

## THE WINLATON STORY

**T**HE Winlaton gates, now in the collection of the Whitehorse Historical Society, originally guarded the entrance to a grand home of the same name. Winlaton was built by Joseph Thornton Tweddle (1865–1943) in 1909, who named it after his hometown in England. The property was located on Springvale Road near the former Tunstall Railway Station.

A council report on Winlaton produced in 1993 suggested the original building had an architectural significance due mainly to its interior design, characterised by expressions of Japanese influence, the use of natural finishes, and the use of interconnecting living areas.

Mr Tweddle, a wealthy middle-aged Englishman, was an importer based in Flinders Lane. He had also secured extensive pastoral interests. Moving into this area in 1909, Tweddle was active in the Mount Pleasant Church community. He had become a trustee by 1913 and helped

to finance the building of a new church to replace the older deteriorating chapel. The foundation stone for this church was laid by Mrs Isabel Tweddle in January 1916.

Isabel was a well-known member of Melbourne's artistic circles in the 1920s and 30s and noted for her modernist painting. Tweddle served as a trustee and benefactor to a number of local galleries and artist's societies.

Tweddle also established the 'Tweddle Hospital for babies and the School of Mothercraft', Footscray. In 1920 it was a pioneering institution and is still operational today. The Tweddle family removed from our area in 1919, settling in Hawthorn. In 1954 Winlaton was converted to become the Winlaton Youth Training Centre. The institution housed girls aged between two and twenty-one who were either wards of the state or sentenced detainees. Winlaton was the only Youth

*(continued on page 7)*



Off to school at Winlaton c1957



# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

*Dear Members*

**A**T the end of August we received unofficial notice of the Society being a recipient of a Local History Grant for \$3,902.80 for the purchase of two Museum-grade showcases. The official announcement came a few weeks later and the funds went into our bank account just recently. We hope that we will be able to organise the showcases soon, but expect it will be early next year before we can expect to have them in the Museum.

We were unsuccessful in our application for a Council Recovery Grant.

Wednesday workers were unexpectedly able to resume duties on the 11 November at least a fortnight before expected. Only 10 people at a time at first, rising to 12 at the end of November.

The Zoom AGM was successful. Only one nomination per Committee position so a very straightforward exercise. Cr Ben Stennett attended and we had apologies from Crs Prue Cutts and Raylene Carr, who were both busy with campaigning for the local Council elections. As a result of these elections, Ben Stennett will be continuing as our Ward Councillor. Our other supporters, Crs Prue Cutts and Raylene Carr, have also been successful in their new wards. Congratulations to them all.

Patricia Fincham officiated during the election process and the Committee is the same as last year except for Pat Richardson. Pat has been on the Committee for the past seven years, including her time as President, and we thank her for her service to the Society. There are two vacancies on the Committee.

During lockdown Kathy and I have been circulating an email to the Wednesday Workers to keep in touch. We both feel that the end of the lockdown came at about the same time as we ran out of news. During the final weeks Kathy organised a weekly Zoom catch up for a chat. We all seemed to enjoy seeing a friendly face again.

We have been doing some work over the weeks. Kathy has kept the correspondence up to date, which has included some research enquiries. As best as we could in the circumstances, a few of us worked to give some answers. Eddie and Kathy have been keeping up with the finances. Rob has been working on the database in order to get it ready for the move to Victorian Collections. Patrice and I have helped on this where we can.

I hope you all managed through the lockdown and are keeping safe and well. Merry Christmas to you all!

*Vicki Jones Evans*



**Weekly Zoom catch-ups, courtesy of Kathy's chatroom.**

## CONTENTS

President's Report	2	From <i>The Reporter</i> , 1901	5
Remembering Dorothy Meagher	3	Is This Where You Live? – Haines Street, Mitcham	6
The tram beats Bravo in 1889	4	Diary Dates (suspended)	6
		Where was I when ...	7



# remembering Dorothy



**Dorothy addresses a WHS meeting in 2002**

**A**s a young mum in the 1960s, Dorothy Meagher became involved with the Guiding movement and rose in the ranks to become a District Commissioner. Many young brownies and guides spent time at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, achieving their various badge levels, with the encouragement of Dorothy and her volunteers.

