

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc.

Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!

March 2017 - Newsletter No. 66

Message from the President

We would like to welcome Marisa Conta who has kindly agreed to join the Malvern Historical Society Committee. Marisa comes with many fresh ideas!

Just a reminder, the Malvern Historical Society financial year runs from 1st Jan - 31 Dec. Unsure if you're financial for 2017? Just contact Lorraine: 9885 9082 malvernhistorical@yahoo.com.

Thank you to all the members who have responded already, your subscription and donations are always appreciated.

Lorraine, President,
Malvern Historical Society

Facebook - we've reached 1000 likes!



Nikki Cooper certainly knows what our Malvern Historical Society - Stonnington Facebook followers like! Every few days another photo is added and messages are answered. We are always particularly excited when someone shares something that can then be added to the Stonnington History Collection. Thanks Nikki for all your enthusiasm! Come and follow us!

<http://www.facebook.com/malvernhistoricalsocietystonnington/>

Visit to the Armadale Baptist Church Wednesday 8 March 10am

Join members of the Society for a tour of the Armadale Baptist Church, 88 Kooyong Road, Armadale. This Romanesque style church, designed by architects Sydney Smith & Ogg, dates from 1898. The interior features a Fincham organ. The Sunday School was added in 1899.

Bookings essential. Lorraine 9885 9082.

All welcome!



Baptist Church and school hall Armadale
c1910 Reg no 9705

Moorakynne Avenue and Somers Avenue area walk Tuesday 14 March 10am

Join members of the Society for a walk around the area close to Glenferrie Road, Malvern that includes Moorakynne, Wilks and Somers Avenues. Find out about the people and places of historical interest and learn how this part of Malvern developed.

Bookings: Lorraine 9885 9082

Members: Gold coin. Non members: \$5

All welcome!



Members of the Bowes Kelly family c1901
Reg no 2416

Pets in the Park Sunday 26 March 11am - 4pm

Central Park, corner of Burke and Wattletree Roads, Malvern East.

City of Stonnington's Pets in the Park is a popular event held every year in Central Park Malvern East. The Malvern Historical Society stall and large display of photographs are always well received by both the adults and the children from the local community. Can you spare an hour or two to help us? This is an opportunity for our members and supporters to become actively involved in Stonnington's local history.

All help appreciated. Lorraine Sage, President, 9885 9082

Allenby Avenue - Wilton Vale Crescent Malvern East walk Saturday 29 April 9.30am

Join members of the Society for a walk around the Allenby Avenue, Wilton Vale Crescent and Darling Station area in Malvern East. Find out about the architecture styles, places of historical interest and find out how this hidden pocket of Malvern East developed.

Bookings: Lorraine 9885 9082

Members: Gold coin. Non members: \$5 All welcome.

(Re-scheduled due to the heat in January)

Subscriptions

The Malvern Historical Society operates to preserve and further encourage interest in the valued history of our local area.

As a small not for profit group our administrative functions and our activities are arranged by dedicated volunteers. We value your support and look forward to you continuing your connection with our Society.

Melbourne dreaming: a guide to important places of the past and the present

A copy of *Melbourne dreaming: a guide to important places of the past and the present* by Meyer Eidelson, was recently purchased by the Malvern Historical Society in memory of Bruce McBrien, who made an outstanding contribution to the Malvern Historical Society for over 20 years.

One man's Toorak is not that of another

'The Melbourne suburb of Toorak is known as a very salubrious and upmarket area. So when European settlers in Fiji arrived at what is now known as Suva in the late 19th century, they named one of its suburbs after this Melbourne suburb. However, Toorak in Suva is certainly not a salubrious or upmarket area: in fact, it is quite the reverse. So that attempt of settlers in Suva to emulate Melbourne's famous suburb has backfired somewhat.'

http://www.anps.org.au/documents/Dec_2016.pdf

(Australian National Placenames Survey newsletter)

Murrumbeena Primary School

Did you grow up in East Malvern and attend Murrumbeena Primary School? The school is celebrating its centenary on Sunday 4 June 2017 <http://www.murrumbeenaps.vic.edu.au>

Malvern Rate Books 1856 - 1937

The Malvern rate books have been rescanned in colour. The books from 1856 through to 1937 have all been scanned. Apart from the rate books the Stonnington History Centre is also arranging the scanning of the Malvern building permit books. This is a huge project that will be continuing over the next three years and has been financed by the Stonnington Council Rates Department. Having the books scanned in colour enables them to be more easily read, as many annotations in pencil cannot be read in the black and white digital versions.

