

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc. Keeping Stonnington's History Alive! August - September 2012 Newsletter No. 38

4 August Family History for Beginners Prahran Mechanics Institute

Saturday 4 August 1.30pm - 4pm Free Seminar
 Variety of topics including 'A Beginner's Guide to Ancestry Library Edition'.
 Prahran Mechanics' Institute Victorian History Library 140 High Street, Prahran.
 Bookings essential. 9510 3393 or library@pmi.net.au

11 August St George's Malvern - a guided tour

Saturday 11 August 2pm - 4pm
 Join Archivist, Brian Corless OAM, and members of the Society for a guided tour of St George's, Anglican Church, 296 Glenferrie Road Malvern. The foundation stone of the church was laid on 30 November 1865.

Bookings essential. RSVP Lorraine 9885 9082 by Wed 8 August

The Vicarage St George's Malvern (undated) Reg No. 11123



25 August Oliver Gilpin (1874-1942)

Saturday 25 August 2pm - 4pm
 Muriel Perry, granddaughter of Oliver Gilpin and author of *Just a Pocket for the Money* will talk about her grandfather at our August meeting. Hear about the man credited with creating the first major drapery chain store business in Australia. In 1910 the family moved to their new home, *Kia Ora*, in Finch Street East Malvern. The grounds were described as spacious and contained a tennis court, artificial lake, fernery, summer houses and a croquet or bowling green.

East Malvern Community Bank Meeting Room
 300 Waverley Road East Malvern (close to the No. 3 tram terminus)
 Gold coin donation RSVP Lorraine 9885 9082



Residence of Oliver Gilpin 1911 Reg No. 7579

12 September Conserving Your Family Photos

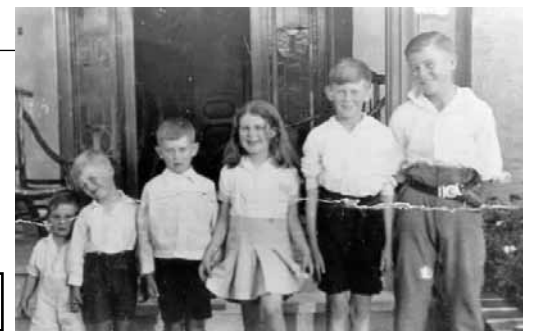
Wednesday 12 September 10am- 11am. Stonnington History Centre

Come and hear local photographer Peter King explain how to look after your precious print and digital photos.

Early bookings are essential as spaces are limited.

To book phone 8290 1360

Armstrong Children 1932 Reg No. 1298



16 September Lunch at Club Tivoli

Sunday 16 September. 12 noon 291 Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Club Tivoli, one of the first clubs in Melbourne, was formed in 1860 to preserve German cultural traditions. The Club has had various changes of address, moving to 291 Dandenong Road, Windsor around 1990. Hear Club Tivoli member Kevin Ginane talk about the history of the Club and enjoy the 'a la carte' lunch in the dining room (approx cost \$30 for two courses)

Bookings essential RSVP by 6 Sept. Lorraine 9885 9082

21 October Very special event for members! Keep the afternoon free!

Enid Joske and the Children's Free Lending Library in Prahran

Kristy Moody is undertaking postgraduate research relating to the Children's Free Lending Library in Prahran which opened in 1918. She would like to hear from people with information on Enid Joske who pioneered the idea of the library.
Contact Stonnington History Centre 8290 1360

Childhood Recollections

One newsletter reader responded to our request for memories of the Queen's visit in 1954 and the memories were still fresh in her mind after all the years!

"The Queen's visit in 1954 reminded me of the highlight of my primary school days at Prahran State School. Some of the students in the junior classes danced for the Queen in a display on the MCG. The segment in which I took part was a story, read on the loudspeaker system across the MCG, about toys in the nursery or toyshop who came to life at night. I danced as a fairy and there were also toy soldiers, golliwogs and teddies, I think.



Prahran State School 1906 Reg No. 7228

I recall the fairy dress vividly and have photos - somewhere! We wore elastic wristbands with a silver star on each wrist; a tiara, a white fairy dress with wings, white sox and runners (which were cleaned with a vile smelling, white cleaner used with an old toothbrush) and a wand with a silver star on it. I recall having my wand confiscated on the bus on the way back to school afterwards, for bashing a boy over the head with it. Even fairies brawl!

Another child, who I met on my first day at primary school at age 5 and who was also a fairy at the same function, has remained a very close friend for 62 years and we laugh about that day at the MCG. I managed to squeeze into the fairy dress for years and every time we

had visitors for lunch or dinner, they had to endure 20 mins of 'fairy flops' before they were allowed to eat!