There is such a rich history in Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. The expiration of the Adult Deaf Society flower farm tenure, and the 1960s and 70s surge of awareness of our bush heritage, meant that determined opposition met the loss of this remnant piece of bush to a planned housing estate.

Dorothy was one of the original “Friends of the Lake” Committee of Management who in 1974, with the cry of “save the land”, rallied the community and three levels of government to eventually purchase the area and develop a management plan to ensure its environmental survival.

She lived for a short while in Brenda Court, off Lake Road, Blackburn; and said in a talk to the Nunawading Historical Society in 2002 that it was seeing school groups picking wild flowers that prompted her, with other local women, to try to educate children about the environment; beginning by providing guided walks around the Lake. Loads of buses were soon arriving, with school children and their teachers wanting to learn.

In 1982, the first of many annual school children’s photographic competitions was held and thus began a lifelong love and appreciation of our bushland, for these young people.

With the approval and support of the then Nunawading Council, the Lake Education Unit started in 1985. All the guides, including Dorothy, were volunteers, and the Education Program taught school children – primary and secondary, as well as tertiary students and adults, about the floral and faunal environment at the Lake.

As Program Director and Co-ordinator of Blackburn Lake Visitor Centre and a member of the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Advisory Committee Dorothy, along with Su Dempsey, rallied the support of the Wurundjeri Elders to develop an awareness of the Indigenous Culture. At the time hardly anything was known or taught in the school curriculum, but in

1987 the Bush Tucker program was launched, attracting a huge number of participants and sessions over the week of the launch.

The numbers of attending this program soon grew to such an extent that the tiny room being used was not suitable to cater for the demand. So, in 1990, with Dorothy’s enthusiasm, and the Advisory Committee’s approval, funding was found through the Nunawading Rotary Club and Nunawading Council to design and erect a purpose-built Visitor’s centre to provide a venue, not only for school groups, but for adults also.

The community recognized Dorothy’s many valuable contributions in awarding her Citizen of the Year in 1984 and then an OAM in the Queen’s Birthday Honours in 1997. The citation for the latter was for her contribution to the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, to the Girl Guides and the Community.

She retired in April 2002, passing the baton to other equally enthusiastic education volunteers. The Education program now caters for several thousand school children each year.

Dorothy passed away on 13 May 2012.

*“Boswell”*

NOTE: Dorothy’s husband, Ray Meagher, served as a Councillor of the City of Nunawading and was Mayor of Nunawading for 1976-77. Ray passed away in 2019.



