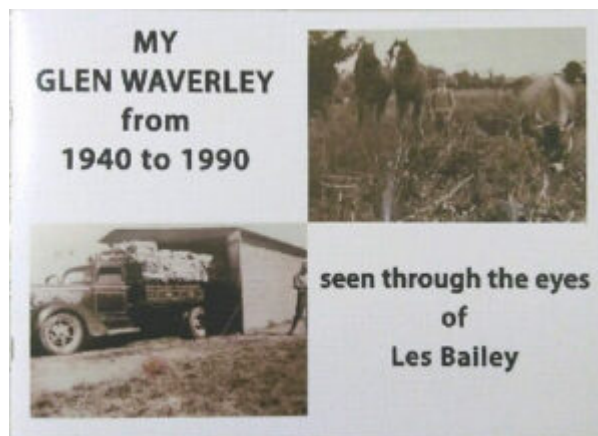


2pm Sunday 25th August 2024  
WHS -Annual General Meeting  
At our rooms



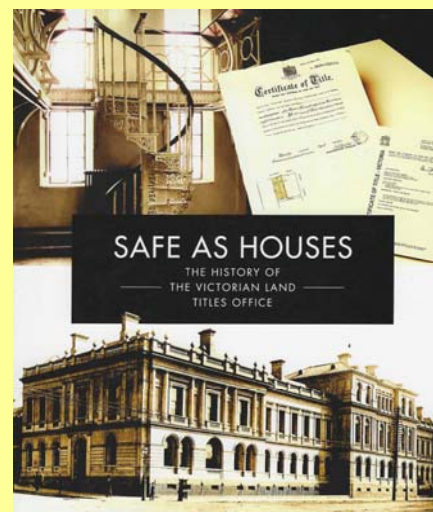
Speaker  
Les Bailey  
*My Glen Waverley*

Booking required

via our Email  
[waverleyhsvic@gmail.com](mailto:waverleyhsvic@gmail.com)

2pm Sunday 22nd September 2024  
At our rooms  
*Land Titles - From European settlement to Native Title recognition*  
By

Richard Jefferson



Booking required

via our Email  
[waverleyhsvic@gmail.com](mailto:waverleyhsvic@gmail.com)



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Annual subscriptions 2024/25 were-  
due on 1 July 24. \$25 per household

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 Governemnt issues please contact Matt's office.

**Matt Fregon MP**

STATE MEMBER FOR ASHWOOD

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M. Angelico 2024

## The House

This impressive owner-built house in Burwood looks solid and hand-  
some, a two-storey weatherboard in Federation style. The chimneys  
and detailing seem to indicate its historic nature.

Your guess as to its age?

Surrounded by brick veneers of the 1960s the ground floor was built in  
2002 and the upper storey a few years later. Not as old as we might  
think, but impressive nonetheless.

If you look carefully you might find other examples in the Waverley Area.

## Coming Events

**Next Event**  
**AGM Sunday**  
**25 August 2024**



2 pm Sunday 27th October 2024

*Reflections on Bonfire Night*  
(Guy Fawkes Day)



Booking required by

via our Email  
[waverleyhsvic@gmail.com](mailto:waverleyhsvic@gmail.com)

2 pm Sunday 24th November 2024

*London to a Brick Veneer*  
*Bartlett's Designed House*



by

Ralph Bartlett

At our rooms

Booking required by 20.5.24

via our Email



## AoEHS Conference

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

On a very cold and wet Saturday morning in June, a large group of keen historical society volunteers ventured up the Maroondah Highway to Lilydale Lake Conference Centre. WHS members: Ralph Bartlett, Norma Schultz, Carina Leitch, Clive Haddock, Jane and George Turton and Kerrie Flynn joined them. The theme for the conference was *The Value of Local History - Into the Future*. We heard from 11 Speakers who enthused and inspired us to try new things, to hold on to what is working and improve on it as we move into the future, creating new history. Some of the many ideas we were given included:

**Online content** can provide more access for people and deliver to a wider audience.

**Video presentations** can be created for as short as 17 seconds (start with a one to one interview), loaded onto Youtube and available to those with a link. This engages those who can't physically get to a venue.