The children from older classes did a Maypole Dance, which was very colourful. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh were driven around the MCG in an open-topped Land Rover - unheard of today for security reasons. I also remember being taken to see the Queen and Duke drive through the City - again in an open topped Land Rover - and we all queued for hours and waved little Australian flags. At school we were all given a State Bank of Victoria money box with the Queen's portrait on it and, I think, a gold coin or medal to commemorate the visit. My wand was never returned following the duel with the toy soldier - a source of great chagrin to me at the time!

Recently, I saw a real estate advertisement for one of the apartments in the old primary school (in High St, Prahran) and a friend and I went along to have a look inside, for old times' sake. We both shivered as we walked along the well-worn, wide, stone floors past the prep-grade teacher's room. Mrs Owens terrified all the children with her pickled snake in a tall glass jar. If any child chewed their nails or wrote with their left hand, their hand was dipped into the 'snake water'. After recess, lunch or visits to the toilet when the children might have washed their hands, the nail nibblers and left hand writers would be made to 're-dip' in the snake jar. Dickensian - and not all that long ago, really. It was a tough 'baptism of fire' for introducing five year olds to school life!!"
S H 2012

If anyone has any photos relating to Prahran Primary School or any further memories of the Queen's visit to Stonnington contact the Stonnington History Centre 82901360

The Melbourne Olympics 1956

Do you remember the excitement of the Melbourne Olympics in 1956?
Do you remember any venues within Stonnington (the former Cities of Malvern and Prahran at that time) that hosted events or celebrations?

If you have any memories or memorabilia relating to Stonnington's links with the Melbourne Olympic Games contact the Stonnington History Centre 8290 1360
history@stonnington.vic.gov.au

John Landy and Lon Spurrier jogging together in Central Park
January 1956 Reg No. 11071



Malvern Historical Society Inc News.

During the past twelve months the Committee have agreed to the following major expenditure by the Society

- Purchase Sands and McDougall Directories for Stonnington History Centre \$308
- Purchase CD ROMs for Birth Death and Marriages for Stonnington History Centre \$454
- Hire of meeting hall 6 months \$240
- Production of History of William Philpott book \$1127
- Copying old photos for Malvern Bowling Club Centenary and photographs etc for Stonnington History Centre \$315
- Malvern Historical Society Website updating \$900
- Digital Recorder for recording oral histories \$215 (donated by the East Malvern Community Bank)
- Digitilising of the *Malvern Standard* newspaper for Stonnington History Centre \$7606
- Publicising Stonnington's Local History- newsletter production, brochure copying, puzzle copying, laminating of photos for Pets in the Park, Spring into Gardening, school visits, talks, letter drops, scanning of old photos and documents, labels for displays \$7321

Robin Brown - Treasurer



Prahran Mechanics Institute -Short History Prize



Prahran Mechanics' Institute in Chapel Street 1900
Reg No. 8545

The PMI, in line with its objective to encourage and facilitate historical research, invites you to participate in the 2012 Short History Prize competition. Historical essays, articles or work on a place or aspect of a place in Victoria or a person associated with a place in Victoria, written by a member or members of a Victorian historical society or similar organisation are sought.

Entries need to be up to 15,000 words in length, non-fiction, completed within the past 5 years and previously unpublished (or published only in the historical group's newsletter). Prize: \$1,000 - \$500 for the author(s) and \$500 for the associated historical group. Closing date: 4pm, Friday 31 August 2012
Enquiries: Tim 9510 3393 or library@pmi.net.au

Tales from the Courts

Edited reports of proceedings in the Prahran and Malvern courts as published in issues of the Prahran Telegraph.

Smoking a public benefit?

The Board of Lands and Works proceeded against Thomas A. Bradshaw for smoking on the platform at the Prahran Railway Station. Dr Fetherston (on the Bench) remarked that he himself smoked on the platform but had not been interfered with. The Bench complimented the stationmaster upon the manner in which he carried out the instructions of the railway but Mr Dixon (on the Bench) remarked that he thought it was rather a public benefit than otherwise to smoke at the station as there was some prospect of the small-pox breaking out. Fined 1 shilling with 5 shillings costs.

