

Irene Marriott — A century well lived

On Sunday 15 September 2013 more than 100 guests gathered together to celebrate the birthday that marked 100 years of life with a fitting party. And to honour the centurion Irene Marriott. Living through an entire century has resulted in magnificent memories, stories and special relationships that have formed parts of her life.

The party, especially the messages from the Queen, the Governor General and many others reinforced how special the occasion and the birthday celebrity are, and have been to this community, as it grew from farm to urban sprawl, from all male officer bearers to the first woman in council. etc.

At the Mulgrave Country Club friends and associates who have been significant through her life, as well as several generations of family



Laurie Burchell

(including Liam, the Great Grandson who escorted Irene into the room on his arm) were represented.

Irene talked of milestone events in her life, and those more personally close. As she travelled from table to table she mentioned funny (or embarrassing) events involving relations and friends and shared something special at most of the tables without appearing weary.

The singers and musicians sang hymns and songs of particular significance to Irene and provided a background while what can only be described as High Tea was served.

At the end of the day each guest was given a rose from a huge arrangement given by Monash Council as a memento of the day.

Bev Anderson

COMING EVENTS

Wed 23 October 2pm : Ray Price - *Preserving Past and Present for Posterity*. Followed by Afternoon tea. Bookings please on 9807 3408

Thu 28 November 7.30pm : General Meeting with Christmas Activities. Please bring a plate with supper.

Christmas Closure : Last day 4 Dec. Reopen on 29 Jan 2014.

Mon 27 January 11am to 3pm : Australia Day Display open to the public.

Thu 27 February 7.30pm. Jeff Whittington : *History of Royal Melbourne Hospital*.

In 2014, general meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday in Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug and Nov.

Wellington Township Continued from page 5

Street. The Peters name is remembered despite a Nestle takeover, by the naming of Peters Avenue, which runs through the old Petersville 88 acres.

St Matthew's Church moved to Lum Road, where the sandstone of the original little church can still be seen in a feature wall. The memorial windows were incorporated into the new building too. The school was closed and the little Mulgrave school, down near Dandenong Creek, was built, shifted, burnt down, and replaced, and the replacement closed - all between then and now. So the wheels keep turning. Some things are lost, some change, but footprints are left for the aware to discover.

Next issue - we present Part 2 and move a little to the south and explore the features that are still discernible on the aerial photograph.

MarJo Angelico & Clive Haddock

MYSTERIES IN OUR HISTORY

Can you help solve some long-time mysteries ? There are a few things that we have long wondered about. Do YOU know the answers? Ranfurly Rd in GW - why was it so named? We know there was a Ranfurly Golf Club. Is there any connection between the two?

Why were the names Highbury and Wellington chosen for the major roads at our northern and southern extremities

When was YOUR area subdivided? Do you have a real estate brochure or newspaper cutting about the land sale?



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Journal of the Waverley Historical Society October 2013



Stephen Angelico

FLYNN SMITHY

In memory of John Flynn who passed away recently, we portray here his old family home. Our sympathy to Pauline and the rest of the family in their grief.

This rambling old homestead tucked away behind an established garden is almost unseen amongst ordinary suburban homes in Mount Waverley. Evidence of its longer history includes the chimneys and varying rooflines. It was in fact the Flynn Smithy: John Flynn's grandfather worked here as blacksmith. As for his relative David Scammel, the more famous blacksmith of Black Flat, business slowed in the depression of the 1890s and both diversified into market gardening and woodcutting. Both were members of the Jeanes clan that developed around Valley Reserve.

Can you add to our knowledge of this house? Please share your memories with us.

Please note that General Meetings are now held every two months and are evening meetings starting at 7.30 pm. Special activities will be held in most alternate months. We are located above the Mt Waverley Library 41 Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley.

Christmas Closure : Last day 4 Dec 2013. Reopen on 29 Jan 2014.

