

# LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc.

Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!

March 2019 - Newsletter No. 78

## 20 March Local History Walk - Kooyong

Wednesday 20 March 10.30am Avenel Road, Elizabeth Street and Talbot Crescent area Kooyong

Join members of the Malvern Historical Society for our walk within the eastern section of Kooyong. Elizabeth Street was created by landowner Matthew Neave in 1852 when he subdivided around 150 acres of land he had purchased in the 1840s.

Bookings: Lorraine 9885 9082

Members: Gold coin Non members: \$5

All welcome!

90 Elizabeth Street Kooyong 1992 (Nigel Lewis)  
Stonnington History Collection MP12946



## 27 March History Matters - 'City Life' Seamus O'Hanlon

Wednesday 27 March 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Australia's cities are changing fast. Melbourne and Sydney are each now home to more than five million residents. What were once factory zones are now dominated by residential apartment towers, five star hotels and skyscraper office blocks; the places where we used to make clothes and food are where we now buy them or consume them in plush, upmarket surroundings. And whereas before the 1980s tertiary education was the privilege of a small elite, today higher education is an almost universal experience. City-based universities, with their signature 'starchitect' designed buildings, are a key feature of the nation's revitalised urban landscapes. In this talk Seamus O'Hanlon from Monash University draws on his new book *City Life: the new urban Australia* (New South 2018) to reflect not only on forty years of change in Australia's major cities, but also on what it means to be Australian in the urban twenty-first century.

Stonnington History Centre, Northbrook 1257 High Street, Malvern. Bookings essential: 8290 1360

## 10 April Visit to the Embroiderers Guild Victoria

Wednesday 10 April 10am - 12 noon

The Embroiderers Guild, 170 Wattletree Road Malvern, is a state-wide organisation devoted to teaching and learning about all forms of embroidery and textile arts. Our visit and tour will include a visit to the Archive Room.

**This will be a Members Only event - numbers are strictly limited to 12 people.**

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Cost: Free. No parking on the property.

RSVP: Before Wednesday 3 April 9885 9082

## 13 April Local History Walk Heyington Station Toorak area

Saturday 13 April 10.30 am

Join members of the Malvern Historical Society for our walk in the area close to Heyington Station including Lawrenny Court, Torresdale Road and the northern sections of Lansell Road and Heyington Place.

*Heyington House* was an early home built by artist James Turner.

Bookings: Lorraine 9885 9082

Members: Gold coin Non members: \$5

All welcome!



*Heyington House* (undated)  
Stonnington History Collection PH2369

### Reminder- membership fees for 2019 are now due.

*Thanks to everyone who has already renewed their 2019 membership. Thank you also for your generous donations. If you're looking for your renewal/new member form you'll find it on page 8 of the newsletter. We really appreciate your continuing support!*

*Unsure if you're financial for 2019? Just contact Lorraine Sage, President 9885 9082*

## **Cessation of Hostilities 12 November 1918**

‘The end of the War was celebrated by a great demonstration outside the Prahran Town Hall on 12 November 1918, and with a thanksgiving service held in the Victoria Gardens attended by 10,000 people.

With the signing of the peace treaty the school children of the City were entertained at film shows at the local cinemas, and a thanksgiving service was held in the City Hall. Prahran City Council Annual Report 1918/19.



**Cessation of Hostilities November 1918  
Stonnington History Collection PH9210**

## **Your home - your street.**

The Stonnington History Centre is keen to increase its collection of photographs of Stonnington streetscapes, for the use of current and future researchers. They would love you to take photos of your home and your street at a time when Stonnington’s streetscapes are changing quickly.

High resolution images can be donated directly to the Stonnington History Centre by email or online.

For more information, including conditions of donation, visit <https://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History/Stonnington-History-Centre/Donate-items-to-the-collection>.

Enquiries: email [history@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:history@stonnington.vic.gov.au) or phone 8290 1360

Simone Sharpe Team Leader Stonnington History Centre Northbrook



**Gemmel family home, corner of Elizabeth and Silver Streets  
Malvern c1870 Stonnington History Collection MP1254**

## **Ashleigh Road Armadale**

The Ashleigh Road precinct was first subdivided as part of the Mount Pleasant estate in 1883. This included the eastern end of Mt Pleasant Grove, Ashleigh Road, and several allotments on Orrong Road between Toorak Park and Fulton Street.