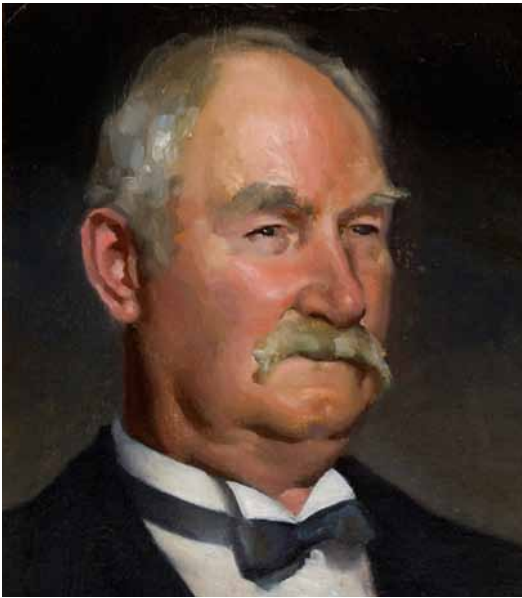
Prahran Telegraph, 14 January 1882

Fireworks ignite a plea-bargain

Three boys, Frank Saunders, G. E. Stevens and G. Thomas, discharging fireworks in a public place. The defendants had amused themselves by letting off crackers in Anchor-place, one of which was thrown through a broken window into the house of Mrs Tinan, laundress, setting fire to some clothes. The accused offered to pay for the damage done provided a nominal penalty was inflicted. Each fined 1 shilling with 10 shillings costs, the costs to go to the prosecutrix.

Prahran Telegraph, 18 November 1882

Stonnington Research Enquiries



William Sloggatt (undated) Reg No .12545

During the past few months the Society and the Stonnington History Centre have received enquiries relating to an Order of Anglican nuns who resided in Chapel Street Windsor around 1904, Mr Maudsley's carriage and horse drawn bus business opposite the Malvern Town Hall, Bretonneux Square and a dentist who had a dental practice opposite the Malvern Town Hall for over 40 years, before the Malvern City Square was built on the site.

One researcher's grandfather G. J. Hone had a service station at 63 Station Street, Malvern in 1922. Research appears to indicate that he set up Reliance Motors at 57-59 Dandenong Road sometime later in the decade. Staff at the Stonnington History Centre were able to find a copy of the Reliance Motors letterhead with what looks to be G.J. Hone's signature, dated 1928, but were not able to confirm if he was the first 'motor spirit seller' in Malvern. There was a request for information on the origin of the street name Golden Quadrant in Glen Iris. The land was earlier part of William Sloggatt's estate, and he was most likely responsible for its name.

Information was sought on slate roofs in Stanhope Street Malvern, the teaching staff of Prahran High School 1974-1979, The Gables in Finch Street Malvern East, shops in Malvern Road Tooronga, a home in Lewisham Road Prahran, flats in the former City of Malvern, Harold Avenue Glen Iris, the Bailey family, the Malvern Club and Olive Blanch Clark who was born in Barkly Avenue Malvern around 1891. The following information was received relating to Richard Robert Woolcott (1836-1904) who was a church warden of St George's Church, Malvern. There is a brass plaque in memory of R.R. Woolcott in the choir stalls of the church. R.R. Woolcott was a solicitor in the city and owned property in Toorak and Malvern. Gerald Davis shared information relating to his family, including that early Melbourne architect Charles Webb, who designed the original St Paul's in Swanston Street Melbourne, was a relation. Gerald was the pipe organist at St James Glen Iris between 1994 and 2009.

Sometimes the requests are quite tricky like the enquiry relating to a stonemason of the Toorak region who may have been reasonably prominent and who may have been responsible for some of the buildings in the area and also in Melbourne. The researcher thought his name may have been Max Field, Maxfield or some derivation of that.

Thanks for your responses to the last newsletter including the member who took the time to visit St John's Toorak to see Clive Elliott's stain glassed window art work. One member recently came across a web page of interest. It documents Melbourne's history through old signs, including signs in the City of Stonnington www.ourfadingpast.com

Thanks to Stonnington History Centre staff David, Ellen and Simone for answering the enquiries with skill and enthusiasm!



44 Stanhope Street Malvern 1992 Reg No. 13099

Stop Press! Talk on architect Alexander North

On Sunday 16 September at 2.00pm, John Maidment OAM will give a talk on architect Alexander North at the Grainger Museum, Royal Parade, University of Melbourne. Alexander North designed several buildings in the Malvern area including Peace Memorial Methodist Church, Epping Street, Malvern East.

The talk will be followed by a visit to Trinity College Chapel (1916), also designed by North.

Enquiries: 8344 5270

East Malvern Football Club, 1934-1974

Bill Gray recently visited the History Centre to offer us a copy of his extensive research into the East Malvern Football Club. Bill played for the club from 1953 to 1960, and remained involved as an administrator until 1973. Here's a summary of the club's story, taken from the Preface:

This is the story of a truly remarkable football club inaugurated in 1934 by a group local businessmen & identities, managed over the years by a succession of dedicated administrators, enjoying unparalleled success then finally succumbing to the lack of sufficient local & municipal interest when confronted with an aging local population & the growing professionalism of modern Australian game.



