

CAULFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Report 1972-73

I have the honour to present the first annual report of the Caulfield Historical Society.

The Society was founded on 13 September 1972 at a meeting attended by 65 people, a significant number of whom came from outside the City of Caulfield and represented neighbouring historical societies or the National Trust of Australia.

That this meeting was held at all was due very largely to the efforts of the then Mayor of Caulfield, Councillor F. A. Arden. It is a pleasure, at the beginning of this report, to pay tribute to the work of Councillor Arden in the formation of the Society and his continuing interest during the first year of its existence.

At the Foundation Meeting the following committee was elected:

President	K. A. R. Horn
Vice President	Cr. A. J. Sinclair
	Dr. A. C. Foley
Secretary	T. J. Hart
Treasurer	R. K. Sims
Committee	Mrs. F. E. Campbell
	R. W. Green
	Mrs. R. W. McKellar
	Mrs. J. O'Donnell
	A. Rosenthal
	Mrs. L. Sackville

This committee has held five meetings at which a constitution was formulated and a programme arranged.

There have been six general meetings of the Society:

- 12/7/1972 Exploratory Meeting
Speakers: Mrs. Marjorie Tipping, President
of the Royal Historical Society
"The work of a local historical society"
Mr. K. A. Austin
"Caulfield's early days"
- 13/9/1972 Inaugural Meeting
Speakers: Mr. Weston Bate
"The Role of the local Historical Society"
- 13/12/1972 Speaker: Mr. Keith Kings
"Early Melbourne Tramways"

- 21/2/1973 Visit to the La Trobe Library under the guidance of Miss Patricia Reynolds, La Trobe Librarian.
- 18/4/73 Speaker: Mr. Barrett Reid
"Library Development of Caulfield with some glances at the past"
- 20/6/73 Visit to the Moorabbin Historical Research Centre.

Membership

Membership of the Society stands at 39: 26 ordinary members, 10 family members, one student member, one life member and one honorary member. It is a particular pleasure to record that Councillor F. A. Arden has been elected the first honorary member of the Society and that Sir Edgar Tanner M.P. has become its first life member.

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

The committee early sought and obtained affiliation for the Society with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. Through this affiliation members of the Caulfield Society have access to the library of the RHSV and certain other benefits, including membership in a group of nearly 140 historical societies throughout the State.

Newsletter

In December 1972 the Committee produced the first issue of the Newsletter which has appeared bi-monthly since then. It is distributed to all members and to five libraries. It contains news of the Society and articles of local interest.

National Trust Survey

Under the leadership of Mrs. J. O'Donnell the Society has participated in the successful survey of Caulfield in conjunction with the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). As a result of this cooperative effort four Caulfield buildings have received National Trust classification, namely Halstead, Lirrewa, Trinity Congregational Church, Glenhuntly and St. Mary's Jubilee Hall. Other buildings are being considered for classification by the relevant committee of the National Trust.

Local Buildings

As part of its concern for recording interesting local buildings the Society has made arrangements for students of the School of Architecture of the University of Melbourne to make measured plans of important buildings in the City. Plans so far held are those of Myoora, Glentana, Rosemont and Caulfield State School.

Accessions

The Society has begun a collection of photographs and other historical objects as well as of the plans already referred to. The collection is at present in its infancy, but it is expected to grow and become a significant part of the Society's activities.

Thanks

The Society is greatly in the debt of the Mayor, Councillor W. R. Walters and the Caulfield City Council and its officers. Because of the good relations which exist with the Council, excellent facilities have been made available for the Society's meetings. The Council has also been generous in giving permission for members of the Society to have access to certain Council records for their research. The Society is grateful also for the encouragement and advice it has received from sister Societies and the National Trust. I should like to record also the debt the Society owes to its first Secretary Mr. Trevor Hart, and to the committee who have worked hard to start the Society off on its first successful year.

August 1973

K. A. R. Horn
President