting
RSVP Lorraine 9885 9082



Mayor Cr Ted Armstrong and May Armstrong, 1962
Reg No. 18

7 September Tour of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery

Join the **Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery** for a tour of the cemetery with a **Stonnington** theme. The tour will feature notable former Stonnington residents including **Mars Buckley, Justice Sir Henry Hodges and Hugh Parker.**

Sunday 7 September 2-4pm.
Meet at the clock tower at the main entrance at 2.00pm.
Corner High Street and Parkhill Road, Kew. (Melways ref 45 F5).
Short walk (500m) from the Cotham Road terminus of the No 16 tram on Glenferrie Road.

Cost: \$15; (\$8 for members of Friends of BKC).
Includes delicious afternoon tea!
Numbers strictly limited! * Bookings essential. RSVP Lorraine 9885 9082

Victoria's Representative Men at Home.



Homeden, Lansell Road, Toorak, the residence of Mr. Justice Hodges 1904
Reg No. 7811

12 October Spring Into Gardening at Victoria Gardens

Sunday 12 October between 11am and 4pm.
The Committee would love to hear from anyone who can help for an hour or two at this very popular event. It is held each year in the historic **Victoria Gardens, High Street, Prahran.** Both our sales table and displays always attract an interested crowd.
Please call **Lorraine 9885 9082.** Any help appreciated! This is your chance to be actively involved in Stonnington's local history!



Victoria Gardens, Prahran 1910
Reg No. 2457

City of Stonnington Community Grants 2008 – 2009

The **Malvern Historical Society** is very pleased to announce that we have received a **City of Stonnington Community grant** to cover the cost of promotional material for the coming year, Discovering Stonnington by Bus 2009 and the use of Council venues for four meetings. The Society appreciates the ongoing support from **Stonnington Council.**



Martin and King car 1947

Training for the Melbourne Olympics, Central Park East Malvern, 1956

In 1937 **John Landy** moved with his family to **Central Park Road**, opposite **Central Park East Malvern**. The oval became Landy's daily training venue throughout the period leading to his setting of new world records in 1954 and his participation in the **Melbourne Olympics** in 1956. Landy won the Australian Mile Championship three times (1953, 1954, 1956), the three-mile title in 1956, set world records for the 1500 metres and the mile, and won two Games medals - a Silver in the 1954 Empire Games for the mile and a Bronze for the 1500 metres in the 1956 **Melbourne Olympic Games**.

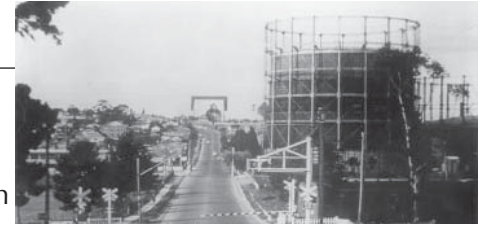
Landy read the Olympic Oath at the 1956 **Melbourne Olympic Games** and retired from running the following year. On 2 March 1997 a ceremony was held to unveil the plaque naming the **Central Park Oval** the "**John Landy Oval**". John Landy was the **Governor of Victoria** between January 2001 and April 2006.



John Landy training at Central Park with American athlete Lon Spurrier 1956 Reg No. 11071

Tooronga's Changing Landscape

The view across **Gardiners Creek** from Stonnington has altered recently with the demolition of the **Tooronga Village Shopping Centre** on the corner of **Toorak** and **Tooronga Roads, Hawthorn**. In the 1970's the **Toorak Drive In** (built in 1956 as an Independent theatre, later Village/Hoyts and demolished in 1983) and the **Gasometers** dominated the view.



Looking east along Toorak Road, from the corner of Milton Parade c1970 Reg No. 2730

Robert Young – A Northbrook Connection?

A family researcher has contacted the Society after reading the article on the history of **Northbrook** on our website. www.vicnet.net.au/~malvern. She is trying to discover if there is a link between her relation **Robert Young** and the **Robert Young** connected to **Northbrook's** history.

