

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc.

Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!

January 2019 - Newsletter No. 77

6 February Local History Walk - Emo Road Malvern East

Wednesday 6 February 6.30pm

Join members of the Malvern Historical Society for our walk along Emo Road Malvern East. *Emo* was an old house built before 1885. South of Emo House, Emo Road remained largely undeveloped until 1888 when lots were sold as part of the Caulfield Junction Estate.

Bookings: Lorraine 9885 9082

Members: Gold coin, Non members: \$5

All welcome!



96 Emo Road (undated) Stonnington History Collection MP61976

20 February History Matters - Protecting your family heirlooms

Wednesday 20 February 5.30pm - 6.30pm Stonnington History Centre

Everyone has much loved items in their care ranging from antiques, family heirlooms and ephemera. Have you ever wondered how to correctly manage such pieces for posterity? For this meeting you are welcome to bring along one item per person for appraisal. Dennice, the Decorative Arts Manager at Philips Auctions, 47 Glenferrie Malvern, will be there to help. Dennice has a background in fine arts and museum studies. She researches and catalogues a wide range of items for their yearly auction program ranging from antique porcelain, silver, pictures, oriental objects, fine furniture, glass, carpets and all manner of interesting and curious objects. Stonnington History Centre, Northbrook 1257 High Street, Malvern.

Bookings essential: 8290 1360

20 February 'Power's Paddock' Toorak: 1840-1940 Di Foster

Wednesday 20 February 7.30 pm Malvern Town Hall

Join members of the Malvern Historical Society, when well known local historian, Di Foster, will present an illustrated talk on the development of the area in Toorak once known as 'Powers Paddock'. Di is the author of *Melbourne's most fashionable suburb: a history of Toorak, east of Kooyong Road, 1840-1998*.

The presentation will include fascinating highlights relating to the history of Toorak between Kooyong Road and Glenferrie Road. Come prepared to be intrigued by the facts and stories.

Malvern Town Hall, Corner of Glenferrie Road and High Street, Malvern (Upstairs Foyer - lift available). This is a free event. Supper will be served.

Bookings essential: Lorraine 9885 9082 by 15 February. All welcome!



Early view of Toorak c1900 Stonnington History Collection MP15097

24 March Pets in the Park, Central Park, Malvern East

Sunday 24 March Central Park, Malvern East 11am - 4pm

Can you help - especially between 11 am and 3 pm?

Members of the Malvern Historical Society Committee are busy planning our stall at the City of Stonnington's Pets in the Park in Central Park, Burke Road, Malvern East.

We hope you can join us. You'll be able to help us share our local history books and brochures, and get the chance to talk to a wide range of people and to hear the local history stories.

If you can help for an hour or two sharing Stonnington's local history just give Lorraine a call: 9885 9082



Bandstand, Central Park, Malvern East c1923 Stonnington History Collection MP2600

Pepperell's Hardware 160 Waverley Road Malvern East

The family run Pepperell's hardware store, one of Stonnington's longest running businesses, recently closed. Four generations of the family were involved in the business. It was founded in 1922 by Cuthbert (Bert) Pepperell and at the time it was primarily involved with joinery and carpentry. Bert was constantly asked whether he sold nails, paint, screws and the like and he decided to expand. This was the beginnings of Pepperell's Hardware. Bert was later joined by his sons Cyril and George. Both left school at an early age to work in the shop. Following Bert's passing in 1961, Cyril and George bought the property next door and expanded the business. George's son Bryan joined Pepperell's Hardware in 1970. Bryan owned and operated the store until his own passing in 2017. By this time his son Blair had joined the business.

Cyril Pepperell was interviewed as part of the MECWA Centenary Life Stories Project in 2000. Born in Malvern in 1920, he was educated at Lloyd Street School and Caulfield Technical School. His skill in carpentry received early recognition when he was awarded Fellow of the British Institute of Certified Carpenters at the end of his technical school training. He then served his apprenticeship with Clee-Hill Joinery. Assisting in the family shop was an important part of childhood for Cyril and his younger brother George. AS an adult Cyril ran the woodwork and painting side of the firm until his retirement in 1985. Cyril was involved in

voluntary community work for many years, particularly as a bus driver and handyman for MECWA Day Care. He, and his wife Gwen, helped with Meals on Wheels for a few years. Cyril was also active in Neighbourhood Watch and organised the local delivery of the Stonnington News Sheet. In 1997 Cyril was made the City of Stonnington's inaugural Citizen of the Year in recognition of his community service. Cr George Pepperell was Mayor of the City of Malvern 1989-1990.