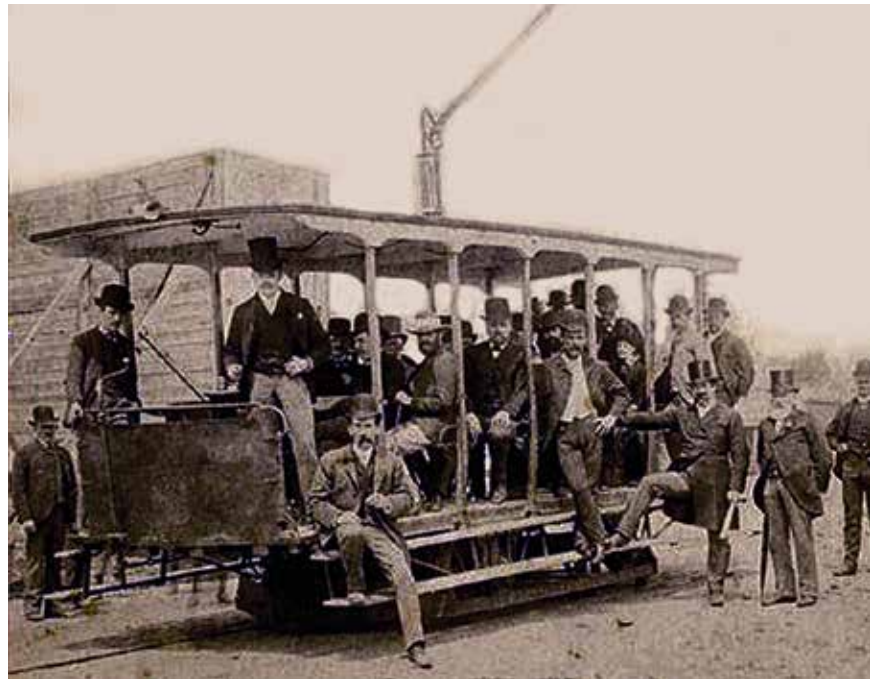
# The tram beats Bravo in 1889

BELOW: The tram that caused the sensation

ACCORDING to *The Reporter* of 8 November 1889 (see below), on Cup Day 1888 Box Hill was almost deserted. The following year it was the reverse when hoards descended upon the township – five thousand people, according to the article!

The now long-forgotten tramway between Box Hill and Doncaster was opened in October 1889. On 5 November, Melburnians descended upon Box Hill by train but then immediately made their way to the tramway to Doncaster. Instead of watching Bravo win the 1889 Melbourne Cup, they hot-footed it to Box Hill – all set to see the latest innovation: the electric tram. So keen were they that most of them had to tramp up the steep hill on foot as the one tramcar could not possibly cope with so many passengers.

*Raine Biancali*



## CUP DAY IN BOX HILL.

Things were turned topsy turvy in Box Hill on Cup Day, much to the surprise of everyone. A great many of the residents were either out picnicking or had gone to Flemington to witness the great event of the year. As this has been the case in previous years it was not a matter of surprise that it should be repeated on Tuesday; but on former occasions Box Hill was almost deserted on the day the Cup was run for. Last Tuesday, however, the reverse was the case. Although nearly all the residents took their departure at an early hour, as the day wore on their places were more than filled ten times over by visitors who came from other suburbs, where the air is not so pure and bracing, and where there is no romantic scenery for the eye to rest upon.

At every station between Canterbury and Melbourne the cry at the intermediate stations was for railway tickets for Box Hill. In fact "Box Hill" sounded everywhere. Men, women, and children of all ages, and belong to all grades of

society were flocking into the carriages bound for Box Hill. By about two o'clock there could not have been less than five thousand visitors, wandering to and fro in our streets. As soon as they got to the railway station they made a rush for the train, which plies between Box Hill and Doncaster. The tram was literally besieged by excursionists who wished to continue their journey as far as Doncaster. It would have taken 2 trams instead of one to cope with the demand that was made upon it. As soon as the visitors saw that there was no chance of continuing the journey on the tram they commenced to foot it.

In a short time the route between Box Hill and Doncaster presented a most animated appearance. There was pater and mater families with all the youngsters who were carrying baskets well filled with provisions; newly wedded pairs who had no encumbrances; while further along the route, and mostly in secluded spots, scores of Romeos and Juliets could be distinguished, and amongst others

could be readily discerned the man who had come out to inspect the land with a view to purchase some of the splendid building sites between the townships named. The site taken as a whole was a very pleasant one, and shows that this district is fast becoming a favorite resort for holiday seekers.

There can be no doubt but that in future Box Hill and Doncaster will be the chief places of attraction at holiday times, when thousands who have to live in the overcrowded cities of Richmond, Carlton, and South Melbourne, will visit this salubrious part in order to get a whif of fresh air which tends to expand their lungs and adds renewed vigor to the system. Box Hill will become at no distant date a second Brighton, and those who have been once are only too happy to come again. We are indebted for this impetus to business to the electric tram, which is one of the chief sources of attraction, and also to the publication which has been given to the grand scenery which is to be found on all sides.



