

# CAULFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

# 22

P.O. Box 202, Caulfield South, 3162

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OCTOBER 1983

ISSN 0310-1703 20 cents

Published twice yearly - April and October

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:	MRS. F. CAMPBELL	TEL: 523 9228
SECRETARY:	MR. R. BALLANTYNE	TEL: 578 3145
TREASURER:	MR. R. SIMS	TEL: 528 1661

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"THE FUTURE RECEDES LIKE A MIRAGE  
TODAY IS YESTERDAY'S FUTURE  
YESTERDAY IS TODAY'S PAST."

JAMES M<sup>C</sup>L.B. (1878-1960)

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There recently has been a very active and increasing interest in the early history of this Country, and many schools are now including the study of local history in their curriculum for the H.S.C. examinations.

This Society is receiving a large number of inquiries from students, seeking information of the old mansions in this area, and invitations to speak to organizations are becoming more numerous.

While all the members of this Society are very happy to assist, to the best of their ability, we do not encourage students to expect the information they require to be handed to them without some research on their part.

The best, and most satisfactory way of tracing history is to search the sources of records one self and this society has always, and will continue to help everyone to make their discoveries through their own efforts, by pointing them in the right direction.

We should also realize that history is not only something which happened one hundred or more years ago, it is taking place all around us today - for:-

"Today is yesterday's future  
Yesterday is today's past

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70 YEARS ON!  
FROM TOWN TO CITY.

AS REPORTED BY "THE PRAHRAN TELEGRAPH"  
SATURDAY 2 AUGUST, 1913.

"On Saturday 26 July, 1913, the formal ceremony of declaring the Town of Caulfield to become a City took place in delightful surroundings, for the afternoon proved warm and sunny.

Registered at the GPO Melbourne for transmission  
by post as a Periodical, Category "C".

It had been originally intended that the opening of the Hawthorn and Glen Huntly Roads Tramway should have coincided with "the proclamation, but owing to lack of finance, it was found to be impracticable to complete the line within the present financial year.

The Town Hall was festooned on the outside with flags and flowers, the interior decorations being in yellow and light blue.

In the large hall the Mayor, Councillor Thompson and Mrs. Thompson held an informal reception as the guests arrived, while in an enclosure outside the hall, the Elsternwick Brass Band played lively airs, and a Guard of Honour formed by a Company of the Caulfield Cadets, paraded on the roadway.

The Governor of Victoria, His Excellency Sir John Fuller, formally declared the Town of Caulfield to be a City in these words:-

"I now declare the Town of Caulfield for it was a Town, to be a City, for it is now a City."

Those simple words embraced the passage of time for the Municipality, from a lower rung, up to the highest rung of the ladder of success.

Congratulations to  
THE CITY OF CAULFIELD."

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#### 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

At the eleventh Annual Meeting of the Society, held at the Caulfield City Hall, on Wednesday 21st September, 1983, the following Executive Members of the Committee were elected unopposed:-

<u>PRESIDENT.</u>	Mrs. F. Campbell
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS.</u>	Miss B. Snowball
	Miss E. Meehan
<u>SECRETARY.</u>	Mr. R. Ballantyne
<u>TREASURER.</u>	Mr. R. Sims
<u>COMMITTEE.</u>	Mrs. K. Meehan
	Miss H. Ford
	Miss G. Rowe
	Miss N. Ward
	Mrs. M. Ballantyne
	Mr. H. Head

#### REGIONAL DELEGATES.

Dr. M. Chennells  
Miss H. Bullock

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After the formalities of the Annual Meeting were concluded - President Felicitie Campbell introduced our Guest Speaker, Professor Weston Bate, who is President of the Hawthorn Historical Society.

Professor Bate is also the Author of the Official History of Brighton, and he brought local history alive during his entertaining, humorous and informative talk on Brighton in the 1800's to the present time.

His interpretation of the lives and attitudes of residents of Brighton during the last one hundred years, was thoroughly enjoyed by our members and visitors who were priviledged to hear him.

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PICTORIAL RECORD OF FORMER SHIRE  
PRESIDENTS/MAYORS OF CAULFIELD  
1857 - 1983.

CAN YOU HELP?

The Caulfield City Council is in the process of compiling a photographic history of former Shire Presidents/Mayors of this City, since it was just a Road District in 1857, to the present time.

It is intended that these will be on permanent display at the City Hall, and open to the public.

