



HISTORY HERE 251

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The Bar*** House



This early 4-bedroom home near Valley Reserve was one of the first in the street, which was first subdivided in 1954. The Bar*** family lived there for many years, from about 1959 to almost the present. The design is a lot like that of *Alumuna* (see HH 225) which was owner-built according to a modified plan published in a newspaper – probably a Small Homes Service design. This house resembles a T236, later extended with two extra bedrooms.

Many of the other properties in the street have now been re-developed. Possibly this one will also succumb to modernisation soon, but for now the new owners are not in a hurry, it seems. Meanwhile it is a good example of a modest but larger home built at a time when most had only two or three bedrooms.

IMAGES OF WAVERLEY

If you have photos of this area from times past, please do not discard them! Even if the foreground object is not significant, often the background is. We can copy and return your photographs if you wish. Please consider us when cleaning up papers, artifacts, and memorabilia. Thank you!

RESEARCH

WHS is open each Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 4:30pm for those who wish to ask questions, explore resources or donate items. Our rooms are above Mt Waverley Library 41 Miller Crescent Mt Waverley (lift available). To notify us of questions beforehand, email waverleyhsvic@gmail.com

Thank you to Matt Fregon MP, State Member for Ashwood District, for assistance with the printing of this publication. If you require assistance with any State Government Issues please contact Matt's office.

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Mount Waverley – Damper Creek & Federal Reserve Historical Walk

23 March 2025

Ralph Bartlett

On a lovely Autumn Sunday afternoon, MarJo and Philip, led about 10 members on a historical walk starting along part of the Damper Creek Conservation Reserve. Philip gave us an outline about how this creek was saved and restored to as close to its natural condition as possible, via the efforts of the Friends of Damper Creek group, starting in 1968.

We then proceeded through the nearby streets to St. Stephen's Anglican Church, built in 1864-65. It is the oldest remaining building in the Waverley area. MarJo gave us review of its history and architectural features, which include a Montgomery memorial window, an oculus, lancet-arched windows and a buttressed nave. The Church was built in stages and lengthened to accommodate more parishioners. The extension can be seen in the change of bricks used.

We then headed back into the Damper Creek Reserve before coming out onto Jubilee Street and Essex Road. After passing the early 1960's St. Luke's Presbyterian Church and Kindergarten, we entered the southern end of Federal Reserve. This land was the family home and dairy farm for three generations of the Carmody family, from 1888 to 1967. Parts of the family house, called Cratloe – after the area in Ireland from where the first family members came from, are still visible in the ground. The remaining original farm property, which had not been subdivided, was left to the Mount Waverley community as open parkland, via the Church of England in 1967.

The Reserve obtained its name, "Federal", from one of the Carmody brothers, Frank, who subdivided his part of the family property between 1952-60, naming the new streets to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Australia's Commonwealth, such as; Barton Street, Jubilee Street and Federal Street. In 1906 the Carmody Family allowed the Mount Waverley Cricket Club to play their matches on part of the land. While Cricket is no longer played in Federal Reserve, there are Tennis Courts. The remaining park land was donated to the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works in 1973 and then the former City of Waverley in 1980.

Leaving Federal Reserve, we returned to Essex and Surrey Roads, which formed the northern and eastern boundaries of the "original" Waverley Park Estate, sold at auction in May 1951. This estate went south to High Street Road. To the immediate west of this estate was the Paramount Nursery, which existed between 1954 and the early 1980's. An artistic image of this nursery is on a wall of the Society's Research Room.

We continued through nearby local streets, passing close to family home and backyard studio where cartographer, Merv Godfrey, researched, designed and first published in May 1966, the Melway Street Directory of metropolitan Melbourne. Merv's three sons worked with their father in the expanding business to this day, producing one of, if not, **the** world's best Street Directory.

Our history walk continued south down St. Johns Wood Road to High Street Road, very close to the beginning of our walk in Damper Creek Reserve. Our final historic feature was the remains of a dam built by a descendant of the Hore family in the early 20th century. This supplied fresh water from Damper Creek to their home, which they called "Waverley Park". The Hore family first arrived in the 1850s and were instrumental in the 1864-65 construction of the St. Stephens Church and the 1905 establishment the Mount Waverley Cricket Club.

Thanks to both MarJo and Philip for their enjoyable and informative history walk through this part of Mount Waverley.

Damper Creek, Mount Waverley (Ralph Bartlett)



St. Stephens Anglican Church, Mount Waverley (Ralph Bartlett)



Centre Riding Avenue of Honour

AVENUE OF HONOR.

SHIRE OF MULGRAVE.

CENTRE RIDING.

