



Glen Eira Historical Society Newsletter

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In this Newsletter

- Editorial 1
- Then and now 1
- GEHS meetings 2

- Glen Eira people 4
- What and where is it? 6
- Glen Eira places 7
- Book review 12

Next GEHS General meeting

Wednesday 23 September Carnegie Library at 7.30pm
Meyer Eidelson and the ancient history of
the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung

Editorial

Welcome to this, our first general input edition of the GEHS Newsletter. We hope there are many articles of interest to you and some that make you reflect on your own life in the area.

We have been pleased with the response to our request for your stories which help make up the history of the area.

If you know friends and neighbours who may have some connection to the area, please ask them to consider collecting a few memories and writing them down for us, as these informal items help create an awareness of local history more

clearly than the formal history of an area.

It is the heart and soul of who and what we were and are.

As you will no doubt be aware, our area is rapidly changing in a very physical way. We need photos of your house, your street and neighbouring streets before they change too drastically. Our files will never be *complete*. We are currently reviewing our photo storage/management and will call for more contributions when this is complete. More details will be provided in the next Newsletter. Please take your photos now!

Recently we have become involved in cases to prevent the loss of

some precious buildings in the area. This is a new and complex experience for us but one we feel needs to be done. Not every building can or should be saved. There must be specific reasons that can be recorded and age alone does not give that status.

Trees are another loss to the community. Unfortunately many are on private properties and there is no safety net for them. We hope we don't see a time when trees and the lives they support are lost to the area.

Carol Stals
Geoffrey Paterson
Editors

Then and Now

The photos show the Society's rooms at 965 Glen Huntly Road today and as W Radnell's grocery and neighbouring hairdresser around 1935. Businesses have replaced the houses on the Bamba Road side of the building.



Source: Musuem Victoria



Come and visit our renovated office

by Janine Mayhew



Some months ago we gave our front office a makeover, painting furniture, creating space for our valuable collection of Sands and McDougall directories, displaying information, and providing more effective workspace including computer access for those researching and wishing to access an array of historical material.

We have rearranged the material we display on our walls and plan to have themed exhibitions on our display boards which include such

things as historical information on horse racing over the Spring Racing Carnival; football at the AFL finals; Aboriginal life at the time of settlement during Reconciliation Week.

You are most welcome to drop in and have a look – best during office hours 9 to 12 Tuesday and Friday. We can even offer you a *cuppa* and biscuit.

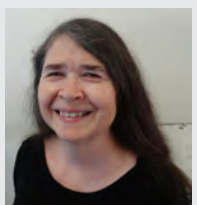
***We thank David Southwick MP
for kindly donating the printing
of this Newsletter.***



**The Glen Eira Historical Society Inc is proudly sponsored by
Glen Eira City Council Community Grants
and
Bendigo Bank Murrumbidgee**



President's Column



Welcome to our second Newsletter for 2015. Reading through the numerous contributions,

what an impressive illustration of the wide-ranging scope for *local history*.

The articles take us from the indigenous peoples at early European settlement through personal histories and glimpses of Glen Eira gone by through to some of the local heritage issues of today – sadly, *Frogmore House* seems destined for demolition. Paul Grinwald's compelling talk about his war experiences as a child survivor is a powerful example of how world history can be inextricably linked to our local communities and local history.

Thank you and well done all contributors – for the articles, for reports, images etc and not least of all to our hardworking and talented Editors being Geoffrey and Carol.

Included are lots of photos, for example about our involvement in the Anzac World War 1 commemorations, members fundraising at Bunnings plus our building now and historically. There is nothing better than a photograph to enhance a story. And we are looking forward to welcoming you on a Tuesday or Friday morning when you come and visit our rooms.

Happy reading!

Anne Kilpatrick
President

Glen Eira Historical Society Inc
A0041700U published this Newsletter
The Society's street address is
965 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South,
3162. Postal address is PO Box 202,
Caulfield South 3162. Phone 9077 5395
Email gehs@optusnet.com.au
Website www.gehs.org.au
The office is open Tuesday and Friday
between 9 and 12 or by appointment.

The Newsletter is published in March, July
and November 2015 with the next deadline
being the 1 October 2015.

We welcome your contribution.

GEHS meetings and

Glen Eira Remembers Show and Tell

Wednesday 25 March 2015

Our MC, Richard Darke started the evening by challenging us to identify the Mystery Item pictured here. This was followed by members' show and tell.



Carol Stals exhibited a range of toy penguins and kangaroos that are simple, have no mechanical parts, batteries or plastic.

Jan Armstrong displayed a *S. Armstrong* stencil that belonged to builder Stephen Armstrong, born over 150 years ago.

Bill Richardson outlined the impact of World War 2 on Bentleigh and McKinnon residents including those in his own Mavho Street neighbourhood.

Janine Mayhew displayed a hockey team photo taken in an unknown location and a selection of booklets on wedding etiquette, and a book of 100 games.

Margaret Dunbar displayed a large plan of her 1926 Murrumbeena Californian Bungalow as well as research on the large oak tree at Murrumbeena Station.

Ross Mackley displayed a Shire of Caulfield plaque thought to have been attached to a column.

Felicite Campbell displayed a tin hot water bottle.

David Hardham outlined the development of today's road and rail network including the now defunct Outer Circle.

Barbara Coulter produced an iron gas saver that allowed four saucepans to use one gas jet.

Neville Daynes displayed a certificate presented to his father in recognition of his services as a City of Melbourne air raid warden.

Bill spoke on Springthorpe Gardens history and vegetation.

John Semmens shared ticket 000 which was used on the first train between Oakleigh and Caulfield in 1879 and reminisced about the Charleston Bakery at the corner of Dandenong and Koornang Roads.

Valerie Barnett remembered her grandmother's house in Dandenong Road and her long lived parrot bought at Dandenong Market in 1925.

