

# WHITTLESEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

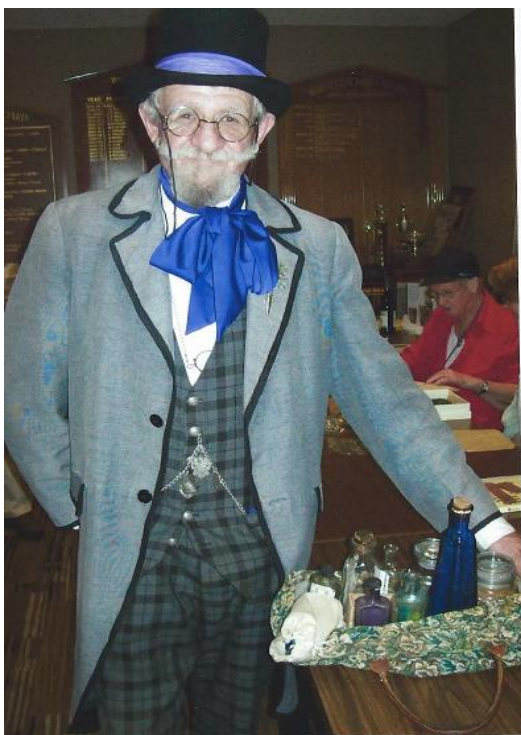
ABN 46019570463

Welcome to another year in the life of the Whittlesea Historical Society. Since our last newsletter we have been lucky to enjoy two wonderful guest speakers and members all participated in a fantastic event as part of last year's Heritage Program.

## AGM 2013

Last year at the AGM we had a most enlightening and hilariously funny presentation by **Mr John Harrison**. John has worked as a local Government Parks and Gardens gardener and helped set up the School of Horticulture in Ballarat. He now volunteers at Sovereign Hill as their Apothecary.

An Apothecary was a person who was the pre-runner of the modern day chemist and people would flock to such people with all their ailments. John came dressed to the part with his attire along with his bag full of bottles and concoctions. He talked about the plants and herbs used as medicines.



## *NEWSLETTER Number 19* *May 2014*

*Editor Wendy Lowry*

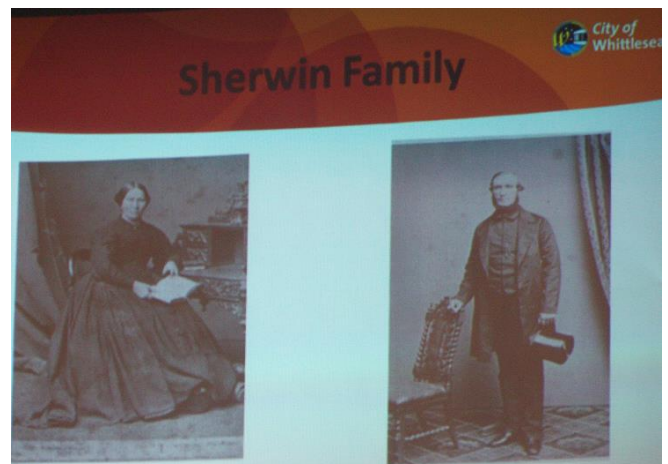
## WHITTLESEA'S TAPESTRY OF HISTORY

There was quite a good turnout for this event last November which saw most of our members each present a short talk on some historical aspect to the City of Whittlesea.



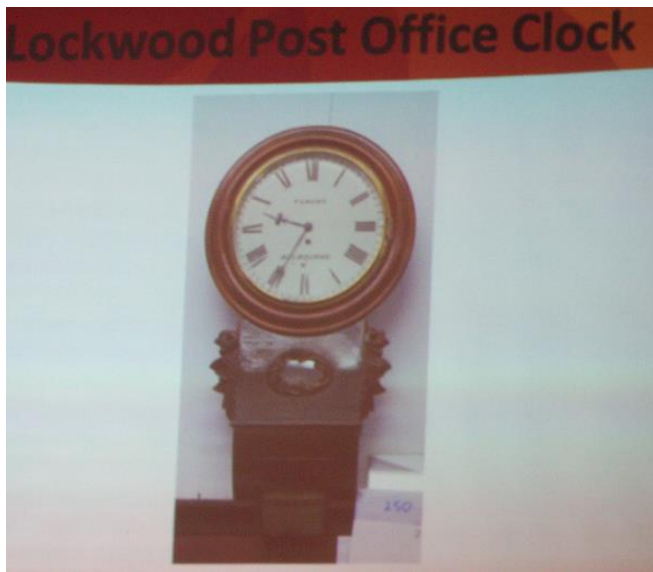
Gwen and Bruce dressed the part.