The parents of her relation **Robert Young, Robert and Janet Young**, were from Perthshire in Scotland. They appear to have moved to Canada around 1882 where in 1883 their son Robert was born. Within a year they returned to live in Scotland where they had a second child, a daughter. By the 1901 census, Robert was aged 18, and he was listed as an apprentice electrician boarding in Dennistoun, Scotland. A newspaper cutting from August 1925 records the death of Robert's parents. His sister found his father dead at work, went home to tell her mother who then died within two hours. The newspaper article states that their son Robert was in Australia at the time. The family think that following their parents' death Robert's sister (Margeritta [Ritta]) went to visit him in Australia and died whilst there. Her death is registered in 1934, in Malvern. (VC reg no 6043 Event D)

We know that the 1929 **Malvern Council** ratebook includes the name **Robert Young** as the owner of **Northbrook**, but only in pencil. His name does not appear on the Title for **Northbrook**. In 1929 an auction notice describes **Northbrook** as "a residence of 10 very large rooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, scullery, pantry, large cellar and ballroom. A noble allotment ...beautifully laid out in lawns, shrubs and flowers. With very substantial stabling and a loft The property is admirably situated for a first class Guest House or entertainment establishment".

The Sands & McDougall Directories show a butcher, **Robert Young**, occupying **271 Glenferrie Road**, Malvern from 1923 until 1934. This appears to have been the location of his shop. Council correspondence during this period relating to Northbrook includes 7/10/1929 - Plan of subdivision of **Northbrook** submitted to Council by **Mr R. Young** of **Northbrook**, High St - offering property to Council for purchase and 9/10/1929 - Council refusal to purchase. There is then a letter, 21/11/1929, referring to a cheque of £50 deposit for the purchase by Council of 50ft frontage of **Northbrook** abutting the cricket ground and 4/12/1929 correspondence referring to the purchase by Council of the above area from R. Young. In a letter 28/9/1931 Young is still pursuing Council to purchase the remainder of the **Northbrook** Estate, with Council declining by letter on the 21/10/1931.

The next correspondence between Council and the owner of Northbrook is on 18/3/1932, with the owner identified as Edwards. The research continues in both Stonnington and the UK.



Sale notice Northbrook, High Street., Malvern 1929 Reg No. 357

William Philpott

A request for information has been received from a descendent of an early resident, **William Philpott**.

In 1856, 20 acres at the south east corner of **Gardiners Creek [Toorak]** and **Glenferrie Roads**, was purchased by prosperous **Commission agent, William Philpott** and his wife **Rosetta Wilhelmina Rucker**. Philpott's land became the site of **Rosehill**. An auction notice which appeared in the Argus on 9 March 1869, describes the property as follows. "**Rose Hill**

Toorak consisting of 90 acres of land, situated at [the] corner of Gardiners Creek [Toorak] and Glenferrie Roads, having a frontage to the former of about 1,300 feet, and to the latter 700 feet, or thereabouts. There are two acres in vines in full bearing, fruit, flower, and vegetable gardens. The remaining land is in shrubbery, planted with every variety of rare and handsome lawn trees. The house of brick with slate roof, has on the ground floor dining and drawing rooms, storeroom, butler's pantry, with drawers and shelving complete, and communicating with the dining rooms; kitchen with water laid on, servants' hall, laundry, servants'-room and lumber-room. Upstairs are large well-ventilated bedrooms with eastern aspect, dressing or bachelor's room, good-mixed bedroom, W.C. and bathroom, with water laid on by force-pump. Underneath are two cool airy cellars, fitted with bins and wine presses. The outer and inside walls are all 14 inch work. The present house, although quite large enough for the requirements of a moderate sized family, is capable of much enlargement according to the original plan. The range of offices is complete, and built with surpassing care, every possible attention having been paid to the selection of material, workmanship, and drainage. next to the kitchen is a large coal-shed, brewhouse of ample dimensions, coachhouse, dairy (with shelves), harness room, seed and fruit loft above same, three-stalled stables and loose box adjoining all brick paved and carefully drained - cow lodge and drafting yards. Apart stands a most substantial bluestone building, with slate roof, which may be appropriately, termed a private chapel, with large ecclesiastically finished ceiling; there are two dormitories".

The bluestone chapel is all that remains of the **Rosehill estate**. **Society member, Anne Jackson**, has researched the Philpott family and *Rosehill* in both Australia and England over many years. The search continues for photos of both the family members and *Rosehill*.



Bluestone chapel, 11 Mayfield Avenue 1992
Reg No. 9000

Racecourse Hotel

Descendents of **John** and **Margaret Graham** (early licensees of the **Racecourse Hotel** on the corner of **Dandenong** and **Waverley Roads**, East Malvern) gathered for a reunion lunch in July. They celebrated both the 150th anniversary of **John Graham's** arrival in Victoria and the 150th anniversary of the building of the hotel.