**Newsletters** Adding content that informs members about what is happening in the community now creates a lasting history record for the future.

**Culture and Change** Find out the background and history of the people, cultural groups and hobby groups in your community **now**. This will provide a history of the change that has happened over time in your local area and why people or groups were formed.

We are not alone in our quest for more members or volunteers. Many organisations are facing this issue too. The increasing demands on society itself impact on volunteers and the physical presence of people at events, etc. Finding new ways to connect with people is always a challenge. The conference gave us a chance to connect with various Historical Societies and meet new like minded people. We look forward to the next Conference in 2026.

Kerrie Flynn

**Calling all members.** As a result of the conference we would like to hear from any members, or your neighbours, who would like to share why you came to the Waverley area and what your cultural background is. If you can write down your thoughts and pass them onto us we would be very grateful. Everyone contributes to the history of the Waverley/Monash area every day. If you can share some information about your family we can add you to our files on Families.

## Victoria Day

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1851, the Port Philip region was excised from New South Wales to create a new state, Victoria, named after the queen of the time. "Separation at last!" was the victory cry, and finally the discovery of gold, kept secret until then, could be announced.

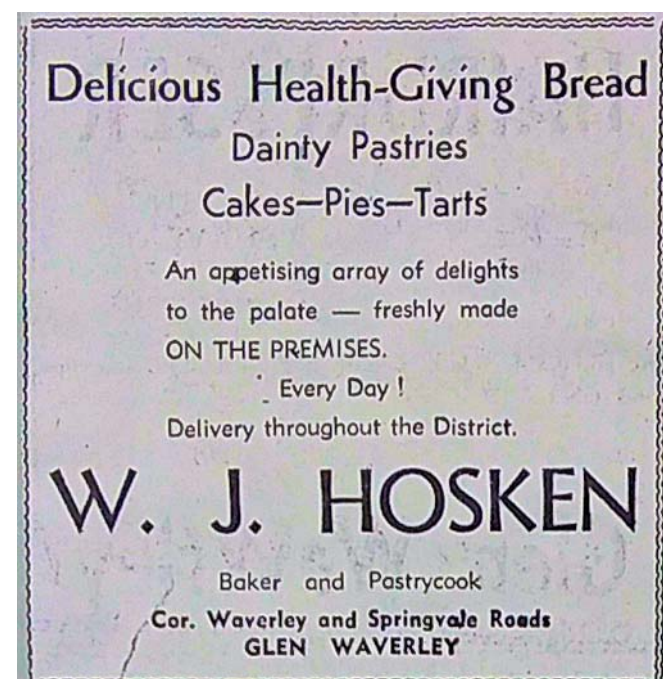
On that day, Victoria achieved not only its separate geographic boundaries, but also Responsi-



ble Government with the formation of the Victorian Parliament. Other new Victorian institutions, including the Supreme Court and the Public Service, also commenced on this important day.

This was the day Victoria was founded, though the official proclamation of Victoria's separation from New South Wales arrived from London on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Victoria Day was, prior to World War I, a public holiday. A function commemorating this important day was held at the Separation Tree in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne on 1<sup>st</sup> July this year.



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moiety system of kinship and totemic class that characterised the Kulin confederacy of -(w)urrung speaking clans. Woi wurrung clans were in the Waa class, with the exception of the Gunung-willam-bulluk whose members were Bunjil. All Kulin clans were exogamous, that is, men always sought marriage partners from another clan. In the case of the Woi wurrung, marriages were usually contracted with Bunjil clans of the Daung wurrung speakers of drainage basins north of the Dividing Range. The connections forged in this way gave members various rights of access to a large area of central Victoria.

**Are the oft-used terms Koori and Kulin synonymous? Can they be used interchangeably?**

I can understand that people may see some connection between the terms "koorie" and "Kulin", particularly, as you observe, both are used widely. But that's an unfortunate coincidence; the two terms are totally unrelated.

