

July General Meeting

At this moment we will NOT be having a general meeting in our rooms as such, but we invite you to visit:

OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE

On Sat 29 and Sun 30 July

See

openhousemelbourne.org/melbourne/july-program

Check those webpages as July approaches to get the latest list of venues that will be open plus their access details

AGM and WHS 53rd Birthday 2pm Sunday 27 August WHS Rooms above MW Library

AGM

To review the operation of the Society over the past year.

To appoint a Management Committee for the 2023-2024 financial year.

With a presentation by Les Bailey on his book
My Glen Waverley 1940-1990

Followed by

53rd Birthday celebration

Afternoon tea and get-together to reflect on our society's changes over the years.

RSVP essential by 22 August

Via our Email

waverleyhsvic@gmail.com



Established 1970

Incorporated in Victoria
Reg. No. A 0006377 A

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SUBSCRIPTION

\$25 per household

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City of Monash.

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Annual subscriptions 2023/24 are
due on 1 July 23. \$25 per household

HISTORY HERE 244

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M. Angelico June 2023

The House Twin Oaks

When Stanley Fankhauser was married his father built the young couple this house on the family orchard. The Fankhausers were well-known orchardists in the Waverley area for about a century, and some are still living nearby. Now the fruit trees are all gone and a well-established piece of suburbia surrounds the home.

The current residents are only the second owners and they love living there. They named it Twin Oaks for obvious reasons. As artists, they have a studio behind the house and sometimes have exhibitions.

*The WHS is open each Wed
afternoon 1 to 4.30pm.*

Events on page 8: Unless otherwise stated, General Meetings are held at 2pm on the fourth Sunday in our rooms above Mt Waverley Library (Lift Available) 41 Miller Cres., Mt Waverley.

Coming Events

Next Event

Saturday, Sunday 23 July

Open House Melbourne

See P.8 for other events

2pm Sunday 24 September
WHS Rooms above MW Library

Historian & author

Barbara Minchinton

will speak about her book

Women of Little Lon

A vivid account of a remarkable but little-known chapter in Melbourne's history



Bookings essential by 20 September

via our Email

waverleyhsvic@gmail.com.

Also coming :

Sunday October 22

WHS Rooms above MW Library

*Gary Presland speaks on the place of
Gardiners Creek (Kooyong Koot) in
Indigenous and European history.*

Sunday November 26

WHS Rooms above MW Library

*Robin Boyd's Small Homes Service
and how it applied to Waverley 1950s*

Booking required for both presentations

via our Email

waverleyhsvic@gmail.com

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

Matt Fregon MP

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Our May General Meeting

Mandy Bede, President of the Ephemera Society of Australia and erstwhile librarian at Melbourne's State Library, was the speaker at our 28 May meeting, topic: *Ephemera*.

The Ephemera Society of Australia was established in 1987. It is a longstanding association of individuals united in their passion for collecting ephemera, be it for their own collection or forming part of the Society's own possession. The ESA holds fairs which are always a place for collectors to meet with fellow enthusiasts. Information re fairs and venues is available online.

Are ephemera and memorabilia one and the same? Strictly speaking ephemera, in this context, refers to items which have pinpointed an event or person of a particular time and which served its purpose well, then they were put aside or thrown away. Mandy was interested in the ones which were 'put aside', and these have provided a sociological window for the generations to come. So that we could all see the display, Mandy provided a power-point presentation.

During her time at the State Library, Mandy oversaw the first collection there. This happened to be WWI conscription material, in the form of leaflets and pamphlets.

Ephemera refers to printed material produced for a specific event, not necessarily intended to be kept, and was mainly concerned with domestic or working life and always informative about its purpose but also about the wider context, for example, politics and the world around us. The collection evolves as contemporary items are added. In the early days of the collection, the State Library bought one each of every magazine and newspaper tabloid from the conveniently-situated news-stand across the road in Swanston Street; same were stored and the process was repeated every seven years. Simply put, this collection, at least, showed which editions maintained popularity, or disappeared altogether, over the course of seven years. Hence life trends were authentically captured in the ephemera of ordinary life as depicted in the magazines.

Ephemera takes many forms: badges, an early sample Drink coasters, bookmarks, luggage labels and calendars. An badge sample commemorated Australia Day on 27.7.1917 and one calendar was entitled *German Crimes Calendar*, describing a different war crime each month!