(Camberwell, Surrey Hills and Box Hill News.)

# THE REPORTER.

CIRCULATING IN BOX HILL, SURREY HILLS, CANTERBURY, BALWYN, CAMBERWELL, DONCASTER, BURWOOD, BLACKBURN, MITCHAM AND RINGWOOD  
FERN TREE GUL'Y, BAYSWATER, CROYDON, MOOROOLBARK, VERMONT, EMERALD, SCORESBY, SASSAFRAS, TALLY HO, BLACK FLAT, &c.

VOL. XIII. NO 20

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29, 1901.

ONE PENNY.

## Railway Facilities for Surrey and Box Hill.

The following letter, received by Mr W. S. Keast, M.L.A., from the railway department has been forwarded to the Box Hill and Surrey Hills progress associations, and speaks for itself:—"Adverting to the recent deputation of Box Hill and Surrey Hills residents, introduced by you, in regard to the local train service, I am now directed by the acting commissioner to say that he has given the matter full consideration, but regrets to find there is no necessity for extending all trains to Canterbury on to Box Hill: nor for the running of an additional train on Saturdays between 11.20 and 12.15 p.m. Arrangements will be made, however, in the next issue of the time table, to run the 12.20 p.m. train to Box Hill, returning from there at 1.7 p.m., instead of 1.6 p.m. from Canterbury as at present; but he is sorry he does not feel justified in acceding to the request for an additional train from Mont Albert between 5 and 5.10 p.m., as desired. I am to add that the matter of delays to trains through the loading of milk at Camberwell has been attended to, and it is not anticipated there will be any cause for complaint in this direction in future.—R. G. Keast, secretary." Mr Keast adds his regrets that the reply is not quite what was expected, and offers to do all he can in support of whatever action the associations see fit to take. There can be no doubt as to the reply being most unsatisfactory, especially as the deputation was led by the acting commissioner to believe that some at least of the Canterbury trains would be run on to Box Hill. The one extra train granted on Saturdays only will be practically useless, but there might have been some sense if the concession applied to week days as well. As to the mention of an additional train from Mont Albert, nobody made such an absurd request as is there indicated. The Surrey Hills executive considered the letter on Tuesday evening, and decided to ask the Box Hill association to arrange for another joint deputation. The matter will be dealt with at a meeting of the Box Hill executive at 7.15 on Wednesday evening, December 4.

## Sunday Trains for Mitcham.

In reference to the request made from residents in the eastern parts of Nunawading for a train on Sunday, the following letter has been received from the railway department by Mr W. S. Keast, M.L.A., and forwarded to the hon. sec. of the movement:—"In reply to the letter of the 23rd ult. presented by you from Mr C. E. Husband, of Waroonga Park, Tunstall, I am directed by the acting commissioner to express his regret that on enquiry he finds he would not be justified in complying with the request for a Sunday train from Ringwood to connect the 9.52 a.m. 'up' Box Hill train; and he is also sorry he cannot agree to run the last train to Box Hill on to Ringwood as desired.—R. G. Keast, secretary."

## A SONG OF WOMEN.

Our lips shall sing the victory,  
Vow vengeance for defeat;  
Our word we bring with willing hands,  
Nor come with lagging feet.

With voices brave and kindling eyes  
We arm our men to fight,  
And when the last farewell is said  
We stand and face the night.

At night the little lamps go forth  
To seek the newly slain,  
The broken into house of life  
That shall not stand again!

England! O splendid name, for thee  
With all we have we part,  
Nor keep but woman's heritage,  
Tears and a breaking heart!

—Westminster Gazette.