OFFICE BEARERS and COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2013/14

Executive

President : Ed Hore
 Vice President : Philip Johnstone
 Vice President : MarJo Angelico
 Honorary Secretary : Norma Schultz
 Honorary Treasurer : Beverley Anderson
 Membership Secretary : Jean Walkerden
 Committee
 Judy Borg
 Margaret Boyes
 Laurie Burchell
 Pat Burchell
 Beverley Delaney
 Chris Norton
 Ray Price



Laurie Burchell

Secretary Norma Schultz presenting a bouquet to our Patron Dr Morna Sturrock at the AGM

Delegated Appointments

Archivist : Norma Schultz
 Care and Concern Officer : Vacant
 City of Monash Council Liaison Officer : Ray Price
 Database Management and Indexing Officer vacant
 Association of Eastern Historical Societies Delegates : Norma Schultz & Jean Walkerden
 Equipment Officer : Philip Johnstone
 Function and Events Coordinator : Beverley Delaney
 Hospitality Team : Judy Borg
 Internet Webmaster : Philip Johnstone
 Newsletter Editor : EdCom (Editorial Committee)
 Publicity and Education Officer : Ray Price
 Representative - Monash Reconciliation Group : Norma Schultz
 Research Officer No 1 : MarJo Angelico
 Research Officer No 2 : Clive Haddock
 Safety and Risk Management Officer : Bev Anderson
 Programme Coordinator : Margaret Boyes
 Textiles Curator : Bev Anderson
 Exhibition Curator : Beverley Delaney
 Videographer and Photographer : Chris Norton

WHERE IS THE WHS?

Our rooms, which are located above the Mt Waverley library in Miller Crescent, are open each Wed (except over the Christmas break), from 1pm to 5pm, or by appointment, for individual research and working discussion groups. When the library entrance door is locked at meetings, use the doorbell at the far left to gain entry. Members are asked to bring a plate of supper to general meetings which for 2013/14 are every second month.



Historical Walk 8 September 2013

Twenty- two people attended and with our Research Officer, MarJo Angelico as their guide, began the walk from the grounds of Holmesglen TAFE College, Mt Waverley campus.

At one time this was the State Schools Nursery and earlier than that the original nine hole Glen Waverley Golf Club. The little street on one side, Montague St, was for many years part of a huge north-south road reserve but was ultimately abandoned in favour of EastLink.

We now walked north, then west, through Triumph Close (1999) and Riley Court (2000). Aitchison Court (2000) was where the combined research laboratory of Melbourne University studied soil mechanics. The nearby Avendon Estate surrounded by impressive cypress trees was established in 1997. The trees were very old and served as a windbreak for the orchards of the Pepperells and the Muirs. Wesley College had bought the northern part of the orchard in 1966, and the land south of the railway was then acquired by Country Roads Board, and when they moved out it was subdivided and became Avendon.

Then we crossed the upper reaches of Scotchmans Creek which brought us to Dunscombe Ave. named after the owner of a small orchard in May Lane, now called Blackburn Rd. A short cut to Fiander Ave. and Falconer St. led us to land that became residential areas in 1953 and 1954. They were referred to as '*splendid home sites*' because



Laurie Burchell

Walking down Deirdre Street

they featured 'bitumen road with concrete foot-paths and water and electricity to every lot'. We now came to a special surprise: a surviving Dunscombe apple tree!

After passing the oak trees that marked Simpson's poultry farm, we turned off Blackburn Rd. into Turner Crt and entered Oswego, a dairy farm. The name 'Oswego' is borrowed from an area in New York State in the USA. In 1938, the Crosbys bought this land for Waverley Golf Course. Among other things it had inherited a large underground water tank which, when the land was subdivided, was filled and incorporated into a roadway.



In April 2003 to the dismay of residents, it collapsed! The above photo show MarJo Angelico on the site. Further down Turner St., nearer to the creek, the group was able to enjoy the remnant indigenous vegetation – the best kept secret beauty spot in Waverley!

In spite of the hilly terrain, all walkers finished the course and had learnt a lot.

Pat and Laurie Burchell

OPEN DAY - FAMILY HISTORY WEEK

During Family History Week in August, the Society invited members and visitors to visit the rooms and look at items from our collection such as aerial photos, old newspapers, land sale records and scrap books, and to take part in the 'history mystery quiz' which is always popular.

In keeping with the family history theme, information about local families, a 1957 wedding dress and old wedding photographs were on display. The highlight of the Open Day was MarJo Angelico's collection of items relating to 'The Waverley Owner-Builder Phenomenon' – house plans, bricks, blocks, photographs and real estate brochures.

The next Open Day will be held on the Australia Day holiday, Monday 27 January 2014,



Margaret Boyes

MarJo Angelico with the Owner-Builder display

SPEAKER AT JUNE MEETING

Dr Richard Broome spoke at our June meeting. Dr Broome was a professor of history at La Trobe University for 30 years and is widely recognised as an authority on Aboriginal history in Australia. We were very fortunate to hear him speak about his current project, writing a history of the Aborigines Advancement League.