The night started with Gwen Hawke talking about the original pioneer family in the area the Sherwin Family.



Maureen Doyle spoke of another prominent family the Lockwoods who played a part in the construction of many fine buildings in Whittlesea.

Margaret Mann gave good background to the famous Lockwood clock that is now housed in the Whittlesea Post Office and originally from the home of the Lockwood family.

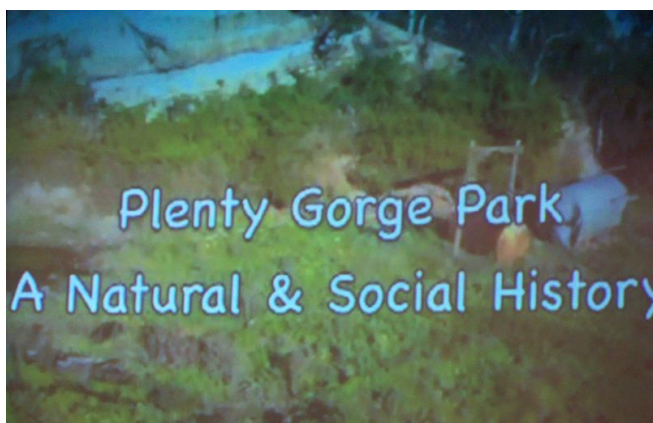


John Waghorn discussed the presence of the many Peppercorn trees within the area of Whittlesea.

Lindsay Mann talked about his Grandma Carseburn who lived in Yan Yean.

Wendy Lowry spoke about the many Heritage listed Drystone walls in Whittlesea even having on display a field stone from her Great grandfather's drystone wall in Wollert.

Ross Mugavin presented a great video of the Story of the Plenty Gorge. Scenes were of the natural beauty of the parklands.



Len Lord gave a detailed look at the Timber industry in Whittlesea and the early tramways up through Kinglake.



Bruce Batten ended the night with his presentation of the dairy industry and bottling factories around Whittlesea. Bruce is known for his antique bottle collection and he brought a variety along to display.



The night was great success and showed the depth of knowledge the members of the Society have. Everyone who attended learnt a lot about the City of Whittlesea.



## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

By John Waghorn

### "Arthur Street, Bundoora"

The street was named after (and for) a **Mr Arthur BROWNHILL** who was born in 1900 and who served in World War 1. His parents were **Charles Edward BROWNHILL** and **Eliza MORSLEY** who lived on Lots 6 to 9 of the Thomastown Small Holdings.

**Brownhill Street** was named after Arthur's father and his elder brother Edward, who also served in World War 1, has a street named after him. Another brother Joseph and a sister May are similarly honoured.

The **Brownhill's estate** (or Range View Estate) was the first part of the Thomastown Small Holdings to be sub-divided as a residential estate in June 1952.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations goes to one of our members, Mrs Phyllis Waghorn who was most successful in last year's Royal Melbourne Show. She won First place with her crocheted dolls clothes. With minute stitching and little beads the outfit she had created was quite a stunner.



## OLD CHURCH SOLD IN MERNDA (Advertiser Fri 14 July 1939)

By Lindsay Mann

'On Monday [10 July] in the Mernda sale yards the old Wesleyan Methodist Church of the South Yan Yean district was sold by auction. It was knocked down to Mr Young of Yarrambat, for £16, but the transaction was not finalised owing to a misunderstanding in the decision of the local trustees to effect the sale.

'The building has a local historical value for it represents the first effort of early Wesleyan Methodists to establish a church in the area. One of the pioneers of this effort was Mr John Horner, who was instrumental in getting the Mechanics Institute built in Mernda. The old church was built by individual members who used to meet in Fletcher's house or barn in Woodstock and also in King's old stone house in Separation. The limited accommodation led to a gift of land by Mr King on his property at the base of the eastern slope of Bob's Hill, Separation, off the Wollert road [now Bridge Inn Road]. Here in 1888 or thereabouts the old wooden church was built and soon paid for.

'For some years the church was rented during week days by the Education Department and used as a day school, a teacher's residence being built nearby. At this time Mr Horner was interested in the district as he had bought a farm of 320 acres in Yan Yean ["Fenwick Stud Farm," Donnybrook Road, which bore that name when he made his purchase], north of Kings property. He was a local preacher and soon saw that the growing population of the district tended to settle near the main Plenty Road. As the result of his interest and initiative and because the old church was too small to accommodate the congregation, about 2½ acres of land on a section which had been divided by the recently constructed railway was bought very cheaply. This was sub-divided, enough being held for the future erection of a church and Sunday school and the rest sold at a considerable profit. This money formed the nucleus of a fund for a brick church which was built for £850, and opened on a Sunday in 1888.