## Christmas is Coming!

### Miss WILLIAMS

Begs to intimate that she has purchased  
the business of Mrs. RITCHIE, in

— Station Street, Box Hill, —

And is now Showing

A Splendid New Stock of FANCY  
Goods, Stationery, Toys, &c.

Orders taken for BOOKS & MAGAZINES.

Choice Selection of Xmas & New  
Cards, Booklets, and Novelties for  
Presents.

Stationery, School Requisites, Ornaments  
Toys, Wools, Braids, Fancy Needlework,  
Basket Ware and all kinds of Fancy Goods  
on hand at LOWEST PRICES.

INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED.

## Prepare for the Hot Weather,

And if you want

Cheapness, Cleanliness & Comfort  
in COOKING.

## Try a GAS OVEN

Or BOILER and GRILLER!

Our Gas is 6/8 per 1000 feet, or 8d per 100  
cubic feet, and at a cost of 1d per hour  
will do all your

BAKING For Six Persons without the WASTE of having to  
BOILING maintain a large wood or coal fire. CONSTANTLY  
ROASTING BURNING, as the gas can be lighted in a moment  
STEWING day or night, and turned out at once when the work  
GRILLING is done.

Payments for all Gas Stoves, Hot Plates, Gas Fires, Boilers and Grilles  
Speedy if required over periods to suit customers.

All information gladly supplied. The Works—  
Give us a call, or Telephone up No. 40 Canterbury Exchange.

COLONIAL GAS ASSOCIATION LTD.,  
BOX HILL GASWORKS.

F. TIPPER, Manager.

## Dramatic Entertainment at Box Hill.

A treat was afforded the residents of Box Hill on Tuesday evening, when the late H. J. Byron's popular comedy, "Our Boys," was produced in the local Recreation hall by the Blackburn musical and dramatic society. The audience was most appreciative, and thoroughly enjoyed the performance, which was indeed far more lively and enjoyable in every way than the average concert, and it is hoped that this will not be the last occasion upon which the talented amateurs will perform in Box Hill. The acting all round was highly commendable, a little hesitancy being noticeable occasionally, but with the exception of the minor part of "Kempster," the servant, every character was a remarkably sustained. With "Kempster" the fault was that he did not speak loud enough to be heard clearly by the audience. Mr Fred Mellor, as "Perkyn Middlewick," the retired buttermilk, was, of course, the life of the piece. Mr M. McDonnell, as the aristocratic country magnate, "Sir Geoffrey Champneys," was very much alive, while Mr Jas. Muldowney, as "Talbot Champneys," the country magnate's "stupid son" of a son, though obviously filling a part unsuited to him, did his work most effectively. Mr F. McDonnell, as "Charles Middlewick," played the part as if to the manner born, but Mr F. Kuntze, as the servant "Kempster," was unable to gauge the proper sounding capacity of the hall. As to the lady performers, they filled their respective roles charmingly, Miss Madge Ross as "Mary Melrose," Miss Eileen Gaff as "Viola Melrose," and Miss Catherine Rivers as "Clarissa Champneys," whilst Master Frank Mellor, as the lodging-house slave, "Helinda," was also a distinct success. Mr Fred. Mellor, under whose direction the comedy was staged, deserves the heartiest commendation, and it is a great pity that healthy-toned, irreproachable dramatic representations of this kind do not take on as they should. Not the least enjoyable of the evening's bill of fare was the excellent music supplied by the orchestra. The selections comprised—Overture, "Masaniello;" waltz, "Casino-Taenze;" bell gavotte, "St. Malo;" march, "Tivoli." The musical performers were—Miss Davey (piano), Messrs F. Mellor (2), C. Alger, H. Pope (violins), J. Donohoe (flute), V. Pope (cornet), W. Mellor (cello), W. Pope (contra bass), H. F. Mayes (trombone), and Miss E. Mellor (drums, bells, &c.)

## Hated to Waste Time.

"Now, Tommy," said an anxious mother to her son, "the minister will be here to dinner today, and you must be sure to wash your face clean."