Claire Barton showcased a set of brass gold scales manufactured in Birmingham. Claire found them at her grandmother's home.



Felicite displayed a pewter plunger teapot and candlestick and turned wooden baby rattle.

Peta Darke outlined research on their Elsternwick house including a title dating back to 1871.

Mystery item

At the conclusion of the meeting, Richard revealed the mystery item is a 1920 Marvel Cream Siphon owned by his grandmother. It was used to extract cream from the top of the milk into a jug.

David Southwick MP encouraged members to ask students to work with parents to engage in local history.

This most enjoyable and informative meeting concluded with refreshments.

events

My experiences as a child survivor

Wednesday 27 May 2015

Talk by Paul Grinwald



Paul Grinwald was born in Paris and was seven when the Germans occupied France only had transit and concentration camps in July 1940. Within three months of the German arrival there were restrictions on Jews: no cafes, no parks or theatre and only access to the last carriage of the Metro.

Paul continued with his schooling. He was an avid reader and library user but his library card was destroyed. Jews couldn't borrow books. This was his first real collision with restrictions.

By May 1941 Jewish men were being sent to concentration camps. Nobody was killed in France for being Jewish. His father escaped capture. The Germans occupied the north of France. Jews had to wear yellow cloth stars on their clothes for identification. When the Jewish children first wore the star to school his teacher mentioned it and said she expected no discrimination and they were to treat each other as previously and be friends. He later discovered she was not reported or punished for this act of kindness.

His family were his parents and a sister. His father was a baker by trade.

In July 1942 they were told to stay at home on the 16th. They had relatives visiting on the 15th and there was a rumour that women and children would be picked up. That family was collected the next day and taken

to Poland and were killed within one month. Paul's mother asked the Concierge for assistance and she locked them in the cellar. They did hear footsteps on the stairs and loud banging. She continued to protect and feed the family. Paul's father sent some girls to smuggle the family across the border to unoccupied France. They left without any luggage not to be burdened down. They met up with others and were travelling by train but had to leave it before the end of their journey as there was an ID inspection ahead and Jews had identity cards with the word *Jew* stamped on their card. The journey which should have taken one day took five days.

They experienced so many traumas and near misses but somehow, when they thought they were in hopeless positions, sheer determination or huge acts of kindness were offered to them. A tall man came from the woods and physically rescued Paul's mother who had been caught by barbed wire.

The children spent sometime hidden on a farm.

Somehow they survived despite the winter weather, soldiers, hunger and desperation. His mother was able to get false ID cards through the resistance. A general sense of alertness was required at all times to avoid detection.

Even children were placed in extremely dangerous situations where other people's lives depended on them, a huge burden for them.

Eventually the family arrived in Melbourne, still together, where they remained.

Paul delivered his story in a gentle, matter of fact manner but the life saving kindnesses of strangers shone through this grim story.

Richard Darke thanked Paul on our behalf. The audience was very moved by his talk.

GEHS Future Events

Details will be sent to members and are also available on <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~gehs/welcome.htm> or phone 9077 5395

Sunday 26 July

Visit to Harewood Kooweerup

Wednesday 23 September

GEHS General Meeting 7.30pm

Thursday 24 September

Swedish Church visit

Sunday 18–Sunday 25 October

History Week

GEHS Past Events

Sunday 15 March

Picnic in the Park, Allnutt Park

Wednesday 25 March

General Meeting

Show and Tell

[See meeting notes on page 2.](#)



18 April to 26 May

GEHS exhibition at the Prahran Mechanics' Institute, *World War One in Caulfield and Beyond*



Photograph courtesy of Prahran Mechanics Institute

Wednesday 27 May

General Meeting

My experiences as a child survivor

[See meeting notes on this page.](#)

Thursday 4 June

Holocaust Museum visit

Sunday 14 June

Bunnings Moorabbin

Sausage Sizzle fund raiser



Glen Eira People

Forgotten Roots: Katharine Susannah Prichard in Glen Eira by Nathan Hobby



Prichard (Right) with Premier, Sir Alexander Peacock and Lady Peacock. "An Australian Novelist Honoured" *Punch*, 9 March 1916. Retrieved May 15, 2015, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article130037837>

The Glen Eira roots of the great Australian novelist, Katharine Susannah Prichard (1883–1969) are often overlooked because she was born in Fiji and lived the last fifty years of her life in Perth.

Yet most of her formative years were spent in Caulfield South, Ormond, and Brighton. These years are crucial to my PhD, a biography of Prichard's early life, and I am grateful for the warm welcome from the Glen Eira Historical Society on my recent trip to Melbourne.

Prichard's maternal grand parents, Simon and Susan Fraser, lived for many decades in a house called *Clareville* on the corner of North Rd and Booran Rd, the site of the present day Ormond Uniting Church. Fraser Street is named after them. It was this house Katharine came to live in 1887 with her mother and brothers. After a stint in Tasmania, the family lived in two other houses on North Rd from 1895 to 1907.

After years of job instability and depression, Katharine's father,

the journalist and writer Thomas Henry Prichard, hung himself in the back shed in 1907. Buried in Brighton General Cemetery, he is the author of one novel, *Retaliation: A Tale of Early Melbourne*.

Katharine was living next door to the girl who became her best friend, Hilda Bull, later a prominent doctor and theatre producer with her husband Louis Esson. Their remarkable circle of teenage friends also included Nettie Higgins (later Palmer) – a prominent literary identity – and the socialist lawyer Christian Jollie-Smith.

Prichard wrote about her Glen Eira years in her autobiography, *Child of the Hurricane* (1963). She was to finally write her only novel set in Melbourne, *Subtle Flame*, in 1967 at the age of eighty-three, turning to the setting of her youth at the end of her life.

Reunion with a friend by Valerie Barnett

I used to live at 21 Walker St. Murrumbeena.