'During the week following the opening Sunday the old church building was lifted bodily and carried intact by local farmers, who used 32 horses in the work, to the land beside the new church. On the same day that the wooden building with its shingled roof was lifted on to its new blocks a Tea Meeting in it to celebrate the opening of the brick building. From that time until quite recently the old church has been used as a Sunday school and for periodical meetings. About six years ago it was again removed by means of forest devils to Mr C. Turner's property in order to make room for the concrete foundations of a new Sunday school building to be erected. The old church is a picturesque if somewhat dilapidated building with its well made windows, whose joinery is a tribute to the workmanship of perhaps eighty years ago. The shingled roof is still

intact, although the timber is now covered by corrugated iron.

It is hoped that photographs may be taken before destruction so that historical records may be complete.'

Footnotes: (1) Mr Young was Len Young, a Yarrambat farmer. The sale must have been confirmed by the Church Trustees, because Len Young took it to his farm, and converted it into a shearing shed. It served in that capacity for many years, and still stands today, as an historic building, in Yarrambat Park.

(2) Charles Turner owned and operated Turner's Bakery until 7 October 1944, when he died, and is buried in the Methodist Section at Yan Yean Cemetery.

(3) Turner, like John Horner, was a Wesleyan Methodist lay preacher.

(4) The Bakery is about 100 meters north along the railway fence, the old church would have occupied space behind the bakery.

(5) The Sunday school; a large red brick building on the north side of the church is still standing today, but is used for a different purpose.

(6) A 'forest devil' was a 1800s device, of Australian invention, used for pulling down large trees in order to clear the forest, ONE TREE AT A TIME! It consisted of a lever, a long chain, a log, horses, and apart from those items it is too hard to explain. But with them they dragged the church across the vacant land between where it stood near the church, to the back of Charles Turner's bakery.



'Shifted three times; it was once a Wesleyan Methodist Church, then a Sunday school, and now Len Young's Woolshed, in Yarrambat Park.'

Photo: Lindsay Mann.

Ref for the article:  
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/56963794?sarch>

# RETIREMENT

How many days in a week?

6 Saturdays and 1 Sunday.

What is the biggest gripe of retirees?

There is not enough time to get everything done.

What do retirees call a long lunch?

Normal.

What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

Nuts.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WHERE DID THAT WORD COME FROM?

### "Quiz"

*The word QUIZ is a prime example of an invented word. According to the story surrounding it, 'quiz' was devised in 1780 by a Dublin theatre manager named Daly. He wagered that he could introduce a new word with no meaning into the English language in just twenty-four hours.*

*Daly's wager was accepted and all around the city the four letters Q,U,I,Z were chalked up on walls and doors. Daly won his bet as 'quiz' became the centre of attention and everyone tried to find out what it meant.*

*Quiz has carried this sense of enquiry ever since and today is the name given to many sorts of competitive tests frequently comprising of general knowledge questions.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CEMETERY TALES AND HUMOROUS EPITAPHS**

Our April meeting was conducted in the Fountain View room at the Whittlesea Shire Offices as we had a wonderful Guest speaker, her name was Dr Celestina Sagazio.

Celestina currently works for the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust as their Historian and Cultural Heritage Manager after having previously worked at the Victorian National Trust.

She presented a great photographic slide show of graves and headstones from a variety of cemeteries around Melbourne to other places around the world. Along with most of them came some funny stories and anecdotes.

Dr Sagazio believes that cemeteries offer a sense of continuity with our past. They contain an historical record of the local community that created them and the headstones can have fascinating facts sometimes found nowhere else.

Cemeteries are in fact like time capsules and are the least changed cultural aspect of our society.



Celestina went on to talk about how the Melbourne Cemetery had acquired land in Yan Yean for their expansion. She touched on the 25 year leases for grave plots and how the Springvale Crematorium is one of the biggest in Australia.

Our historical Society is very conscious at preserving the many small cemeteries within the City of Whittlesea.

## **CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM 2014**

The Whittlesea Council has begun its 2014 Cultural and Heritage Program and the Whittlesea Historical Society is helping one of the activities for **Sunday 20th July**.

### **DRY STONE WALL TOUR**

Dry stone walls and stone buildings are a unique feature of our local landscape and a significant aspect of the heritage of the City of Whittlesea. The bus tour will take you to see fine examples of historic and contemporary walls and structures and you will learn more about the construction methods.

Time: 10am -4pm Sunday 20th July  
Meet: Whittlesea Council Offices  
Cost: \$25  
Bookings: 9217 2174

\*\*\*\*\*

## **WHITTLESEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Meetings** held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from February to December inclusive.