Presumably these were hung in many kitchens.

So long as there was a date of a defining event, these things qualified as ephemera. John Sands Printers, back in the 1840's, ran competitions to illustrate their calendars with Australian themes, all messages relevant to the times. They formed a snapshot of homely scenes, things like house furnishings and fashion styles; glimpses back in time.

Ephemera such as postcards with illustrations of quarantine stations and disinfectant tents during the Spanish Flu epidemic in the 1930's provided a permanent grim reminder of a transient event, thus ephemeral. In recent times, local councils letterboxed homes with notices advising how to cope with lockdowns during Covid: something we hope we don't see again. Mandy's list was expansive and not unfamiliar to most of us. Advertising in the form of old fruit wrappers, bearing the message – 'grown especially for the Coronation', and another – 'Coronation Fete 1953' advising that 'proceeds go to Southern Memorial Hospital, held at Brighton Town Hall'. Hundreds of these would have been distributed in the weeks preceding the Coronation. Each leaflet or postcard depicted an important event of the time.

Old matchbooks showed records of changes such as the big switch over to decimal currency in 1966, with pictorial advice on how to deal with the 'New System'. Not to mention blotters! These were coveted because all households and schools had ink and pens. The blotters provided an effective form of advertising for shops, businesses and service stations. Commonly used items such as tea-towels and crockery were used to advertise this and that event and of course still are.

Poignantly, a collection of "thank you" notes for wedding gifts received during war-time, when paper was in short supply, were displayed and make-do scraps of paper were used in place of shiny, deckle-edged cards. The handwriting was ornate and distinctive; written, not printed! Plus old lists of wedding presents received, when people actually gave presents. Mandy transported us back to another era, which is why this sort of ephemera is so important; we were probably all thinking about what we might have tucked away at home.

Mandy deemed it important to pass a critical eye over what might be worth keeping. It is surprising what can be seen as interesting and informative; the passing of time makes it even more so.

Virginia Barnett

How the end came for Black Flat

On March 7, 1888, *The South Bourke and Mornington Gazette* reported on a public meeting held in the school room at Black Flat on March 1st.

Black Flat was not yet a gazetted township, but locals felt it deserved a better name. It had "the nucleus of a coming township," - a blacksmith, a general store, a school and a Methodist chapel.

Mr Ingram, who had already lived in the area for 34 years, thought the name was still good for many more, but also put forward the name of Robbie Burns' birthplace - Mossgiel.

Mr Edmunds preferred Waverley, saying there was already a Waverley church, though the church authority did not use this name. Many others agreed that it would be to advantage using this name, just as Breakneck Rd had become suddenly respectable by the change to Waverley Rd.

Wellington was suggested but quickly rejected

due to the proximity of an already gazetted township just a mile and a half to the south. (*Apparently no-one noticed that Waverley was already gazetted a mile and a half to the west? - Ed.*)

Andrew Wilson suggested Newtown or Market Hill, then other ideas came thick and fast - Finlayville, Ingramtown, and Dunham.

Mr Edmunds moved to have the Council seek a change and Mr Ingram seconded, saying the name began with the bullock drivers, in an attempt to describe the type of ground, but it was no longer appropriate.

The article does not state how the new name was arrived at, but a later report says that Glen Waverley came into common usage after that, though it was well into the 1920s before the Education Department would recognise the name. In official correspondence, Glen Waverley was always crossed out and Black Flat substituted.

A driveway that became a road

Waverley Park was a farming property on High Street Rd operated by Harry Russell Hore. The house was located on the high ground on the north side and was reached via a long driveway.

With subdivision of the property, the driveway became Saint Johns Wood Road which Harry Hore