I went to Murrumbeena State School, Hobart Road. Julie McDonald of 21 Dunoon Street went there also. I was friends with her at school and home. She left there in 1963. Last time I saw her she was good friends with the police at Murrumbeena making tea and cooking cakes for them. I always remember her birthday was 8 December.

I was at a recent GEHS meeting one Wednesday night and talked to Margaret at the group. She helped me find her and after 52 years later I caught up with her. She remembers me. What an experience for her and me.

Special opening: *Labassa Lives*

Sunday 8 November, 10.30am–4.30pm
2 Manor Grove, Caulfield North.

Learn about the estimated 700 people who lived at Labassa. Admission: Adults \$15, Conc/senior \$10, National Trust \$10, Child (3-15) \$9 and Family \$35 GST incl.

Contact vickijshuttleworth@yahoo.com.au

Notable Scots in Caulfield

by Claire Barton

At the start of the twentieth century, Scotland was the third largest birthplace for the Victorian population. Businessmen and politicians James Service 1823–1899 and James Bell 1836–1908 were respectively born in Ayrshire and Dumfriesshire Scotland, came to Victoria in the 1850s, and named their Caulfield homes after their birthplaces – *Kilwinning* on the corner of Balaclava and Hotham Streets and *Sanquhar* at 240 Kooyong Road. James Bell also had a house *Sherbrooke* in McMillan Street Elsternwick.

James Service was active as a tea merchant and agent for companies such as Bryant & May and Standard Oil Company of New York. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1857 and, after some breaks from politics, was Premier and Treasurer between 1883 and 1886. Described by Alfred Deakin as a "sturdy, stiff-necked, indomitable and canny" Scot, James Service was buried in the Melbourne Cemetery.

James Bell's early life in Victoria was in business as a storekeeper and municipal politics in Central Victoria but moved to Elsternwick in 1886. He was elected to the Legislative Council in 1882 and from 1886 was variously minister for mines, defence and water supply. He remained in politics until 1904 and was Chairman of Swallow & Ariell. He is buried in the Brighton Cemetery.

Source: *Australian Dictionary of Biography*



Photo reproduced courtesy of Andrew Faull.
James Bell residence *Sanquhar* at
240 Kooyong Road Caulfield

Dorothy “Dot” Irene Bathurst (née Beeforth)

as told to Janine Mayhew
May 2015

Dorothy, or Dot, was born on 19 June 1924. She lived with her parents and four siblings at these Carnegie properties: 38 Jersey Parade, Tranmere Ave, Ames Ave and 7 Toolambool Road.

She attended Carnegie Primary School, then at age 12 studied needlework at Prahran Technical School. She has memories of being made to feel embarrassed and ashamed by the other students and teachers because her family was unable to afford coloured pencils or books.

Then at 16 Dot began work in the Model Department of Myer (2nd floor of the main building) where made-to-measure clothes were designed for Myer’s wealthier clients. She has memories of some well-known celebrities of the time.

I helped to make Gladys Moncrieff’s dresses – she was rather large! I also made maternity clothes for violinist Hepzibah Menuhin (Yehudi’s sister). They were made from the most beautiful broderie anglaise.

In 1941, when Dot turned 17, she fell in love with the man of her dreams.

My brother Dick brought a cycling friend to my 17th birthday party. His name was Allan Bathurst and he was a mechanic in the RAAF. During the party Allan took me onto the veranda and kissed me! My father caught us saying, “ahh-haa – looks like an engagement in the offing”.

A few weeks later Allan proposed to Dot. When Allan asked Dot’s father for his permission he replied “at least wait until she is 18”. Allan, a keen cyclist, sold his bike to buy an engagement ring. It cost 5 pounds. Allan and Dot were married at St Peter’s Church in Neerim Road Carnegie on the 20 June 1942 – the day after her 18th birthday.

My frock was made in Carnegie Shopping Centre. I bought the fabric with War Ration Coupons. I borrowed my shoes and the flowers were from Fraser’s Florist in Elsternwick. We had studio photos taken in Elsternwick and we had our honeymoon in Mornington (one night at the Hotel).



GW Beeforth photograph reproduced courtesy of Dorothy Bathurst
Dorothy age 17 and fiancé Allan 21

Allan joined the RAAF at 18 years of age as an Air Force Mechanic. After he and Dot were married he was posted to Queensland and Dot lived with her mother in Toolambool Road Carnegie.

One day I was walking down Toolambool Road thinking about Allan and how much I missed him. Suddenly, I realised the man walking towards me was Allan. He was AWOL from his post because, he said, “I just wanted to see you”. My mother was absolutely amazed; my father who was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army was horrified; and Allan’s father, who was at Gallipoli during the First World War said “Oh **/**”. Alan was picked up by the military police and spent a night in a Sydney jail.

Allan was posted to Bougainville where he was shot. He was sent to Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital and then Dot and Allan lived with Dot’s mother for the duration of the war.

Allan then ran the family business (T. Bathurst & Co Funeral Parlour) and Alan and Dot, along with their baby Ken, moved into accommodation above the funeral parlour in Glen Huntly Road where they stayed until the late 1940s and had 2 more children.

I remember the fruit shop and the grocer’s shop across the road from the funeral

parlour, and the *Digger Café* in Kooyong Road next to funeral parlour run by Irene and John Bathurst (Allan’s uncle).

Dot and Allan had three children, Ken, Linda, and Dorothy (Pots). Allan has now passed away. *Nanny Dot* now has 12 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Stanley’s Menswear: Depression pop-up to longstanding Glen Eira retailer

by Anne Kilpatrick

Stanley’s Menswear has a very interesting history. Its roots go back to Laura’s parents Fred and Rosie Kohn. From 1932 they made their living by renting empty shops in rural Australia’s Depression era to deck out temporarily for customers needing clothing. They settled the business in Bairnsdale pre World War 2.

