

# CAULFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

# 21

P.O. Box 202, Caulfield South, 3162

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Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month excepting December & January.

Location: First floor, Caulfield City Hall at 8.00 pm.

PATRON: His Worship The Mayor of Caulfield,  
COUNCILLOR W.R. WALTERS, M.B.E., A.E., J.P.

PRESIDENT:  
SECRETARY:  
TREASURER:

MRS. F. CAMPBELL  
MR. R. BALLANTYNE  
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"EVEN HISTORY THAT WE OURSELVES  
MAKE TODAY, HAS A HABIT OF SLIPPING  
PAST, LIKE A SWIFTLY FLOWING RIVER."

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DANIEL LANG

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We have all had the mistaken belief that history is related only to those events which happened in the past, and we are inclined to forget that the events which are taking place today, will be of historical interest tomorrow.

"Time", it is said, waits for no one, and it has a very annoying habit of slipping past, so quickly that unless our actions, and the words we utter are recorded for posterity, on tape, or in print, future generations will have little knowledge of our way of life in this century.

## **WE MUST PRESERVE OUR HERITAGE.**

We have all said:- "I must throw out those old books. No one is interested in this old family bible or those family photos. I have no one to leave them to, so no one will be interested."

**DO NOT — REPEAT — DO NOT DESTROY OUR HISTORICAL RECORDS.**

If they are of no further use to you, or your family, donate them to the local Historical Society, where they will be preserved for all time for the benefit of future generations.

But do not let "the river of time" slip past so quickly that it is then too late. **DO IT NOW!**

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## **CAULFIELD SCOUTS LOSE CAMP SITE IN FIRE**

On Ash Wednesday, 16th February, 1983, a most devastating bushfire raged throughout the states of Victoria, and South Australia, causing untold misery and heartbreak to thousands of people.

Among those affected was the Caulfield District Scout Association which lost 200 acres of bush land, which had been used as a District Camp Site at Upper Beaconsfield, since 1955. Huts, chalet, dozens of buildings and the Chapel were completely destroyed.

During 1955/56 the Association, with the assistance of the Caulfield Council purchased 50 acres of bush land at Upper Beaconsfield. In 1957/58 another 86½ acres were acquired, and later the total area was increased to 198 acres.

Over the past 28 years many hours of hard work and planning were contributed by Scouters of Caulfield, their wives, and lay personell, to build a camp worthy of the youth of this City.

Permission was subsequently obtained to name the site "Dallas Brooks Park", after the Chief Scout and former Governor of Victoria.

The camp site was officially opened in 1961 by the then Mayor of Caulfield, Councillor W. Green, and Mr. Justice Scholl, unveiled a plaque in memory of Sapper Derrick Field, of the Royal Engineers, who was accidently killed when building a bridge on the property.

This Camp Site had been used by thousands of Scouts, not only from Caulfield, but from all over the State, and also by Youth Groups as a holiday camp.

A new holiday activity centre had recently been completed which was to be opened on 20th February by Dr. Norman Johnson O.B.E. Chief Commissioner of Scouting in Australia.

## **THIS BUILDING WAS AMONG THOSE COMPLETELY DESTROYED.**

In terms of loss, small in comparison to the tragic loss of 72 lives, property and personal possessions suffered by so many during those few days of horror, but after the initial shock has receded, homes will be re-built, and Dallas Brooks Camp Site will rise again, to cater for the young people of this community.



**TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
153 GRANGE ROAD GLEN HUNTLY**

We have been advised by the Historic Buildings Council, that following a meeting held on 5th October, 1982, the Council resolved not to recommend this building for addition to the Historic Buildings Register.

Accordingly, the building is not subject to any of the provisions of the Historic Buildings Act 1981.

★★★★★★

**NEW PARK FOR CITY OF CAULFIELD**

The Caulfield Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of Caulfield will develop a new park in Inkerman Road, in co-operation with the Caulfield City Council.

This area will be landscaped, and childrens' playground facilities with barbecues will be constructed.

The project is expected to take five years to complete.

We have also been advised that the Caulfield Council have plans to upgrade the small playground and park in Garden Avenue, Glen Huntly.

★★★★★★

**GLEN-HUNTLY OR GLENHUNTLY?**

Why, and by whose authority, was the name GLEN-HUNTLY changed to become GLENHUNTLY?

The Caulfield suburb was named after the Barque "GLEN-HUNTLY" of 450 tons, in Charge of Captain Buchanan who, on 7th April, 1840 had the dubious honour of bringing the first ship into Port Phillip, with typhus on board.