"All right, mamma," answered Tommy, "but suppose he doesn't come?"—  
Cincinnati Enquirer.

Is this where you live?

Wood engraving  
published in  
*The Newsletter of  
Australasia*, No.VI,  
(1856)



THE HON. WILLIAM CLARK HAINES, ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY, &c.  
(FROM A DAGUERRETYPE BY T. A. HILL.)

## HAINES STREET, MITCHAM

**H**AINES STREET is a short residential street that runs between Victoria Avenue and Ormond Avenue. It is north of the Mitcham shopping centre and west of Mitcham Road.

William Clark Haines (1810–1866) a doctor and son of a physician, was born in Hampstead, London. He was educated at Charterhouse; and in 1829–32 at Casius College, Cambridge, gaining a BA in 1833.

After practicing surgery in England he migrated to Port Phillip in 1841 and took up farmland at Moriac, near Geelong. He soon became wealthy due to land sales and was known as “Farmer Haines”. After holding official local positions, he was nominated in 1851 for the first Legislative Council. In 1854 he became the colonial secretary to the Governor Sir Charles Hotham, who greatly valued his assistance. The following year he became Premier and led two governments (1855–56 and 1857–58) and was described as one of the most popular of government men. It was said of him, “Without any special ability, he was possessed of a certain tact, which enabled him to play the part of moderator with considerable success. He was a gentleman, warm-tempered, with a touch of the old English squire about him”.

Haines died at his home in South Yarra in February 1866 and is buried at St Kilda cemetery. He was survived by his wife, whom he had married in London in 1835, and their five sons and two daughters.

*Yvonne Fitzmaurice*

## DIARY DATES

Meetings are held at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex

## 2020 WORKING BEES

### **NOTIFICATION**

**All future General Meetings and Working Bees are suspended owing to the Corona Virus.**

**We will provide updates as the situation develops.**

## OUR COMMITTEE

Vicki Jones-Evans – President  
Peter McPhee – Vice President  
Kathy Innes – Secretary  
Eddie Tan – Treasurer

### **Committee Members**

Margaret Graham	Rob Innes
Harley Hall	Chris Gray
Judith Hall	

## STATISTICS

Photographs catalogued	-	4343
Artefacts catalogued	-	5000
Documents catalogued	-	7691
Museum visitors September–October	-	N/A



Facebook New Page ‘likes’ to date 979

# THE WINLATON STORY

(continued from page 1)

Training Centre in Victoria specifically for females. In 1956 a school was also opened on the site. A number of additional buildings were erected for administration. Medical and educational purposes and to accommodate girls in various stages of detention. The original Winlaton house became Leawarra Hostel, a low-security, open living environment for girls nearing the end of their stay at the Training Centre and preparing for re-assimilation into the community.

In 1991 young sentenced boys aged ten to fifteen were introduced to Winlaton. Wards of the state, who comprised the majority of the inhabitants at the time, were removed to community residences. This was the result of a child welfare review conducted by the state that distinguished between offenders and non-offenders for the first time. The Winlaton centre was eventually renamed Nunawading Residential Youth Centre

By June 1993 declining numbers of young offenders led to the Centre's closure. Six months later the entire site, including the historic Winlaton house was bulldozed for residential development. Although the house was considered for a site-specific heritage control, the proposal was denied due to Council fears that a heritage overlay would limit development of the surrounding land. The old Winlaton gates were saved from the demolition site and placed in the care of the Whitehorse Historical Society. [The gates may be seen in our shed.]

Jenny Walker.

Reprinted from WHS Newsletter, December 2008.



Joseph Tweddle (Photographed c1920)

## Where was I when . . .



### . . . George VI died?

Yvonne Fitzmaurice remembers it, saying “– this dates me: I had just completed nursing exams. We were quizzed about his disease in the exam paper”.

