

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc. *Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!* June-July 2009 Newsletter No. 19

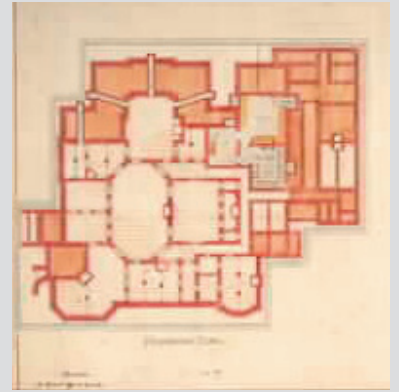
7 July Visit to the Stonnington History Centre – Members only

Tuesday afternoon, 7 July.

Di Foster, Stonnington Local History Officer, will conduct a tour of the **Stonnington History Centre, Northbrook**, behind the Malvern Library. Recent work at the History Centre has included the installation of a gas fire-suppression system and replacement of the windows in the atrium. Join this special tour and see some of Stonnington's local history treasures.

Numbers are limited. Bookings essential! President, Lorraine Sage 9885 9082

Planned residence for J Grice Toorak,
Architect Charles D'Ebro 1888 Reg No 7202



15 July Visit to The Embroiderers Guild



Wattle Tree Road c1900 Reg No 1244

Wednesday 15 July 10am to 12 noon

Embroidery House, 170 Wattle Tree Road, Malvern 3144. (Tram no. 5, Stop 46)

The visit will include a tour of the house and a display and talk about the archival pieces of embroidery. **The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria (Australia)** celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2010. The Guild, is open to all lovers of embroidery and textiles.

All welcome! Bookings essential.

RSVP President, Lorraine Sage 9885 9082

23 August Garden Open Day at Miegunyah

Sunday 23 August 10am – 4 pm. Miegunyah, 641 Orrong Road, Toorak

Entry \$5 Refreshments available

An exhibition, to celebrate the centenary of the heritage garden at **Miegunyah**, will be held at **Kinross House, 603 Toorak Road, Toorak**, daily from **10am- 4pm, August 21- September 6**. The exhibition, by artists of **The Embroiderers Guild**, will feature work inspired by the garden at **Miegunyah**.

Annual General Meeting April 2009

The Annual General Meeting of the **Malvern Historical Society Inc** was held in April. At the meeting **Lorraine Sage** was elected **President**. Also elected were **Jane Nigro - Vice President, Roxanne Dennis - Secretary, Robin Brown - Treasurer and Committee Members - Bruce McBrien, Faye Pattinson, Catherine Witteveen and Bronwyn Worrall**. Two new members **Faye Pattinson and Catherine Witteveen** were welcomed to the Committee. Two members of the Committee did not stand for re-election namely **Peter Frawley** who had been Treasurer of the Society for about ten years and **Di Foster** who had been on the Committee for over 20 years, both were thanked for their special contributions to the life of the Society. Peter for his outstanding work as Treasurer and making sure that all the financial matters of the Society were kept in the highest standard of financial records. Di for all the many years that she has been involved in the life of the Committee and the invaluable contribution that she has made in so many ways over so many years. Her knowledge of the history of the local area is indeed something to be admired and Di should feel proud of the contribution that she has made to the Committee over all these years. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to both Peter and Di. Thank you both for a task well done. **Lorraine Sage - President**

Art Deco in Melbourne

Robin Grow, President, Art Deco & Modernism Society, has recently released his new book, **Melbourne Art Deco**. It examines the rise, fall and resurgence of Art Deco in Melbourne from the 1930s to the present day. It is richly-illustrated with contemporary images. Cost \$60, plus \$5 postage and handling within Australia.

Tel: 0412567923

robingrow@ozemail.com.au

Art deco interior, Waverley Theatre, Waverley Road, East Malvern c1950 Reg No 6593

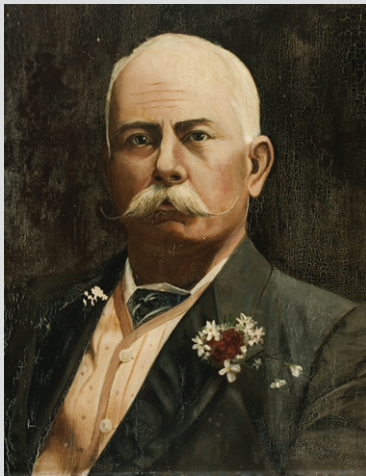


Malvern Memories

Thank you to **Gwen Haus** who recently donated notes written around 1980 by her mother, **Lawell Cook (nee Madder)**.

