

LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc.

Keeping Stonnington's History Alive!

May 2019 - Newsletter No. 79

15 May Malvern Historical Society - Annual General Meeting 7.30pm

Join members of the Society for the Malvern Historical Society Annual General Meeting.

Guest speaker: Des Tobin. 'You can take the boy out of Malvern....but you can't take Malvern out of the boy!'

A life-long resident of Malvern, Des Tobin has been a youth worker, a sportsman (including a VFL footballer), a business executive in the funeral industry and a writer. Des will reflect on life in Malvern in the 1940s and '50s when children were free to roam the streets, laneways and parks, climb the trees and catch yabbies in the Malvern Gardens pond, play footy and cricket in the quiet streets and follow the Salvation Army band on Sunday evenings. He will also talk about his late father, Malvern identity Phonse Tobin, sharing stories from his latest biography *'Just a Man Called Phonse - The anything but ordinary life of A.V. (Phonse) Tobin'*. Des Tobin is an entertaining and amusing speaker. (Copies of *'Just a Man Called Phonse'* will be available. Special price:\$35)

Venue: Phoenix Park Conference Room, Lower Level Phoenix Park Community Centre, 22 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East (Mel. Ref. 69 D2)

RSVP: Lorraine 9885 9082. Bookings needed so that sufficient seating is provided. All Welcome!



Looking east towards Burke Road from the Regent Theatre Gardiner c1945
Stonnington History Collection MP2391

Stonnington History Centre exhibition: The Entrepreneurial Spirit

The Stonnington History Centre's new exhibition showcases local entrepreneurs, their businesses, products and stories. Meet the makers, manufacturers and magnates who lived and worked in Stonnington. Read early letters by Anthony Edwin Bowes Kelly (Founding Director of BHP), who lived in Glenferrie Road. Examine the electric appliances made by the Marriotts in their Hecla factory in Chapel Street. Marvel at the coaches, cars, bicycles and household goods made in our local streets, and remember the brands and slogans of the past in photographs and ephemera.

Exhibition hours: 8 May - 1 June. Wednesday - Saturday, 12pm - 5pm

Stonnington History Centre Exhibition Space 1257 High Street Malvern (behind Malvern Library) For more details 8290 1360

<https://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Discover/History/Stonnington-History-Centre>



29 May Members Only Visit 'Behind The Scenes' - Entrepreneurial Spirit exhibition

Join Stonnington History Centre staff members for a 'Behind the Scenes' visit to the Entrepreneurial Spirit exhibition.

Stonnington History Centre Exhibition Space
1257 High Street, Malvern (behind Malvern Library)

