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LOCAL HISTORY NEWS

Malvern Historical Society Inc.

Keeping Stonnington's History Alive

April 2022 - Newsletter No. 93

18 May Malvern Historical Society - Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 18 May 7.30pm

Join members at the Malvern Historical Society Annual General Meeting. Venue: Phoenix Park Conference Room, Lower Level Phoenix Park Community Centre, 22 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East (Mel. Ref. 69 D2)

Guest speaker: Matthew Etty-Leal, local historian and Australian history enthusiast, will speak on Cobb & Co. Stonington, in Glenferrie Road Malvern, was built in 1890 as a private residence for John Wagner, a partner with A.W. Robertson in Cobb & Co. coaches.

RSVP: Heather: 0407 865 098 Lorraine: ljsage123@gmail.com

It is essential that all members and visitors register their attendance. Bookings are needed so that sufficient seating is provided. All welcome!



Stonington, Government House Malvern c1910 Stonnington History Collection MP1115

Message from the President

A belated Happy New Year to everyone. The Malvern Historical Society is still alive and well, even though we have been in numerous lockdowns. Thank you to all the members who have renewed their subscriptions for 2022. We were very pleased to receive your membership renewal and we are hopeful of providing a number of activities for the members during the year. We are still purchasing items relating to the Stonnington area on eBay. Our thanks is expressed to Di Foster who has been very active finding all these items on eBay. Well done Di. Now that most of the restrictions have been lifted and we are adjusting to a new normal the Committee will be planning face-to-face activities for our members. It will be good to get back to some activities like walks and speakers and meeting some of our members once again. Keep safe and I hope to see some of you soon.

Lorraine Sage: ljsage123@gmail.com

Your Society!

Are you interested in joining the Malvern Historical Society committee, making sure that Stonnington's history is kept alive? If so, would love to hear from you. Maybe you'd like to be a part of our discussions and decisions. Maybe you would like to be part of our enthusiastic team. Maybe you'd like to help us on tour days, greeting people, helping out with our suppers, and sharing our photos and books at community events. Maybe you have administration skills that you are happy to use. Or do you love the thrill of the chase when it comes to researching many of the interesting Stonnington people or places so we can share the stories in the newsletters and on our walks?

If you are interested in joining the Committee or can suggest someone who might like to, please have a chat with members of the Committee. No pressure! Our present Committee would make you very welcome. We'll help you with the nomination form and ideally this will be completed by 3 May.

For more information contact Lorraine 9885 9082, Jane 0438 515 631, Ann 0414 453 510, Pat 0438941601.

15 May Scout Heritage Victoria Open Day 10am - 4pm.

Scout Heritage Victoria's collection provides an insight into the history of Scouting in Victoria. The Scout Heritage Victoria Adventure Centre allows youth members and adults to explore fun interactive activities relating to a range of themes from past and present Scouting eras. 62A Mackie Road, East Bentleigh.



Opening of new Toorak scout hall 1922 Stonnington History Collection PH9329

Driftwood - The Musical

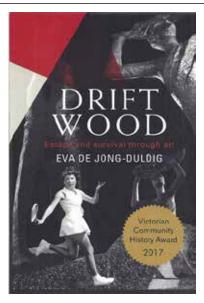
Driftwood - The Musical is an epic story based on the original memoir by Eva de Jong-Duldig.

It tells the inspirational story of the renowned Austrian/Australian sculptor Karl Duldig and his artist/inventor wife, Slawa Horowitz-Duldig, and follows their lives in pre-war Vienna, Slawa's ingenious invention of the foldable umbrella, and an incredible chain of events: miraculously escaping the Holocaust and rebuilding their careers as artists in Melbourne.

The Melbourne season begins on the 13 May.