Thomas Watt's home, built in 1854, on the site now occupied by Holy Cross Church was named "GLEN-HUNTLY".

The primary school in Grange Road, shows GLEN-HUNTLY Primary School.

Telecom, and the Railway Station both spell the suburb as one word, as do all the GLENHUNTLY Road signs.

As an Historical Society, we are all concerned that as this suburb was named after the Barque "GLEN-HUNTLY" it should be spelt the same way as the name of the ship.

★★★★★★

**A TRIP INTO THE PAST**

A further reminder of our visit to the Queenscliff Historical Museum on 1st May, 1983, as advised in our Supplementary Newsletter No. 1/83.

For those members and friends who do not have transport we have booked a Caulfield Council Mini Bus which will leave the City Hall at approximately 10 a.m., returning at between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Queenscliff is a very Historic City, being one of the first settled in this State, and the Historical Museum conducted by the Queenscliff Historical Society is probably the best of its kind in Victoria.

There will be an anticipated charge of no more than \$1 per person, and bring your own lunch, which we will have together in their beautiful gardens.

**MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY NOW**

**SUNDAY, 1ST MAY, 1983 - 10 A.M.**

**AT THE CITY HALL, CAULFIELD**

**BIOGRAPHIES OF CAULFIELD RESIDENTS**

**MY GRANDFATHER — DAVID BALLANTYNE**

**1850-1890**

**By R. Ballantyne**

David Ballantyne was born during the year 1850 at "PATHHEAD", Wishaw, a small pastoral town in Scotland, on the banks of the River Clyde, just a few miles from Glasgow, in the County of Motherwell.

His parents, William and Rosina (nee McIlwraith) were Orchardists, growing, and exporting apples, pears and strawberries. The family had lived at "PATHHEAD", which was, and still is today, a solid Scottish grey, stone building just a few yards from the River, since prior to 1700, and the business and property had been handed down from father to eldest son since that time.

David was one of five children, three boys and two girls, born to William and Rosina, but apart from the fact that he was educated at Edinburgh, little information is readily available regarding his early life in Scotland.

However, at the age of eighteen he left Wishaw, and his family and obtained a position with the London firm of Higgins Eagle & Co., a soft goods business, exporting textiles to various parts of the "Empire".

On 17th December, 1871, at the age of twenty one, he married his boyhood sweetheart, Johanna McLean, who was then nineteen.

Johanna was born at Goran, a suburb of Glasgow, on 26th March, 1852. She was the daughter of John and Marie McLean; her father being a Customs' Official at Glasgow.

By the year 1879, David and Johanna had four sons, Albert, born 1874, John 1876, James 1878 and Robert 1879.

Some time during late 1879, David's firm transferred him to the new Colony of Melbourne acting as their Agent, to organize and establish an indenting business.

David commenced the business at No. 5 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, which was then situated at the Spencer Street end of "The Lane". Numbers were later changed to commence at Spring Street.

He was one of the exhibitors at the Inter National Exhibition in Melbourne during 1888, holding pass No. 183.

When David's business was firmly established, Johanna and her four sons sailed to Melbourne, obtaining a berth on the P & O Sailing Ship "ROSETTA" which left Plymouth on 26th July, 1880, around the Cape of Good Hope, arriving in Port Phillip on 16th November of the same year.

The fare for the voyage for Johanna and her four children was twenty pounds - all found.

The Pilot who brought the "ROSETTA" to the wharf was Captain Henry J.M. DRAPER of Williamstown.

David, his wife, and four very young sons, originally lived at Fitzroy, but during 1885 they purchased a home in Allison Road, Elsternwick, on the North side, between Orrong Road and Park Street, which they named "PATHHEAD" after the old home in Scotland.

Their closest neighbours were J.B. Were, and N.H. Noy, although in those early days there were vast areas of open space between the houses in the street.

On 4th December, 1886, their fifth son, also christened David was born, and four years later on 15th May, 1890, they had a daughter Rosanna.

David and Johanna became involved in the spiritual life of the Elsternwick Community, and David was elected to the Committee of the first Board of Management of the new St. John's Presbyterian Church, in Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick.



later becoming the first Treasurer of that Church on 6th December, 1888.

The five boys of David and Johanna attended Sunday School at St. Johns, and the older boys attended Caulfield Grammar.

The first Minister of the Church was the Rev. George Faulds, who began services in the old Court House in the Shire Hall on 31st October, 1887, on a yearly stipend of 300 pounds.

David and Johanna lived at Allison Road, until his death on 14th October, 1890. Johanna died four years later in 1894 and they were buried together at Brighton Cemetery.