Wednesday 29 May 5.15 pm - 6.45 pm

R.S.V.P. 27 May Lorraine Sage - President

Tel: 9885 9082 ljsage@comcen.com.au

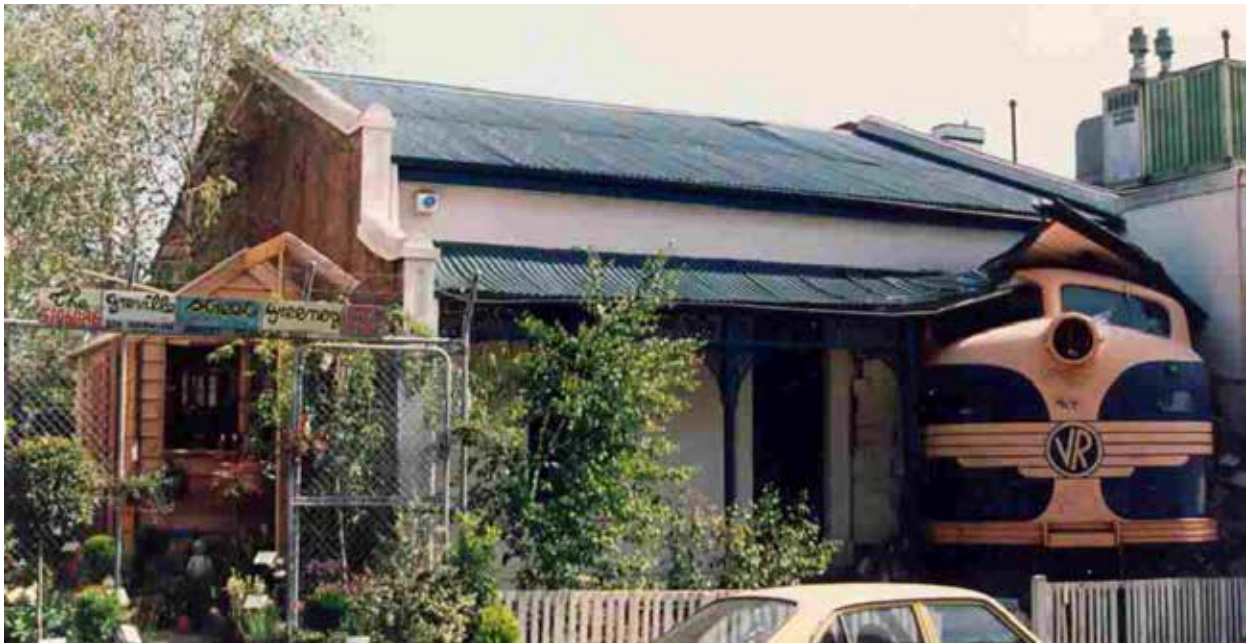
We look forward to seeing you there!



**Anthony Edwin Bowes
Kelly c1901 Stonnington
History Collection MP2413**

2019 Membership Renewals

Thanks to everyone who is now financial for 2019. We appreciate your ongoing support. A reminder that our membership year ends on 31 December every year. If your membership has lapsed since then, we look forward to hearing from you soon! Just email us if you're not sure if you have paid. Lorraine Sage - President ljsage@comcen.com.au



102 Greville Street, Prahran c1983 Stonnington History Collection PH10256

Station Hotel, Prahran

One of our most popular Facebook posts this month was about the Station Hotel in Prahran. It had 237 likes, 67 comments and 94 shares! It brought back a lot of memories for a lot of people!

William Buchanan established the Railway Tavern in 1865 and around 1928 its name was changed to the Station Hotel. For several decades it was a renowned live music venue where bands such as the Skyhooks, AC/DC and Cold Chisel played during the '70s, '80s and '90s. The sculptural installation of the train bursting through the wall of the cottage at 102 Greville Street, next door to the hotel, was removed during renovations in the late 1990s and in 2013 the hotel became apartments.

According to one Facebook member, the front of the B Class loco now sits behind a model train shop in Gippsland, where the owners hope to recreate the original Greville Street scene.

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*



Greville Street Prahran 1867. The photo was taken looking east and shows the railway station and the Railway Tavern. Stonnington History Collection PH13125

Turnbull's interior decorator's shop Toorak Road South Yarra

This postcard showing Turnbull's interior decorator's shop on Toorak Road South Yarra was recently purchased by Di Foster on behalf of the Malvern Historical Society.

Mr Turnbull, formerly of Baker and Turnbull, advertised as a painter, paperhanger and decorator. The Stonnington History Centre already has an image published in 'City of Prahran jubilee history and illustrated handbook: South Yarra, Toorak, Malvern, etc', Melbourne: Periodicals Publishing Company, 1906 (Stonnington History Collection PH7354) Within the notebook it was noted that 'Mr E Turnbull, of 113 Toorak Road, South Yarra, (telephone 1197, Windsor), carries on business as a painter, paperhanger, signwriter and decorator. Mr Turnbull has been in the business of house decorating for 40 years, during 20 years of which time he has been in business in Toorak Road. For many years, he was connected with the firm of Baker & Turnbull. He is always prepared to submit designs and estimates, using only the best materials and workmanship to give satisfaction to his patrons. His stock is of the latest designs, and complete in every particular'.