View from Stonnington (Stonington) in the 1920s

Elevated view looking east from Stonnington's tower c1920 to 1930. Reg no 61757 (State Library of Victoria)



Moulton's, Morgan's and Collins street directories

The State Library of Victoria has digitised Moulton's, Morgan's and Collins street directories for Melbourne and suburbs (1912-1952).

http://digital.slv.vic.gov.au/R/?func=collections&collection_id=2982



Streets where we live

FROM CROWN
LAND TO
CONSERVATION



NORTHBROOK
POP-UP GALLERY

8 March – 8 April 2017

Northbrook Pop-up Gallery,
1257 High Street, Malvern
(behind Malvern Library)

Gallery hours:

Wednesday – Saturday
12-5pm

Guided tour of

History Centre

3pm during gallery hours

From the subdivision of the land
to the creation of our residential
streets, discover the evolution
of our urban landscape through
maps, mansions and the modern.

Opening

Wednesday 8 March

3-7pm

Light refreshments provided



NORTHBROOK
POP-UP GALLERY



Chas Hammond

Charles Edward Bruges Hammond was born in London in 1870. He and three of his siblings, brothers Bert and Hal, and sister Edith, eventually settled in Australia and New Zealand, while one brother went to Canada. For some years he moved between England and Australia, finally settling in Australia. In 1897 he sketched the biggest fire seen in Melbourne up to that time; his illustration of the fire featured in newspapers and magazines all around the world. For many years he worked on commissions from the leading newspapers and magazines for his illustrations of major events including the Spanish-American War and the Boer War. Between 1900 and 1910 he produced a series of postcards based on the poems of Adam Lindsay Gordon and 'Banjo' Patterson. At the time of his death in 1953, Chas was very well known locally as an artist and photographer.

The State Library of Victoria has a sketchbook containing watercolours, postcards, photographs, ephemera and clippings relating to the life, family and times of Charles Hammond. There is material relating to his own artist's studios in Malvern and the sketchbook includes views of Malvern.

One photo shows members of the Smith family standing in front of the old Southern Cross Bakery in Station Street Malvern. The shop also doubled as a servants' registry office. The family included Margaret Fowler Smith, Margaret Mary Smith, Stella, May, Laura, Jack and Sykes (Sikes). Shipping records indicate that Sykes Smith arrived in Australia in 1883 and his occupation on the passenger list was recorded as baker. Sikes Smith was listed as a baker in Station Street in the Directories by 1889. Sometime during the Smith family's occupation of the bakery, the early timber building was replaced with a two storey brick shop, one of a pair of shops. Photographer and artist, Charles Hammond, boarded at the Smith family home and painted portraits of Margaret and Sikes in 1891. The portraits are still held by the family. (Source: SLV)

Some photos have some hand made alterations. Inscription on Glenferrie Road Malvern 1890: 'From the railway gates. The trees on the right are in front of Mr. Evans' house on the corner of Evan's Road. Bert Evans on pony. My brother H.B. Hammond (late Canadian NWMP) holding my bicycle. Notice the frame and narrow hard types of the machine. (One of the first shipment of Singers Safety bicycles to Australia about 1888).'



View of East Malvern in 1890, from Gambles' orchard in Elizabeth Street (undated) Reg no 149



Glenferrie Road looking north 1890
Reg no 515



Hansoms & four wheeler cabs in 1890 after the races c1890
Reg no 710



The old Southern Cross Bakery in Station Street Malvern 1892 Reg no 5096



'A relic of the land boom, J. R. Morton's office next to Tooronga Station' 1890 Reg no 1214

Herbert Thomson and Australia's first car

Australia's first car was manufactured in 1898 by Herbert Thomson in High Street Armadale. The original car is in the Melbourne Museum. Herbert, an engineer, was born in Prahran in 1870. When he was only 19, one of his steam engines was used in a launch on the Yarra River. In 1897 he set up a business in High Street, Armadale making steam engines and boilers. Soon there was news that a horseless carriage had been seen in the local streets of Armadale. The car's first public run was at the Malvern Cricket Ground. At the time the car was described as a 'six-seat Phaeton of fiddle-back ash and silky oak'.