Victory Square Reserve, Ashleigh Road Armadale (to the east of the Toorak Park sporting reserve in Orrong Road) is the former site of 16 timber houses built in 1919 to accommodate war widows and their children. Each house cost £500 to build. Funds were raised through public subscription. The houses were built in six months, with significant help from volunteers attending the working bees every Saturday morning. The houses were demolished in the early 1970s.



**War Widows’ Homes c1919  
Stonnington History Collection PH8556**



**Victory Square, Armadale c1940  
Stonnington History Collection PH9343**

## **Family History Club at the Stonnington History Centre**

Curious about your ancestors? Whether you’re a beginner or an experienced family history researcher, come and join the popular monthly group where you’ll meet fellow enthusiasts and explore the many genealogy resources available at the Stonnington History Centre.

The Club is proving to be VERY popular and great fun, with some really good researchers as well as absolute beginners. It’s for anyone’s family history no matter where, families rarely seem to stay in the one place.

First Wednesday of the month from 2 - 4pm.

Enquiries: [history@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:history@stonnington.vic.gov.au) or telephone 8290 1360

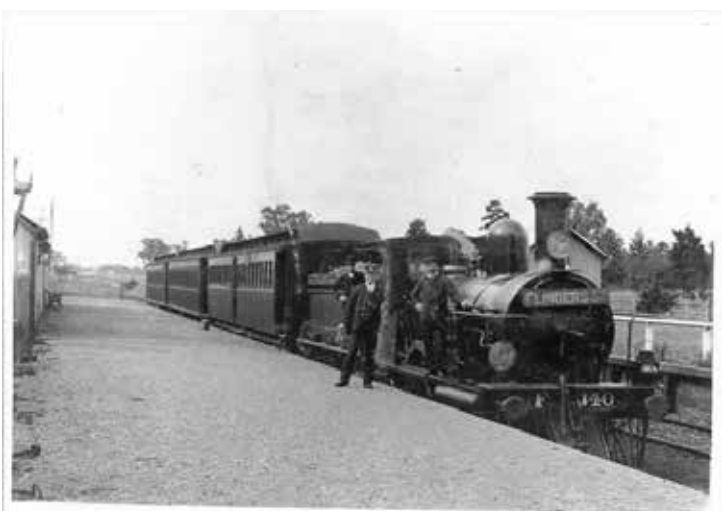
## Stonnington place name - Toorak

Toorak is said to derive from an aboriginal word meaning 'swamp with rushes'. *Toorak House* is possibly the oldest surviving mansion in Victoria. It was built for Melbourne merchant James Jackson between 1849 and 1850 on 148 acres (approx 60 hectares) of land, shortly before the discovery of gold in Victoria. In 1853, with Governor La Trobe's term of office about to expire, the search began for an appropriate official residence for the next Governor. *Toorak House* was leased and renovated as a temporary solution. Five Governors occupied *Toorak House*. It was to be twenty-one years before Government House was built in The Domain, South Yarra. Several long-term owners followed. In 1957 *Toorak House* was bought by the Swedish Church.



Toorak Road looking west from Glenferrie Road 1912  
Stonnington History Collection MP 8820

## A Peep at our Past



Train at Darling Station 1908  
Stonnington History Collection MP5132 (PROV)

## Diary date:

15 May Malvern Historical Society AGM and guest speaker, Des Tobin, well known Melbourne identity. 7.30pm.  
Phoenix Park Conference Room - Lower Level Phoenix Park Community Centre  
22 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East  
More details to follow soon.

## Hendy Hats Malvern

This advertisement for Hendy Hats appeared in the *Real Estate and Home Journal* in 1924.

'E. N. Hendy (Late A.I.F.) Hatter and Mercer Specialist. Hendy for Hats. Hendy Malvern 46 Glenferrie Road Malvern Opp. State Savings Bank. Only Highest Quality Goods at Lowest Prices'



Hendy Hats advertisement July 1924  
Stonnington History Collection MP11111

## Aldworth Girls' Grammar School.

Ellen Craig was granted permission to open the East Malvern High School and Kindergarten for Girls in St John's Parish Hall in June 1897.

At the end of 1899, the East Malvern High School for Girls ceased operating in the St John's Parish Hall and opened at number 22 Finch Street East Malvern. In 1905 Ellen Craig, her mother and sisters moved to the corner of Finch and Coppin Streets, East Malvern, and a boarding school of 12 students began. After 1905 the school was no longer called the East Malvern High School for Girls. The boarding house and the school house, at the corner of Coppin and Clarence Streets, were to be known collectively as Aldworth Girls' Grammar School.