About forty years ago it was decided that to try to get away from the common belief that Indigenous Australians represented a single cultural group and could thus be referred to with the single term "Aborigine", a series of terms were applied to people from different regions of Australia. So, the term for a Queensland Aborigine was Murri; for Western Australian it was Nunga; South Australia Noonygar; and for

south-eastern Australia the chosen term was Koori (with or without the E). The term actually derives from a language group in coastal NSW. I think the term Koorie has fallen out of use a bit since then, but it's still around.

On the other hand, the word Kulin describes a Nation, i.e. a confederation of language groups, whose languages were closely related. There was something in the order of 250 "nations" existing on the Australian continent at the time of European settlement and each was named using the term in the respective language groups for "human being". The Kulin was a nation comprised of six language groups whose territories collectively took up all of what is now central Victoria. In the Boon wurrung, Woi wurrung, Tang wurrung, Ngarai illam wurrung, Watha wurrung and Dja Dja wurrung languages, the word for human being was "Kulin". That's why it is called the Kulin Nation. What this meant, in effect, was that if you didn't speak one of those languages then you weren't a human being!

Reference: Presland, G., *Aboriginal Melbourne*, Harriland Press, Melbourne, 2001.

For further study:

Hear how each language sounded

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au/bunjilaka/about-us/first-peoples/victorian-aboriginal-languages/>

## From Our Collection

### Tragic Times

In the display cupboard on the west side of the main WHS room (on your left as you enter), stands a small framed photograph of a young couple, shown at right.

It was taken on the occasion of the wedding of Ann Jane Wilson, aged 20, to William Rhodes at Black Flat on 22 June 1882.

The couple had a son in 1883 (Bev Yeoman's grandfather), and a daughter the following year, but in Oct 1885 William tragically died of appendicitis.

Left aged just 23 with two small children to care for, Ann married a neighbour, Tom Doherty, who already had 4 children.

Much later in 1930 Ann died and was buried at Oakleigh with Will, her first husband, and in 1937, Tom was buried in the same grave, where Ann kept the two apart.





## WoiWurrung

A Virtual Interview with Gary Presland for NAIDOC week July 2024

### Could you please explain the term WoiWurrung?

The language spoken by members of the four Koorie clans in adjoining estates in the Port Philip region was known as Woi wurrung. The name literally means 'no lip (or speech)' and refers to the way in which speakers expressed the negative, that is, 'woi.'

### Exactly where was WoiWurrung territory?

Traditionally, each of the four Woi wurrung-speaking clans identified with specific areas (estates). These estates were contiguous and, collectively, took in all the drainage basin of the Yarra River and its tributaries. The Woi wurrung clans' domain was bordered in the south by the Yarra River, upstream to Gardiners Creek, and in the southeast by Dandenong Creek and in the north by the Dividing Range from Mt Baw Baw to Mt Blackwood. The Werribee River was their westernmost extension, and in the east Woi wurrung territory stretched into the Dandenong Ranges past Warburton.

### Did they have other names?

Because of their obvious connection with land along the river, the Woi wurrung clans are often referred to in the historical literature as the Yarra Yarra tribe. Moreover, because it was the Wurundjeri clan of Woi wurrung that was seen around the settlement more than other groups (it being their estate), the Woi wurrung are also mistakenly referred to in the historical literature as Wurundjeri.

Alternative spellings of the language name, used in various historical sources, include Waverong, Waworong, Wawoorong, Woiwurru, Wowurroong and Woiworung.

### Please explain more about the four WoiWurrung clans and their relationships.

Accurate description of each of the four Woi wurrung clans, in terms of location and relationships to others, is a matter of some complexity; the following characterisation is both general and sub-

ject to correction as further detailed research is undertaken.

**The Wurundjeri-balluk** consisted of two patrilineal occupying adjacent areas on both sides of the Yarra River. The *first of these groups was Wurundjeri-willam who divided themselves into three locations: (a) on the southern side of the Yarra River, from Gardiners Creek to the northern slopes of the Dandenong Ranges; (b) on the northern side of the river, from its junction with the Maribyrnong River (and stretching north to take in Mount William), at Melbourne, and east as far as Kew; and (c) from around Heidelberg, along the upper reaches of the Yarra to near Mount Baw Baw.* The second patriline was the **Buluk-willam** who occupied an area from the headwaters of the Yarra River, southeast to Koo Wee Rup Swamp, toward Cranbourne, where they bordered Bun wurrung territory, at the top of Western-port Bay.