“I was in School when King George VI died and we had *Greensleeves* for over a week after the radio stations closed down for the day”. (Pat Fincham)

“I was only little . . . we were gathering outside the scout hall when the news was announced and we were all in shock and wondering how the young Princess would cope with the big responsibility”. (Bob Gardiner)

“I was in Grade 1 at North Balwyn Primary School when George VI died. It was the beginning of the school year and I remember standing at Monday morning assembly. We were told we now had to sing ‘God save the Queen’ rather than ‘God save the King’, and the whole school sang wholeheartedly.

This little tacker was always intrigued by the words ‘send Him/Her victorious’. I used to wonder what they sung in New South Wales . . . ‘send Him/Her New South Waleous??’

I was only little . . .” (Margaret Graham)

For **Elizabeth's Coronation**, Yvonne recalls: “It was night shift in the Operating theatre – and thankfully a quiet night”.



## WHS Committee Contacts

### President

Vicki Jones-Evans  
9873 3383

### Vice-President

Peter McPhee

### Secretary

Kathy Innes

### Treasurer

Eddie Tan

**Local History Room (03) 9873 4946**

Rear Museum Building  
Schwerkolt Complex  
2 – 10 Deep Creek Road, Mitcham

### Newsletter Team

Chris Gray  
Wendy Standfield

### WHS website

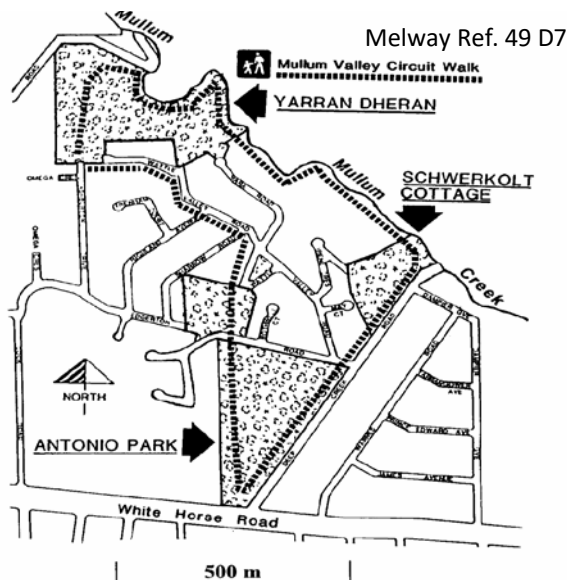
whitehorsehistory.org.au  
facebook.com/whitehorsehistory

### Email

whitehorsehistory@hotmail.com

### Postal Address

P.O. Box 272  
MITCHAM Vic 3132



**Copy Deadline for next WHS Newsletter: Wednesday, 12 January 2021**

## The Whitehorse Historical Society Inc.

### Mission Statement & Acknowledgement of Country



*"The purpose of the Society is to foster historical interest and knowledge. To collect, document, research, preserve and exhibit items that show how people have lived and worked in the City of Whitehorse area."*

*"In the spirit of reconciliation, Whitehorse Historical Society Inc. acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of the land now known as the City of Whitehorse, and pays respect to its elders past and present."*

CITY OF



### REMEMBER

#### Whitehorse Historical Society Local History Collection

Open 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Wednesdays.  
Visitors welcome.

Ring 9873 4946 for an appointment at other times.

**Box Hill Cemetery Records &  
Nunawading Gazette for 1964-1974**  
available on microfiche for research.

*The Whitehorse  
Historical Society, Inc.  
acknowledges the  
support of the  
City of Whitehorse.*



THE WHITEHORSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF MICHAEL SUKKAR MP, FEDERAL MEMBER FOR DEAKIN

Sender: Whitehorse Historical Society Inc. & Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex  
Deep Creek Road, Mitcham, VIC 3132  
If undeliverable, please return to P.O. Box 272 Mitcham, VIC 3132

AFFIX  
STAMP  
HERE