Following a controversy about substandard living conditions among Aboriginal people at the Warburton Ranges Mission in Western Australia, the League was established in 1957 to promote rights and opportunities for Aboriginal people in Victoria and became a dynamic and influential pressure group and welfare body. It continues to conduct welfare and community activities to this day.

Members who were interested in Dr Broome's interesting and informative talk will look forward to reading his history of the League when it is published later this year.

Margaret Boyes

How many places can you list that have connections with the game Monopoly and are in our boundaries? (This is not a mystery - just a bit of fun to amuse grandchildren.)

WHS DISPLAYS

Displays are used to promote the Society and attract the community to our rooms and presentations and record their local history knowledge and for them to find out what information we might have.

The displays were set up in:

March 2013	Mt Waverley Library Glass tower cabinet
June 2013	Glen Waverley Library Glass tower cabinet
August 2013	Mt Waverley Library Notice display board
September	Glen Waverley Library Notice display board

The items used in the displays included old photos, artefacts, old Melway street directories, *Then and Now*, *Once there was Jordanville* and other books for sale. Together with WHS Membership Application Forms.

Beverley Delaney

Our Jim - James Reginald Tuhan, 17 April 1930 - 8 August 2013

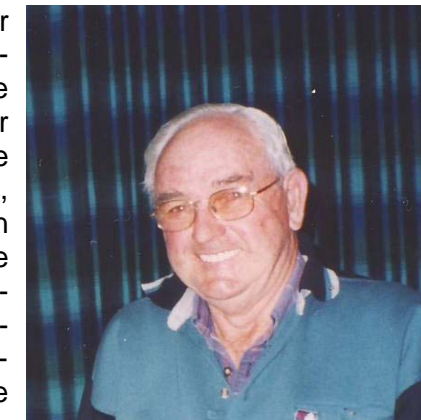
"The imperishable crown of a good name."

Jim certainly was highly regarded everywhere he went. We like to call him "ours" because of all the time he gave the Historical Society. He took on the presidency when a vacancy arose and no-one else seemed to be available; he stayed on, probably past what he would have wished, because he did not want to leave the Society in the lurch. It was eight years before a replacement was found. All of that time I remember his hard work on many fronts and his gentle style.

He would always apologise for breaking into members' conversations when it was time to start the meeting. He often supplied door prizes and little extras to make meetings even more enjoyable, and he was always first to get on with whatever physical work there was. He never forgot other people's contributions, but was humble about his own. "So many people do so much more - and have done for years - than I have," he would say: "Some have done an enormous amount." Yes, Jim was an excellent President and member of our Society.

But he did "an enormous amount" for other organisations too. Mt Waverley Bowls club was pleased to have secured his conscientious work as green keeper for many years. He was a member of the Lodge for fifty years, and the local cricket club also saw a lot of him. There would be others too, like Bayview school, and of course his customers whose gardens he maintained speak very well of Jim.

Probably his biggest effort was the Mount Waverley Football Club, where he set a record playing 365 games for the club. He had joined at 15 years of age, and both his parents plus his uncle were made life members for their contribution. Later both Jim and his wife also became life members, and their three sons were heavily involved - one even beat Jim's record number of games. All of the family made themselves available for a range of roles in the club. There was even an article in a footy magazine called "Southern" expounding on the amazing support the family was being to their local club. The article was headed "The Tuhan Saga." It would be impossible to think about that club without thinking of Jim and his family.



WHS File

Notice that all his efforts were put into the Mount Waverley area. Jim lived in that area all his life, and his family for several generations before too. We all know about Tuhan's Boundary Store, and some may even know of Tilney Farm, and relatives Thompson and others, mainly Mt Waverley folk.

Jim lived well, laughed often, and loved much. He constantly gave of himself and asked for very little in return. His motto - "Do the right thing" - was lived out to the full. He never said negative things about others - was always ready to give credit. In turn, his own name will forever be remembered positively. Think about that club without thinking of Jim and his family.

MarJo Angelico

Did you know? - A skippet

Have you heard of the term Skippet? From the Concise Oxford Dictionary: *Small cylindrical wooden box used to enclose and protect large seal attached by ribbon to deed.* In the National Archives resides the Royal Commission of Assent to the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia, this is signed on vellum by Queen Victoria in July 1900 and is attached to an exquisite pewter skippet!