East Malvern 'A' Grade Premiers, 1959

The most obvious benchmark for 'unparalleled success' is the six premierships won: 1946, 1959, 1960, 1964, 1966 and 1970. Another measure is the number of VFL players that have come up through the ranks: here's the roll call, arranged chronologically: John Jeeves (North Melbourne, 1947), Tom Hafey (Richmond, 1953), John Wilson (Richmond, 1957), John Ronaldson (Richmond, 1961), Robin Schultz (Footscray, 1963), Blair Cambell (Richmond/Melbourne, 1963), Denis Clarke (Melbourne, 1966)

Tom Hafey's football career gets special mention: he played his first games with the club in 1948, and played with the Juniors until 1950, then the Senior Eighteen in 1951 and 1952 when he won the Best & Fairest in the Caulfield Oakleigh District League. He was cleared to Richmond in 1953, but returned to play several games in 1959, including the Grand Final in which East Malvern defeated Glen Waverley at the Oakleigh Football Ground. Tom continued an active association with the club throughout the sixties by introducing many players firstly from the Shepparton area where he was coaching, then later fringe players from Richmond.



East Malvern Premiers, 1964

Despite winning the Premiership in 1970, increasingly the Club was having trouble fielding the teams required and in finding committee members. At the 1973 annual general meeting, the vacant executive positions could not be filled. A further extraordinary meeting was held in February 1974 at which

point, due to lack of sufficient enthusiasm from the members, it was decided the club could not commit to the fielding of four teams every Saturday. De La Salle Old Collegians Football Club then took over the use of Waverley Park, used until then by EMFC. A few years later, Malvern Council built a new grandstand and the surface was re-drained and replaced.

In 1978, stalwarts of the club organised a reunion of past players and supporters, held at the East Malvern RSL Memorial Hall. Over 250 members attended, and several moving speeches were made that evening; Jim Hafey declared everyone in attendance officially a Life Member of the EMFC! The night was a resounding success, and to this day reunions are held annually on the first Friday in December.

A full copy of Bill's history may be located on our website – just go to advanced search and enter 60566 in the registration number field. Click on the title for the full catalogue entry, then look for the option in crimson: 'click here to open file'. Many photographs are reproduced in the report. Thanks Bill for your contribution.

Taking Local History to the Community

Thank you to Stonnington Men's Probus Club President and MHS member Michael Macgeorge for arranging the joint publicity in a recent issue of the Stonnington Leader. MHS member John Maidment gave a fascinating talk about the pipe organs of Stonnington at our recent meeting. The work of overseas firms including Hill & Son and local firms, including the long-established firm of George Fincham & Sons, were featured. While a number of the organs have been moved out of the Stonnington and others destroyed, images survive of the majority and these were displayed during the talk.

Members of the South Metro history group, including representatives from the Port Melbourne, Brighton, Sandringham, St Kilda and Glen Eira Historical Societies attended the meeting hosted by the MHS in June.

Members spent a fascinating morning at the Duldig Studio. Eva de Jong-Duldig traced her parents' story from their student days in Vienna, their escape from Austria to Singapore, to Tatura in Victoria and eventually to settling in 1951 in the house in Burke Road, Malvern East. We viewed the house with its Secessionist furniture, the Gallery displaying Karl and Slawa Duldig's paintings, sculptures and documents, the garden and Karl's workshop. There are already plans to visit again next year!

The article 'Stonnington and Stonnington' (Local History News No 34) was recently featured in Placenames Australia, the newsletter of the Australian National Placenames Survey.

Additions to the Stonnington Local History Collection

- Recent photos of *Stonington*, Glenferrie Road Malvern donated by Peter King
- CD of images The Pipe Organs of Stonnington, donated by John Maidment
- Information relating to Pilochny, 11 Boyanda Road Glen Iris, donated by Gwen Haise
- Collection of real estate brochures donated by Margaret McNamara
- Copy of two photographs taken from a commemorative plaque presented on the proclamation of the town of Malvern. Frederick Hughes, C. E. was appointed secretary and engineer of Malvern, November 22, 1888 and Town Clerk in 1909. He held the Town Clerkship until he died January 4, 1922. In 1881 Adolphus Francis Alway had a general store, a real estate office and auction room on the south west corner of Glenferrie and Wattletree Roads. Alway became President of the Shire of Malvern in 1898. He then returned to his estate business, operating from Station Street opposite Malvern Station.



Adolphus Alway Reg No. 60377

New members

We would like to welcome our latest new members Glenys Needham, Patricia Downey, Ross and Carolyn Mentiplay, Heather Kasa and family and Phil Bainbridge and family.

Have you enjoyed viewing the photos in this issue?

Material for the articles has been researched from the **Stonnington Local History Centre Collection**. The database contains over 60,000 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, Email: history@stonnington.vic.gov.au Tel: 8290 1360 www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/history
Prahran Historical and Arts Society, P.O. Box 8649, Armadale VIC 3143 Tel: 9529 7442 www.vicnet.net.au/~phas