Aldworth Girls' Grammar School 1914,  
corner of Coppin and Clarence Streets  
East Malvern.  
Stonnington History Collection MP7421



Aldworth Girls' Grammar School  
student. c1918  
Stonnington  
History Collection  
MP398

## Facebook Fun - sharing the memories of 'Chaddy'!

It's been a very busy and rewarding few months in Malvern Historical Society Facebook land! In October we reached 2000 page followers and we're just about to hit 2400. We never ever thought that



a local historical society would be so popular and we are so grateful for all the support our Facebook friends give us.

Another milestone which we reached was our most popular post ever by a long way. We had 299 likes, 125 comments, 144 shares and it reached over 26,000 people! Anything to do with Chadstone is always popular, but this one really got people reminiscing about Chaddy, with the majority of people saying it was better in the 1960s than it is now! There were numerous comments about Downy Flake Donuts, ten pin bowling, Adams Cakes, Christmas on the roof and learning to drive in the car park.

If you'd like to join our Facebook family then search 'Malvern Historical Society - Stonnington' on Facebook. We have informative posts, fun posts, information on upcoming walks and events and lots of photos and we don't bombard you with posts every day. Hope to see you there!

Nikki Cooper



Ansett ANA 3UZ helicopter landing in the car park  
Chadstone Shopping Centre c1960 (Laurie Richards)  
Stonnington History Collection MP927

## Don't forget to shop locally!

Ring UY6245 for signs of any description. Bright Signs, 222 Malvern Road, Malvern.

Pure wholemeal bread, Vienna bread and rolls are specialties of H.S. Thomson, baker, 218 Waverley Road, East Malvern. Ring U1617.

I A. Jackson, furrier, 133 Glenferrie Road, Malvern. All work guaranteed. Phone U8772.

Grimes Pty. Ltd., wholesale and retail dairymen, of 44 Union street, Malvern, Ring U4180 and give them a trial.

The popular Malvern Kiosk (A. Joyce), Central Park, corner Wattletree and Burke Roads, East Malvern.

## Gardiners Creek Bridge, Glenferrie Road Kooyong

Gardiners Creek Bridge, close to Glenferrie Road, Kooyong, is a road bridge constructed in two stages. The eastern half of the bridge, a triple-arched red-brick structure dates from 1891. The western half of the bridge is a reinforced concrete girder structure with an arched spandrel wall. It was designed and built in 1912 by John Monash's Reinforced Concrete and Monier Pipe Construction Company.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the bridge include (but are not limited to):

- The form, materials and detailing of the bridge surviving from the 1891 and 1912 phases of construction.
- The bridge's high level of intactness to its 1912 state (including unpainted brickwork)
- Unimpeded views to the sides of the bridge and the parapet walls at road level.
- The general absence of modern signage on the bridge and its immediate environs.

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/195701/download-report>



Gardiners Creek Bridge Glenferrie Road Kooyong 2019  
(Image: Peter Nigro)

Read this! Become a life member of a library for 2/6. Good, eh? Well, call and get particulars from Glenarm Library, 186 Glenferrie Road, Malvern.

Have a look at S. McKinnon's prices for ladies' hairdressing. The workmanship is perfect, too. Ring U8761.

Where Malvern meets, the Bambalina Cabaret, corner Glenferrie and Wattletree Roads, Malvern. Dancing every Saturday evening. Ring U2330

**'Business Brevities' Malvern Standard 21 August 1930**

## **Holy Trinity Church of England Oakleigh (now Malvern East).**

Holy Trinity Oakleigh is the oldest church within the former City of Malvern. This corner of the former City of Malvern was referred to as Oakleigh from the early days. Early Church of England services were conducted in a weatherboard hut near Scotchman's Creek, in Oakleigh. The Rev. H.W. Liddiard, was appointed the church's first Incumbent in 1854. According to the 70th anniversary history of the church published in 1928, the first wooden Church building was built in Oakleigh prior to 1854. Later research indicates that the building was erected as the Church of England schoolhouse in 1856. This building was subsequently sold to the Trustees of the Oakleigh Cemetery, where it served as the Cemetery Lodge for many years. The building was demolished in 1926.

An iron church building presented to Rev. Liddiard around 1856 was considered unsuitable. Monies raised by its sale, along with £200 raised by parishioners and money from a State grant, contributed to the construction of a new brick church on the north west corner of Dandenong and Warrigal Roads in the District of Gardiner. The church building was constructed of site-fired, hand-made bricks and it was opened for worship in 1858. It was built on land granted by the Government for Church of England purposes.