Turnbull's interior decorator's shop on Toorak Road c1906



Malvern Harriers Sports Trophy 1913

Di Foster discovered this sports trophy on eBay and purchased it on behalf of the Malvern Historical Society. The Malvern Harriers Sports Trophy 1913 was won by A D Rider. It was made of Wilcox silverplate. The Wilcox Silver Plate Co. (1867-c1980) was formed in Meriden, Connecticut, USA. The Malvern Harriers, formed in 1892, used the Malvern Cricket Ground as its home from 1922 to 1976. We look forward to finding out more about A D Rider.

SLV - new digital image pool



The State Library of Victoria has just launched a new digital image pool where you can search, explore and download high resolution images of Victorian history, including Stonnington's very own opera super star, Madame Maggie Stirling, lived on the corner of Orrong Road and Sargood Street Toorak from 1908-1932.

To explore all images, visit www.slv.vic.gov.au/images

Birthday greetings' Madame Maggie Stirling c 1901-1905
(SLV digital image pool)

Northbrook's umbrella sculpture

Sharing a fun fact from the Stonnington History Centre - the bronze umbrella sculpture will be 30 years old this year! The bronze umbrella sculpture situated at the front steps of Northbrook was made by artist Maggie Fooke as part of her work on the Northbrook Art Garden, using an umbrella received after a public call out for suitable models.

The following article, written by Sue van Dorssen, appeared in the December 1989 issue of the Malvern News Sheet. 'In the September issue of the Malvern News Sheet a request was made for a donation of an old-style umbrella with a wooden handle, to be cast in bronze as an attractive addition to the Northbrook Art Garden. The response from readers was overwhelming – a veritable deluge of umbrellas! Helen Simondson, the Malvern Council Arts Officer, had to halt the flow of offers before being totally submerged beneath brollies of all ages, colours and dimensions. There were 'antique' models with carved wooden handles, huge family-sized gamps, business-like black models (which were surely designed to complement a bowler hat) plus, a delicate feminine broolly or two. Some of them had interesting histories associated with many family memories for their owners. One was used to shelter the budgie on the verandah when it rained!. Of all those offered, six were selected. One of them, belonging to Mrs. Edith Woodfall, was the model finally chosen to be encased in bronze. It was her husband's 'work umbrella' which he carried on his journey to the office every day. After his retirement she sentimentally hung on to it although nobody else in the family used it.

Sadly, Mr. Woodfall died in 1981 but his umbrella will live on – a fitting perpetual memorial to him and all others who have spent a lifetime accommodating Melbourne's capricious weather.'

The History Centre is restoring this much-treasured piece of public art to its former glory.



Merne, Grange Road Toorak (undated) Home of the artist Arthur Streeton in 1934.
Stonnington History Collection PH 239

Early Toorak and District E. M. Robb 1934

Thank you to Don Weston who recently donated a copy of *Early Toorak and District E. M. Robb 1934* (Robertson & Mullens Ltd Melb). Essentially a pictorial work, the book deals with the history of the large houses and their owners, and churches, in early Toorak. Most of the photos are accompanied by brief notes.

The author herself lived in Mathoura Road Toorak during the 1940s. A pdf scan of the book has been loaded to the State Library of Victoria website

<http://digital.slv.vic.gov.au/view/action/nmets.do?>



Northbrook umbrella sculpture 1989 Stonnington History Collection MP9589

Memories of Jim Frost

Malvern Historical Society member Ann Ross remembers local resident Jim Frost with affection. 'Jim (Edward James Frost) lived at 12 Elizabeth St Malvern. He told me that he would have been born there, had the house not been being renovated at the time of his birth in 1902. He was born in his grandmother's house nearby. I met him when I moved into Elizabeth Street in January 1988 and he came to introduce himself. Jim used to cook scones which he delivered to all the neighbours twice a week - he would hang them on their front door if no-one was home! Absolutely delicious pumpkin scones every Saturday and well named rock scones mid week. I managed to get off the rock list without causing offence.