The Duldig Studio is an accredited house museum and the former home of the internationally acclaimed sculptor Karl Duldig and his wife, artist and inventor Slawa Horowitz-Duldig in Burke Road Malvern East.

www.driftwoodthemusical.com.au



De la Salle College High Street Malvern

De La Salle College is celebrating the school's 110th anniversary in 2022. In 1912 three Irish De La Salle Brothers arrived in Melbourne. They settled into Coldblo, a house on the west side of Glenferrie Road Malvern owned by the Vincentian Fathers from St Joseph's Parish, and began teaching 54 boys the very next day in the parish hall. This school building had been built for the De La Salle Brothers in 1911 for £2,000 on Coldblo land fronting Stanhope Street West. In 1926 Coldblo was demolished and in 1929 the Stanhope Street West school building was sold for £7,000 to the Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Trust. The size and public profile of De La Salle grew dramatically in 1929 with the move from the first school building to the new Tower Building in Stanhope Street, east of Glenferrie Road.

Kerry Martin, the editor of the De La Salle Alumni magazine, Roll Call, is keen to hear from anyone who has old photos or other memorabilia.

Contact: Kerry 9508 2396 kmartin@delasalle.vic.gov.au



Bro. Otto at Cold Blo, Stanhope Street West, Malvern c1913 Stonnington History Collection MP1640



Tower Building,
De La Salle College 1992
Stonnington History Collection
MP7979

Books discovered locally / purchased on eBay

- 1. Korowa book prize awarded to Sandra Hattam in 1953.
- 2. Malvern Sketchbook Author: Arno Roger-Genersh
- 3. Cecil McKay: It Wasn't All Sunshine Marjorie McKay 1974. In 1937, Armagh (now 226 Kooyong Road Toorak), was sold to industrialist Cecil V. McKay, the Managing Director of H.V. McKay, Massey Harris Pty Ltd. The Australian operations of this company were founded by Hugh V. McKay in the 1890s in Ballarat. In 1906-07 McKay moved production to Sunshine where the firm became one of the largest industrial businesses in Australia.
- 4. Weary The Life of Sir Edward Dunlop Sue Ebury 1995
- 5. Damien Parker's War Neil McDonald 2003

Unprecedented Times - Support the Malvern Emergency Food Program

The Malvern Emergency Food Program provides individual food parcels (non- perishable, 2 day supply) to residents of Stonnington. The food parcels are available for collection from the Prahran Community Learning Centre between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday and 24 hours a day from the Malvern Police Station, 288 Glenferrie Road, Malvern 3144 and Prahran Police Station 396 Malvern Road Prahran. Extra parcels are available for families. No ID is required.

For more details: 8823 5600 Donations to the Malvern Emergency Food Program can be made by Direct Transfer or by cheque.

Payment by Direct Transfer ANZ Bank BSB No 013-350 Account No: 2587-53253 Account Name – Malvern Emergency Food Program. Please make sure the message/reference box states your name. Please send an e-mail to ljsage123@gmail. com advising that you have made a donation.

Payment by Cheque: Please make the cheque payable to Malvern Emergency Food Program and forward your cheque to Malvern Emergency Food Program, c/- The Treasurer, Unit 2, 2 Belmont Ave Glen Iris Vic 3146

Rose Series glass plate negatives

The Stonnington History Centre has received a donation of glass plate negatives from the Malvern Historical Society. The glass plates are from the popular Rose Stereograph Co. Rose Series, and include photos of sites around the City of Stonnington: Greville and Malvern Gardens, the Beverley Hills flats, Malvern State School, the Methodist Babies Home, the Methodist Sunday School, and Dandenong Road with the New Malvern Theatre. The negatives have been scanned and digitised and can be found in the History Centre catalogue at SHC71204- SHC71213.

The Rose Stereograph Company was founded by George Rose in 1880, first producing stereographs, or stereoviews (images which gave the illusion of being in 3D when seen through a hand-held viewer). In 1913, after the decline in popularity of stereographs, he turned his attention to taking photographs for postcards. At this time George, his wife and sons were living at 17 Auburn Grove, Armadale, and running the business from a factory at the rear of the house. The Rose Stereograph Co. became Australia's first commercially viable photographic postcard business.

When George died in 1940, he bequeathed the company to his two employees, photographers Herbert Cutts and Edward Gilbert.

Glass plates emerged as a common support medium for photographic negatives in the mid-nineteenth century. They consist of an image bound to a glass support.