Cr George Pepperell 1989 Stonnington History Collection MP5564

Local real estate brochures are valuable!

The Stonnington History Centre is keen to increase its collection of real estate ephemera. This includes the real estate brochures readily available when residents take advantage of Open for Inspection opportunities close to their own homes. If you find you have old ones at home, or collect more in the future, we'd love you to drop them in at one of the Stonnington Libraries, in an envelope marked 'Att: Stonnington History Centre.

history@stonnington.vic.gov.au



**Alway's real estate agency c1918
Stonnington History Collection MP1253**

Gardiner Central School

In 1914 around 2 acres of land were excised from the Tooronga Estate for the Gardiner State School. The school, which included central classes from 1916, occupied the site from 1915 to 1992.

Lisa, a former student, would like to know if anyone knows what happened to the time capsule that was buried near the front gate in 1979 or 1980

history@stonnington.vic.gov.au



**State School, Belmont Avenue Gardiner c1918
Stonnington History Collection MP5030**

Diary date:

15 May Malvern Historical Society AGM

Toorak Road Power House - Cable Tram Engine House

The Toorak Road Power House / cable tram engine house, 257 Toorak Road, was on the north west corner of Toorak Road and Chapel Street, South Yarra. Cable tram engine houses were often situated half-way along a route, with the terminus at the end. The Prahran route travelled from Flinders Street via Toorak Road and along Chapel Street to Carlisle Street in St Kilda. The Toorak branch went from Kooyong Road along Toorak Road to Irving Road (and later to Princes Bridge). Like ten of the other 11 cable tram engine houses in Melbourne, the Toorak Road Power House / Cable Tram Engine House used steam powered engines, fuelled by coal-fed boilers. One engine house became all-electric powered, and some of the others supplemented steam power with electric power after the First World War. It is not known if the South Yarra engine house ever did this. The cables, consisting of woven strands of wire, were imported from overseas. According to John Keating: 'When a new cable was installed it was saturated with a composition known as rope-filling, which took about three weeks to permeate between the strands. After that it was automatically kept lubricated with rope oil once or twice daily' [Keating, p. 103]. Elsewhere this coating is described as 'a mixture of tar and other materials' (possibly oil) to prevent rust and friction [Cranston, p. 21]. This solution may have been made onsite. It appears to have been a messy procedure as the mixture was applied to the moving cable. The machinery itself would also have been heavily oiled.

Jack Cranston, *The Melbourne Cable Trams 1885-1940* (Melbourne, 1988)

John Keating, *Mind the Curve! A History of the Cable Trams* (Melb Uni Press, Carlton, 1970)

Toorak Road Power-House No Offers at Auction.

'Offered at auction yesterday on behalf of Mr A E Dakingsmith, of Sydney, the cable power house at the corner of Toorak road and Chapel street, South Yarra, drew no bids. The building, which covers an area of 18,500 square feet, was purchased some time ago by Mr. Dakingsmith from the Metropolitan Tramways Board, and it was announced shortly afterwards that the premises would be used for an automatic bread-making establishment. It is understood that the building was found to be unsuitable for this purpose, and Mr Dakingsmith's agents, Messrs Yeo, Crosthwaite, and Co., and H. J. W. Cade, were given instructions to offer the property at auction under a fixed reserve'.

The Argus August 29 1929

The engine house was later substantially re-modelled and became Capitol Bakeries, and later the Fun Factory. It was demolished in 2016 to make way for the Capitol Grand apartment complex.



Cable tram engine house 1929
Stonnington History Collection SHC70029

City of Stonnington Thematic Environmental History

In 2005, Stonnington Council prepared a Thematic Environmental History to identify places for heritage protection. The report was adopted in July 2006. It was further updated in March 2009. <http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Vision/Strategic-Planning/Strategies-and-Structure-Plans/Stonnington-Thematic-Environmental-History>

Stonnington's past celebrated with heritage markers

The City of Stonnington celebrates the people, places and events that have shaped the area's history by placing commemorative markers at significant sites across the City. There are now more than eighty heritage markers. Some of the most recent heritage marker installations include the former Malvern Fire Station, now the Fire Station Print Studio, the site of the old Prahran High School on Orrong/Romanis Reserve, Korowa Anglican Girls' School, the site of the demolished *Everton/Ranfurlie* mansion, and the former Hawksburn Primary School, now used as an auction house. www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History/Heritage-Markers