A timber Parish Hall, capable of holding over 300 people, was erected in 1901. With the growing population, the congregation out-grew the old church. A scheme to enlarge the old building was abandoned and in 1919 tenders were accepted for the construction of a new church building. The foundation stone was laid by Archbishop Clark and the new church was opened for service on 2 November 1919. Liddiard Hall was named in memory of the first Minister, following the construction of the new and larger church building.



**Old Original Church 1854**  
Stonnington History Collection MP949



**Church of England Oakleigh 1907**  
Stonnington History Collection MP622

## **Glenferrie**

*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 had 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. There are two rare early paintings of the Glenferrie property. The original artworks are thought to have been painted in the 1840s to 1850s, when *Glenferrie* was owned by the Damyon family. The paintings travelled with the family to Argentina. Descendants have forwarded photographic copies to the Stonnington History collection. James Ferguson MLA, of Ferguson and Moore, engravers, lithographer & stationer, built a mansion on the site around 1870. In 1902, with the subdivision of the Toorak Estate, Mernda Road, Moralla Road and Monaro Road were created. At the time Ferguson's mansion was retained on a reduced allotment. By 1910 George Stevenson occupied the property and the mansion was re-named *Zeerust*. *Zeerust* was demolished prior to the creation of Monaro Close in 1954.



**Glenferrie c1840s**  
Stonnington History Collection MP8054



**Glenferrie c1850s**  
Stonnington History Collection MP8055

## Catherine Ellis: Pioneer of Prahran

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John and Catherine Ellis, together with their family, arrived in Melbourne in 1839. The Ellis family took up a quarrying business in what is now the Botanic Gardens. Compulsory schooling did not begin in Victoria until 1872, so before that time children shared in the family's work. Sadly, tragedy struck in 1841 when a fall of earth caused the death of John and one of his sons, William. There is a record in the *Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser* of 15 July 1841 of charitable donations being raised to support the Ellis family, and support came in particular from Charles Joseph La Trobe, Superintendent of the Port Phillip District.

After the death of her husband, Catherine, along with her surviving children, continued the family quarrying business, and later turned to brick making. Catherine is listed by Billis and Kenyon in *Pastures New* (1930) as a Pioneer Woman of Port Phillip, as she took out a pasturing licence in the County of Bourke in her own right. In about 1849 the Ellis family moved to Prahran. They arrived when Prahran had just a few homes, and was essentially bush, creeks and swamps. The family bought land near what is now Chapel Street. The Ellis brothers built the family cottage with their own hands. The family were brickmakers in Prahran and Catherine kept cows and had a milk round. The Ellis family is inextricably linked to the formation of early Prahran. Records show the very first church services in Prahran were held in Catherine Ellis's home. Joseph Crook another Prahran pioneer, a so-called '49er', wrote in 1860 'it was in her house [Catherine Ellis's] that the first sound of Public Prayer and Praise was heard in Prahran'. On Sunday afternoons, a Sunday School and service of worship were held in the family home, taken on alternate Sundays by Rev. Alexander Morison from the Eastern Hill Congregational Church in the city, and Rev. Thomas Odell from West Melbourne. When the first church was built in Prahran, it contained stone provided by the Ellis family, and they undertook the cartage of materials. This Independent Church, near the corner of what is now Malvern Road and Chapel Street, gave its name to Chapel Street. The Church was also the meeting place for other community groups. The first school in Prahran was held in Catherine's home. One contemporary account notes:

'It was in this hut where the first school was held by Mr. Masservy as master, and in the hut that the first Divine Service was conducted by the Rev. A. Morrison, minister of the Independent Chapel Collins street, a service to which all who attended brought their own seats'. Catherine Ellis died in 1875 in the family home in High St, Prahran.

The details in this article come from an article written by one of Catherine's descendants, Vicki Salkin, which was included in the RHSV's December 2018 History News.

[www.historyvictoria.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/rhsv-history-news-issue-339-dec-2018.pdf](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/rhsv-history-news-issue-339-dec-2018.pdf)

## The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) is a world-renowned research, collections and publishing organisation. It promotes knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, traditions, languages and stories, past and present.