Post World War 2, they reestablished their business as Fred’s Emporium Pty Ltd in Traralgon, moving to Yarraville in 1946. Here the Emporium successfully operated until 1980, employing up to 50 people in the multi-department store extending over one complete block.



Photo courtesy of Stanley’s Menswear
Stan and Laura in Bentleigh

In 1979, Stan and Laura Moss decided to establish their own mens and boys wear shop in Bentleigh, young family in tow. On Centre Road opposite Robert Street, they worked the shop downstairs while living in the upstairs flat. The Bentleigh community was welcoming and everyone knew one another. A number of menswear and ladieswear shops operated in the

Bentleigh shopping centre but few cafes existed. When Roger David left their Bentleigh shop, Stanley's Menswear moved to those larger premises.

Stanley's stock has evolved: the safari suit has yet to come back into favour but hats are again front and centre in men's fashion – 15 year olds and 90 year olds eyeing off each other's hat choices!

Tania (supported by her partner John) took charge around 2001, with Stan and Laura front of shop – Laura to this day. Seeing their opportunity to go forward to new purpose-designed premises, the shop moved down Centre Road to Bentleigh East in 2014. It continues to operate as a modern family business, utilising advanced computer technology with Laura's father's manual systems backing up when needed. From their beginnings in country Victoria through to today, the family's tradition of personalised fitting for males of all ages, body shapes, abilities and tastes continues unabated.

Many thanks to Laura and Tania Moss for so generously sharing this part of their family's story.

The King Family and Rosemont, Caulfield

by Yvonne Smith



Thomas Edward King married Florence May Freer, a daughter of a successful iron merchant and heiress with a pedigree tracing back to Edward

III in 1896. The Kings came to live at *Rosemont* circa 1899 to 1941, the year Florence died.

Thomas was a highly respected barrister with the law firm Gavan Duffy and King and was a Caulfield Councillor for nine years before his retirement from council in 1916. Cr TE King made a significant contribution to his community, not the least being the council's representative on the

Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust where his negotiation skills as a lawyer ensured the expansion of the electric tramcars out to Caulfield.

He took an active interest in local sporting clubs serving as Alma Bowling Club president, Caulfield Lacrosse Club patron, Vice President of the Tally Ho Amateur Athletics Club and Caulfield Cricket Club President.

He retained his ties to Xavier College and was President of the Old Xaverians Association participating in many fund raising functions including St Joseph's Home for destitute children in Surrey Hills. In 1912, he was an honorary treasurer of the fundraising committee to aid St Vincent's Hospital.

For a number of years, he presented the TE King Annual Gold Medal to students at Mentone College where he had sent his sons in their early years.

The King children were all well-educated. Their daughters: Molly graduated as a pharmacist and Margery a solicitor who still practised after her marriage and, what was unusual for the day, practised under her maiden name. Their sons: Thomas became a leading orthopaedic surgeon at St Vincent's Hospital, Philip Denis a barrister who also practised in his father's firm and was one of the first barristers to use a *talkie* (sound film) in a legal case³; Kevin trained as an architect who contributed to the Palais Theatre and Toorak College² and later started a medical instrument design company where he and his brother Dr King developed the *King nail* a bone fixative and still in use today; Gerald was an electrical engineer and John Leo was a radiologist who participated in a high blood pressure drug trial where all six participants died suddenly of heart attacks¹. This last fact isn't proven but was passed on by a grandson. Austin sadly died in 1908 aged 2½ from acute laryngitis.

When Thomas Edward King

resigned from council he was asked to present a portrait of himself to the Council so that it may hang in the Council Chambers in appreciation of the contribution he had made to the Caulfield community.

In 1918, Thomas King was riding his horse to Brighton. He was caught up in a violent storm that is now known as the Brighton Cyclone. His horse spooked and he was thrown off, dislocating his shoulder and breaking some ribs. He was able to remount, with great difficulty no doubt, and rode back home where his injuries were attended to. Unfortunately a rib had perforated his lung and he died three days later. The Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Rev Dr Mannix read the burial service at the graveside. Thomas Edward King was 50 years old and is buried at Brighton Cemetery.

Korong Road Elsternwick was renamed King Street in his honour⁴.

Information sources

All information in this article is from Trove NLA except for the following:

1. Drug trial information: Denis King.
2. Information from Kevin Freer King documents in the State Library of Victoria.
3. Philip Denis King and film information from a 1932 Newman College publication.
4. Elle Credlin, Glen Eira Heritage Officer.

The photograph of TE King is reproduced courtesy of Denis King.

What and where is it?

Where is this gate?



Issue 6 solution

The tower of the 1906 Arts and Crafts house designed by and for architect Robert Haddon,

The tower is a *folly*, has no windows, and is only accessed from the main room. It forms a large hollow circular corner to the room, with lovely natural light from the small paned windows. The house is in Glenferrie Street, Caulfield North. Melways 59 B11.

Glen Eira Places

The funny side of the ABC

by Sheila Rowell

Since May 1958, when the ABC established its studio in Gordon Street Elsternwick, almost all ABC sketch shows have been filmed locally.

Now that it seems this facility will shortly be moved to Southbank, its historic site will be left vitally in need of preservation. This may, then, be a good time to reflect on the amount of comedy shot not only within the studio but on multiple locations around the City of Glen Eira.

Here are a few only.

- St Joseph's Church on Orrong Road was where the *Late Show* shot its famous *Handychurch* sketch featuring a drive-thru church offering confession to motorists in a hurry.
- The Elsternwick shops on Glen Huntly Road were used – with a few changes required – to feature an 80s Melbourne for *Judith Lucy's Spiritual Journey* which also prominently featured the Elsternwick Library.
- *The D-Generation* used the park in Allison Road for elaborate parodies of old Seekers videos and Allison Road also shone in the 2003 movie *Bad Eggs*.
- The X-rated bookstore in Glen Huntly Road found extra fame in a scene in Shaun Micallef's sitcom *Welcher & Welcher*.
- In 2014, an episode of *Upper Middle Bogan* was shot in beautiful *Labassa*.