Hawksburn State School c1929
Stonnington History Collection PH60621

Stonnington Indigenous Marker No 9

Como Park and Lake Como. Yarra Trail, Alexandra Avenue, South Yarra (Melway: 58 G1)

Lake Como, at the foot of Mt Verdant near Williams Road, was a favourite place for Aboriginal people from many different clans and language groups. In 1835, the Melbourne metropolitan area belonged to Aboriginal clans who spoke dialects known as Woiwurrung and Boonwurrung. The clan was the land-owning group and the group with which individuals would primarily identify. Collectively the clans associated with the Woiwurrung and Boonwurrung language groups were known as the East Kulin nation. Kulin means man in both dialects. The Boonwurrung were amongst the first of Victoria's indigenous peoples to have contact with Europeans. The first known European visit to what is now the City of Stonnington occurred in February 1803. A survey party led by Charles Grimes was sent from Sydney in January 1803 to report on the country around Port Phillip. On 7 February the party travelled up the Yarra to a creek, believed to be Gardiners Creek, where they met some Indigenous people.

The Yalukit-willam people were closely associated with John Batman when he founded the Melbourne settlement in June 1835. The Batman 'treaties' are an example of how permission for temporary access was granted in a ritual exchange of gifts and formal presentation of tokens (soil, plants, water, food) symbolising the owners' hospitality. The boundaries indicated in the Batman 'treaties' approximate the country of the Yalukit-willam people and the Wurundjeri-baluk people.

The Yalukit-willam clan was associated with the coastal tract at the head of Port Phillip Bay extending to the Werribee River and including present day Prahran, St Kilda, Port Melbourne and Williamstown. Initial relationships between the Yalukit-willam and the European settlers were mostly positive, however, there was some conflict over the occupation of land particularly along the Yarra River.

www.stonnington.vic.gov.au



'Ladies Letters' *West Gippsland Gazette* 1 January 1918

'His Excellency the Governor and Lady Stanley last week entertained members of the Australian Army Nursing Service, the nurses from the metropolitan hospitals, the council of management of metropolitan hospitals, members of the council R.V.T. Nurses' Association, and the medical staffs of the hospitals at a garden party held in the beautiful grounds of the State Government House (Glenferrie Road) Malvern. The affair was on such a large scale that for convenience, the invitations were spread over two days on the Friday and the Saturday. On both occasions the arrangements were exactly the same. The garden parties were a graceful recognition from the head of our State to the splendid work done by the nursing service during the war. They were pleasant informal gatherings, for Sir Arthur and Lady Stanley moved among their guests, chatting with one and another. Bands from the Malvern tramways and the police force provided music on the two consecutive days. Lady Stanley, who looked charming in a cobweb lace dress veiling black panne, and a shady Leghorn hat with black velvet crown wreathed with field flowers, made it a point to personally converse with as many of the nurses as possible, for she is a great admirer of women who are among the world's workers. Among those present on the Friday were a large number of army nurses in uniform, one or two wearing the new effective summer uniform, white, with touches of gold, which was seen for the first time by nearly everyone present. It is certainly an improvement upon the thick grey uniform for hot weather. They are worn with light straw hats banded with the army grey'.



Wartime fundraising c1918
Stonnington History Collection PH8507

Kooyong Tennis Centre

Within a year of the first Wimbledon championships in 1877, the citizens of Melbourne had embraced the new sport of lawn tennis. In 1892 fifteen tennis pioneers formed the Lawn Tennis Association of Victoria (LTAV). The first Australasian Championships were held at the Albert Ground on St Kilda Road in 1905. Initially land at Kooyong was considered to be inaccessible and subject to flooding. However in 1920, to accommodate the growing popularity of the game, a seventeen acre (6.8 hectares) site was purchased. The LTAV raised funds to purchase the land, to construct embankments and lay the courts, and for the erection of fencing and suitable buildings, including permanent stands for international and championship matches.

Twenty lawn courts were laid out and in 1922 the clubhouse was built to the design of architects Ballantyne & Hare. The reinforced concrete stand, designed by engineer James Knox, originally provided 5,500 seats and was opened in 1927 by (Sir) Norman Brookes, Australia's first Wimbledon champion. The northern stand extension was constructed in 1934, just prior to massive floods, which submerged the original stand.

Kooyong began its long association with the Australian Championships in 1927, hosting the event on thirty- four occasions until 1987, during which time a succession of international players graced its courts. Kooyong was also the venue for five Challenge rounds and two Final Rounds of the Davis Cup from 1946 to 1986.