A public meeting of ratepayers and residents was held on Monday evening at Beveridge's Store, Notting Hill, to make arrangements for planting an avenue of honor in May road to those men who had left the Centre Riding, Shire of Mulgrave, on "active service" up to 29-7-18. Present: Crs Coleman (president) in the chair, Forster, Cotter, Messrs Patterson, McNally, Plack, Williams, Anderson, West, McKelvie, Mrs Whitbourne, and others. Resolved on the motion of Crs Forster & Cotter that the trees be planted on Saturday, August 10.

Proposed by Mr Williams that action be deferred until another meeting has been called by notice. Ruled out of order by the chairman.

Resolved that all present form themselves into a committee to carry out the resolution; that speakers be obtained; that the tree-planting start at 2 p.m.; that the head teachers of Glen Waverley, Clayton and Mt. Waverley schools be asked to attend; that the ladies present form themselves into a refreshment committee.

After other details had been arranged, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Beveridge for their hospitality.

note new article 168806948.3 Oakleigh and Caulfield Times Mulgrave and Ferntree Gully Guardian, Saturday 3 August 1918

As we remember the ANZACs, those who fought in terrible conditions so that we could be free, many will recall the various City of Monash war memorials, especially maybe the North Riding Avenue of Honour which we have had a part in restoring. It is on High St Rd, but only some of the trees on the south side remain. Others are in Oakleigh and Clayton. However, totally lost is the one in Notting Hill, on Blackburn Road.

The National Library article on the left describes the meeting which began the process off, the first urgent moves by local people to commemorate those who went, those who sacrificed so much.

Sadly none of the trees remain. A good number were clearly there in 1945. (Readers may recall seeing them on Page 2 of HH250.) They were on both sides of Blackburn Road (BB Rd), and both north and south of Ferntree Gully Road (FTG Rd). By 1963 all the trees on the west side of BB Rd north of FTG Rd were gone. By 1972 the road had been widened and all the Honour Avenue trees had been removed. Apparently no one – not councillors, council works teams, local people, RSL – remembered what they were.

One image of that road widening shows the Avenue that is now gone. It appeared in The Waverley Gazette, 24th Feb 1971, just two months before Waverley's centenary, trumpeting "A New Look for Intersection."

If this situation were not an indication of how much a Heritage Officer is needed in Council, nothing is.



1971 - The trees on the east side of BB Rd are present but their significance was unrecognized.

** Boroondara Memories **

Boroondara Memories

SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

MORE INFORMATION

www.boroondarawriters.com



Boroondara Writers Group is currently soliciting entries for its newest publication, *Boroondara Memories*. We wish to invite WHS members to consider submitting a short story for the publication.

It can be a short memoir, non-fiction or narrative non-fiction story pertaining to any aspect of contemporary or historical life in Boroondara.

Our goal is to encourage and publish more local writing from residents and people with connections to Boroondara (friends, passing through to the city, shopping, etc). It is always a thrill to see your writing in print and we hope to produce a collection of personal memories and recollections that can be cherished in the future.

The due date for the publication is **31 August 2025**. There is no fee for entry and writers may submit up to three stories with a word count of **less than 800 words**. Here is a municipality that treasures its heritage! Full submission guidelines and entry requirements are available at : www.boroondarawriters.com.

Wreath Laying 2025

As the usual Sunday-before-Anzac-Day wreath laying could not take place (due to it landing on Easter Sunday), and as the Sid Brown plaque had just been placed in its (hopefully) permanent position, WHS decided to lay our own wreath there, at the **North Riding Avenue of Honour** in High St Rd. Eight members enjoyed unexpected sunshine and laid a beautiful wreath made of native Australian plants. There was even a fly-past of four small aeroplanes in tight formation! No doubt they were on the way from another Anzac event, but they flew along High St Rd at the Time of the wreath-laying. President Ralph Bartlett read the ode, preceding it with its history:



Honour Board with the wreath. Ralph Bartlett photo.



Five committee members lay the wreath at the Honour Board that WHS placed in 2015. E Dangaard photo

The Ode of Remembrance has been recited to commemorate wartime service and sacrifice since 1921. It is the 4th stanza of the poem *For the Fallen* by Laurence Binyon, which was first published in British newspaper *The Times* on 21 September 1914. The poem later appeared in many anthologies of war verse. In 1919, Binyon's poem was selected to accompany the unveiling of the London Cenotaph and was adopted as a memorial tradition by many Commonwealth nations. It was read at the laying of the Inauguration Stone at the Australian War Memorial in 1929.

Ode of Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.

We will remember them,
Lest we forget.