Not only did its open spaces and varied architecture attract film crews, but many great comedians – including Graham Kennedy, Tony Martin and Shaun Micallef – have chosen to live and work in the area. There must be something in the air.

Residents of the 38.4 square

kilometres of Glen Eira can take pride that, just on their doorstep, so many talents and skills have brought to the whole country that best of medicines and greatest gift – laughter.

Gardenvale in the 1940s: Memories of the sounds in my street – now gone forever

by Ailsa Hunt

Early morning we would wake to the clip-clop of the milkman's horse.

Our milk was delivered into a billy on the front fence.

A little later, the baker's horse and cart would stop to deliver the bread into a tin on the front verandah.

The postman's whistle told us the first mail for the day had arrived and we expected another delivery after lunch.

The iceman's horse and cart came down the street twice a week to the joyous shouts of the children waiting for broken pieces of ice (the water variety).

The old Chinese Greengrocer again in horse and cart called weekly. Occasionally we would hear the Rag and Bone man shouting out *Bottle-O*.

Twice a week you would hear the clatter of tins and lids being thrown about as the garbage tins were emptied.

A ring on the front door bell revealed the Rawleigh's Man, or maybe a telegram bringing good or bad news, or a free home delivery from one of the large City Department Stores, maybe even from the local grocer or butcher.

The squeak of wheels and the shouts of children as they rode their billy carts down the hill bumping over the cracks in the footpath, or playing cricket or football on the road.

Classic Cinema Elsternwick

by Jill Eldridge



Photo courtesy of Jill Eldridge
Classic Cinema Elsternwick under renovation

This is a photograph of the building that now houses the Classic Cinema in Gordon St, Elsternwick.

Taken circa 1921, it shows the building undergoing renovation and my grandfather, Duncan Charles Baker, who is standing third from the left.

Born in Rutherglen in 1894, he spent his childhood there and trained as a plumber.

At the start of World War One, Duncan enlisted and served in the 29th Battalion. He was wounded in action in France and returned to Australia in February 1919.

Upon his return, he lived with his cousin Charlie, in *Meadow Rhyll* in Milburn Avenue, East St Kilda.

He worked locally as a plumber, as seen in the photo, before marrying and returning to Rutherglen to raise a family.

Heritage Watch Frogmore

The hard fought battle to save *Frogmore* in Carnegie has now been lost. We are devastated to see yet another of our treasured local buildings reduced to rubble.

Vale *Frogmore*.



Glen Eira Street names

by Barbara Hoad

Matlock Court, Caulfield

North named after Matlock Mansions (see *Vadlure*).

Melby Avenue East St Kilda

—presumed to be named after the home of William Peterson (1823–1898) which he named for his birthplace in the Shetland Islands. *Melby House* was situated on the south side of Balaclava Road (now Carlisle St), between Hotham St and Orrong Road. Peterson owned quite a bit of land in the area in the 1870s. He was closely associated with the Sargood's of Ripponlea. He married Louisa Sargood and with her father Frederick owned the pastoral stations of Wunnamurra and Ellerslie in New South Wales.

A photograph of *Melby* was one of a number of photos sent to the Vienna Exhibition of 1873, illustrating palatial homes of the area. Photos were also sent of Frederick Sargood's *Ripponlea* and James Service's *Kilwinning*. The Melby estate was subdivided in the 1920s.



Melby House

D. McDonald Photographer, House, south side of Carlisle St. now Balaclava Road, St Kilda, 1872, sk0452.1-2, PORT PHILLIP COLLECTION

Vadlure Avenue East St Kilda

Vadlure was the home of John Scott Peterson (1836–1916) who came to Melbourne in 1853 from the Shetland Islands to join his uncle William Peterson. In 1888, he built a grand house in the Queen Anne style on nine acres of land in Caulfield bound by Dandenong, Alma and Kooyong Roads. He named it *Vadlure* after the family home and manse in Walls, Shetland. The house in

Shetland still stands but *Vadlure* (later Matlock House/Mansions) in Caulfield was demolished in 1963.

Vadlure Avenue occupies land subdivided in the late 1920s. It is historically and aesthetically significant for its association with GC Dickson and Yorston Pty Ltd, avant-garde builders and estate developers in Caulfield and elsewhere during the 20s and 30s.

References

JB Cooper, *The history of St. Kilda* Printers Propriety Limited 1931.
Glen Eira Heritage Plan 2003.
mileslewis.net

Our local tram services: a few thoughts

by Keith Stodden

It all began with the horse tram service from Elsternwick Station to Glenhuntly Station and Caulfield Racecourse. The depot was off Foster Street close to St John's Uniting Church.

Cable tram services only went as far as Elwood's Grosvenor Hotel, just past the end of Chapel Street.

In 1913, the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust introduced electric trams along Glen Huntly Road from Brighton Road to Grange Road.

Later this became Carnegie and included single track in Truganini Road leading to Koornang Road.

The tram service was extended to Point Ormond in 1915 with a through service from Darling Road at one stage.

In 1960, the Point Ormond tram was withdrawn. Tracks and the overhead were removed – but the poles remained – and buses took over. The trams used were mostly single-truck four wheelers running to and from Elsternwick Station. Earlier, the level crossing was removed with the trains going under Glen Huntly Road.

The present Glen Huntly Depot building dates from 1924. Route numbers were also introduced. They were Carnegie 4, Glen Huntly Station 4A, Glen Huntly Depot 4B, Darling Road 4D,

Elsternwick 4E, Carnegie to City via William Street 34; South Caulfield Junction 61, South Caulfield–North Road 62, East Brighton 64, East Brighton to City via William Street 65, Glen Huntly Depot 66, Carnegie 67, Prahran–North Richmond 78, and Prahran–St Kilda 79. Route 4D eventually became Route 3.