In 1988 the LTAV changed its name to Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club. The stadium continues to host major tennis tournaments and other sporting and cultural events, maintaining the tradition of the Club as an internationally significant venue.



**Kooyong Tennis Stadium in flood from water from the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek. 1934
Stonnington History Centre MP620**

City of Stonnington Heritage Strategy

Stonnington's Strategic Planning Unit is responsible for the development of land use and planning policies and strategies and administering and reviewing the Stonnington Planning Scheme. The identification of buildings and areas of heritage significance and their protection in the Planning Scheme relies on studies and reports prepared for the former Cities of Prahran and Malvern, and more recently for the City of Stonnington. Additional information can be found on the City of Stonnington website including information on the former Cities of Prahran and Malvern Heritage Studies (1983-1993), City of Stonnington Heritage Strategy (1994-2004), City of Stonnington Heritage Strategy (2005 onwards), Heritage Review Action Plan, Heritage Precinct Gap Study (2006-9) and the current City of Stonnington Heritage Strategy (2005 onwards). <http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Vision/Strategic-Planning/Structure-Plans-and-Urban-Frameworks/Heritage-Strategy>



**Flete, Flete Avenue Armadale 1992 (Nigel Lewis)
Stonnington History Collection MP12934**

Hawksburn House

The district of Hawksburn is named after *Hawksburn House*, one of the earliest houses in the area.

The house, built in 1851 for James Cassell, the Collector of Customs, stood on a large estate of about 33 ha. The name is said to be derived from Cassell's sighting of a hawk in a wet gully (called a burn in Scotland) on his property.

The main part of the estate was subdivided by Cassell's widow, Martha, around the time that the Gippsland railway line came through in 1879.

Hawksburn House (undated)
Stonnington History Collection PH2443



Koré - Central Park

The sculpture, Koré, can be found within Central Park Malvern East close to the corner of Central Park Road and Burke Road. It is the work of world renowned sculptor, Karl Duldig, who lived in Burke Road Malvern East for many years. The kneeling figure was a favourite subject for Karl and throughout his career he would return to it. The first bronze cast was made in 1977 and purchased by the City of Caulfield. It was placed on a prominent corner in the Glenhuntly Road, Elsternwick, Shopping Centre. Sadly, Koré was stolen and has never been recovered. The sculpture in Central Park is a bronze 'Edition' of that work (not a copy) and was specially commissioned by the City of Stonnington in 2017.

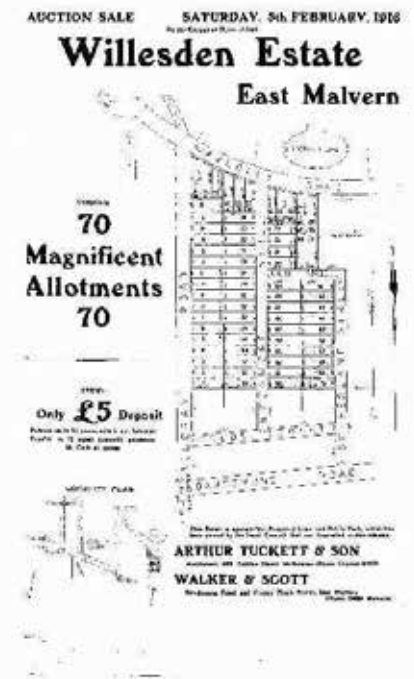
info@duldig.org.au



Koré Karl Duldig 1976
Image: Duldig Studio

Sycamore Street Malvern East

The subdivision of the Lera Estate Murrumbeena, close to Sycamore Street Malvern East, occurred in November 1914. Land at the southern end of Belgrave Road, the southern end of Sycamore Street, all of Goode Street, the northern side of Dandenong Road and the southern end of Sutherland Street were subdivided. The side streets were described as 'three good private streets, with splendid depths up to 171 feet. The land has panoramic views and pleasing surroundings. And it's only 5 minutes to Murrumbeena Station. Very easy terms offered- £5 deposit per lot, balance quarterly over 5 years, interest 5 percent'. There was also a special note that 'the substantial 2 storey residence *Belgrave* will be offered with more than an acre of land on very easy terms'. Two years later in February 1916, 70 allotments, including part of Belgrave Road, most of Sycamore Street and Paul Street, and the west side of Sutherland Street, were all offered for sale as part of the Willesden Estate, East Malvern. At the time the deposit was £5. The auction was held in a marquee on the Estate.



Willesden Estate East Malvern 1916
Stonnington History Collection MH448

Did you know?