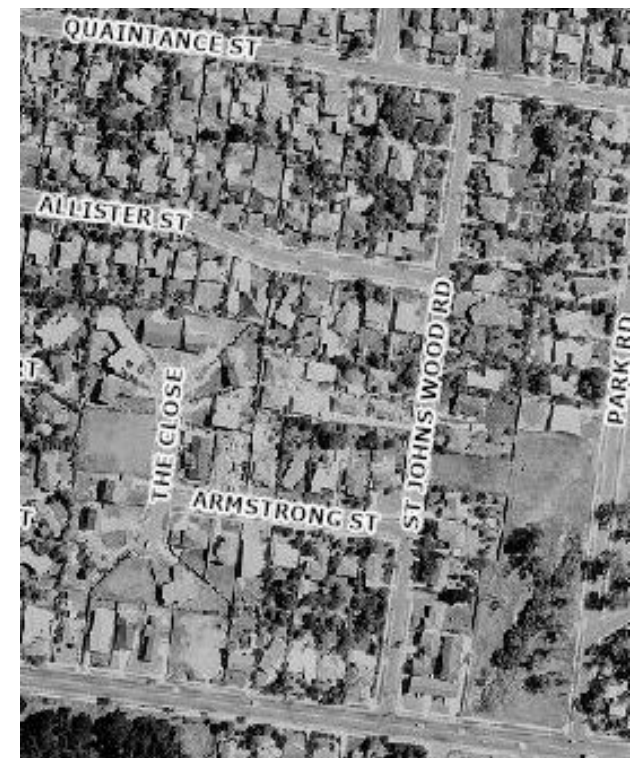
In 1945



named after the property *St Johns Wood* on the south side of High St (now the Riversdale Golf Club) in which his wife, Florence Brewer's family resided.

The farm house was at the corner of what is now Quaintance St, named after Mary Hore (nee Quaintance) wife of Edward, a pioneer settler and grandmother of Harry Hore.

By 1972, the area was almost fully occupied



The WHS “flooding” of 2023

Philip Johnstone

The WHS rooms above Mt Waverley library have suffered water damage on a number of occasions over the last 15 years. A couple of times it has been due to water ingress from the roof, on another it was due to water overflowing from a contract cleaner's oversight following overnight cleaning.

Our latest event ...

In late May this year we noted that there was water dripping from the ceiling panels onto some plan cabinets in our east storeroom. It was evident that the water has been dripping for some days since a weekend storm, as parts of the cabinets had been soaked. The water had filled the upper drawers and seeped down into the lower drawers. It was worse than first sighted as the water had expanded the wooden drawers so that they had stuck tight in the cabinet and we could not extract the contents. Furthermore the cabinets with their contents could not be moved out of the room.

Library staff arranged for a dehumidifier to be moved into the room to dry the cabinets and carpet tiles. Fortunately, other plans and aerial photographs in the steel cabinets on the other side of the room escaped the dripping water.

The cause of the water ingress was due to a leak in the old roof structure while the contractors were installing a **new roof** over the old sections.

It was a couple of weeks before the cabinets had dried out sufficiently for us to finally open the drawers and extract their contents. The contents were mainly large plans, display panels with mounted photographs. These were then spread out on tables and the floor in our meeting room.

Some were irreparably damaged others we have been able to dry and will probably be OK. Some cloth items such as banners were taken home and dried out under the sunlight. An old clothes-horse drying frame was brought in from the Presidential home to hang some large plans to dry out in the meeting room.

The cabinet drawers had developed some mould patches due to the humid conditions in the store room. We washed these off with white vinegar and reglued some parts.

All those who normally attend on Wednesday afternoons assisted in the working bees over successive days.



Parts of the meeting room floor and bench tops were used as drying spaces for a couple of weeks

Did you know?

Stephensons Rd which formed part of the original 1 mile grid containing the Shire of Mulgrave, City of Waverley and City of Oakleigh, did not exist south of Waverley Rd in 1945.

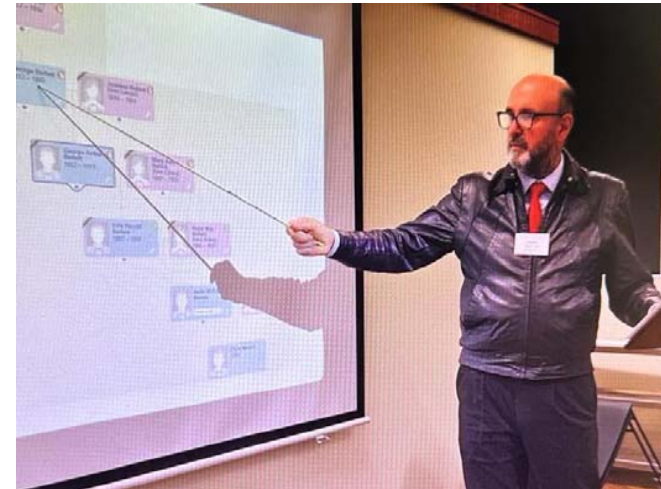
The area south of Scotchmans Creek to Fern-tree Gully Rd was part of the Amstel Golf course. The sale and subdivision of the golf course in the mid 1960s created a number of street names with golfing connections. The eastern boundary of the course was marked by the row of pine trees some of which are still standing.