Truganini Road has been a double track for many years now. Although some curves have been removed on the network, happily, Balaclava Junction remains intact as a Grand Union Junction where trams can turn left and right and travel straight ahead in any direction.

Sadly, Glen Huntly Depot has rarely stocked the latest trams so our routes do not have the C, D or E class trams.



Former tram poles at Elsternwick Park

McKinnon Road in the 1930s and 1940s

by Lindsay Hunt

The railway gates were the big attraction, being the only ones of this type in Victoria. They looked like a fence when down and went up in the air on a long arm, hand controlled by the Signal-man in the nearby signal box. There were only two train lines with a platform on either side, a Station Master, an Assistant Station Master and a Porter.

The shops were all along the north side of McKinnon Road, you could buy your food, clothing, hardware etc. all in the one little area. There were also two Estate Agents, a bank, and two barbers. Most of the tradespeople lived above or behind their shop.

There were no houses on the South side of McKinnon Road, and the road was only surfaced up to Tucker Road. Local lads

used the open spaces for flying kites or playing games. McKinnon Secondary College was just a large market garden. Because of the number of market gardens in the area, all with horse and cart, there were several blacksmiths nearby.

A local Main Road named after a Convict

by Joan Moore

Jasper Hale (1805–1884), a bricklayer from Gloucester “who can read and write”, married Elizabeth Rose in 1824.

In January 1830 he stole a *washing tub* for his wife and was sentenced in July 1830 to be transported to Port Jackson for seven years. He sailed to New South Wales on the convict ship *York* in 1831 and obtained his Ticket of Leave in 1839.

As a newly *freed man* in Sydney, Jasper married Mary Ann Nelson, who had been Transported aboard the *George Hibbert* around 1834.

His son James was born in 1842 and christened at St Francis’ Roman Catholic Church in Brighton. Eliza Hale was born at Brighton in 1844.

Records at Box Cottage Museum show Jasper purchased land on *Jasper’s Road* for 100 Pounds in 1844, from *Henry Dendy’s Special Survey Brighton 1841*, in the today’s East Bentleigh.

In 1846 Jasper sold this land for 80 Pounds and nothing is heard about him until the record of his burial at Parkes, NSW in 1884, that was witnessed by his son James. His occupation is described as stonemason and many fine, stone public buildings and homes were built in Parkes Forbes and Currajong.

It is possible that Jasper heard the rumours of the Victorian Gold Discoveries in 1840s and joined the exodus of gold seekers from Brighton.

Compiled from *City of Moorabbin Historical Society Newsletter* June 2009 by Helen Stanley, Secretary, from research by Jan Rigby .

Revisiting Old Elsternwick

by Carol Stals

In the 1970s I was living in Elsternwick with my young family and my mother was visiting. We walked to the shops, pushing the pram and talking. As we approached Elsternwick Station mum, who never talked of family or the past, began to reminisce.

She told me of travelling from Moonee Ponds, as a girl of about nine, alone by train to visit her maternal grandparents, who lived in Downshire Road.

She explained the train lines then crossed Glen Huntly Road and the gates were manually operated. The station platform was directly behind the line of shops (deserted but still there then) and you exited onto the little dead-end street with a turning circle, beside the Railway Reserve, then a lovely park. The little bluestone-paved street was full of Hansom cabs. She walked along Glen Huntly Road and remembered wearing her new button boots.

This whole area is now a café. I took her to Downshire Road, but she couldn’t recall the house, but it was on the east side. Her grandparents were Alexander and Eliza Wardlaw.

I knew mum had lived in Murrumbeena, so all of this was

a surprise to me.

Years later I shifted house and wrote to mum’s youngest brother, the last of 13 children to Eliza and Richard Denton. He was amazed that I had in fact shifted only about 200 metres away from the house where he grew up but mum was a teenager when they shifted there. I had never known the exact address, but it was 29 Emily Street, which is now Carnegie, hence the confusion. This is now a block of units.

Squizzy Taylor was a notorious neighbor in the corner house and

his car caused a sensation amongst my then young uncles. Some of the Denton family are still remembered by John Attwood from the Murrumbeena newsagency.

My old home, 7 McCombie Street, Elsternwick, corner of Miller Street, was originally the first site of St Clement’s Church and

school. I have found photos of it, a simple weatherboard building with a post and rail fence and a gaslight on the corner of the street.

When the rectory of the current church was demolished I paid in bottles of beer for the doorstep, a huge stone slab, and old pews to be delivered. We placed the slab on blocks of bluestone as a yard seat and the pews became porch seats. The two storeyed brick rectory stood on the Nepean Highway corner.



Top: Original church and hall, corner McCombie and Miller Streets now 7 McCombie Street

Bottom: St Clement’s Church and vicarage. Reproduced courtesy of the Minister at St Clements

Can you help?

The Caulfield Cricket Club, formed in 1888, is presently gathering old records or photos of past players or other relevant information to be included in a written history. If you are aware of family members who played with the club, please contact Club Historian, Geoff Reilley who is establishing a complete player list who represented the club on or off the field. Geoff can be contacted at 0412251318 or geoff_reilley@live.com.au

Manse life . . . memories of a 1970s teenager in Caulfield

by Barbara Hoad

In 1970 our family left Kyabram for the big smoke of Caulfield.

My father Reverend Francis (Frank) Hoad was inducted in August of that year as the minister of St Giles Presbyterian Church in Neerim Road, Caulfield. We moved into the modest white weatherboard manse next door.

We had left a busy country church for a quiet and much smaller congregation in suburban Caulfield. But there was still a bit happening at St Giles in the 1970s. There was the PFA, Sunday School, church choir, Girl Guides, the annual fete and there was a small private school (formerly Waverley Presbyterian School) in the hall behind the church which was run by a Miss Manning. There was not quite enough for my mother to do so she returned to teaching, first at Adass Israel in Elsternwick then at MLC Elsternwick, later Cato College.