**The Marin-balluk** clan identified with the area between the Maribyrnong River and Kororoit Creek, stretching to the north as far as Sunbury.

The estate of the **Kurung-jang-balluk** was on the western side of Kororoit Creek, as far as the Werribee River.

The **Gunung-willam-buluk** identified with

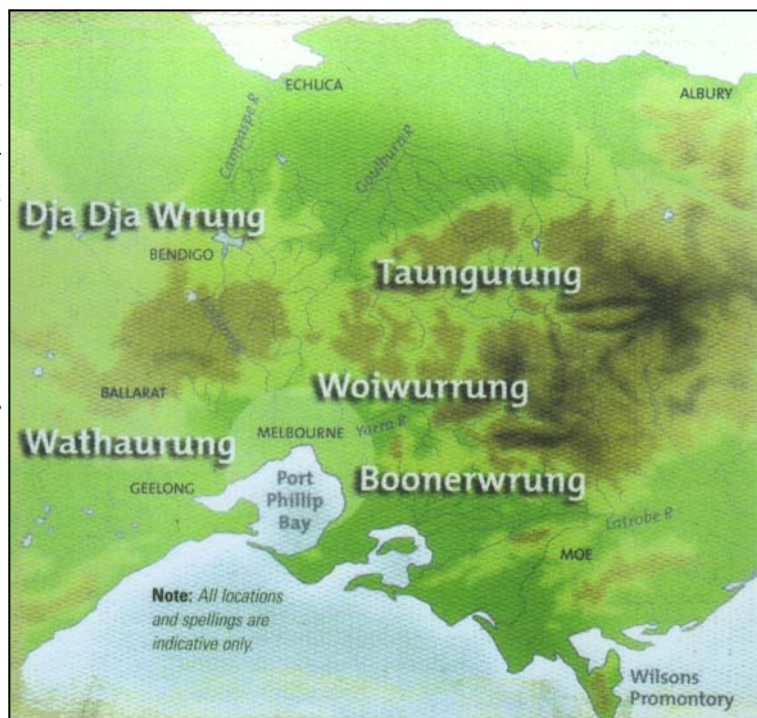
an area south of the Ranges, around Mount Macedon and Bacchus Marsh.

### What sort of governance did these people have?

Each Kulin clan was essentially independent, and governed by collective decisions. In each clan there was a senior man who had the title of Clan Head (Ngurungaeta in the Woi Wurrung language). These individuals were men of distinguished achievement and "were considered its rightful representative in external affairs." The collective of these Clan Heads was the nearest thing in Koorie society to a governing body.

### What relationships were there with neighbouring clans?

Woi wurrung clans were part of the Bunjil/Waa



## History Of Damper Creek

Virginia Barnett

Doug Scott was our speaker for May. He gave us a detailed talk about the origin of this precious Reserve, spoken with a passion that comes only when one truly respects and appreciates the preservation of natural spaces.

We started off with an old picture of farmlands in the area in the 1950's. Across the road we saw a service station at the northern end of Alvie Road and very little else. Then a picture of a waterfall, of all things, the effect of a sudden urban run-off following a heavy downpour. Back in the twenties, there was a government commitment to preserve streams in the municipalities of Melbourne. Great intentions, but not a lot was done, then in 1929 our Damper Creek was actually pinpointed as a likely place to start. Years rolled by until 1949, when the Planning Scheme for Melbourne and Municipalities was created. Much later, 1968, this area came under consideration, when storm water was seen as a problem to be resolved and nothing better than a system of barrel drains and concrete waterways was the proposed solution. Fortunately the residents surrounding this tract of land and creek clamoured to preserve its natural state, as far as possible. Council very wisely went along with this proposal, in collaboration with Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works.

**The artificial or the natural.** Community outcry was the precursor to the first meeting of the 'Friends of Damper Creek' on September 26th, 1968. The land in private ownership resulted in a case going to the then VCAT, along with Council's sanction, however VCAT resolved to leave the land in the hands of the community and MMBW and Council did not oppose this decision. So, the 'Friends' were ready to reconstruct the creek bed – huge job, from sewer to sanctuary. Damper Creek Conservation Reserve is an 11 ha bushland area located between the northern end of Stephenson's Road and Park Road.