Stephensons Rd finally reached Ferntree Gully Rd in 1975 to join with Clayton Rd. The bridge across Scotchmans Creek was part of the Monash Freeway construction.

P. Johnstone June 2023

Our June General Meeting

Our WHS Photographer Chris Norton (*is that really his name?*) entertained us one chilly afternoon in June with the fascinating story of his forebears, their name changes and other mysteries that must have been incredibly hard to pin down. In the process he traced the family back to not just one convict, but about ten from the first and second fleets.



Chris showing part of his extensive family tree

He also discovered cousins he had not known existed, a paternal grandmother who was actually a maternal aunt, and similar twists and mysterious turns in the family tree.

He challenges us to know our grandparents' names and where they were born, and to unearth the fascinating features of our own ancestry.

Memory Box

Have you been thinking of downsizing but wondering what to do with some lovely old things that evoke memories but have no sentimental value? The Monash City library is collecting such treasures to create a Memory Box for the mobile library service, used mainly by shut-ins, some of whom might be fighting dementia. Bring items to our rooms any Wednesday afternoon.



Sueie McGrath 2023

Pinewood Cinema Changes Hands for the First Time

Waverley Cinema in Pinewood Shopping Centre has changed ownership. The Jean family has run it for 49 years, employing whole families and seeing the children grow up and eventually get other jobs. Enormously loyal, the staff have stayed on for 20, 30, even 40 years each, but the Jean family is retiring now.

The new owner is called Showbiz Cinema, and has continued employing the same staff. It is still a family-owned company and will honour all discounts the Jean family offered.

Pinewood Shopping Centre was one of the first “Drive-in” shopping centres, as opposed to strip shops like those in Syndal, and used to bus shoppers in to discover the difference.



MArJo Angelico 2023

Subscriptions are due

As the financial year closes, annual subs become due. Despite rises in postage and insurance costs, we are maintaining the \$25 per household fee for membership, for which you get free research time in our rooms, this newsletter, and the knowledge that you are contributing to the only organisation preserving the history of every corner of old Waverley.

Australia Day in July?

We have all heard of Christmas in July, but did you know that Australia Day used to be celebrated in that month?

During our recent WHS talk on Ephemera, we were surprised to see Australia Day cards dating from 1915 to 1917. That Australia Day was a card-sending holiday was surprise enough, but the dates? They were all in July!



WHS File

WHS File

Nomination Forms are included

Please consider USING the enclosed form. Are you happy with the current committee? Please express that by re-nomination of some members. (Check with them first.) Each one must be nominated each year.

Have you considered nominating yourself? Fresh ideas are always needed and appreciated. Please think about joining. Meetings are usually about one hour per month, currently at lunchtime on Wednesdays, but that can change to suit those elected.

Wanted

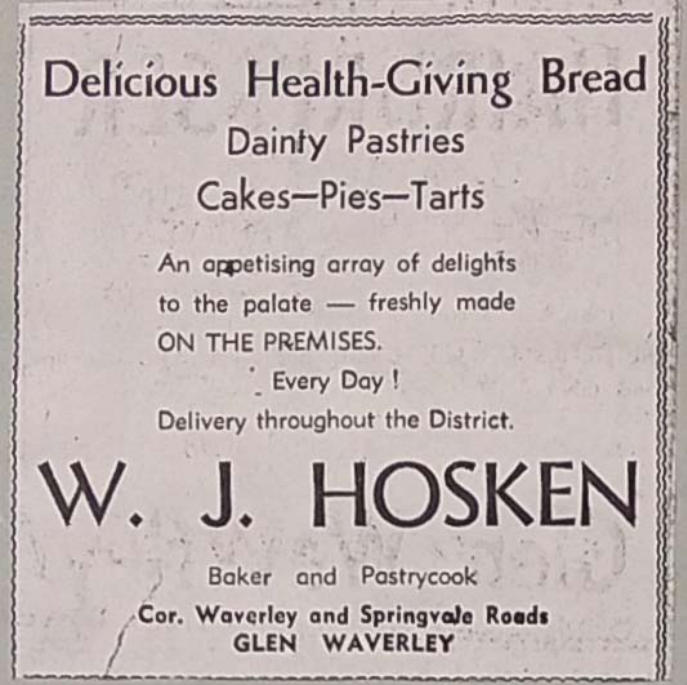
The WHS would like a set of cuisenaire rods from the 1960s used in Victorian schools as an aid to leaning addition and subtraction. These will add to our school artefact collection. Does anyone have an old set tucked away?

