



# Glen Eira Historical Society

## From the President

### The Former Red Cross Rest House, Caulfield and HammondCare's Caulfield Village.

You will remember back in 2017 following a nomination by Glen Eira Historical Society the Red Cross Rest House (known then as Montgomery House) was added to the Victorian Heritage Register due to its cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria.

Adjacent to the Rest House, HammondCare has opened Caulfield Village, a residential village, specially designed to provide best practice dementia care in six single-level cottages. Recently we visited the village and were shown through the cottages that sit nicely beside the former Rest House which is still to be refurbished. The six cottages have been named after people with strong connections to the former Caulfield Repatriation Hospital.

**1. Bernard** - Bernard Haines was a 16 (14 according to some sources) year old boy soldier who lied about his age to join the army. He was badly injured in an explosion and lost a leg and severely damaged his spine. Bernard spent 8 years at Caulfield Repatriation Hospital and endured 40 operations in that time but eventually succumbed to his injuries.

**2. O'Dwyer** - Ida O'Dwyer was Matron of Caulfield Repatriation Hospital 1920 - 1938.

**3. Ferguson** - Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson, wife

of the Governor-General, formed the Australian Branch of the British Red Cross in 1914, just nine days after the outbreak of World War I. The Red Cross held a huge carnival at Caulfield Racecourse in 1916 to raise money to build the Rest House.

**4. Mills** - Violet Mills was the first Matron of Caulfield Repatriation Hospital 1916 - 1920.

**5. Dane** - Dr Paul Dane was considered very progressive in his rehabilitation treatments and believed that returned soldiers should be able to live as full a life as possible. He tried to dispel the "sick role" of his soldiers. Dane



Left: GEHS presents a copy of *Along the line - Caulfield to Oakleigh Rail Stories* to the Victorian Parliamentary Library, 14 August, 2019.

*We acknowledge that the Boon Wurrung People are the traditional custodians of the area covered by the City of Glen Eira.*



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established group therapy as a treatment for both ex-soldiers and civilians, being the first Australian psychoanalyst to do so.

An amusing story is told in Bruce Ford's *The Wounded Warrior and Rehabilitation*, of two soldiers, one blind and the other a double below-knee amputee, encouraged to get out by their doctor and go to the Elsternwick pub. The blind man lent his strength to the wheelchair-bound legless man who gave directions to the blind man. After many beers the pair made their way back to the hospital. 'Disaster struck when, with failing light, the "eyes" of the duo, in a momentary lapse of concentration, directed the combination into a ditch.' After a while a guard overheard the commotion and the following day '...as they were being reprimanded by the CO he [the blind man] could hear him smiling.'

**6. Turner** – Mr Turner, a building supervisor of Montgomery House was an above-knee amputee following injuries he suffered in the battle of Passchendaele. He survived 14 operations before receiving prosthetics.

Barbara Hoad

Thanks to Liz Freeman of HammondCare; Bruce Ford, *The Wounded Warrior and Rehabilitation*, The Alfred Healthcare Group, 1996.

<http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/dane-paul-greig-13942>

## GEHS celebrates 10 years!

Join us to celebrate 10 years of being located at 965 Glen Huntly Rd. Members and friends are invited to morning tea on Friday 15 November at 10.30am at 965 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield. Come and see our rooms and view some of our collection. RSVP by Tuesday 12 November 2019 to [gehs@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gehs@optusnet.com.au) or 9077 5395.

## Recent Acquisitions



Left: Raynham vase by Raynham Pottery donated to GEHS.

A Raynham vase and book on pottery making with inscription 'Raynham Pottery', donated by

Krystyna Farrell. Raynham Ceramics and Ray Cook Pottery were operated by Ray Cook in East Bentleigh between 1948 and 1972. It seems that Ray bought out Guy Boyd's East Bentleigh pottery in the mid-1960s and in 1973 both Raynham and Guy Boyd's ramekin designs were sold to Bendigo Pottery. Krystyna says she bought the vase at a fete in the early 1970s (around the time Bendigo Pottery acquired Raynham) and was told it was made by a local potter.

<http://rameking.blogspot.com/Scholes>

Paul A. Scholes, *Bendigo Pottery* (1979)

## Announcement

Alice McInnes, former Secretary and more recently Collections Manager, has found full-time work as Community Engagement Librarian and Heritage Curator for the City of Hobson's Bay. We congratulate Alice and wish her well in her new job. Alice has volunteered with GEHS for 5 years and we will miss her!