Just an ordinary family with no great claim to fame, but no doubt they left some mark on the Elsternwick Community of that period.

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**THE CONFERRING OF THE FREEDOM OF ENTRY  
TO THE CITY OF CAULFIELD UPON THE THIRD  
ORDNANCE SERVICES UNIT, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN  
ARMY CORPS  
CAULFIELD PARK 4 AUGUST 1978**

**A HISTORY OF THE PREMISES, NOW  
OCCUPIED BY THE THIRD ORDNANCE ARMY CORPS.**

**By MRS. D.E. HANCOCK**

It is perhaps of interest to record a short history of the premises in Kooyong Road North Caulfield which are now occupied by the Ordnance Army Corps.

In the "thirties" the present brick building, or at least a substantial part of it, was used as the office and garage of the Red Cab Company which at the time, in competition with the Yellow Cab Company, provided Melbourne with a reliable taxi service, to take those citizens of this city, who could afford it in those days, to the theatre, dinner or to connect with a Country or Interstate train.

Such taxi services were quite distinct from the several private hire car firms which catered for really "special occasions".

The Red Cab drivers were always in uniform over which they frequently wore white dust coats, plus peaked caps which they used however hot the temperature.

The cabs themselves were dignified affairs characteristic square sedans of the era, painted red, with heavy disc wheels.

Early during the 1939-1945 war the Army took over the premises and it became initially a depot for a section of the Tank Corps, and tanks rumbled in and out of the building, and along Kooyong Road.

At least some branch of the Armed Forces has occupied the building since that time.

The Red Cab Company survived the move from Kooyong Road, and the Second World War and the name continued for some years after, however, as the result of amalgamation, the name of the Red Cab Company has since disappeared.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

**FAMOUS PRIVATE HOSPITAL CLOSES**

Early last year BETHLEHEM PRIVATE HOSPITAL in Kooyong Road, Caulfield, closed its wards to private patients.

The hospital was built during the late 1870's by Joseph Sheridan as a private home for his wife, himself and their fifteen children.

Joseph Sheridan was a successful dairyman who originally owned four acres of land in Kooyong Road, Caulfield and this was later increased to 80 acres, on which he grazed his dairy herd.

When Sheridan's land was subsequently sub-divided in 1926, the homestead became Berkely Hospital and later re-named Bethlehem Hospital.

The Sisters of The Little Company of Mary, have conducted Bethlehem Hospital since 1941, and the private wards cared for surgical, maternity and coronary patients.

These wards were very highly regarded by the medical profession and also by the patients and the hospital was particularly famous for the very high standard of specialized training, and the complete dedication of the Nursing Sisters of the Coronary-Care wards.

The Public Section of the hospital has now been enlarged by the opening of the "Marian Wing" which was formerly the private section. This will provide for 46 more public beds for patients suffering from Multiple Sclerosis.

During the past seventy years the Nursing Sisters at the hospital have become known for their sympathetic care of these patients.

One of these patients, Joy Lacey, who is so severely paralyzed that she is only able to move her head, has for the past three years, spent her time in a wheel chair, writing a book about her life.

She typed the manuscript, holding a stick in her mouth to punch the keys of the typewriter.

Joy has called her book

**"JUST A MINUTE"**

which was edited by June Epstein, and published with the help of Caulfield Lions Club, OBTAINABLE FROM THE HOSPITAL, AND CAULFIELD LIONS CLUB.

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**"THE HOUSE OF SHERWOOD"  
1899 - 1983**

**A FAMILY BUSINESS - WITH A DIFFERENCE**

When Thomas Sherwood, as a young man, took a gamble, and opened a butchers shop in Bay Street, Brighton, little did he realize that four generations later, his descendants would still be operating the same type of business in 1983.

During 1906 James Edward Sherwood, a son of Thomas, branched out and opened his own business in Barkly Street, St. Kilda (opposite the Village Belle).

After operating in St. Kilda for twelve years, the business moved to Koornang Road, Carnegie during 1918; when James took with him his three sons, Edward, Frederick and Robert and for the past sixty five years this shop has been owned and operated by the same family.

Walk into this well known shop, and it is like taking a journey back in time. The past is all around, photos of years gone by are on the walls, sawdust on the floor and slab marble cutting-boards all belonging to a past era.

Ted Sherwood, a Great Grandson of the original Thomas and Ted's son Bruce operate the shop in Carnegie, and Ted tells stories of the small shop in Barkly Street, St. Kilda, with gas lamps, sides of beef and lamb hanging in the shop - no pre-cut meat available in those days, and horse drawn delivery vans, all orders were delivered.