AIATSIS cares for a priceless collection, including films, photographs, video and audio recordings as well as the world's largest collection of printed and other resource materials for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies. It undertakes and encourages scholarly, ethical, community-based research in a variety of sectors, including health, native title, languages and education. The publishing house, Aboriginal Studies Press, regularly publishes outstanding writing that promotes Australian Indigenous cultures. Over 250 Indigenous Australian language groups covered the continent at the time of European settlement in 1788. Today only around 120 of those languages are still spoken and many are at risk of being lost as Elders pass away.

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/>



**Pencil sketch of the first Independent Chapel in Chapel Street, based on a pencil sketch drawn in 1851. Betty Malone c1984 Stonnington History Collection PH10778**

## Public Record Office Victoria - transferred records

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Newly transferred to the PROV collection are a series of early church records of baptisms, marriages and burials 1836 to 1873.

Official government registration of births, deaths and marriages commenced in 1853. Prior to this, records were kept by churches and after 1853 they were required to be sent to the Registrar- General's Office, though it's believed that not all churches complied with this provision and that many records were either destroyed or remained with the churches. Probates, processed through the Supreme Court in 2016, have also recently been made available.

<http://www.prov.vic.gov.au>

PROV is located at: Victorian Archive Centre, 99 Shiel Street North Melbourne

## New members

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The Society would like to welcome our latest new members Jerry Bell and Stephen Hyams.

## Malvern Cricket Club 1859 - 2019

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Malvern Hill Cricket Club, recognised as one of the oldest cricket clubs in Victoria, was formed in 1859.

The Malvern Hill C C, a forerunner to the Malvern Cricket Club, played its first game vs Coast Cricket Club (later Elsternwick CC). Malvern Hill lost the game but won the return game later in the season.

*The Argus* in 1861 reported that 'The Malvern Hill ground, of which but little is generally known, is one of the prettiest in the suburbs. Situated on high ground, it commends a most extensive view, and at the same time for cricketing purposes, it is greatly superior to many of which more mention is made.'

In 1880 the first turf wicket was laid and water was connected to the ground. In January 1892, an all-Australian side took on the English touring side led by Dr. W.G. Grace, considered the greatest cricketer at the time. Since 1908/09 Malvern Cricket Club has won 45 Senior Premierships.

Thank you to Peter Norman who has donated copies of material prepared for the recent Malvern Cricket Club 160 Year Anniversary Dinner including a copy of the Souvenir Edition booklet.



Cricket Ground Malvern 1907  
Stonnington History Collection MP1114

### Taking Local History to the Community

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Thanks to Pat and Lorraine for leading our recent twilight walks along Huntingtower Road Armadale, an area that continues to experience enormous change, and also Emo Road Malvern East where we saw development from different periods.

Missed one of the recent walks? Just let us know if you would like a copy of the walk notes. Tel:0438 515 631 malvernhistorical@yahoo.com

### Stonnington History Centre News

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The Stonnington History Centre recently received material relating to former Anzac soldiers Alfred Edward (Tom) Keys, Robert Riddell and Bruce Sloss, and WWI Matron Beryl Campbell.

Bruce Moses Farquhar Sloss was born in 1889. He served with the Malvern Rifle Cadets and played VFL football for Essendon, Brighton and South Melbourne, and trained as an engineer. Bruce was living with his mother and siblings at 55 Kooyong Road, Armadale, prior to enlisting in the first AIF in July 1915, aged 26, where he served with the 10th Machine Gun Company. He was promoted to Lieutenant in August 1916, and proceeded to France in November, where he was killed in action in January 1917. Following his death, his personal effects were sent home to his mother, who lived in Kooyong Road. These included: a trunk with clothing, a valise with clothing and souvenirs, a paper parcel containing a pipe and pince-nez and a suitcase with his 'Sam Browne' belt. His mother later moved to Nyora Street, Malvern East.



Malvern Cricket Club vs Buckeye Harvester Malvern c1915  
Stonnington History Collection MP1029

"Buckeye Harvester Co., of Francis-st., Melbourne, have held a foremost place among the agricultural machinery merchants." *Camperdown Chronicle* 1908

### Malvern Historical Society 2019 Membership Renewals Are Now Due!

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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. New members are always welcome.

Please complete and return the form on page 8.

### Pets in the Park, Central Park, Malvern East Sunday 24 March.

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Can you help? We'd love some help especially between 11 am and 3 pm at our stall at the City of Stonnington's Pets in the Park. 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

**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](http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History)

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

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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.**

**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.

**I would like to assist with:**

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

\*Financial year: 1 Jan - 31 Dec

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