The natural soft mudstone would wash away in time; it was necessary to source honeycomb basalt boulders from western Victoria. Slowly, the sides of the creek were reinforced and landscaped; a

construction team known as 'The Two Tonys' worked away with their massive heavy-duty machinery and were referred to as 'artists with an excavator'. Doug showed pictures displaying the meticulous layout and placement of these boulders, as the wildlife corridor gradually came into being. The beds are now stable and every year Council grants are applied for and the Council provides a steady stream of workers for weeding, planting and clearing.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee occurred in 2018, with a huge attendance of volunteers and the general community. Melbourne Water recognises this Group as one of the most promising of all 'Friends' groups. Doug declares that working with this Group is a great privilege and

he praised their work in general. He said a part of the 'Friends' is 'Waterwatch', a scientific approach overseeing the health of the Creek, monitoring the health of the water and checking salinity, nitrogen content, and in general checking the marine life, insects and animals, reporting results to Melbourne Water, as is carried out by 'Friends of Scotchmans Creek'.

A sewer line lies below the creek-bed; out of sight, out of mind, until a tree root gets in the way. Constant surveillance by the 'Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve', Council and Melbourne Water keeps everything in order.

The creek walks are just beautiful. Soon the sweet bursarias will erupt into bloom, along with the dodonaea, stringybarks and wattles, also indigoferas, bracken and bulbines – a real treasure. The area has no real remnants, in the true sense of the word, but careful planting of endemics and understanding plant habits has contributed to a substantial green wedge of which Waverley residents

should be proud. It is simply a quiet delight to wander along the tracks, no sight nor sound of suburbia to disturb the peace, just the wonder of bird call.

Our President, Ralph Bartlett, thanked Doug for his interesting and inspiring words.



Damper Creek at Golf Avenue



Elizabeth Dangard

Philip Johnstone Oct 2023



# Build 'em and move 'em on

Jeff Turnbull & Ron Howarth (dec.)

An extract from *Build 'em and move 'em on*, a report on the construction of relocatable houses in the Waverley district in the 1950s.

## The Burwood Site:

The first contract to build relocatable homes on the Burwood site appears to have been offered in the period 1948-50. The successful initial tender was from *Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* which was previously listed as a company involved in metalworking in the Lilydale area. The company was owned by Rafe Kimbell-Adeney, i.e. company, *R. W. Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* was listed in *The Argus* newspaper of 1 June, 1945 as applying for registration as a company on 3 July, 1945 with the registered office at 34 St Davids Street, Fitzroy. The type of work listed is 'engineer and sheet metal manufacturer'.<sup>35</sup> Kimbell Adeney was born Ralph Adeney in 1900 and married Marjorie Kimbell. He changed his name to Raf.

The Burwood site where they operated as builders, was between Carlyle and Leopold Streets. In the 1950 telephone directory, the listing is for:

*'Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd, Builders, Haig Street, Burwood, WM5995*

The company had previously been contracted by HCV for the completion of add-on units, probably for their imported houses:

"Another new contract has been entered into with Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd, Burwood, previously manufacturing the prefabricated utility unit comprising kitchen, bathroom, laundry, W.C., and porch for addition to site-built houses, for a group of fully prefabricated houses specifically for transportation to Norlane, Geelong."<sup>36</sup>

The site which the company had selected was at the eastern end of Haig and Leopold Streets, but the southern boundary of the site didn't run as far south as Carlyle Street. All were unmade roads in 1950; Haig Street in the centre of the site being the most

navigable and therefore served as the exit road from the site to Warrigal Road. The construction site continued east to what is now Morton Road.

The land which was market gardens up to the time had originally been owned by the Stocks family. It is unclear who owned the land at this time and whether Vic Stocks had already sold the land. *Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* was the successful tendering contractor for the first two years from mid-1950 to mid-1952 when a total of 417 units were constructed by them and taken to Warrigal Road via the main entrance which led from Haig Street. From July 1952, another building company, *Arthur & Stone* had the contract from Housing Commission Victoria

but only a reported 29 timber relocatable homes were completed by them. The manager of the site during this time was Tony Garde and houses were sent to Horsham, Werribee, Kyalite, Strathbogie and Ouyen.