Unfortunately, some of these photos are not readily available, and this Society has been requested to assist in tracing those which are missing.

We are therefore appealing to anyone who may have photographs of the early leaders of this City, including photos from News Papers, to lend them to the Officials of the City Hall, where they will be enlarged and the originals returned to the donors.

If anyone can assist the Caulfield City Council in this project in any way at all, please contact either:-

CAROL HARRY - LIAISON OFFICER  
CAULFIELD CITY HALL Tel 524 3333

OR

SECRETARY CAULFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tel 578 3145

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TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
153 GRANGE ROAD, GLEN HUNTLY

In our last News Letter, it was reported that this old Church had been deleted from the Historical Buildings Register.

We have now been advised that the Church which was built in South Melbourne for the Primitive Methodists during 1866 and moved to its present site in Glen Huntly in 1909 has been purchased by the Old Calendar Greek Orthodox Church.

It is pleasing to note that this building which has served the Congregational Community of Glen Huntly for so many years is being retained as a House of Worship.

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REGISTER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The Victorian Government Gazette No. 82 has announced the following buildings in Caulfield, as having been placed on the Register of Public Buildings:-

PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 773  
GLEN HUNTLY ROAD, ELSTERNICK

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RAILWAY STATION - CAULFIELD

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CENTENARY SOUVENIR TEA TOWELS

Christmas is only a few weeks away, and many folk will be wondering what to send to relatives and friends, both in Australia and Overseas.

THE CAULFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
has the perfect answer to your problem.

GIVE A DISH DRYER

We have a very limited supply of pure linen tea towels, printed in Melbourne, depicting a design of the Caulfield Shire Hall; as proposed by Architect Sydney Smith in 1884.

These tea towels are unique, and a Collector's Item as they will not be repeated.

Why not also give yourself a treat by purchasing some for yourselves and at the same time assisting the funds of your Society?

THE PRICE? ONLY \$2.50 each.

Obtainable from the Caulfield Historical Society. Tel. 578 3145.

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BIOGRAPHIES OF CAULFIELD RESIDENTS.  
MISS GRACE BEATRICE BROWN.

Grace Beatrice Brown, everyone calls her Beatrice, was born at Strathdownie on a sheep station in the Western District, on 4th September 1888. She was the youngest of six children, two boys and four girls, Charles, Edward, Amy, Catherine and Jean.

During their early years at Strathdownie, all the children received their education from private tutors and Governesses, as the nearest school was some miles away from their home.

In 1902, the family travelled to Germany, in the hope of obtaining a cure for their father, who suffered from acute Arthritis. While living in Germany, they all learned the Piano from, as Beatrice says, the worst possible teacher, because the tuition fees were so reasonable.

Returning to Melbourne in 1904 the family rented a house in Brighton, while looking for a permanent home. In 1906 they finally found what they were looking for, and moved from Brighton to Caulfield, into their new home in Gladstone Parade.

The German piano teacher could not have been quite "the worst possible teacher," because in 1912, after having private lessons from a Mr. Goll; Beatrice received her Diploma of Music at the Melbourne Conservatorium.

During 1916 - 1917, Beatrice and her sister Amy, sailed to the Argentine to visit their cousins, whom they had not seen for some years. After their return to Australia, Beatrice taught the piano until 1980, only then conceding that at 92 years of age she should retire.

Of the other brothers and sisters, Charles married Jessie Campbell; a daughter of Ian James Campbell; who laid the Foundation Stone of the Wesleyan Church at Elsternwick on 14th November 1887, now the Church Hall of the Uniting Church.

Edward married Dr. Vera Scantlebury, Director of Infant Welfare, and he eventually became Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at Melbourne University.

Amy the eldest sister, was involved with the Y.W.C.A., Aboriginal Welfare, and the Mission To Seamen. She has a stained glass window installed in her honour at the Flinders Street extension building of the Mission To Seamen.

The two other sisters, Catherine and Jean, concerned themselves mainly with household duties, although both played the piano and Jean painted.

None of the girls ever married, contenting themselves with their Music, Painting and involvement with the Y.W.C.A. and the Mission To Seamen.

Beatrice still maintains her interest in Music, playing each day or accompanying younger people, either singing or playing the flute.

Her other interests these days are reading, playing the piano, gardening, and as she recently said, "anything one likes to suggest."

This Society pays a warm tribute to "a grand old lady of Caulfield."