Using glass and not paper as a support allowed for a sharper, more stable and detailed negative, as can be seen in the digitised photos. However, glass plate negatives are fragile and need to be handled and stored very carefully. It is best to store plates vertically in archive boxes, with the plates interleaved with acid-free corrugated board to support the plates. Broken plates should be stored horizontally in a separate box.



Scanned glass plate negative of Dandenong Road, Malvern (undated) Stonnington History Collection SHC71209



Safe storage for glass plate negatives (Photo: Ainslee Meredith)

Ainslee Meredith, Local History Technician, Stonnington History Centre, Northbrook

New PMI Victorian History Library Chief Librarian

The Malvern Historical Society looks forward to working closely with Lauren Joffe, the new PMI Victorian History Library Chief Librarian. Lauren, who has worked in a community library for the last sixteen years, has also worked in publishing, education and information studies. www.pmi.net.au

Items of Stonnington historical interest and significance on eBay

Di Foster, Malvern Historical Society member, has spotted and purchased the following items on behalf of the Malvern Historical Society. These items have been added to the Stonnington History Collection.

O.T. cordial bottle

O.T. is an Anglo-Indian drink that has good kick from the ginger and chillies and is alcohol free (Google). O.T.was the name of a hot punch created by John H. Dixon. Dixon had established The Prahran Ice and Aerated Water Company in 1898 in Commercial Road South Yarra. Dixon's factory, originally situated at 83 Alfred Street Prahran, was fitted with the most modern equipment for producing superior aerated waters, soda water, lemonades, ginger ale, sarsaparilla, tonic water, ginger beer and cordials of all flavours. Within four years of operation the company had become well respected for the quality of its products and the ability to deliver, on summer days, a chilled beverage containing no chemicals, filtered water for all beverages and being free of contamination from lead or copper pipes. the factory covered 50,000 square feet, with goods delivered by nine wagons. By 1906 the floor area had grown to 240,000 feet and included the manufacture of the famed O.T. [It was said that Dixon began making O.T. cordials because the people of Prahran would not buy his ice without cordials].

Centenary Souvenir Issue 22 April 1905

Around 1905 the Prahran Ice and Aerated Water Co. became the Kia-ora company. Kia-ora was the company's brand name for lemonade. Around 1910 the factory was relocated to Hillingdon Place Prahran.

Plisch's Bakery Prahran

From the 1890s Austrian born Johann Plisch (1864-1933) operated a bakery and catering factory in Prahran, known as Plisch's Bakery. Johann, the son of

Johann Plisch and Marie Miller, arrived in Australia in 1888. Four years later Johann (Jnr) married Julia Kate Riley (1868-1945) in Melbourne. According to Ancestry, Johann and Julia had five children: William Joseph, Kathleen Marie, Bertha Eileen, Frances Edward and Freida Irene.

Plisch's main bakery was located at 88 Greville Street, while the catering business operated from 44-46 Charles Street. Plisch also had three branch shops in the Melbourne CBD, one in Swanston Street, another on the corner of Flinders and Elizabeth Streets and a third in Bourke Street. The bakery specialised in wedding and birthday cakes, along with Vienna, malt and rye bread. The 1914-18 World War greatly affected Plisch's business, due to the strong anti-German sentiments during this period. Johann Plisch was subjected to anti-German hysteria even though he was Austrian. At one time around 2000 rioters fought with the police who were stopping them from marching on Plisch's Greville Street Bakery. The properties at Greville and Charles Streets were sold in May 1936 to Crundall's Ltd of Commercial Road, Prahran.

Print of the Linden residence, Williams Road, Prahran

Linden was a 12 roomed brick mansion built around 1875 for manufacturing jeweller John Thomson. Thomson owned 15 acres of land on the east side of Williams Road Prahran (Windsor) extending through to Dandenong Road. Thomson was a partner in the Australasian branch of John Kilpatrick & Co. manufacturing jeweller, Collins Street Melbourne. The business had been established in London around 1846. The company began in Queen Street Melbourne as wholesalers in 1853 before moving





Top and above: Plisch's Bakery Prahran biscuit tin



Illustration of Linden c1970s It is a hand-coloured copy of an illustration which appeared in *Victoria & Its*Metropolis



Linden Court c1930 Stonnington History Collection PH12968

to Collins St in 1855 where the business became a retail outlet. The partners were John Kilpatrick, his brother-in-law William Drummond and John Thomson. Thomson eventually became the sole proprietor. Leading retail jewellers like Drummond's and Kilpatrick's in Melbourne, were clearing houses for popular English jewellery brands. Kilpatrick and Co. was eventually taken over by the Melbourne jewellery establishment, William Drummond & Co. (founded in 1872).