In April 1900, Thomson and a cousin loaded the two-cylinder, 6 seater steam car onto a steamship bound for Sydney, where it was presented to much acclaim at the Royal Easter Show. To gain further publicity the pair drove the car almost 800km from Bathurst back to Melbourne. This first interstate motor car journey in Australia took 56 hours and 36 minutes. On one leg of the journey they raced for 12 miles against a pair of horses, and won! On their return the Thomson Motor Car Co. Ltd was launched and by the end of 1912, a motor vehicle for the fire brigade, several steam engines for merry-go-rounds and 12 vehicles had been built. The car building initiative was abandoned due to cheaper imported vehicles.



Herbert Thomson and his family in his first steam-driven car 1898 Reg no 8539 (Image: Museum Victoria)

The Tronga cycle

Has anyone heard of a Tronga cycle? This advertisement was found in *The Standard* (Malvern) Jan 15, 1931.

TRONGA'S DOUBLE

G. Pritchard wins 1 mile Handicap at Drome.
J. Craig wins 1/2 mile Handicap at Oakleigh.
ON THEIR TRONGA CYCLES.

D. Smith, Chip Turner, A. Drosher, all ride a TRONGA.

Agent for B.S.A. Motor Cycles

Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs of Any Description. Orders
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168 MALVERN RD., TOORONGA. Phone: U2992

Stonnington History Centre tapestries

Two tapestries in the Stonnington History Centre Collection, one from the Malvern Town Hall and the Prahran Commemorative tapestry, have recently been cleaned.

The Prahran Commemorative tapestry was commissioned by the Prahran Council in 1985 to mark the 150th anniversary of Victoria's settlement. The work was designed by Liz Nettleton and completed by students at the Prahran College of TAFE. Various themes relating to the history of Prahran are represented. The work measures 3.5 x 2 metres and hung at Prahran Library from 1985 until 2009, when it was relocated to a wall in the old court house. The work was taken down during 2016 and sent to a conservator for cleaning. It has now been placed in the Archive at the History Centre and will be displayed on appropriate occasions.



Section of Prahran commemorative tapestry 1985
Reg no 13683

Malvern Town Hall tapestry was a project undertaken to celebrate Australia's Federation in 2000. The work has a strong community focus with local school students, ranging from primary to tertiary age, designing the artwork. All schools in Stonnington were invited to take part. There were two distinct themes that emerged from the children's work: the first included Stonnington buildings and architectural icons and included Prahran market and Chadstone Shopping Centre. The second theme highlighted parks, leisure, culture and residents. The weaver was Cresside Collette, who maintained close interaction with the community during the weaving process. The loom was housed in a custom designed 'fishbowl' at Chadstone Shopping Centre while the work was undertaken. The tapestry was officially hung at the Stonnington City Centre in June 2001. It has recently been taken down to undergo conservation cleaning and treatment and will be rehung in the near future.

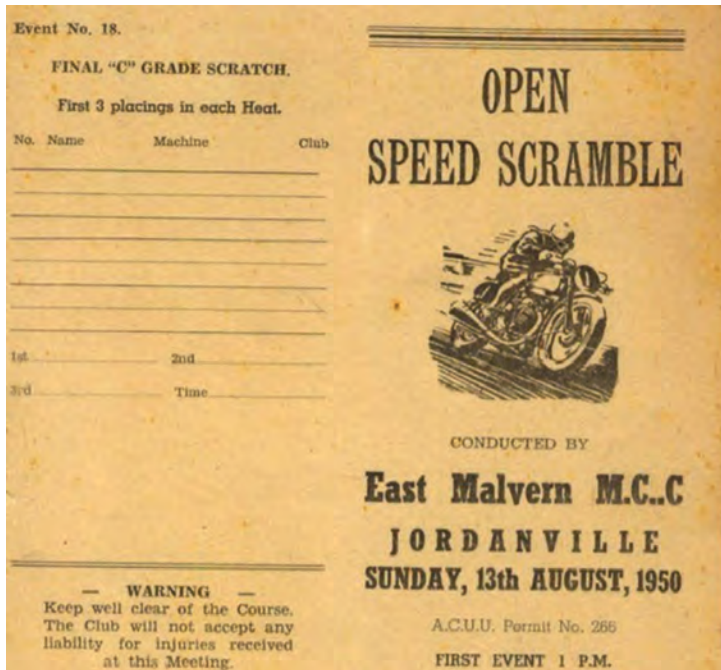
Ellen Porter Team Leader Stonnington History Centre

New PROV Website launched

The new Public Record Office Victoria website has been launched. The PROV holds an extraordinary array of records created by the Victorian Government from the mid-1830s. There is a dedicated Koorie Services section that includes the following pages: Koorie Reference Service; Family History Guide; Aboriginal Victorians 1830s - 1970s; the Koorie Index of Names; and Koorie Stories from the Archives. <https://www.prov.vic.gov.au>

East Malvern Motorcycle Club - motorcross

If anyone has any information or images relating to the history of the East Malvern Motorcycle Club please email history@stonnington.vic.gov.au This image was spotted on Facebook.