He had been a gardener, at one time for Justice Higgins I think. He used to sit on his verandah watching everything that happened in Elizabeth Street. He was a very friendly neighbour, always very kind and fascinating to talk to. When he had health issues he got help from the staff at MECWA in Warner Street. Jack died in November 1990, aged 88. He was buried at the St Kilda Cemetery. I subsequently met his sister when she brought me one of Jim's cups and saucers as a keepsake. One neighbour, Marj, who lived at 9 Elizabeth, frequently helped Jim. On one occasion there was a frantic search for some money he'd hidden for security and forgotten where it was. The search involved tearing up floorboards!

Anne Ross 2019.



12 Elizabeth Street Malvern 1990 Stonnington History Collection MP14480



Edward James Frost (undated)
Stonnington History Collection MP7399

Malvern Barbados and our Northbrook Mulberry Tree



Mrs. Herbert Cheesman and a representative from the Barbados National Trust, Malvern House, St. John, Barbados March 2019
www.malvernwaters.com

Representatives from seven Malverns around the world united for a special event in March 2019 at June Cheesman's home, Malvern House, in Barbados. The occasion, organised by the Barbados National Trust, was attended by more than 326 people. The main event of the day was the planting of a mulberry tree sapling, one of three cuttings sent from Malvern, Melbourne, Australia in 2018. The Malvern Australia tree, planted outside Northbrook in 1959, was originally grown from a cutting from George Bernard Shaw's original 1936 tree in Malvern Worcestershire. Source: (Friends of Malvern Springs and Wells and Malverns Worldwide)

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 or 82901360



Yeatman family
1922 Stonnington History Collection
MP568

City of Stonnington Yarra River Biodiversity Project

With the award-winning Yarra River Biodiversity Project now completed, Council is extending its habitat regeneration work along Gardiners Creek to continue to protect and enhance biodiversity within the city as



Alec Barlow, Gardiners Creek c1928
Stonnington History Collection MP60077

well as support community connections to this area. Visit the Connect Stonnington website to stay up to date.

<https://www.connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/>

Carrington 58 Kooyong Road Armadale

In 1876 Thomas Edwin Moran commenced trading as a grocer in Queensbury Street, North Melbourne. By 1881 a branch shop had been opened in Fitzroy. The partnership between Moran and his cousin from New Zealand, Fred J. Cato, was immediately successful. The responsibility of directing the rapidly growing organisation fell on Fred Cato, when Thomas Moran died in 1890, at the age of only 39 years. By 1898 there were 50 branch stores and 60 stores by 1906.

Thomas Moran's house, *Carrington*, was built in Kooyong Road, Armadale in 1887. Designed by architect Alfred Dunn, the house stands today on the corner of Inverness Avenue. Thomas' widow Elizabeth and their five children continued to live in the house for many years. Mrs Moran kept cows at Kooyong Road and from 1896, both the family members, and the cows, went by ship to Portarlington where the family spent the summer holidays. 58 Kooyong Road was used as a private home, a guest house and a private hospital. *Carrington*, 58 Kooyong Road is of regional significance as an important surviving two storey Victorian mansion in this section of Kooyong Road.



**Carrington 58 Kooyong Road Armadale 1992
Stonnington History Collection MP14987**

Glenburn Elm Road Glen Iris

In 1891, a brick house of fourteen rooms with stables, had been erected for 'gentleman' Samuel King, in Elm Road on the corner of York Road, in the Burke Road Station Reserve. King, a successful boot manufacturer, and one-time Mayor of Brunswick, was a prominent member of the Methodist church. In 1894 King sold the property, which included 180 feet frontage, plus another 700 feet of land, to Wesleyan minister, Rev. Edwin Watkin. Watkin leased the property to an accountant James Ormond in 1896. The following year, the house named *Glenburn*, was purchased by R. Campbell Edwards for £2,150. Edwards, a tea merchant who dealt in real estate, was a well-known member of the Churches of Christ. Under Edwards ownership, *Glenburn* had various occupiers including Benjamin Maxwell in 1901, Joseph de Saxe in 1902, Robert Sperring from 1903 and Hugh Anderson in 1906. At times Elm Road is shown as Glenburn Road. In 1908, 'following a generous offer made by Edwards, the property was bought by the