Linden was the residence of John Dunne, Esq. and Elizabeth (Fitzgibbon) Dunne from 1877. It was owned by Sir Charles Holled Smith in 1898. A later owner was Guillaume Daniel Del Prat, general manager of BHP. In 1914 his daughter Francisca married the Antarctic explorer Douglas Mawson and the reception was held at Linden. The house, on the east side of Williams Road, was close to Dandenong Road. Linden Court was created after the house was demolished.

Stokes - a Proud Heritage, 140 Years in Australian Manufacturing History Leigh Blackburn and Gregory C. Eccleston 2022

This beautifully produced book has been published by the co-author Gregory Eccleston. Greg is a member of the Malvern Historical Society. In many ways, the history of the Stokes company – a byword in Melbourne – reflects the history of Australia over the second half of the 1800s and the whole of the 1900s. The founder, Thomas Stokes, a failed gold-seeker and qualified die-sinker, grasped opportunities and then responded to one of the urgent needs of the colonies in the mid-1850s: a great shortage of coinage. Thomas Stokes came to the colonies' rescue, making tokens for use by the many commercial businesses, as a substitute for real coins. As the colonies developed their defence forces, Thomas Stokes provided an important service by producing buttons for the uniforms of the military forces as well as the police, customs, fire brigades, railways, tramways and other civic bodies. Royal visits to the colonies created much local excitement, and of course Stokes were at the forefront in producing commemorative medals and magnificent silver gifts for the visitors. When War-time came Stokes was involved with the production of our famous 'Rising Sun' slouch hat badge.

https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/product/stokes-by-leigh-blackburn-and-gregory- c-eccleston/www.jeffreysbooks.com.au

From Malvern UK to Malvern Melbourne

A few years ago, my friend in Malvern Victoria, Di Foster, emailed me in the UK with an image showing a painting of a scene of Malvern UK by artist M A Hobbs. The picture is featured on the front cover of the January - April 2022 issue of Newseum, the Malvern Museum UK newsletter. Di, a dedicated local historian, asked who M A Hobbs was. We both thought that the artist lived here, in Malvern UK, and that it had been commissioned by the District Council. After the picture was painted it was given to a visitor from Malvern down-under as a gift to their town. After a bit of super-sleuthing by Ann Backhouse, it was found that that was not the case and what follows is the result of her research discovering the identity of the artist M A Hobbs.

Dudley Lucas (1905-1990) was born in Malvern, Victoria. In 1925, he became a junior clerk in the administration of the City of Malvern. He steadily progressed through the ranks and in 1951 was appointed Town Clerk of Malvern, a position he held until his retirement in 1973. Dudley was interested in local history and, aware of the origin of the name Malvern, began corresponding with Jo Bulman, his counterpart Town Clerk here in Malvern U K. When Dudley and his wife Enid travelled to England in 1969, they visited Malvern. Dudley Lucas took home two things: glowing reports of Malvern UK and the surrounding countryside, and a postcard depicting a scene in the streets of Malvern with a red bus in the foreground.



Margaret Hobbs

Dudley and Enid's son Neil also held a junior position at the City of Malvern. Early in 1969, he become engaged to Margaret Hobbs, who painted in her leisure time.



Bellvue Terrace (Great Malvern, England) Artist M A Hobbs c1970 Stonnington History Collection MP15183

Following their marriage, Margaret continued painting and signing her work 'M.A.Hobbs'. Ann Backhouse discovered the identity of the artist and made contact with Margaret who replied 'This is very exciting for me – only recently I was wondering what had happened to my painting of Malvern UK!! In the early 1970's at my home in Berwick, Victoria, I did the acrylic painting on canvas board for Dudley Lucas which he then framed and hung in his office at the Malvern Town Hall. On his retirement, I think, he donated the painting to the Malvern City Council and I gather that it is now in the hands of the Stonnington History Centre at Malvern'. Ainslee Meredith, Local History Technician, Stonnington History Centre confirmed that the painting is still hanging on the wall. I acknowledge the help in writing this of Ann Backhouse, Neil and Margaret (née Hobbs) Lucas, their daughter Katherine Kirkwood, Ainslee Meredith (Stonnington History Centre) and Di Foster (Malvern Historical Society).