Prices which operated then are now hard to believe:-

CHOPS - 7 PENCE PER POUND

STEAK - ONE SHILLING PER POUND

LEGS OF MUTTON - 7 PENCE PER POUND

AND ROAST BEEF - 7 PENCE PER POUND

The shop originally had stables at the rear, fine delivery vans, and horses and free delivery to all suburbs.

Ted Sherwood can remember starting work when he was 13 years of age, delivering meat on his bicycle. He recalls delivering an order to a customer in Oakleigh who reprimanded him because he had forgotten part of the order - a penny worth of cats meat. He says he rode his bike back to Carnegie, picked up puss' meal, back to Oakleigh and then returned to Carnegie on his bike.



So different, says Ted, from the cellophane wrapped goods of today. The fast "In and Out" Supermarket shopping, the lack of friendliness and the feeling of belonging to a Community.

However, the warmth and friendliness is still there, in this Carnegie shop in the good old fashioned way.

Not far away in Glen Huntly, Norman Sherwood, a cousin of Ted, is the owner of a similar styled butchery business - with a difference.

Norm's father Frederick, also learned the trade at the St. Kilda Shop, eventually purchasing his own business in Glen Huntly Road, near the corner of Hawthorn Road, during the year 1921.

On 10th July 1925, he became the owner of a second shop at 1218 Glen Huntly Road, Glen Huntly and he later sold the original business to concentrate on the one at Glen Huntly; and this family business has been operated by this branch of the Sherwood family since that time, apart from a short period during 1950-1960.

Norm, like cousin Ted has adorned the walls of his shop with photos of a by-gone era, all relating to Carnegie's and Glen Huntly's past.

In the business with him now are sons Geoff and Wayne and together with Norm, are always happy and willing to "down tools" and talk to anyone interested about the early days of business in Glen Huntly.

For many years Norm's wife Joan helped in the business, by acting as cashier.

Both Glen Huntly and Carnegie shops pride themselves on their unusual home made sausages, the recipes of which have been a closely guarded family secret for four generations.

Norm Sherwood, also owns a farm in the country, where he breeds his own beef, which probably produces the best meat in Caulfield.

Both Glen Huntly and Carnegie shops, truly family businesses, are well worth a visit, if only to have a chat about the "Good Old Days."

**ED. NOTE:** Norm and Geoff Sherwood have offered this Society the loan of the negatives of any or all of the old photographs in their possession.

This offer has been accepted with sincere thanks.

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#### "KOOKA THE BURRA"

It has been reported by a local newspaper published in an adjoining suburb to Caulfield, that our Festival mascot "Kooka The Burra" was in fact, a Magpie in Drag.

**WE DON'T BELIEVE IT.**

★★★★★★

#### HISTORIC TEA TOWELS

This Society still has a very limited number of Historic Tea Towels available for sale at \$2.50 each.

These tea towels which are pure linen, have been printed in Melbourne and feature a drawing of Sydney Smith's proposed Shire Hall of 1884.

This Hall was not built owing to lack of finance by the then Shire.

#### FROM SAND SWAMP AND HEATH

This beautifully produced history of the City of Caulfield covers its progress from 1857 to 1945.

These books are normally priced at \$24.50, but purchased through the Historical Society, are available at the bargain price of \$20.00.

ENQUIRIES FOR BOTH TEA TOWELS AND THE OFFICIAL HISTORY RING 578 3145.

#### FOR SALE

One of our members has for sale, four **FIRST EDITION BOOKS**, in almost mint condition which are of special historic interest to Historical Societies, and anyone interested in the early history of Victoria.

"THE HISTORY OF WILLIAMSTOWN 1834-1934"

BY WILLIAM H. ELSUM

PUBLISHED 1934 BY WILLIAMSTOWN CITY COUNCIL

"THE FIRST YEARS AT PORT PHILLIP"

EVENTS FROM 1768

BY ROBERT DOUGLAS BOYS B.A.

PUBLISHED 1935 MELBOURNE

"A GUIDE BOOK TO THE LOCAL  
MARINE BOARD EXAMINATION"

BY T.L. AINSLEY

PUBLISHED 1856 LONDON

"LUNAR AND HORARY TABLES"

FOR ASCERTAINING THE LONGITUDE

BY DAVID THOMPSON

PUBLISHED 1838 LONDON

#### BEST OFFER WILL BE ACCEPTED

Enquiries, in the first instance to Caulfield Historical Society, telephone 578 3145.

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#### CAULFIELD FESTIVAL 1982

The first Caulfield Festival, which operated from 27 November - 5 December 1982, was an ambitious undertaking, but was undoubtedly very successful.