Public Record Office Victoria (PROV) - opportunity to volunteer

The PROV has a long-standing volunteer program at the Victorian Archives Centre in North Melbourne. Their volunteers work closely with historic records from the collection. In 1916 some of the projects related to inquest depositions, land selection documents and public works plans. All the projects have the aim of preserving the collection and making its contents accessible to researchers. <http://prov.vic.gov.au>

National Archives of Australia Canberra

The National Archives of Australia collects and preserves Australian Government records that reflect our history and identity. The collection traces events and decisions that have shaped the nation and the lives of Australians. Visitors are welcome to explore the collection, online or in person.

The National Archives of Australia are now live on Google Cultural Institute, the world's biggest online museum! <http://www.naa.gov.au>

NAIDOC Week 2 - 9 July 2017 - Our Languages Matter

The theme for NAIDOC Week 2017 is 'Our Languages Matter'. <http://www.naidoc.org.au/2017-national-naidoc-theme>

It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements.

Gilpin's warehouse Belson Street East Malvern

Oliver Gilpin (1874-1942), is the man credited with creating the first major drapery chain store business in Australia. Oliver's first warehouse was built behind his first house in Thornbury. His second warehouse was erected in Belson Street, East Malvern in 1910, behind his new house, *Kia-Ora*, which sat on a large block on the north east corner of Finch Street and Central Park Road, extending through to Belson Street. The warehouse was destroyed by fire in 1973. The black and white image is a scan of a photograph reproduced in Muriel Perry, *Just a Pocket for the Money: The Story of Oliver Gilpin and his Stores* (Molesworth, Vic: The author, 1995).



**Gilpin's warehouse Belson Street East Malvern c1934
Reg no 62048**



Fire at 5 Belson Street East Malvern 1973 Reg no 13502

Discovery at the Prahran Town Hall

With the recent relocation of Stonnington Council's Engineering Department to the City Centre in Glenferrie Road, historic engineering maps and plans were moved to the Stonnington History Centre for secure storage in archival conditions.

Glenferrie

The Stonnington History Centre's collection includes photos of two rare early paintings of the early property, *Glenferrie*.

The original artworks are thought to have been painted in the 1840s and 1850s, when *Glenferrie* was owned by the Damyon family. The paintings travelled with the family to Argentina and descendants forwarded copies to the Stonnington History Centre.

Glenferrie (Glen Ferrie), was built in 1840 by Peter Ferrie, the first freeholder to settle on land that was to become part of the future City of Malvern. Ferrie purchased Crown Portion 21 at the first land sales in June 1840. The land included 60 acres bounded by Glenferrie Road, Gardiners Creek, the line of Avenel Road, and Toorak Road. In January 1841 Ferrie obtained a loan, secured by a mortgage, of lot 21 'known by the name *Glenferrie* together with the farm-house and other buildings thereon'. In 1843 the property was sold to a partnership, which included James Damyon, the Consul General to Russia. Damyon owned a share in the property until 1849. In 1852 he repurchased the estate in his own right.



Glenferrie c1840s Reg no 8054



Glenferrie c1850s Reg no 8055

Glencairn

The 60 acre property, *Glenferrie*, was subdivided in 1902 and allotments sold as part of the Toorak Estate, with Mernda, Moralla and Monaro Roads created during this time.

Dr Thomas Alex Wilson purchased one allotment measuring 160' x 200', from Thomas Lloyd in 1922-23 and commissioned architects Cowper, Murphy & Appleford to design a two-storey house. This firm was established by Melbourne architect Christopher Alfred Cowper in 1921 when he joined his associate and chief designer, Gordon Murphy and draftsman Reginald Whitely Appleford.