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### EARLY CAULFIELD MEMORIES.

By W. PARSONS.

The City of Caulfield is seventy years old this year. Of course it has not always been a City. It started life as a Roads Board in 1857. In 1871 it became a Shire, and though now it is a City, and has many Sub. Divisions with different names, it covered as much acreage in the 19th Century as it does today.

Caulfield was very much in the Country when it first came into being, Hawthorn Road had hawthorn hedges with pink buds in the Spring. Market gardens abounded in the South East, and mushrooms grew in the paddocks in the Autumn.

At the extreme, North of the City's boundary, a horse drawn bus ran up

Dandeenog Road. Fares were paid to the driver through a hole in the roof. This bus survived until 1911 when it was replaced by an electric tram.

Many fine old homes stood back from the dusty Caulfield roads. Through the gates of these old mansions, ladies drove out in their Landaus, Phaetons and Victorias to each one's "At Home Days".

Caulfield had its own snobbery - If one lived in one of the Mansions in Glen Eira, Kooyong or Hawthorn Roads one was socially "all right". Crossing over Glen Huntly Road brought you into the vicinity of "The London Tavern" and you were socially "Not Accepted".

If by chance you happened to live in the Eastern part of the City, where most of the Market Gardens were located, you were virtually "Un-Clean".

In the Caulfield of 1983 with its trams, trains, buses, self service stores, schools, Churches and baby health centres, the be-whiskered, top hatted councillors of 1857 and 1913 driving in their buggies to the Council meetings might feel out of place.

But these venerable grey-beards would possibly nod in approval at the many signs of progress, and relive their youth as history advances in the march of memories and progress.

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ROSSTOWN RAILWAY CENTENARY  
1883 - 1983.

On Sunday 18th September 1983, Councillors of the City of Caulfield, members of this Society and their friends, attended a ceremony in the Marara Road Gardens, South Caulfield, to witness Councillor Brian Rudzki unveil a plaque to commemorate the Centenary of the commencement of the work on the Rosstown Railway.

Councillor Rudzki was deputising for the Mayor of Caulfield, Councillor Ron Walters, M.B.E., A.E., J.P., who is in hospital; recovering from a serious heart attack.

The Rosstown Railway, now defunct, was the brain-child of William Murray Ross, one time Chairman of the Caulfield Roads Board, during 1860 - 1862. It linked Elsternwick with Oakleigh, and ran through, what is now parklands along Curraweena Road.

Caulfield Historical Society was instrumental in having the plaque installed, and we appreciate the complete co-operation and assistance received from the Mayor, Councillors, and Staff at the City Hall, in making possible this Historic event.

At the conclusion of the ceremony Councillor Rudzki issued an invitation to all those present to be the guests of the Mayoress Mrs. Von. Walters and Councillors, for refreshments at the City Hall.

This gesture was sincerely appreciated by all members of our Society.

We all hope that Councillor Walters, who is our Patron, makes a complete

recovery, and will again be able to return to a normal healthy, active life, and continue to work for the good of this Community of Caulfield.

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### THE BARQUE "GLEN HUNTLY".

The Barque "GLEN HUNTLY" was a sailing ship of 505 tons as recorded in the Register of Shipping, not 430 tons described in the Custom House books.

She was registered in Scotland, and was a member of a fleet of "GLEN" Ships.

The "GLEN HUNTLY" sailed from OBAN ARGYLESHIRE, Scotland, on 1st December, 1839 in charge of Captain Buchanan, with 157 emigrants on board. She arrived in Hobson's Bay on 17th April 1840 and sailed to her anchorage off William's Town.

When it became known that ten of the passengers had died from typhus during the voyage the Barque was declared a 'fever ship', and Captain Buchanan was ordered to cross the Bay and anchor off the Bluff - Point Ormond.

Two quarantine camps were established at the Bluff, one for passengers who had the fever, which was in charge of Surgeon Superintendent Browne, and one for those who were at present free from the disease, in charge of Dr. Barry Cotter. Both these quarantine camps were visited regularly by Superintendent Latrobe.

It was amazing that although the Barque was of only 505 tons and carried 157 passengers, men women and children, plus her crew packed in below decks, that only ten people died during the four and a half months voyage from Scotland.

The last passenger who died at sea was GEORGE DENHAM, he was buried at the mouth of the RIVER EXE, now known as the Little River, sixteen miles north of Geelong.