This Society in conjunction with Shelford Girl's School, conducted a photographic display at the Caulfield City Hall during the length of the Festival, which was well attended.

Judging by the comments heard, and the remarks in our visitors' book, this display should be repeated in the very near future, and this will be arranged.

A special "Thank You" to all our members who helped by either assisting to set up the display, or by being in attendance at the City Hall during the length of the Festival. A very sincere "Thanks" to all those members who helped to make this display a success.

★★★★★★

#### "THROUGH THE PAGES OF HISTORY"

AS REPORTED IN "THE ARGUS" 4 DECEMBER 1912

"The Chief Secretary, Mr. Murray directed the police to be more aware, and alert of Motor Cars travelling at an excess speed through the City of Melbourne.

Mr. Murray stated that the speed at which the majority of Motor Cars were travelling, was endangering the lives of pedestrians. He suggested that a speed limit of 11 miles per hour be imposed within the City boundaries."

"However, a member of the Victorian Automobile Club, stated that in their opinion, there should be no necessity for a speed limit of any kind in Melbourne.

Most cars, he said, do not travel in excess of 12 miles per hour, and that is considered to be a reasonable speed in the busy streets of the City."



## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Society and sincerely trust they will all enter into our activities and spend many enjoyable years with us:-

**MISS SARA BALDWIN-WISEMAN**  
**MRS. EDITH MIHELYI**  
**MR. ATHOL REID**  
**MRS. BETTY REID**  
**MRS. L. OLIVER**  
**MR. ERNEST CHARLES**  
**MISS M. AMOS**

N. CAULFIELD  
ARMADALE  
ELSTERNWICK  
ELSTERNWICK  
TRAFALGAR  
ASHBURTON  
ELSTERNWICK

★★★★★★

## DONATIONS RECEIVED

The following donations have been received since the publication of our last News Letter, and we acknowledge them with sincere thanks.

### **PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERRING OF THE FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE CITY OF CAULFIELD UPON THE THIRD ORDNANCE SERVICES UNIT, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS.**

DONATED BY MRS. D.E. HANCOCK - NTH CAULFIELD.  
**ANTIQUE MONEY - TILL BOWL. C1900**

DONATED BY MR. B. McALLISTER - GLEN HUNTLY  
**HISTORY OF ALMA BOWLING AND TENNIS CLUB**

DONATED BY MISS B. SNOWBALL - CAULFIELD  
**HISTORY OF SHELFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

DONATED BY MISS D. WALTERS - BEAUMARIS.  
**ESTATE AGENTS BROCHURE - BURREEL ESTATE**

DONATED BY MISS H. BULLOCK - GARDENVALE  
**SEVERAL COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS**

DONATED BY MRS. M. BROMFIELD - CARNEGIE  
**SCHOOL PROJECT - "HISTORY OF MURRUMBEENA"**

DONATED BY MISS S. DALE - MURRUMBEENA  
**"ROOTS AND BRANCHES" BY LEA SCARLET**

DONATED BY R. BALLANTYNE - GLEN HUNTLY  
**COPY OF COUNCIL REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS**

**SYLLABUS - ELSTERNWICK RADIO CLUB 1926**  
**RADIO STATION 3.L.R.**

**MAP OF CITY OF CAULFIELD 1915**  
**SHOWING POSITIONS OF HORSE TROUGHS**  
**AND OTHER INTERESTING MEMORABILIA**

DONATED BY MR. B. CARROLL  
**SENIOR RECORDS OFFICER CAULFIELD CITY HALL**  
**COMPLETE SET OF CAULFIELD HISTORICAL**  
**SOCIETY'S SUPPLEMENTARY NEWS LETTERS**  
**1/76 - 1/81.**

DONATED BY MRS. K. MEEHAN - E. BRIGHTON

## STATE REGIONAL HISTORICAL CONFERENCE

On Saturday 26th February, Caulfield Historical Society were hosts to the State Conference of the Regional Historical Association of Victoria.

A total of 15 Delegates, including two from Caulfield, attended the Conference which was held at the Caulfield City Hall. Other representatives coming from as far away as Maffra, Benalla, and Phillip Island.

Our Lady members who can always be relied upon, supplied Morning and Afternoon teas, plus cold drinks for the Delegates, during the terribly hot and humid day.

A very sincere "Thank You" to all of our members who, at comparatively short notice, provided the necessary refreshments.

Also a very special "Thank You" to the Mayor of Caulfield, Cr. Ron Walters, who opened the City Hall especially for the conference.

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