**The College of the Bible, Elm Road, Glen Iris
c1918 Stonnington History Collection MP1794**



**Female staff at the College of the Bible
Stonnington History Collection MP1820**

Federal Conference of Churches of Christ,

for the price of £1,500.' From 1910, *Glenburn* on 4 1/2 acres with a frontage to Gardiners Creek, became the new College of the Bible providing accommodation and facilities for students. The College of the Bible offered theological education and ministerial training and in 1974 the name *Glenburn* was changed to Campbell Edwards House. The College of the Bible site was purchased by the Road Construction Authority in 1987 and two years later the College relocated due to the construction of the South-Eastern Arterial Road Link. Malvern Council purchased the property from the R.C.A. in 1989 and the following year offered a lease to the Elm Road Artists Group, which was refused. Twenty-six artists were working at Elm Road including painters, sculptors and ceramicists. The property was sold to MECWA in 1993. The old building *Glenburn*, was destroyed by fire in 1999.

Valency, Highfield and Viewbank Glen Iris

In 1857 William Sloggatt purchased eight acres of land on the east side of Burke Road between Malvern Road and High Street Glen Iris. He later built a single storey brick house, which he named after his birthplace, *Valency*. Sloggatt's business included the production of the laundry whitener "Blue". In 1913 the land surrounding *Valency* was subdivided and the house was leased and then later purchased by the Vincentian Fathers as a presbytery. *Valency* was replaced by a new St Roch's presbytery, on the south east corner of Valency Road, in 1960.



***Valency* c1916 Stonnington History Collection MP13915**

***Highfield* Burke Road Glen Iris 2000
Stonnington History Centre MP13853**



Just south of *Valency*, Henry Harrison built a brick house of 2 rooms and stables, on eight acres of land on Crown allotment 114 in 1857. Harrison's house gradually increased in size, along with the addition of a kitchen, outbuildings, garden, orchard and shrubbery. The house fronted Charleville (Burke) Road and by 1869 Frank Cunningham was the owner/occupier of the property. Augustus White, merchant Richard Gutheridge, then Thomas Sharp owned the house and land in the 1870s-80s. By this time the house had increased in size to 9 rooms and was known as *Highfield* and consisted of nine rooms. The property was subdivided in 1913 and Glenvale Road was created. In 1914 *Highfield* was purchased by the Sisters of St Joseph who ran St Roch's Primary School. From 1950, the Presentation Sisters occupied *Highfield* until its sale and demolition in 2001. Glenvale Park is on the site of *Highfield*'s tennis court.

South of *Highfield*, Benoni Salway erected a two roomed weatherboard house on the north east corner of Burke Road and High Street in 1858. The following year, a seven roomed brick house with stables and coach-house was built. In 1863 the house, named *View Bank*, was purchased by bookseller and publisher, George Robertson of Angus & Robertson. From 1919, land surrounding *View Bank* was subdivided. By 1928, *View Bank* included 16 rooms. It became a nursing home before returning to a private residence. Its address is now 9 Viewbank Road Glen Iris.



***Viewbank* c1920 Stonnington History Collection MP1271**

New members

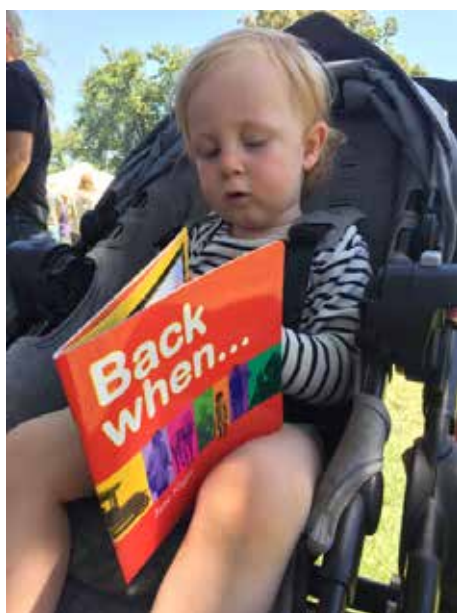
The Society would like to welcome our latest new members Gail Dobbins, Delysia Farthing and Peter Lennartz, Diana Frankel, Nancy Harris, Beverley Williams, Kevin Love, Bernie Zerman, Hans and Gaby Eisen, Deborah Lauritz, Jadzia Lemieszek and Patricia Rabi.