## Victorian History Showcase



Left: Peta Van Horick, at Victorian History Showcase Prahran Mechanics Institute, 16-17 August, 2019.

## Recollections of Payneswicke



Above: *Payneswicke*, GEHS collection, 'Historical Caulfield to 1972' photo album. Circa October 1966.

My wife Sonia, and I purchased our house in Gladstone Parade, Elsternwick, opposite *Payneswicke*, in March 1969. At that time there were still two or three members of the Brown family living in *Payneswicke* (see *Issue 18 Brown diaries*).

My memories of them in the 1970s are as follows:

Beatrice Brown was very active, walked briskly, and was a great piano player. She had one (or maybe two?) grand or baby-grand pianos that she played daily, often with the window open, allowing the music to drift across Gladstone Parade from *Payneswicke*. Beatrice spoke with a 'cultivated' Australian accent, and I think she also spoke French. She frequented the Lyceum Club in Melbourne.

Amy, a sister to Beatrice, walked with the aid of a walking-stick. Maybe because of this she seemed to be less active than Beatrice. Amy would often visit our home at bath-time for our infant son and sit on a stool beside the bath. I think there was also a sister called Kitty, but I have no

memories of her. I recall a brother, Eddie, who held an Emeritus position in the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Melbourne in the 1960s. He drove a Morris Minor to his office, and I would see him arrive from the Civil Engineering Department building where I was undertaking post-graduate study. He did not live at *Payneswicke* then, but sometime in the 1970s he moved in with his sister(s).

My recollection of the interior of *Payneswicke* was of a house that was frugally furnished. The rooms, especially the kitchen and wash-house areas, had apparently not been updated since the house was built. Lights were often bare lightbulbs without shades. However when maintenance was required it was undertaken immediately. For example, I remember Amy noticing from our garden that the finial at the top of their gable roof was leaning off vertical; a situation that was quickly rectified.

Colin Kirkham



Above: *Payneswicke*, GEHS collection, 'Historical Caulfield to 1972' photo album. Circa October 1966.



## Calendar

27 Sep - GEHS office closed - AFL Grand Final holiday.

5 Nov - GEHS office closed - Melbourne Cup Day.

10 Nov - GEHS participating at the Glen Eira Artists' Society event 2019  
Murrumbeena Cityscape at Murrumbeena.

15 Nov - Members' celebration of 10 years in our rooms at 965 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield.

28 Nov - Speaker Series - Beaumaris Modern speaker on their group's experience in protecting mid-century homes in Beaumaris.

13 Dec - Final day opening for 2019.

4 Feb - Opening day for 2020.

## Heritage Update

Heritage issues do seem to be more in the news these days - though a mix of the good and the bad.

We are currently parties to two VCAT cases:

a) 7-15 Horne Street, Elsternwick where we are one of a small number of Parties participating in the Hearing of 4 days 16-19 September. For us, this is a bid to limit development to 6-8 stories rather than 14.

b) 10-16 Selwyn Street, Elsternwick (the 2 towers, 10 & 14 stories Woolworth's proposal) where we are one of a larger number of Parties. Three days of Compulsory Conference did not bring agreement so the 10 day Hearing is scheduled 18-29 November.

Glen Eira City Council has made some real progress with the Heritage Reviews for

Bentleigh and Carnegie (part of the Structure Plans for these Activity Centres) now to be put to the Planning Minister. Much work also on the Elsternwick Heritage Review albeit our GEHS President wrote to Councillors and the CEO about our disappointment that inadequate heritage protection is currently available to stop the demolition of relevant properties yet to be heritage assessed. The property at Seymour Road which was recently demolished is another case in point.

Anne Kilpatrick, Vice President GEHS

## Preservation of silver workshop

On 13 August, 2019, Jamie and Tash had the pleasure of attending Erina McCann's workshop on how to best protect, clean and preserve silver. Regardless of care taken, silver will corrode over time, and all methods of cleaning will remove a surface layer of silver.

To clean silverware, first use methylated spirit or deionised water to remove any grease from the surface and allow to dry. Then create a paste-like mixture of deionised water and precipitated chalk and rub it gently over the tarnished area with a cotton swab. While time consuming, this is the least harmful method. Keep your piece in a dust-free environment, and don't hesitate to get in contact with a preservationist for advice.

Jamie Denman-Jones and Tash Brennfleck  
Monash students

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4 The Society is open on Tuesdays and Fridays between 9 and 12 or by appointment.