Three more people died at the quarantine station at the Bluff:- JAMES MATHERS, on 23rd April; JOHN CRAIG on 25th April; and GEORGE ARMSTRONG on 5th May 1840. All the healthy passengers and crew were released from quarantine on 13th June, and allowed to travel to Melbourne.

The graves at Point Ormond, enclosed by a picket fence, marked the place for nearly sixty years, but on 27th August 1898, they were opened and the remains were re-buried in the St. Kilda Cemetery in the presence of one hundred spectators.

In addition to the Mayor of St. Kilda, Councillor John Stedford, present at the re-internment, were MRS. BOWMAN of Caulfield, a daughter of John Craig. Miss Cameron, who was seventeen years of age, when she arrived on the Barque.

Subsequently a public appeal was made and sufficient money was raised to erect a suitable memorial on the grave, which is in the South West corner of the St. Kilda Cemetery, marking a notable event in the early history of the Colony, and the Glen Huntly Pioneers.

Glen Huntly Road, and the Caulfield suburb of Glen Huntly now serve as a reminder of the tragedy of the fever ship "GLEN HUNTLY" when thirteen people lost their lives.

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VISIT TO QUEENSCLIFFE  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM.

On Sunday 1st May this year, twenty three members of this Society travelled to Queenscliff as the guests of the local Historical Society.

Eleven of our members arrived by private cars on Saturday and enjoyed a leisurely week-end in this very historic City.

The rest of the party travelled by Mini bus, courtesy of Caulfield City Council.

Following a picnic lunch in the gardens our party was met by Mr. R. Ralston Assistant Secretary of the Queenscliff Society, who escorted us to their Museum, and gave a very comprehensive and knowledgeable talk on the history of the City.

The members of the Queenscliff Society are to be congratulated on the number of artifacts they have on display, and the information they have in their files, which is available, almost immediately.

After spending a considerable amount of time at the museum, our party was taken on a conducted tour of the historical highlights of the City by our Mini Bus driver, Mr. Alf Jones.

Time however was running out, and as it is impossible to see and appreciate this old Sea-Faring City in one day or even a week-end, we had to reluctantly return to our various homes.

Everyone agreed that this outing was one of the best the Society has had, and we offer our sincere thanks to the Queenscliffe Historical Society for the time spent with us, and for making our visit so very enjoyable.

Special thanks also to our bus driver Mr. Alf Jones, who was so very co-operative, even driving everyone, who did not have any transport, to their homes.

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"KILVINGTON"

Kilvington Girls' Baptist Grammar School  
in Leila Road, Ormond,  
celebrated its 60th Anniversary this year

"Kilvington" was the brain child of Mrs. Caroline Alice Barrett, who during 1922, first realized the need for a private school in the Ormond Area.

She was then teaching at Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School, and her ambition was to have a school of her own. During February 1923, her ambition was realized, when she commenced, what was then known as Ormond Girls' School, with fifteen pupils, in the Anglican Church Hall at the corner of Wheatley and North Roads.

Mrs. Barrett did most of the teaching herself, and the school grew. After moving twice to new premises firstly to a hall in Wheatley Road, then to the Methodist Sunday School hall in Glen Orme Avenue, Ormond.



In November 1927, a large block of land was purchased on the corner of Katandra Road and Walsh Street, for five hundred pounds, and a building was erected. This today is the "Ormond Special School".

In 1928, a new school building was erected at 2 Walsh Street, and the name changed to "Kilvington" after a school in England.

The then Mayor of Caulfield, Councillor R.T. Patton, officially opened this building on 18th May, 1929.

Until 1948, "Kilvington" operated as a private school, but on 7th February of that year, it was declared a Baptist denominational school by Mrs. H. Downing.

As enrolments of pupils increased, the need for more accommodation grew urgent and the school purchased six blocks of land which had been sub-divided from the Ormond Plant Farm, and a Senior School was built.

The foundation-stone for the new building was laid in October 1954 by Mr. W. Spencer, President of the Baptist Union of Victoria. In 1955 the Senior School was fully operative, and registered as qualified to prepare the students through to H.S.C. or Matriculation as it was then known.

Their motto - "NON NOBIS SED OMNIBUS" "Not for ourselves, but others" expresses the ideals that play a major part in the education of the Kilvington girls.

From a very humble beginning, and the foresight of one dedicated lady, the school has developed into one of Caulfield's major educational institutions.