It turns out these were days for raising money for The Great War effort, and people were encouraged to draw on their pride in Australian soldiers' achievements in the war to make the celebration a joyous one, and one that would contribute useful funds.

Why this date was chosen is not clear.

Do you remember?

From the Mulgrave Mercury of 1949



A Waverley Pioneer

Carina Leitch

On a cool and wintery Saturday morning in May I met Mr Heinz Kubler of Buller Drive Glen Waverley to record his recollections of living in Glen Waverley for the past 70 years. The cool wintery setting was quite different from Heinz's home of Palestine.

Heinz and his family (parents & younger sister Louise) came to Glen Waverley via the Tatura Internment camp in Northern Victoria. Previously Heinz and his family lived in a Templar community in Palestine. The village was known as Sarona, and many Germans migrated to Palestine to build the community and live on God's land. Unfortunately, with the outbreak of World War II the Templar village was surrounded with barbed wire and the villagers' movements severely restricted by the British government.

In 1941 Heinz (who was aged 16) and his family along with many others from Sarona were deported from Palestine to Australia. The Templar community members were held in the Tatura Internment camp near Shepparton Victoria. Heinz's family remained at the Tatura camp until the end of the war. Heinz himself and most of the single men were sent to an internment camp in Renmark in South Australia due to rioting caused by the inmates at Tatura. Heinz remained at the Renmark internment camp until 1945 when he and the other single men were sent back to Tatura to live. Heinz and his family remained in the camp until 1947.

Prior to been released from the camp Heinz was interviewed by a judge to determine if he was of good enough character to remain in Australia. The other option for Heinz was to be deported back to Germany, a country that he had only lived in as a young child. Fortunately, Heinz was permitted to remain in Australia and commenced working in the hop fields in Myrtleford Victoria

After three months of work picking hops, Heinz had a conversation with his fellow pickers and decided there would be no future for himself if he remained in country Victoria. Again, good fortune was on Heinz' side as his mother was offered family accommodation in exchange for Mrs Kuebler senior

working as a cook at the Mountain View hotel in Glen Waverley. So, the Kuebler family came to settle in Glen Waverley. Heinz' mother worked at the hotel along with daughter Louise and his father Fritz working in the orchards owned by Mr Paxton.

Heinz had ambitions to study veterinary practice at university but unfortunately Heinz' English language skills weren't good enough. So instead, Heinz left Victoria for a time where in South Australia he worked in a patisserie. This was work Heinz very much enjoyed and he could see himself making a life for himself and settling in South Australia. But soon after beginning work in South Australia Heinz received a phone call from his father telling him that Mr Paxton was selling some orchards and he would like to buy one of the 10 acre allotments.



Heinz and wife Elizabeth at the Kuebler family orchard

To do this Heinz and his sister Louise combined their money and purchased an orchard near the current Mount Street. Further research has found that the Kuebler family managed a banana plantation whilst they lived in Palestine, so Heinz and his family began their life-long investment in the Glen Waverley community.

Heinz still has fond recollections of Mrs Marriott another pioneering family from the Glen Waverley area. Heinz describes Mrs Marriott as someone who "took his family in" providing support and friendship during his family's earlier years living in Glen Waverley.

Around 1954 Heinz's family sold their first orchard and invested in another orchard in High Street Road and Springvale Road opposite the present-day Wesley College. Here Heinz and his father continued to grow apples and stone fruits depending on the seasons. Heinz and his father used the High Street Road Cool Stores to house their fruit before it was shipped to the Queen Victoria market via the railway. Can you imagine the cool stores full of fruit? Forty-pound (18 kg) wooden boxes stacked eight high in the cool stores. Each orchard farmer bought their box space at the Cool Stores on a yearly basis and the shipment of fruit to Melbourne was managed by agents hired by the farmers.

Heinz also met his beautiful wife Elizabeth when she visited his orchard but that's a story for another