Racecourse Hotel c1885
Reg No. 8220



Henry Sutton

Information wanted!

Henry Sutton 1856-1912 who lived at **9 Erskine Street, Armadale** in the late 1800's and early 1900's was a well known inventor, a co-founder of the **RACV** and together with his brothers, founded **Suttons Music Stores** in Victoria. In 1909 **Henry Sutton** was granted an experimental amateur radio licence and erected a radio tower at his house in **Erskine Street**. His brothers **Frederick, Alfred, Walter** and his own son **Arthur Ernest**, also lived in the Stonnington area. If you have further information please contact the **Stonnington History Centre** 82901360

Stonnington Research Enquiries

During the past two months the Society has received requests for information relating to Caroline Sails Castle Maidment and her father William Hooper Maidment, who arrived in Melbourne in 1851; JR Cooper & Co Pty Ltd Timber Merchants and Joinery Specialists in Dandenong Road; a wedding at **Finchlea** 17 Manning Road; a wedding at a Church in Claremont Avenue; Avenues of Honour in the City of Stonnington; a painting of Alfred Edward Clarke; **Eilyer** in Albany Road and Belmont Road and Hotel that appear to relate to Malvern England! All of these enquiries have been researched and expertly answered by the Stonnington History Centre staff Di, David and Ellen.

Taking Local History to the Community

The Society has been involved in discussions with the **Stonnington History Centre** regarding the naming of laneways off Repton Road, East Malvern and Milton Parade, Glen Iris. **Society President Lorraine Sage, Vice President Jane Nigro** and **Committee Member Roxanne Dennis** represented the Society at **Stonnington Council's Committee of Management Workshop**. A number of Committee members were present at the **Stonnington Citizens of the Year Award Ceremony** in July. Jane Nigro attended the first meeting of Stonnington Council's **Heritage Strategy Review Reference Group**.

Both Sunday afternoon winter talks were enjoyed by members and visitors. In June **Graham Russell** told of his long involvement with the **1st Malvern Scout Troop** and donated a valuable collection of memorabilia to the Archives. **Immediate Past President Bruce McBrien** shared fascinating stories about the famous people he has met, at our July meeting. Thanks to both Lorraine and Roxanne for providing the delicious afternoon teas.

Lorraine Sage represented the Society at the recent meeting of the **Stonnington History Committee**. The agenda included the renaming of the Forrest Hill precinct in South Yarra, and updates on the Heritage Markers and the redevelopment of the **Stonnington History Centre** at **Northbrook**, Both the **Melbourne Weekly** and the **Stonnington Leader** continue to give our activities great publicity. The Committee would also like to let you know that, contrary to a recent newspaper report, there are no plans to amalgamate the two historical societies in Stonnington

Additions to the Stonnington Local History Collection

Set of Stonnington postcards loaned for copying by **Jacqueline Jacobsen**

Collection of photographs and articles relating to **1st Malvern Scouts** donated by **Graham Russell**.

Set of **Malvern Meadows Estate News** donated by **Ross Mentiplay**

A one pint milk bottle from **Ashleigh Dairy**, H.F. Weatherhill, 19 Horace Street, Malvern donated by **Daphne Chandler**

Student research project on **Fairlight** donated by **David Hunter**

Set of **Gardiner Central School No: 3888** photographs donated by **Sue Gamble Jeffrey Turnbull**. **Once There Was Jordanville** donated by the Waverley Historical Society

Society

Patricia Downey. **Scenes from Childhood** donated by the author

The History of the Malvern Baseball Club 1898-2008 donated by **Bruce Everett**



Convent of the Sacred Heart, High Street, Malvern. Postcard c.1910



Gardiner Central School Football Team 1963.



Gardiner Central School Grade 3 1960



Frank Roberts aged 11 and Aubrey Roberts aged 13 1st Malvern Scouts 1909

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome our latest new members **Susan Herbert, Julie and Martin Collis and Christine Korycki**.

Have you enjoyed viewing the photos in this issue?

Material for the articles has been researched from the **Stonnington Local History Collection**. The database contains over 38,000 records.

To view enlargements of photographs and to read more, just go to the website below.

www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/history

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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

Prahran Historical and Arts Society P.O.Box 8649, Armadale Vic 3143 Tel: 9509 9978 www.vicnet.net.au/~phas