The Malvern Historical Society is one of the 340 Royal Historical Society's affiliated societies in Victoria. The RHSV is the peak body for historical societies throughout Victoria. Benefits for our Society include professional support, support services, membership of the insurance scheme, funding advice, local history networking, publicity, RHSV programs, subscription to the Victorian Historical Journal and published guides. Don't forget, as a financial member of the Malvern Historical Society in 2019 you are entitled to free use of the RHSV library (including free wi-fi) and numerous collections.

www.historyvictoria.org.au

Family History Connections

The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, now known as Family History Connect, assists family history researchers with their search to find their ancestors in Australia and overseas. familyhistoryconnections.org.au

New members

The Society would like to welcome our latest new member Margaret Beattie and Gabriel Hermes.

Congratulations!

The Society would like to congratulate MHS member Michael O'Brien MP who was recently elected Leader of the Liberal Party and became Opposition Leader. We would also like to congratulate MHS member Peter Game who has recently been inducted into the Australian Media Hall of Fame. During his career Peter received a Walkley Award and a Press Club Quill Award. We wish Peter and Betty well as they continue to enjoy Peter's retirement together.

Taking Local History to the Community

The Society was recently represented at the South Metro History group meeting, hosted by the Middle Park History Group. Thanks to James St John for arranging the purchase of a signed copy of Des Tobin's new book *Just a man called Phonse: The anything but ordinary life of A.V. (Phonse) Tobin*. The Society has donated it to the Stonnington History Centre. Thanks to Marisa, Jane and NAB volunteer Ilya Latch who loaded up a car and distributed over 600 copies of *Back when* to 3 year old children in Stonnington kindergartens and childcare centres. There are plans to complete this project early in 2019.

Thank you to Kelly O'Dwyer MP, Michael O'Brien MP, the Prahran Mechanics Institute and the RHSV for publicising our walks. Thanks also to Linda, Jeffreys Books 140 Glenferrie Road Malvern for making sure they had plenty of stock of our publications in the lead up to Christmas!



Monaro Road Kooyong walk December 2018

Image: Robin Ahin

Thanks to Pat and Lorraine for leading our recent twilight walk along Monaro Road Kooyong. Thanks also to Kris Smith who shared the following memories with the Society to be shared on the walk, including, 'My grandparents moved from Oakleigh to Kooyong in 1954. They built the house that still stands at 5 Monaro Close Kooyong. Frederick Bunny, my dear Grandpa, was a Barrister and Solicitor and a completely self-made man, having left school at 14 to become an office boy at the Law firm where he was to eventually become a senior partner. So, these were not moneyed Toorak people, they were essentially market garden stock from Heatherton. The house was double storey and built of solid yellow brick. It had a shiny, classic 1950s staircase leading up to two big bedrooms with dressing rooms. The house had a lot of very cool features for the 1950s...it had a full sprinkler system, central heating, a full enamel kitchen with dual fuel cookers, an incredible upstairs bathroom suite with separate bathing room, shower room and toilet, and it had heated towel rails too. Grandpa's study was also up there. One house in the Court was occupied by Dame Patti Menzies. She came to the Close in the 80s when she sold the big house in Havebrack Avenue Malvern. DP (as we called her) and Grandma became great buddies and spent hours gardening and chatting over many years'.

Malvern Historical Society 2019 Membership Renewals Are Now Due!

The subscription covers the 12 month period 1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019.

Our Society operates to preserve and further encourage interest in the history of Stonnington. We actively support the Stonnington History Centre. We are a not-for-profit group and our dedicated volunteers undertake the administrative work and arrange our activities.

Annual subscriptions are an important component of our income. Subscriptions for 2019 became due on the 1st January. We value your membership and we look forward to your continuing support of the Society. New members are always welcome.

Please complete and return the form you'll find on page 8 of the newsletter. 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.

Cheque can be sent to the Treasurer, P O Box 184 Malvern 3144.

Lorraine Sage President 9885 9082

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 Mechanics Institute Tel: 9510 3393 www.pmi.net.au

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 65,000 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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I would like to

- Join the Malvern Historical Society
- Renew Malvern Historical Society

Annual Membership Options

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

Date: _____

2019 RENEWAL NOW DUE!

Donation \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

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 Phone _____ Mobile _____
 Email (please print) _____ Signature _____

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

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*** 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, PO Box 184, Malvern Victoria 3144.

*** Annual Membership is payable January 1 each year.**

I would like to assist with:

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

Financial year: 1 Jan - 31 Dec

Tel: 0438 515 631

malvernhistorical@yahoo.com