**Venue** Christ Church Hall Whittlesea

**Time** 7.30 pm

**Annual Subscriptions** \$15 Single  
\$20 Family

## **"FOOD FOR THOUGHT"**

If you cannot drink and drive why do pubs have parking lots?

Why do they call it Chilli if it is hot?

Why is it called lipstick when you can still move your lips?

How do you get off a non-stop flight?



## OLD ADVERTISEMENTS

The newspaper advertisements below are from the London Daily Sketch of October 17th 1917. They are both for medicinal type products .



**Royal Mothers**  
use  
**Ashton & Parsons**  
Infants' Powders  
for the  
Little Princes and Princesses

during the time of teething, and for fretfulness and the many ailments common to infancy.


**WEAK BABY NOW A FINE GIRL.**  
Mrs. COLLYER, 55, Victoria Road, Addlestone, Surrey, writes: "Please find enclosed 1/- for box of Infants' Powders. As I have said before, I cannot be without them; they have made my baby a fine girl, from a miserable puny child we have nearly lost our times she is to-day a fine girl. They have not got any at the Stores, so I thought I would send straight to you. I had the chance of speaking for your Powders on Saturday, and I should feel pleased if you will send her a sample so she can prove what I have told her. Her address on opposite page. Shall be pleased to speak for them, also to give them samples should you care to enclose some."

**ASHTON & PARSONS' INFANTS' POWDERS**

ease pain and soothe the child; check stomach disorders; correct the motions, relieve fever, restlessness, fretfulness, and similar troubles incidental to the teething period; and are useful in delayed or unduly prolonged dentition.

Ashton & Parsons' Infants' Powders are guaranteed to be harmless. Boxes containing 20 Powders, 1/3; 60 Powders, 2/6. Sold by Messrs. Boots, Parkes, Timothy White, Taylor Drug Co., Lewis & Burrows, and principal Chemists and Stores throughout the world. Post free 1/3 and 3/4.

Write for free sample and also copy of illustrated Book—"Baby World."  
PROPRIETORS—ASHTON AND PARSONS, LTD., LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, E.C.4.



**A Great Fighter**  
For Freedom of the Press  
**And A Great Tonic**  
**IRON JELLOIDS.**

JUST 100 years ago Richard Carlisle received his first sentence of imprisonment in his Great Fight, which he ultimately won, for the Freedom of the Press.

RICHARD CARLISLE  
(The Lion of the South Seas)  
(Victor and the House of St. Cloud)

A sick-hearted man indeed! with well-oxygenated blood. In these days there is nothing better to produce rich, red, well-oxygenated blood than Iron Jelloids The Reliable Tonic and Restorative. Poisons of blood is known as Anemia.

For ANEMIA (shown by breathlessness on slight exertion, pallor, depression and weakness) in Women, Doctors prescribe Iron Jelloids No. 2—there is nothing better.

For DEBILITY, WEAKNESS and NERVOUSNESS, Men find The Ideal Tonic and Restorative in Iron Jelloids No. 2A.

**START A COURSE OF IRON JELLOIDS TO-DAY.**

Captain J. H. TOMBS, V.C., writes: "The Jelloids have worked wonders. If soldiers have their choice there would be a box of Iron Jelloids No. 2A. in every kit-bag."

Mr. J. E. PEACOCK, Chemist, Woking, writes: "I always handle Iron Jelloids with pleasure, as my customers are invariably satisfied with the results."

**Iron Jelloids**

Reliable Tonic for Men ... .. Iron Jelloids No. 2A.  
For Anemia in Women ... .. Iron Jelloids No. 2.  
For Growing Children ... .. Iron Jelloids No. 1.  
Of all Chemists. A fortnight's treatment 1/3, large size 3/4.

## PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF VICTORIA

By Wendy Lowry

Last November I was fortunate enough to participate on a tour of the Victorian Archive Centre at North Melbourne. The tour took you down into the Repository itself for a behind the scenes look at the state of the art facility. Included in the tour was not only the reading room but the repository storage area below that houses over 90kms of shelving.

Every year thousands of people visit the Public Record Office (PRO) to consult the public records that are housed there. Although you may think that you lead private lives you might be surprised just how many times your name is in Public records.

The records date back from the settlement of Port Phillip District in the mid 1830's. They include information relating to areas of activity managed or regulated by Government, State Departments and Agencies. such as education, health, justice, natural resources, environment ,transport and the arts.



Check the PROV website for upcoming times of tours

[www.prov.vic.gov.au](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au)

Through this website ,researchers can also search the online catalogue, access online indexes and databases and view digital copies of records from the collection.