My father was busy with church union in the mid 1970s and in 1977 the St Giles congregation elected to remain Presbyterian and not become part of the new Uniting Church. It was a difficult time for the churches and many congregations were split on the issue. My father remained as minister at St Giles Caulfield until his retirement in 1984.



Reproduced courtesy of Barb Hoad
Church sign September 1977

During the week I travelled on the school bus to PLC in Burwood. On weekends I spent most of my time with a friend who lived in Bambra Rd and her brother and

his friends. My friend's brother was the drummer in a rock band and my father let them *jam* in the church hall on Saturday afternoons. My favourite songs were *Born to be Wild* by Steppenwolf and *Paint it Black* by the Rolling Stones. There were often complaints about the noise from nearby residents but my father told them it was better for teenagers to have something to do and not be roaming the streets, though we did that too.

On Saturday nights we went to packed dances at the Caulfield Town Hall and grooved to Lobby Loyde and the Coloured Balls and Sherbet. There were also dances at St Peter's in Bentleigh. We wore our flares with striped knitted jumpers and platform heels or surfie T-shirts and Levi jeans.

Back at the manse we watched *Bellbird* on the ABC while we ate dinner. It was the only TV program we never missed as a family.

Anzac Day 2015 in Elsternwick

by Carol Stals

In the pre-dawn cold, a small group of our members met in Orrong Road, to join the march. Groups were marshalled in order of relevance, four abreast and we were towards the back, in front of the local football team. Serving men and women were at the front, naturally. We were unsure who was ahead of us, except some Scout troops.

We stepped out at a good clip. As the procession wheeled left into Glen Huntly Road, we saw World War 1 Nurses and Light Horse men ahead of us. These were in fact Caulfield Grammar students in authentic costumes. They looked wonderful and it was a touching tribute to the 100 Years since World War 1, particularly as they would have been of the same age as many soldiers.

Each of us had supplied details of the person we were marching for and were carrying a cardboard sheet with the information clearly on it. Three members carried

signs for their grandfathers, all local men. Richard Darke had Frank Mullins Darke, Janine Mayhew had Albert Thomas May and Claire Barton had William Henry Benzley. These men all returned to their families. I walked for Henry Yin Goon, a young Chinese market gardener from Garden Vale, who did not return.

The crowds all the way along the route were surprising as it was still dark and raining lightly but they clapping and cheered. Towards St George's Road the pavements became quite crowded.

As we turned right to the RSL the Maori Haka began. Our local RSL is one of the few which includes a New Zealand Section, so it was the true spirit of ANZAC. Some New Zealand soldiers (men and women) had walked past us to the front of the march, wearing their *Lemon Squeezer* hats with distinctive red band.

The street was crowded and people were jostling for position and seating.

The ceremony began with the traditional, emotional formats but this year they included an Acknowledgement of Country, also acknowledging that Aboriginal soldiers also served and died. This had not been included previously and was followed by the New Zealand people giving their acknowledgement of Indigenous peoples, both Maori and Australian.

The service was very respectful and included Turkish speakers. Shelford Girls' Grammar School Choir performed, as did a band.

A large number of wreaths were laid and Richard Darke distinguished himself on our behalf in laying the wreath we had made from fresh Rosemary and felt poppies.

Politicians from all parties, the Mayor and Councillors and a long stream of representatives from local groups also lay wreaths.

The service was followed by a Gun Shot breakfast in the rear

car park of the RSL Club, which had been transformed into a war site, trenches, ammunition crates, camouflage netting and all.

Glen Eira people had turned in well to support this important historic remembrance.

Backgrounding Elsternwick Fire Station

by Vanessa Kiessling

In the years 1872 and 1873, Jane Rodger, née Faulds, gave birth to her fifth child while losing two small sons, her mother, and Merchant Mariner husband when his ship *British Trident* foundered off the British coast coming from Quebec to Scotland.

In July 1885, Peter Rodger her eldest son, born in 1862 in Scotland, arrived in Melbourne followed by Jane, her two daughters, and youngest son David aged 12, who arrived in Melbourne in December 1885 on the *Loch Tay*.

Peter was a stonemason and started his own building contracting company while David trained then worked with his brother.

Peter started his business tendering for railway buildings, post offices and banks. In August 1895, he signed a contract to build the Elsternwick and Yarraville Fire Stations and went on to build many of our heritage listed and National Trust buildings. These included the Bairnsdale Courthouse, Flinders Street Station, the main Post Office in Hobart, St. John's Cathedral in Brisbane and many more.

Peter Rodger died in 1955 in the house he had built for his family in 1913 in Williamstown.



Elsternwick fire station July 2015

Brighton Cemetery: a brief history

by Richard and Peta Darke

Brighton General Cemetery is a Victorian garden cemetery of heritage significance which includes curved pathways, plantings and a gate lodge.

In December 1854, the first Cemetery Trust was appointed and the Cemetery opened for interments on 21 September 1855. Specific areas were allocated for six main religious denominations, other denominations, and later the Jewish section. Ten month old Johanna Manson was the first recorded burial on 14 October 1855. Since then more than 77,000 interments have taken place, and for nearly half a century the Cemetery was the largest in south east Melbourne.

Notable figures buried include Sir John Monash, Sir Thomas Bent, Justice George Higinbotham, Ada Cambridge, Adam Lindsay Gordon, Sir Bernard Heinze, Harold Pennington (early Caulfield settler), William Guilfoyle, several Boyd family artists, Frederick McCubbin, Joseph Squizzy Taylor, and Thomas Browne (Rolf Boldrewood).