Brown's General Store

On the south west corner of Fleet Street and High Street Road, adjacent to the plaque, was the location of the first general store, at Mount Waverley, built by Sidney C. Brown in 1922. The general store served the residents of Mount Waverley, Burwood, Burwood East, Glen Waverley and Tully. The area of the Mulgrave Store. The shop was operated by Sidney and his wife, Florence Brown, until the late 1940s. After their deaths, the general store closed. In 1962 the shop building was moved into the grounds of the nearby Heidelberg School and was used as a classroom.

Brown's General Store 1922 - late 1940s

The last generation of the Brown family continued to serve the Waverley community with their son, Sidney A. Brown, who became a founding member of the Waverley Historical Society, serving as its President and as President from 1972 until his death in 1974.

Waverley Estate

Brown's General Store was located near the south west corner of the original Waverley Township subdivision. Having been purchased by Dr. James Sherrin in 1854, this subdivision covered 144 acres or one quarter square mile, extending south-west from the corner of High Street Road and Sayfemans Road. He named the estate after the Waverley novels by Dr. Richard Scott, published in 1814. The streets of this estate are named after the empresses and children of King Charles II of England.

On the site of Fleet Street, the Mount Waverley Reservoir was constructed between 1927-28 and filled with 44 million gallons (171.2 million litres) of water. To serve the surrounding areas of the Waverley and New City. The reservoir was completed in 1929.

During 1929-30 the building of Glen Waverley from the extension was built across the southern half of the Waverley Estate. The new Mount Waverley train station is now the centre of the suburb.

Waverley Township subdivision

Contents prepared by the Waverley Historical Society
Sign donated by Melbourne Water



The fly past. Full image including High St Rd available on request.

The newly installed Sid Brown plaque in the same location.

Bruce Manor, Lord S M Bruce



The Rt Hon. Lord Stanley Melbourne Bruce CH MC (1883–1967) was Prime Minister of Australia from 1923 to 1929, and fought in World War I including in the Dardanelles. The Electorate of Bruce, which includes Mulgrave and other places WHS members live, was named after him. He was the visiting federal Member and soldier who spoke at the opening of the Mt. Waverley Avenue in July 1918, and is also associated with other such memorials in Monash.

Lord Stanley Bruce's home in Frankston has just come on the market. It was built in 1926 and the design was modeled on The Lodge in Canberra, Lord Bruce being the first resident in both houses. It is called Bruce Manor and has ten bedrooms, six bathrooms and five parking spots, a steal at under \$3m.



Lord S. M. Bruce

At the opening of the High St Rd Avenue of Honour



Recent Acquisitions

We are privileged to have recently received a good quantity of items, objects which bring to mind how things were done in earlier days.

There are also a large quantity of papers and records, which will be described later.

Before discarding old papers, photos or paraphernalia, please check with us. They might fill a gap in our collection.



Goodbye, Dillon Cottage



Photo by Carina Leitch on the spot 2/14

In the wee small hours of Easter Monday, residents of the Lawrence Rd area heard a loud bang, then a pop and soon, multiple emergency sirens. Many got up to investigate and witnessed (in their pyjamas!) the sad demise of one of the heritage-listed reminders of life in Mt Waverley across more than a century.

It had been the Dillon residence. Sisters Eileen and Mary Dillon were long-time WHS members when I joined in 1998. They were regular attenders at general meetings and had held many roles over the years. Mary was also a Wednesday worker and looked after the photocopier, including producing the newsletter, of which Eileen had been editor. Both sisters were also involved in St Stephens church and several other organisations.

Both spent their entire lives in the house, which had been built by their father, Joseph Dillon Jnr with their uncle Charles Doolan, their grandfather (also Joseph Dillon, a plasterer), and Glen Waverley carpenter David Begg in 1912. The heritage listing describes it as "a small asymmetric post-Edwardian villa, highly representative of an artisan's cottage of the period, with a projecting gable-ended wing...".

Joseph Snr had arrived in Australia in 1872 and settled in St Albans Rd, where he cleared the land by hand, and once (1879) found himself on the wrong side of the law when he and William Stephenson accidentally fenced the road! Such was the unfinished state of the roads in that earliest subdivision that there was no knowing the roadway from their land!

Charles Doolan, whose sister Ethel married Joe Jnr and bore the Dillon sisters, was the local blacksmith and coach-builder. He also crafted the Dillon-Doolan pew that stands in the back of our meeting room, for the families' use at St Stephens.

Joe Jnr ran an 18.5 acre market garden around the house until the land was compulsorily acquired by the government to build Syndal Technical School. He died in 1974, about the same time as Sid Brown. At 95 he was the oldest parishioner and had a terrific memory which had been of great benefit to local historians.