*"Prior to 1914 there was no tram line along Wattletree Road and Dandenong Road. A horse drawn tram used to leave the corner of Wattletree and Glenferrie Roads terminating at Chapel Street. There was a draper's shop on the corner of Wattletree and Glenferrie Roads named **Plowmans**, so the place to catch the tram was **Plowman's Corner**. Uncle Ralph (Great Uncle) used to say he could always beat the bus if he walked quickly to Chapel Street. It was quite a big load for the horse, as apart from the heavy vehicle the bus was well patronized by people doing their shopping at Chapel Street. When the tram first ran from Burke Road, they only went as far as St Kilda Road where you had to change into cable trams (now extinct). There was a loop line at Tooronga Road where the up and down trams waited to connect."*

Stonnington Research Enquiries



William Valentine Bailey 1908
Reg No 12544

During the past two months the Society has received enquiries relating to **John Adamson**, who passed away at **Glenferg** Malvern in 1909, the **Knox family**, **Malvern Fire Brigade**, **Chadshunt**, stained glass artist **William Wheildon**, **William Valentine Bailey**, a former **Mayor of the City of Malvern**, **Garden House**, Pets in the Park, **McLennan family**, York Road, Knox Street, and suggestions for film locations for a planned film to be set in an old house!

A copy of a 1907 birth notice was sent through by a descendent of the **Stewart** family. The address is listed as **Moorakyne**, Glenferrie Road, Malvern and the father, **Charles Stewart** as a 'motor driver' - not a common occupation in 1907.



Garden House, Valentine Grove, Armadale 1924 Reg No 11115

Stonnington History Website update

The Stonnington History Website has recently been updated. Some developments to date include e-publishing of the **J B Cooper's** histories of **Malvern** and **Prahran**, the **History of Prahran, Volume II, 1925- 1990** and **Private and Public Memory: a History of the City of Malvern, the Annual Reports of the City of Malvern (1915-1943)** and the **City of Prahran (1909-1954)**.

The reports are full of wonderful photographs and detail the development during these periods. A transcript of Prahran's first rate book (1856/57) is being published and a time line and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) sections are also under development.

www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/history



Group of Malvern Councillors and Officers, municipal cricket match 1894
Reg No 1060



Proposed Malvern Shire Hall, 1885
Reg No 1119

Probate index on microfiche 1841-1992

The **Stonnington Library and Information Service** now has the full probate index on microfiche 1841-1992. Up to 1919 can be accessed at either **Malvern** or **Toorak-South Yarra Libraries** but due to the cost, the set of the extension to 1992 is only available at **Malvern Library**.

[Excerpt from PROV guide No. 70]: "Probate is the process of proving to the Court the validity of a Will. The Grant of Probate is the official document issued to the Executor of the estate of a deceased person to pay all debts, collect any monies due and to distribute any remaining assets in accordance with the wishes of the deceased as expressed in the Will". This index allows researchers to identify the file numbers of probate documentation of interest, and to then request from the PRO the full transcript of the estate of the deceased. Note that this index can be used to quickly find the exact date of death of a person, unlike the Index to Deaths published by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, which shows only the year of death.

David Tuck Stonnington Local History Librarian.

Hunt Family in Kooyong



Untitled photograph from Hunt family album

The **Hunt** family had a long association with the **Kooyong** area. The family worked as market gardeners and orchardists from 1855 when **John Hunt** purchased land north of Gardiners Creek (Toorak) Road. **John Hunt** (1802-1871) had married **Sarah Norford** in 1830. **John Hunt** was nominated to the Gardiner Road Board in 1859. The children of **John** and **Sarah** included **Mary Jane Hunt** b.1831; **John Norford Hunt** b.1833; **William Norford Hunt** b.1834; **Henry Norford Hunt** (1835-1880) and **Edward Norford Hunt** (1838-1922).

John Hunt died at his home, close to Gardiners Creek (Toorak) Road, in 1871. At the time of his death **John Hunt** owned 13 lots in Elizabeth Street (north) and Avenel Road. **Sarah** died in 1894 at their home in Elizabeth Street.

Two of their sons, **Edward** and **William**, also owned land in the Elizabeth St north area. The 1884 ratebooks show **Edward** owning and occupying 15 acres of land off Toorak Road.