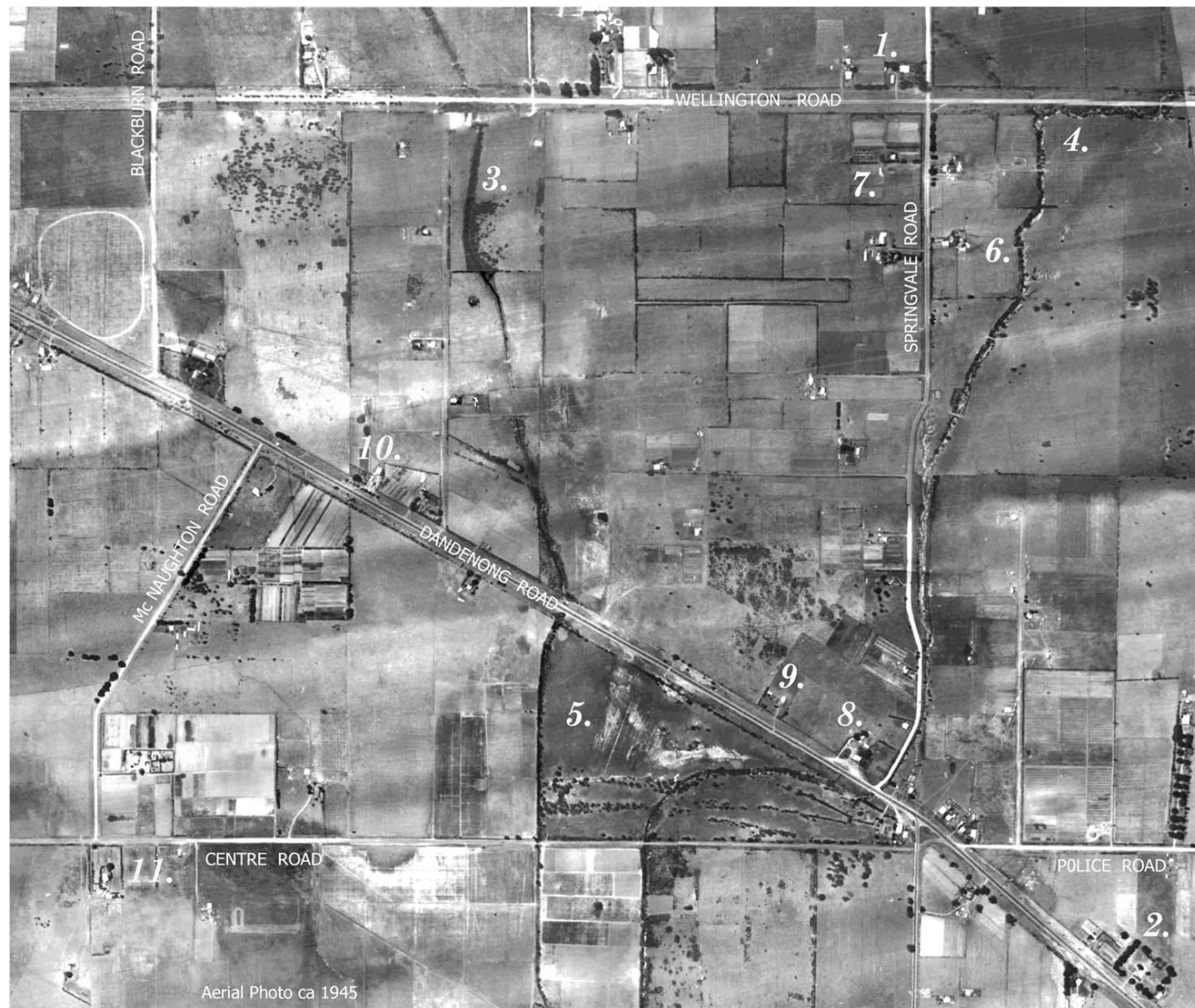
WELLINGTON TOWNSHIP (PART 1)

An almost forgotten locality name within the City of Monash is Wellington. We are not sure yet who named it and why, but we do know that the name is preserved in the road that brought settlers there (Wellington Road) and in Wellington Secondary College, Wellington Reserve (where the newest branch of Monash Library recently opened) and maybe a few others.

Did you know that big plans were made for a township in that area following the 1853 survey of the district by Eugene Bellairs.

St Matthew's Church and the Wellington School (1.)

The church has had a lot written about it. However, memories of the school that was on the corner of Wellington and Springvale Roads have been confused. This "Wellington" school received its number (685) in 1863. Prior to this, Wellington was a church school controlled by the Church of England. It opened in April 1861 under the Denominational Board. The first head teacher was Peter Walker, whose record indicates that he had charge of the school from April



1945 Aerial Survey Photograph

On this 1945 aerial photograph remain some remnants that point to the history of the area. Photo source: <http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/maps/historical/1945melb/849c2.html>

The numerals on the picture refer to features described in the text.

to October 1861.