Cora Weaver cora@malvernspa.com http://www.malvernwaters.com

Glenferrie Road - As I remember it and more' Dudley Lucas (cont)

Neil Lucas has donated a copy of a talk his father Dudley, former Malvern Council Town Clerk, gave at Koot Restaurant, Glenferrie Road, Kooyong c1970. Dudley Lucas (1905-1990) was born in Malvern and joined the staff at Malvern Council as a junior boy in 1925. He was appointed Town Clerk for the City of Malvern in 1951, a position he held until his retirement in 1973. During this time he was instrumental in the formation of the Malvern Elderly Citizens Welfare Association in 1958 (now mecwacare). This part of Dudley's talk, along the east side of Glenferrie Road, starts at Dandenong Road.

'On the north east corner of Dandenong Road stands The Railway Hotel, previously The Gardiner Hotel. In 1862, the licensee, William Graves, a noted cricketer of that time inserted an advertisement in the paper advising that he at considerable expense made a very excellent bowling green, the first and only one on the Colony of Victoria. The hotel was at the foot of the Dandenong Road hill which was removed by the Councils of Caulfield and Malvern in 1888. The hill had extended roughly from just east of Glenferrie Road to near the Dandenong Road railway bridge at Glendearg Grove. Land facing Glenferrie Road from Dandenong Road to High Street was originally subdivided into 7 acre blocks with one larger 10 acre block on Dandenong Road. The 7 acre blocks were sold for £260 whilst the 10 acres reached £350.

Shops, dwellings and vacant land fronted Glenferrie Road on the east side along as far as Wattletree Road. Before the National Bank was built on the corner of Glenferrie Road and Wattletree Road, the vacant corner block and the block on the corner of Edsall Street, were the sites used by the fly-by-night 'cheap jacks', especially on Friday evenings. These expert sleight of hand pedlars would sell a genuine gold Omega watch for 10/-. You could handle it, look at its genuine works inside but somehow the one you took home would be a furphy. Elliot's Photography stands where Malvern's flea house, the Tivoli Theatre, once stood. It was a picture house of some note where it was a common occurrence for a rat or two to cause havoc among the audience during a session. Saturday afternoon matinee at six pence admission was the kids' day where the serials resulted in regular customers. When the Tivoli closed, the building was altered to house a Coles Variety store. The catch cry of Coles that day was "Nothing over 2/6 in the store". Above the store there were several clothing factories. The building was burnt down in the 1950s or 60s prior to the construction of The Arcade.

On the north corner of Edsall Street, there was a large two storey drapery business. The catering hire establishment of Mr Toseda (later purchased by Erin Turner) was carried on in a house with a few sheds in the back yard. The Commonwealth Bank building was then built on this site. Next to the drapery store was a large brick house set back from the road. In my younger days I was a regular visitor three times every Sunday to where Coles New World Supermarket now stands, for the large Congregational Church once graced this very valuable piece of real estate on the south corner of Winter Street.

Shops interspersed with vacant land fronted Glenferrie Road along to High Street with a rather large allotment at the corner of Stanhope Street that was used by the visiting circus or



Angel Hotel 641 Dandenong Road corner Glenferrie Road Malvern 1984. Stonnington History Collection MP924



Corner of Glenferrie Road and Wattletree Road Malvern looking north. The Tivoli Theatre is the large building with a tower. c1920 Stonnington History Centre MP5141

rough riding show which had an event open to all comers - stay on the horse's back for three minutes and the prize was £10. You couldn't win as the clowns always saw you were unseated if the horse was unsuccessful. Also in this block was the Art Needlework shop conducted by Clive Elliott's father.