Whether Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd or Housing Commission Victoria initially rented the land for the purposes of establishing a construction site is also not fully clear. However, house blocks in the surrounding streets had already been sold and the construction of houses had commenced by 1950.

The major difference in construction techniques between Jordaville and Burwood was that Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd employed a revolutionary assembly line method. This was done by laying parallel lines of track similar to railway tracks and having the houses constructed in conveyor belt style:

"Unlike other prefabricated depots operating, this firm will build on assembly line principles

and they (the house units) will move along tracks as they proceed to completion at the loading points."<sup>37</sup> At the peak of construction here between 1950 and 1952, there were about three lines and eight houses being constructed on each line at one time. Rafe Kimbell-Adeney has recorded the following:

"Assembly line for houses prefabricated at Burwood. E of Warrigal Rd. (Leopold St & Haig St). There were 180 men employed here. Complete house in 6½ hours. 15 houses in process - at a time - 3 lines and 5 houses to each line."<sup>38</sup>

The houses were moved along to the point where the two sections could be loaded on to low loaders and taken westward along Haig Street. Some residents remember the green Dodge Fargo trucks prime movers used to move the house sections. There were two used and they were nicknamed 'Hilda' and 'Hazel'.<sup>39</sup> To obtain the levels necessary on this site which sloped eastward towards Gardiners Creek, the land had to be excavated, leveled and the fill removed. This created quite a substantial embankment at the western edge of the site and adjacent to the new houses being built in Leopold, Haig and Carlyle Streets.

By mid-1953, the site ceased to be used for the production of relocatable houses and it seems that *Arthur & Stone* then converted the factory and site for the production of prefabricated houses. Rather than building a near-complete house, the company began production of prefabricated timber frames to be used in the construction of weatherboard houses. Amongst the houses built in this way were those along Ashwood Drive, just across Gardiners Creek from the factory. Eventually, after a short period of building, the entire factory closed. Residents who were living in Leopold, Haig and Carlyle

Streets at the time of the closure of the factory recall that the site was quickly filled with the same soil that had been excavated and stored on site and the ground was restored to its original level and slope.

The firm of *Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* moved away from the house-building industry and the company established factories at Lilydale and Wagga Wagga where they manufactured grain augers and other sheet metal products. Rafe Kimbell-Adeney eventually lost control of the company after falling out with his business partners. He always contended that he was a victim of a "boardroom coup" when he was ousted from his own company in 1952.<sup>40</sup>

Production numbers from Burwood for 'Winwood' and 'Stawell' houses are as follows:

July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951 - *Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* - 208 units

July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952 - *Kimbell-Adeney Pty Ltd* - 209 units

July 1, 1952 to June 30, 1953 - *Arthur & Stone* - 29 units

Total - 456 units

(Source: Housing Commission Annual Reports, 1949-50 to 1953-54)

Notes:

35. The Argus 1 June 1945.

36. Housing Commission Victorian 'Eleventh Annual Report...' p.10

37. *Ibid*

38. Adeney, Cliff, 3 March 2009

39. Recalled by Gillian Bailey

40. Adeney, Cliff, 3 March 2009



## Volunteers

Are you looking for a new outlet, a voluntary role that is interesting, sociable, and helpful? Do you have any Wednesday afternoons free? WHS would love to see you!

There is a variety of tasks awaiting helping hands – anything from checking our bound local papers for good items to index, and checking files for missing items, to data entry and digitising and more. You get to choose! Any needed skills can be taught.

It does not have to be every week, though regular attendance will help us exponentially more than occasional visits. Between 1:30 and 4pm would be good, but any part of that is also acceptable. We need to spread not only the skill-base, but also the fun!

If you can be part of the Wednesday Worktime team, please email the Society ([waverleyhsvic@gmail.com](mailto:waverleyhsvic@gmail.com)) or talk to MarJo at a meeting or on any Wednesday. Thank you! We look forward to seeing you.