In 1863 the school had an enrolment of 21 boys and 15 girls. Under the Department the school carried on in a leased building. Head teacher William Kerr had been appointed in May 1871 by the Board of Education. Kerr remained in charge



Wellington School

until 1875 when the school was struck off the roll and replaced by the new SS1658 Springvale North (2.). William Kerr was head teacher of SS1658 until 1891.

Wellington Township (7.)

During the year 1855, business partners Nelson POLAK and Patrick RILEY were very active at Government Land Sales, becoming Grantees for several Sale-Lots for the Parish of Mordialloc including this one. (Our southern boundary was Wellington Rd then). In January they purchased Crown Section IV, Allotments 4, 6 and 7 (on Mulgrave and Dandenong parish boundaries) and soon had lots 6 and 7 surveyed into 180 blocks with frontages to 15 streets. Sales began in July and mostly land speculators purchased four adjoining blocks in the one conveyance. The phrase, 'allotments township of Wellington,' first appeared on land conveyances in early 1857. No copy of the original survey is known to have survived; yet one subsequent attempt to draw a facsimile is illustrated here.

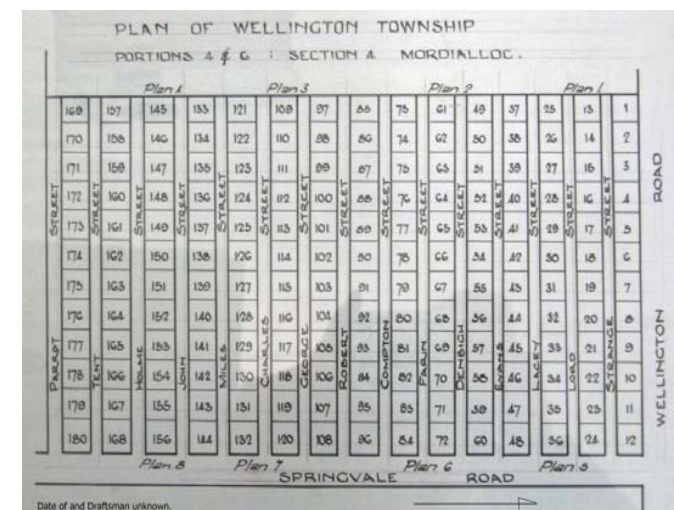


Illustration of the plan of Wellington Township

Enterprise Migrant Hostel (6.)

Now marked by the Glenvale Crescent "Enterprise Business Park," this site was named after the migrant hostel that met the needs of migrants and refugees from 1970 to 1992. By 1969 Holmesglen hostel was becoming too dilapidated, so a new much more inviting hostel was created and named Enterprise. No Nissen huts in boring rows here! Just before Christmas 1970, the remaining residents of Holmesglen were moved to the new facility. For photos and stories, see <http://www.enterprisehostel.org/about-enterprise-hostel>

Mile Creek

The creek has two major arms that run roughly parallel to each other. Mile Creek West (3.) rises in Monash University and where the freeway crosses Ferntree Gully Road, passing through the Westerfield estate in Notting Hill. Controlled by concrete channels as it flows towards Wellington Road, it is prevented from flooding the Technology Precinct that now includes the Australian Synchrotron. It can be seen on our aerial photograph causing a swampy area on Centre Road.

Wellington Township in the 20th Century

In the late 1950s this land became home to the new breed of industrial areas the "garden factories", a strong contrast to the old cramped and grimy inner suburban factories. One of the earliest and largest was Petersville, which produced ice-cream, frozen and canned vegetables, baby foods, pastry, dairy products, commercial refrigeration and transport, insect control appliances, and vending machines. In moving its operations to Mulgrave it both grew and caused growth in the area. The Peters factory was completed in 1964 and designed by the same architects who designed the Nicholas Aspro building on Waverley and Warrigal Roads. Nicholas has gone from our skyline, but Peters is heritage listed because of its distinctive wavy facade.

Inside there is a double-height foyer with a bridge linking east and west offices. An open string staircase leads to the offices. The ceiling follows the waves of the roof, and is lined with polished wood. It is a magnificent example of the "new" factory scenario.

And Now...

Now, of course, the whole "Wellington Township" area is industrial and the planned suburban streets never eventuated, except for Miles

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