Glencairn was built on Lot 1, Glenferrie Road, Kooyong in 1924 for Dr Wilson. Thomas had married Jessie Ellen Graham in Smeaton, Victoria, in 1891. The Wilsons had three daughters: Enid (1901), Dallas (1906) and Mary Prudence (1910). Before building in Glenferrie Road the Wilsons had previously lived at *Glencairn* in Victoria Avenue, Canterbury and they kept the name of their property when they moved to their new fourteen roomed house in Kooyong. Thomas and Jessie remained in their home in Kooyong until they died.

The property was sold in December 1952 to Frederick Neil Bunny then resold to the Hon John William Galbally MLC and his wife Sheila. John (Jack) Galbally had begun his legal practice in Collingwood in 1933. He was elected as a member of the Legislative Council in 1949 and held the seat until he retired in July 1979.



Plan of *Glencairn* 408-412 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong 1924
Reg no 62045

Glenferrie Road Kooyong c1940



Diary date: History Matters Wed 19 April 10am - 11am

Profiles of the former Mayors of Prahran, Malvern and Stonnington.

Andrew Dodd is the Program Director of Journalism at Swinburne University. As part of the Stonnington History Centre's latest Oral History Project, Andrew has interviewed past councillors of the City of Stonnington and the former cities of Malvern and Prahran. Andrew will provide an overview of the oral history process.



Northbrook Pop-up Gallery, 1257 High Street Malvern (rear Stonnington History Centre, behind Malvern Library). Bookings required: 8290 1360.

Taking Local History to the Community

Our own well known local historian, Di Foster, presented a fascinating illustrated talk on the highlights in Malvern's history to over 65 members and residents in February. Thank you to the City of Stonnington for providing the Society with free use of the Malvern Town Hall Upstairs Foyer as part of the Community Grant program. Thanks to Pat, Neil, Lorraine, Marisa, Jane, Marg and Di, our recent Twilight Walk leaders and helpers, for sharing the local history with members and residents in the Brunel Street and Paxton Street area. We recently received a \$100 cheque from Grill'd, 217 Glenferrie Road Malvern (just next to the Tram Depot). We appreciate their ongoing support.

New members

We would like to welcome our latest new members Peggy Perry, Patricia Gilbert, Lorraine Curtis, Mr and Mrs J Franklin, Firestation Print Studio, Hocking Stuart Armadale, Eva and Don Bruce, Penny and Bob Mullner, Lifestyle Coordinator, mecwacare, Malvern, Jackie Catanach, Robin Douglas, Mary Conway and Martin Fleming.

Additions to the Stonnington History Centre's Collection

The Society recently purchased copies of *Glen Iris Primary School 2015* and *Glen Iris Primary School 1865-2015: celebrating one hundred and fifty years of education and learning*.



Photos of Prahran State School, 3A Grade 1913 (above) and 6th Grade 1916 donated by Robert Green.



Have you enjoyed viewing the photos in this issue?

Material for the articles has been researched from the **Stonnington 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/Discover/History

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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 and a member of the South Metro History Group.

OTHER STONNINGTON HISTORY CONTACTS

Stonnington History Centre, Email: history@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Tel: 8290 1360 www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History

Prahran Historical and Arts Society www.phas.org.au

Prahran Mechanics Institute www.pmi.net.au

Malvern Historical Society Inc P O Box 184, Malvern Victoria 3144

Date:

I would like to

- Join the Malvern Historical Society
- Purchase Malvern Historical Society Membership as a gift
- Renew Malvern Historical Society

Annual Membership Options

- Individual \$13
- Full time student \$9
- Family \$20

Donation \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

Member information

Name/s _____
Address _____
Suburb _____ Postcode _____
Phone _____ Mobile _____
Email (please print) _____ Signature _____

- Yes I'd prefer to receive the newsletter by email only.

Is this membership a gift? Yes No (please circle)

Name of recipient _____ Name of giver _____

Payment options

- Paying by Direct Transfer
Commonwealth Bank BSB No: 063187 Account No: 10104883 Account Name - Malvern Historical Society
*** Please make sure the message/reference box states your name and what the payment is for.
***We would appreciate the return of your completed form by mail or by email.

- Paying by Cheque
Please make the cheque payable to the Malvern Historical Society Inc. Kindly forward your cheque and completed form to the Malvern Historical Society.

- Paying by Cash

I would like to assist with:

- Committee and administration
- Newsletter
- Walks
- Talks
- Afternoon teas & suppers

Find out more:

MHS website www.vicnet.net.au/~malvern 0438 515 631
malvernhistorical@yahoo.com

STONNINGTON HISTORY CENTRE

www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History 8290 1360 history@stonnington.vic.gov.au