Taking Local History to the Community

Thank you to our Pets In The Park helpers Roxanne, Ann, Pat, Greg, Gwen, Gregor, Anne, Jane, Lorraine, Ruth and Alex. Our high profile spot attracted lots of interest. Thanks also to Catherine Hempenstall, City of Stonnington Festivals and Events Officer, for her help on the day. Lorraine and Francesca represented the Society at the recent Stonnington History Committee meeting chaired by the Mayor, Cr Steve Stefanopoulos. Lorraine, Francesca, Ann and Jane enjoyed being part of the recent St Andrew's Gardiner (Indonesian Congregation) Fair. Lorraine and Pat have proved to be very popular speakers, sharing history at local nursing homes.

The Society appreciated the recent RHSV publicity for our activities. Members of the Society and the public enjoyed Di Foster's talk on 'Power's Paddock' Toorak, the visit to the Embroiderer Guild Victoria Archives, and our local history walks in Kooyong and the Heyington Station area. Thanks Pat, Jane, Lorraine and Ann.

The Malvern Historical Society's recent display at the City of Stonnington's Phoenix Park Library in Malvern East attracted plenty of interest. Thanks Lorraine, Marisa and Francesca. The Society would like to thank Ron, Shaun and Judy, MBE Malvern, 45 Glenferrie Road, for their continuing support and for their printing and design expertise!



A young supporter at Pets in the Park!

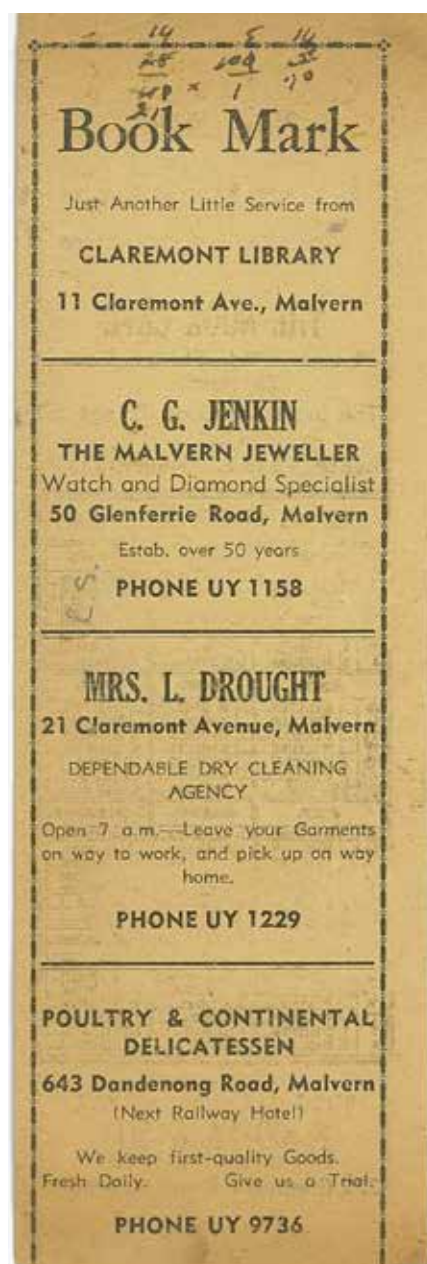


Greg, Roxanne, Lorraine and Jane at Pets in the Park 2019

From the Stonnington History Collection

The Society recently purchased *Victoria's Earliest Potteries: Our Convict Era Potters* by Gregory Hill. (ghillpublications) for the Stonnington History Collection. It includes an interesting section on Malvern's Cawkwell's Tileworks.

Set of 2018 St Roch's Parish notices donated by Fr Michael Gallacher and Parish Secretary Clare Snell.



1954 Calendar Book Mark
Donated by Gwen Hause

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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*** 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