When the railway came through in 1930, it was a mixed blessing. It meant Mary could take up a job in the city (the little shuttle train *Tootle* picking her up from home by ladder!) but because there were to be no level crossings, Lawrence Rd had to be lifted up. A dirt ramp was created and obliterated the morning sun from their house. Mary later worked for Miss Tait in the post office, and saw the first phone installed in Mt Waverley. Eileen earned her living through babysitting, dressmaking, food-growing, egg production and her many other skills.

The sisters saw the full extent of Mt Waverley's development. In their early life there were no services to the house – no water, power, phone, mail, sealed road, or deliveries. Food was eaten fresh or stored in the Coolgardie. Clothes, candles, even clothes pegs were hand made, as were most items. Facilities changed from the traditional pit toilet and outdoor laundry-bathroom, wood-fired stove-cum-heater and lamp-lit lounge to modern equivalents. They were surrounded by farm, then school, then tightly packed homes. Gradually services were added and each was embraced as progress, though 'the old' was never fully discarded.

Since their passing in 2009 and 2014 the house has been sold three times, redevelopment plans made and rejected, and vandals have had their way. Still the memories destroyed by this fire were mourned by the silent crowd who witnessed it on Easter Monday morn.

- MarJo Angelico April 2025

Gallus Dairies

Many Ashwood/Jordanville residents and even those from further afield remember the cows around the corner of Warrigal and High St Roads. Where the supermarket now stands was prime dairy land, but the cows also kept the grass down along High St Rd, especially at the creek where Jordanville Tech was, and Ashwood College is.

Jack Gallus was remembered in WHS's 88th newsletter when he succumbed to a long illness. He had married Manda Lewin of Mt Waverley and had three sons. He was a life member of Mt Waverley football club, which often practised on his land, according to Jim Tuhan, another life member. Later two of his sons started a dairy in Drouin.



The solid brick Gallus dairy shop

The story goes that when William Gallus enlisted he was spied on, being of German descent. A neighbour who was very concerned recruited the local policeman. The neighbour's report was all about them being "very German" so the authorities rejected his enlistment. The only problem was by the time they sent the rejection William was already at Broadmeadows in camp learning to be a soldier and he did go overseas. Evidently the efficiency of the public service in 1914 was the same as now.

The Galluses had a shop in May Park Drive in which they kept milk cool and from which they sold it. It had one small window on the south side (none on the north or west) and was solidly constructed of double brick, as dairies usually were. When the grazing land was all subdivided and the cows moved to Gippsland, the little shop was too good to demolish, so it was made into a one-bedroom unit/bungalow and occupied by new migrants and others. It was demolished only a short time ago.

Anyone strolling in the vicinity cannot help but notice one local resident's home, because she has dedicated her side fence garden to remembering the Galluses, with signs found in the garage, a painting, an old photo and lots of little things to intrigue young and old.

The Gallus' contribution will not soon be forgotten.



Sign found in a nearby garage, believed to refer to Gallus cheese



"I remember when this was a dairy farm..." tribute to Gallus's dairy

2 pm Sunday 25th May 2025

London to a Brick Veneer

Bartlett's Designed House



By Ralph Bartlett

At our rooms

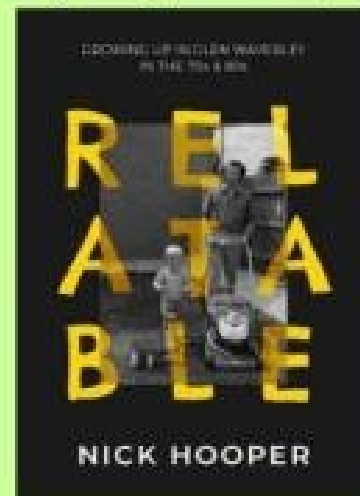
Booking required by 20.5.25

via our Email

waverleyhsvic@gmail.com

2 pm Sunday 22nd June 2025

Nick Hooper : Relatable
On growing up in Waverley



At our rooms

Booking required by 17.6.25

via our Email

waverleyhsvic@gmail.com

 OPEN HOUSE
MELBOURNE

Re-discover your city...



In July each year WHS invites you to plan a tour of some Melbourne places you have always wondered about. Look for an email in early July listing venues on offer this year and place your own bookings. Then tell us about them – or write a short report on your discoveries.

No meeting in our rooms in July.



2pm Sunday 24th August 2025
is WHS's 55th birthday!

It is also our Annual General Meeting



Jackie Fraser from Victoria Collections
will speak.

Jackie Fraser of the History Council of Victoria has a passion for acquisitions, collection development, and the challenges associated with collecting, interpreting and displaying contemporary material.