The early decades saw the Trust struggle to keep the Cemetery viable financially. Other problems included keeping the 29 acres cleared, dealing with local residents' roaming cattle, and controlling packs of roaming semi-wild dogs. A post and rail fence was constructed in August 1855, and the first known building erected in August 1856 was a wooden building believed to be a waiting room/office. In June 1885 a water closet was erected, to be opened only during funerals. It was not until August 1892 that the sexton's residence – the Lodge – was constructed. In 1902 iron gates and posts were erected at the Lodge, as the main entrance to the Cemetery was near the Lodge. The gates were moved to Hawthorn Road about 1924. In 1909, the Jewish Mortuary

Chapel (Metahar House), was erected. In 1913 the shelter house near the then main entrance was erected, and the Ladies brick latrines installed in 1930.

The influenza epidemic of 1919 caused a great number of deaths. In that year, the eastern portion of the Outer Reserve was made available for burials. The Cemetery reached its heyday in the 1920s averaging 1,350 burials per year. Further areas of the Outer Reserve were opened up, and in 1924 the red brick outer wall was built, and new gates were erected at a circular brick-paved entrance at North Road. The horse trough was removed from the main drive in 1924, and in 1925 a shelter house was erected at the North Road entrance. The Office, Trust room, strong room, and clergymen's waiting room were added to the Lodge in 1929.

Construction of a crematorium was considered in May 1924 and again in 1931 but not proceeded with. Consideration was also given to the purchase of land for a new cemetery on two occasions. In 1933, 22 acres were selected at the corner of Centre Road and Thomas Street but in 1934 the State Treasurer refused permission for the purchase. In 1944, 58 acres were selected on Warrigal Road but the Trust decided not to proceed. In 1949 the first motorised mower was purchased at a cost of 89 pounds 10 shillings.

During the 1950s further portions were opened up for gravesites, and in 1958, with no further land available, non-denominational lawn graves were introduced. In 1962, memorial wall niches were first constructed. Over subsequent years more areas were opened up when trees, outbuildings and paths were removed.

Sources: Brighton Cemeterians, Chronological Briefs of Brighton Cemetery Trust Minutes.

The Brighton General Cemetery will be celebrating 160 years since the first burial on Sunday 18 October 2015 from 10am till 4 pm. Contact Lois 9558 4248 for information.



Book review

Meyer Eidelson

Yalukit Willam:

The River People of Port Phillip

City of Port Phillip, 2014

ISBN 9780646920658 101 pages

www.portphillip.vic.gov.au

Many of my generation studied Australian history and geography yet emerged with scant awareness or understanding of indigenous culture and language. We find hints resonant in suburb names and occasionally placarded stands of remnant vegetation, but systematic reference works are all too rare. So Eidelson's book is a most welcome and accessible primer of the original people of Port Phillip – the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung language group of the Kulin nation*. The *River People's* economy, rituals, life-patterns and territorial borders were defined by waterways – some familiar to us now, like the Yarra, while other areas of coastline, lagoons and wetlands have altered since white settlement.

Eidelson documents the shifting terrain and land use. Archaeological evidence of middens, bone awls and stone axes as well as diaries of the earliest white settlers are called in to flesh out our understanding of the complex older culture. Of interest is an analysis of Batman's 1835 *treaty* in the context of William Thomas's 1840 description of the Tanderrum or *freedom of the bush* ceremony.

Also noted are the numbers of whites enchanted by ngargee or corroboree for whom the full-moon and new-moon events were a regular family entertainment.

The breadth of research is commendable in such a slender volume. He references diverse black/white interactions: the inadvertent witnessing by the Liardet family of firestick farming; Thomas's account of his first viewing of marngrook (precursor of Aussie Rules) in 1839; the remarkable William Buckley; early inter-tribal conflicts and *censuses* of the indigenous population.

Of course the shameful history of dispossession and deception are also mentioned, as well as the efforts of leaders like Benbow and Derrimut in defence of their people. We read of the later assimilation-era closure of Mordialloc reserve and establishment of Corranderk with Simon Wonga and William Barak. The 20th century civil rights movement, and more recent efforts to preserve and commemorate cultural sites, are also included.

Many readers will be inspired to follow the *bushtucker trail*

through the Gasworks Arts Park, and I am fully resolved to complete a walk of the numerous sites on the superb Aboriginal cultural map of the City of Port Phillip included at the back of Eidelson's book.

Too little recognition has been accorded the original people of this land. We owe it to ourselves to better understand and draw upon this rich heritage, so the City of Port Phillip and Eidelson are to be commended for this contribution. It would behove every municipality to undertake a similar task – compiling and documenting its aboriginal legacy. How few of us can name a handful of Australia's indigenous nations? How many of us only recently heard of the 7,000 year old settlements of non-nomadic Gunditjmarra peoples in South Western Victoria?

I hope this book inspires others to do the same. Copies should be kept in every school and municipal library.

* spellings vary, of course, as various European settlers differed in their renderings of local speech

Reviewed by Pat Gilhooley, retired teacher

Carol Stals and Geoffrey Paterson edited Glen Eira Historical Society Newsletter, Number 7. We thank Claire Barton, Dorothy Bathurst, Peta Darke, Richard Darke, Jill Eldridge, Andrew Faull, Pat Gilhooley, Barb Hoad, Nathan Hobby, Ailsa Hunt, Lindsay Hunt, Vanessa Kiessling, Anne Kilpatrick, Denis King, Janine Mayhew, Joan Moore, Tim Neve, Sheila Rowell, Yvonne Smith, Keith Stodden, and David Southwick. Thanks to Meyer Eidelson for supplying the book for review.

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Glen Eira Historical Society Inc

PO Box 202

Caulfield South 3162

Do you recognise the people or location in this photograph?

If yes, Vicki Shuttleworth, of Friends of Labassa would like to hear from you. The photo has these words on the back:

Caulfield September 14, 1914.

Please contact Vicki at vickijshuttleworth@yahoo.com.au