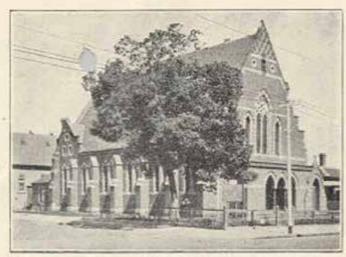
In 1857 the Surveyor General set aside Crown Allotment 20 on the Malvern Hill (north east corner of Glenferrie Road and High Street) for public purposes generally. Eventually the land was subdivided into smaller allotments and in 1878 the Governor in Council, by order, proclaimed a site for a Shire Hall, Court House, Public Library and land adjoining for a Police Station, recreation ground and site for a Wesleyan Church and a Church of England. In 1884 the Council determined to build the Shire Hall and decided to float a loan of £5000 for its cost as the Court House was to be included. The council anticipated a contribution of about £2000 from the Government and accepted a tender of £7500 for the construction of a hall to seat 400, a Court House Magistrates Room and for a Clerk Of Petty Session, a library 25 x 18 feet and a room 12 x 12 feet for the Shire Secretary. The building extended to about two thirds of the present frontage to Glenferrie Road with the tower reaching 4 storeys. In 1890 extensions were made to the building – the tower was built higher, the clock added and

the smaller tower erected. Major changes took place in 1926 when all except the outside shell of the Town Hall and the part of the building facing High Street was demolished. At that time I was employed in the Rates Office and we knocked off each day over this period sadly needing a shower. Rough wooden walls were erected in the office and then the brick walls were demolished. All except the front door and doorway were removed from under the small tower and it stood there for some weeks with posts under each corner and we kept working under it. Prior to 1926 there was a doorway on the northern side leading to the backyard where the only council car was kept, a T Model Ford. Bert Gould, the Town Clerk was over 6 feet tall and wore a boxer hat. It was a great sight to see him in the driver's seat of the tourer with the steering wheel between his knees and about half the length of his legs protruding above the door.

Behind the hall was the cricket ground which had been enlarged from the original grant by the council paying £10 to the Wesleyan Church for its interests in the land. The ground had much use during my youth. Very successful farriers and cycle meetings were held, the cycling was made popular by Bruce Small and his club members including Oppy (Hubert Opperman), Fatty Lamb and others. One night a week it was used for the movies, and a large screen was erected behind the hall.

Those who paid the admission charge of 6d were privileged to sit on the grass to view the flicks.

North of the hall was the Police Station, a double fronted brick house where the Sergeant lived and where the front room was used as the Police Station Office. I remember the last Sergeant, before the police house was pulled down, had a name of facula that magned the ground gurrant directly that was



Congregational Church Malvern 1942 Stonnington History Collection MP14071



Malvern Town Hall c1926 Stonnington History Collection MP5101

number of fowls that roamed the ground surrounding the two stall wooden lockup. Behind the Police Station, where the car park is now, were the Malvern Tennis Club courts.

Burnley Ferry

From 1896 to 1944 the crossing between Williams Road, South Yarra and Burnley Street, Richmond was served by a ferry boat. For a penny, passengers were rowed across the river in a heavy boat. On the south side of the river, passengers had to descend a long flight of steps from the top of the hill. Road improvements eventually made the ferry redundant. By 1934, unemployed workers on "sustenance relief" had cut through the hill to form Williams Road North and extended Alexandra Avenue (as far as Grange Road) where it connected with the new MacRobertson Bridge. The bridge replaced the Twickenham Ferry service.



Caulfield - Gardiner - Chadstone bus

Thanks to Susie Gamble who sent through this c1966 photo showing the Caulfield - Gardiner - Chadstone bus outside the Downyflake Donut shop at Chadstone Shopping Centre.



Left: The Yarra at the Twickenham Ferry crossing. The ferry boat sheds may be seen on the Richmond side, with the large malthouse behind. (undated)
Stonnington History Collection PH9094

2022 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE

Malvern Historical Society Inc PO Box 184, Malvern Victoria 3144

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I would like to assist with:		
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*Financial year: 1 Jan - 31 Dec		
MHS website: www.vicnet.net.au/~malver	n Tel: 0438 515 631	malvernhistorical@yahoo.com

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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