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#### PHOTOGRAPHIC TOUR OF CAULFIELD

During the past year, this Society has received several requests to show slides of the early Mansions and Gardens of Caulfield, and we have been pleased to comply with all these requests.

Our 'photographic tour' has been viewed by:-

Caulfield Gas & Fuel Women's Association  
Caulfield High School - H.S.C. Students  
Murrumbeena High School Mothers' Club  
Regent House, Elsternwick  
Caulfield Hospital - Residents  
St. John's Uniting Church, Elsternwick

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HARRY PERRIMAN  
AND THE  
St. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

Harry Perriman was born in New Zealand on 6th September 1883, and three years later came to Melbourne with his parents.

He eventually became an engineer, and was working at Richmond (VIC.), when he joined St. John's newly formed First Aid Voluntary Association.

Harry Perriman and the Australian branch of the now Priory of the Order of St. John, grew up together and they both celebrated their 100th birthday this year.

Prior to 1887 patients were taken to hospital in cabs, but later that year, Lady Janet Clark, and a small group of volunteers, saw the need for formal ambulances, and they raised enough money to purchase six Ashford Litters.

These were no more than stretchers on wheels and they were distributed to Metropolitan police stations, and the Eastern Hill Fire Station.

During the first year these Litters were called out on more than one hundred occasions.

As the need for emergency transport increased, a number of concerned women, calling themselves the Daughters of the Court, raised enough finance to buy the first horse drawn ambulance, which attended to more than four hundred cases a year.

By the year 1910, the first motor ambulance was purchased, and in 1919 the Brigade had a fleet of sixteen motor and five horse drawn ambulances.

Harry Perriman, joined St. John in the late 1800's, and has seen it become one of the most respected organizations in this Country.

The same sense of Community spirit, which led him to become an active member of St. John, saw Harry join the Anglican Church Mission 23 years later to work with Aborigines in the Northern Territory.

He spent the next twenty years on Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria, where he taught basic mechanics to young Aboriginal children.

In 1943 Harry Perriman decided it was time to settle down and at the age of sixty he married Rotha who was then forty seven.

Together they now live in an Anglican Church Senior Citizens Complex in Elsternwick.

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#### DONATIONS RECEIVED

The following donations have been received since publication of our last News Letter, and they are acknowledged with sincere thanks.

Portable Typewriter

Donated by Mr. T. Hart.

Framed Photo of Caulfield's Centenary Year Councillors 1957/1958

Donated by Miss. R. Yorston.

Books "The Gardens of Ripponlea"

Donated by Miss B. Snowball.

"Mind the Curves"  
(The History of Cable Trams)  
Donated by Mr. & Mrs. R. Day.

Revised 1860 Edition Webster's Dictionary  
Donated by Mrs. P. Allen.

Invitation to Coronation of King George V. and Queen Mary 22 June 1911  
Donated by Miss B. Snowball.

History of Glen-Huntly  
Donated by Miss M. Robarts.

X History of Murrumbeena Bowling Club 1958/1983  
Donated by Mr. H. Gamble.

Expanding File  
Donated by Miss B. Snowball.

Estate Agents Brochures 1899-1927

Sundial Recovered from early Glen-Huntly House

Copies of Letters to and from Caulfield Council Dated 1890-1965

Bound Copies of Business Letterheads 1892-1960  
Donated by Mr. B. Carroll.

Electors Right to Vote 29 April 1909  
Donated by Miss H. Bullock.

Photographic Display Boards  
Donated by Caulfield City Hall.

Glass Display case, Glass Topped Table  
Donated by Friends of "Ripponlea".

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have recently joined our Society. We extend to them a hearty welcome, and sincerely trust they will all enter into our activities, and spend many enjoyable years as members of the Caulfield Historical Society.

- MRS. MARGARET CHARLES                    ELSTERNWICK
- MISS EILEEN BREHENY                    ELSTERNWICK
- MISS DOREEN CUMMINS                    ELSTERNWICK
- MISS JOY MACDONALD                    BRIGHTON
- MISS MELLICE SAULTRY                    ARMADALE
- MR. & MRS. D. GILLESPIE                    NORTH CAULFIELD
- MRS. D. HEWSON                            NORTH CAULFIELD
- MR. JAMES MCLOGHLIN                    ELSTERNWICK
- MR. C. HENSHAW                            MURRUMBEENA

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