



A beautiful day at Sunnyside



The Spirit passing through the heads, right on cue

VALE Dorothy Coventry

Our lovely friend and the widow of our famous Bill passed away last month. St. Peters Church was packed to capacity to give her a farewell.

Mornington & District Historical Society Inc. A00041916W
PO Box 71 Mornington 3931
Museum: Corner Main Street and Esplanade
Open 1.30 - 4.30 Sundays or by appointment

MORNINGTON
& DISTRICT
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC



Corner Main Street and Esplanade Mornington 3931

NEWSLETTER

May 2012

Newsletter No. 257

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At our February coffee morning we welcomed our friends from England Mick and Ruth Wood. Mick was a guest speaker in 2011 and he has kindly offered to give us another talk next February, so watch this space.

We thank Ian Armstrong for loaning us models of three sailing vessels. They were on display in the Museum from October to Easter and were a great attraction for our visitors, particularly the model of Captain Cook's *Endeavour* for the children.

We have completed changing over to new blinds in the Museum with three more images and these too are creating interest, particularly when the Museum is closed. We engaged Alexandra, a student at Toorak College to draw a backyard complete with outside 'dunny' and clothes line for one of the blinds. Alex is going to use this for her art portfolio.

You will see from the next page that the Mornington & District Historical Society has indeed been busy since February this year.

Diane White



Cr Bev Colomb and Janet Groves unveiling the new interpretive panel

A selection of items donated to the Museum

A stunning ladies evening dress c. 1924-27, covered in gold sequins and with a label *Made in France for David Jones*.

A black taffeta ladies jacket c. 1880s, heavily beaded with pink and black silk lining and with a label *Robertson & Moffat, Costumiers, Melbourne*.

The memoirs of Rose Wilmshurst of her time as a servant at *Moondah Mt. Eliza*, from 1908 to 1912.

Two children's books by Joyce Nicholson, a former resident of Mornington, *Adventure at Gulls' Point* 1955 and *Gulls' Point and Pineapple* 1957. Mornington was her inspiration for the town in the books.

Eight small postcard views of Mornington c.1910.

An original mounted photo of the 1931 *Football Queen Carnival* held at the Mechanics' Institute.

Copies of the plans from 1903 for the construction of the St. Peters Anglican Church Sunday School.

P.M.G. competition pennants for 1957 and 1958.

Twelve photocopied photos of the Helena Street area, Mt. Martha.

Vicky Sapkin



MORNINGTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Dates for Your Diary 2012

Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~mornhsoc

Museum Phone (03) 5976 3203

ABN 7515 1057 105

Visitors warmly welcomed

TUESDAY 12TH JUNE 10.30 \$5
COFFEE MORNING - YOUR TREASURES
OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM

This is our annual 'at home' with an opportunity to bring, show and tell us about your pieces of historical interest.

TUESDAY 10TH JULY 10.30 \$5
MORNINGTON FOOTBALLERS DISASTER
ST. MARKS FRIENDSHIP ROOM

See the ABC documentary by Paul Kennedy. Plus more

MONDAY 16TH JULY 8.45 SHARP
BUS TRIP TO MELBOURNE - OLD MELBOURNE GAOL -
CRIME AND JUSTICE EXPERIENCE

See the enclosed booking form

TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST 10.30 \$5
FRED GRANTLEY - *The Peninsula Post* editor
OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM

An extension of our Museum Treasures coffee morning

TUESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 10.30
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM

A cuppa and a chat afterwards.

SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Please let Val know if you can help 5975 2958

FIRST DAY COVERS

We have issued two new First Day Covers
Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee **\$6 each**
Anzac Day **\$6 each**

FOOTBALL DISASTER BOOKLET

To commemorate the 120th Anniversary, we have reissued the booklet produced in 1967, written by Charles Allchin, nephew of Charlie Allchin, one of the deceased footballers. **\$5.00**

We also have a copy left of *The Transit of Venus*
by our guest speaker Nick Lomb **\$50.00**

Our Boys at the Front book and DVD
still copies left **\$39.95**

NEW MEMBERS

Frank & Valerie Howard & Joe Paris Lee

We hope you enjoy your membership with us

HERITAGE REPORT

On behalf of the Society I attended Mornington Peninsula Heritage Awards Ceremony at Mt. Martha House on May 18th. It was very gratifying to learn that the two projects, The Friends of Tanti Creek and the Mornington Band Hall restoration, that we had nominated both received awards for the excellence of the work carried out by those concerned.

The work of the Tanti Friends group involved many days over a four-year period to clear out weeds and rubbish from the estuary area off the Esplanade and replant with indigenous plants; to remove old fencing and replace it with more people-friendly bollards and also to involve the students from Mornington Primary School in the project. They also monitor the water quality along the creek. The group also carried out some work in the area of the old St. Macartans School.



The Band Hall (Pavilion) restoration involved removing a false ceiling, repairing/replacing the floor, restoring windows and stonework. This was done sensitively and the building is now available for community use and functions.

Steve Hofer, the architect involved, received a separate award for his work on the project. Another valuable asset for the town.

The ongoing Heritage Review is just that “on going”. The Shire allocated more funds to the project to allow some further assessments to be made. This has delayed the completion of the work by Context but I understand from the Shire’s Heritage Officer that he intends to call a meeting of the Steering Committee soon.

Derek Smith

OUT AND ABOUT WITH YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Point Nepean Visit and visit to Nepean Historical Society Museum. We were fortunate to be at the Point when the *Spirit of Tasmania* went through. [see picture page 7]

Band Hall opening. A number of us were at this reopening. The refurbishment was very impressive, so we nominated it for the Shire/National Trust Heritage Awards and it won.

Talk on Mornington History to Mornington Ladies Probus.

Bruce Billson/Malcolm Turnbull visit to announce that Australia Post were considering offering us a permanent post box and a loan of some postal items for display in the Museum.

Camp Manyung. Our members found this place very interesting on a beautiful day.

Talk on Mornington History Mt. Martha Ladies Probus

Transit of Venus - Speaker, Nick Lomb has put a blog on his visit to Mornington onto the Sydney Observatory Site.

Sunnyside visit. Again, a beautiful day in a beautiful place.

Vale Street Mornington Primary School. Morning tea and tour of the newly refurbished original school building. This just looks great.[see picture page 6]

Football Disaster - The 120th Anniversary commemoration involved the unveiling of the new interpretive sign and exposure on ABC News 24, followed by Paul Kennedy’s documentary *The Ghosts of Australian Football* shown on his program *Contact Sport*. You can catch this on iview on the ABC’s website. We have also revamped our display and reprinted our booklet.