The land included an orchard, garden and paddock with **Edward's** family owning and occupying a house on 8 acres of orchard and market garden in Elizabeth Street north.

Can you help?

The **Stonnington History Centre** and **Lauriston Girls' School** Archives would like to make contact with any descendents of the family of **William Appleton** who lived at **Montrose**, 33 Mercer Road Armadale. Was one of your family members or friends a former student at **Lauriston Girls' School**? We're hoping someone may have photos in their family album showing the old house, **Montrose**. Contact **Di, Stonnington Local History Officer 82901360**

Responses to the Newsletter



Langleas 66 Wattletree Road Armadale c1980
Reg No 5213

Thank you to our Society members who responded to articles in our recent newsletters. **Mr J D Gillespie** sent information on **Charles Rudd**, photographer, memories of the **Melbourne High School "School Pianist" Dudley Simpson** and noted that **David Gillespie**, was his Great grandfather. **Langleas**, 66 Wattletree Road Armadale, was built in 1867-68 for retired **Master Mariner, David Gillespie**, and his wife **Sarah**.

John Maidment noted our incorrect name of the architect responsible for the **Peace Memorial Methodist Church** in **Epping Street**, East Malvern. The name of the architect is



St Catherine's Greek Orthodox Church
(Former Peace Memorial Methodist Church), Epping Street East Malvern 1994

Alexander North. A biography of **Alexander North**, prepared by John, can be found on the **Australian Dictionary of Biography website**, <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A110044b.htm>

Taking Local History to the Community

The Society looks forward to working with newly appointed **CEO** of the **City of Stonnington, Warren Roberts**. **Lorraine Sage** and **Roxanne Dennis** represented the Society at the May meeting of the **Stonnington History Committee**, chaired by **Cr Melina Sehr**. Matters discussed included the recent heritage overlay proposals and the future updating of the **Stonnington History Committee Charter**.

Bruce McBrien again proved to be an enthusiastic tour guide, leading our May bus trip through Toorak, East Melbourne, the City of Melbourne and returning along St Kilda Road and High Street. Thanks also to **John Isabel** for arranging a visit to the gardens of **Bishopcourt**. The Society was delighted to find that our 'i Spy' brochures reached the shortlisted stage of the **Museums Australia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards 2009**. A total of 406 entries were received from 103 Australian and international organizations. www.museumsaustralia.org.au

Special thanks to all the proofreaders and walkers who are helping prior to the reprinting of **Walk into History: six more great walks in Stonnington**. Final pre-publication proof reading is now under way.

Members **June and John Barry** and **Jane Nigro** entertained three classes at **St Mary's East Malvern** with stories from the past. Old artifacts were passed around and a range of interesting questions were answered! Laminated photos were loaned and books, children's history puzzles and walk brochures were recently donated to **St Mary's, Lloyd Street**, and **Holy Eucharist Primary Schools**. Around 70 St Mary's students were spotted following the 'i Spy Central Park' history trail! Thank you to **Brenda** from **MECWACARE Op Shop, East Malvern**, for the donation of early wooden pegs!

Carefree Caravan

Carefree Caravan Sales was located in a shop and store at **148 Darling Road East Malvern**, near the corner of Malvern Road from around 1955. The site of the shop included part of old tennis courts and vacant land. The Caravan sales business appears to have left Darling Road around 1962. The photo was donated by **John Bourke**

Carefree Caravan 1958
Reg No 14130



Additions to the Stonnington Local History Collection



May 1986 Malvern News Sheet donated by **David Cullinane**

Malvern Meadows Newsletters donated by **Ross Mentiplay**

Digital images of the **Hunt family** donated by **David Hunt**

Photos of **Stonnington** c1984 donated by **Tim Scott**

Photo "**Boys at play c 1951**" donated by **Kathie Harrison**. A second photograph, showing a group of young children, also donated by **Kathie Harrison**, is featured in our picture book for toddlers "**Back when...**".

Boys at play c 1951

Members of the Malvern Historical Society were saddened to learn of the death of Joyce Moran, a valued supporter of local history in Stonnington.

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. www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/history

East Malvern
Community Bank Branch **Bendigo Bank**

300 Waverley Road, East Malvern. Phone 9563 6044



Malvern Historical Society Inc. (A7682)

**P.O.Box 184, Malvern Vic 3144 Telephone: 0438 515 631 malvernhistorical@yahoo.com
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 History Centre 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