

Greensborough Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter

Edition 37, March 2020

Incorporation No. **A0054430X**
ABN **64 318 435 402**



President's Report

Well here we are 10 years since the public meeting at the Diamond Valley Learning Centre to determine whether the formation of a Greensborough Historical Society had the support of local community. The decision to proceed was unanimous and I could not have imagined then what we have achieved in 10 years thanks to committee members, the Thursday Research Group and an encouraging membership.

Once we had a home for research and somewhere for our monthly meetings, we leapt to the challenge of obtaining furniture, storage cabinets, shelving and computer equipment so that we could meet our purpose of obtaining, cataloguing and distributing local history to the community. I believe we have achieved that to the best of our ability thanks to a lot of hard work by an enthusiastic few.

Our Society like many others would not have survived but for the support of numerous organisations including Banyule City Council that over the years has providing a venue for our research, surplus computer equipment and community grants for which we are most grateful.

Likewise, Nillumbik Shire Council in recognising that some of Greensborough's earliest settlement was within its boundary and has allocated funds each year under its "Annual Heritage Grant", this allows us to connect to the internet which is essential for our research.

From our inception Greensborough Chamber of Commerce has been a corporate member and had it not been for members of that group encouraging me to hold a public meeting in the first place there may not have been a Greensborough Historical Society. It has been instrumental in solving some of our problems along the way through Town Centre Manager Noella Jacobs who put us in the right direction when we weren't quite sure which way to turn or who to contact to resolve an issue.

Greensborough RSL through its generosity made public awareness of Greensborough's early history by financing 13 plaques installed in Grimshaw & Main Streets and a book in progress with an in-depth history of the area.

The Diamond Valley Learning Centre and Greenhills Neighbourhood house have been our monthly meeting place over the years and we appreciate the support they have given us making their premises available.

We have been fortunate over the years to get financial support from both the State and Federal Governments which has made the History Resource Centre more comfortable and allowed us to update some of our computer equipment.

Diamond Valley Community Support allows us to promote ourselves in its shop window in Greensborough Plaza and at the Latrobe Market at no cost, an example of one charitable organisation helping another.

Our membership has reached 100 and growing so that is a good sign but we still like to hear from members what subjects they would like to hear about at our monthly meetings because we don't want to find out that we aren't providing subjects of interest at our meetings due to members being bored!

Health wise the next few months may present a challenge to us all but just as we took on a challenge 10 years ago, I'm sure we will put a brave face on and take whatever comes our way so stay safe all of you.

Noel

March Meeting / BBQ cancelled

It is with regret that we advise our members that the gathering in March to celebrate our 10-year Anniversary will be postponed, due to the current health warnings. While we didn't expect over 500 people to attend, we think this is the best solution until the problem is solved.

There will be no meeting in March.

Further details about future meetings will be advised via our website and to members via email.

In this report, we follow on from "The First Five Years", published in 2016.

Many thanks to Rosie Bray, who agreed to continue writing the history of Greensborough Historical Society Inc. Thanks also to Sue Ballantyne and Noel Withers for editing and John Gibson for proofreading.

We hope you enjoy reading about your Society.

Chapter Eight Onward we go - 2017

2017 began with high expectations for a successful year ahead, except for the unsettling incident of the theft of the antique horse drawn plough from the 1800s which had been donated by the Partington family. The plough had been heavily secured to sleepers and on display on the front garden at the entrance of the Resource Centre in Glenside Road Lower Plenty. However, someone else wanted it and stole it.

The Diamond Valley Leader (18/01/2017) gave the story full value with a front page.



Australia Day, January 26th 2017 was highlighted for Greensborough Historical Society with presentations of Australia Day Jagajaga Community Awards to two of our members. President Noel Withers and Foundation member Jean Luxford were the worthy recipients. Presentations were made on the day by Jenny Macklin Federal Member for Jagajaga and citations read by Vicki Ward State member for Eltham



1 Noel and Jenny Macklin

President Noel Withers, received his award for his tireless work within the Society and also to the community. Noel called the first meeting on March 10th 2010 and has worked hard at maintaining local history. He is always available and is also involved with other charitable works.

Jean Luxford was honoured for her work in education. Not originally from Greensborough, Jean has lived there for most of her life, her local knowledge is limitless, and she is an absolute fountain of information.



2 Jean with Jenny Macklin



3 Geoff (seated) and Eric

Wonderful and unexpected things happen at the Resource Centre on Thursdays. One such occasion happened on February 16th 2017, when Geoff Foard called in for a chat. The same morning Eric Barclay and June Hall also called in. The camaraderie between these old friends was immediate, and time slipped away. Tales of the old days were recounted and Noel tried to tape the conversation, but found the nicknames being used hard to follow. In the end, Noel gave up and just enjoyed the time together of 'when old friends meet'.



Donations to the archives are always welcome. In March we received treasures which have enriched our collection. Thanks to June Hall for her generous donation of two oil paintings by her late husband Doug Hall. Doug and his family moved to Greensborough in 1936, when he was 8 years old. Doug was an all-round sports man and worked for the Stublely group of companies and also for the SEC. But Doug also had an unknown talent. He taught himself to play the piano (playing in a local band) and took up the paint brush in 1973, becoming a talented painter. Doug was inspired to paint a tree as a tree. He joined the Diamond Valley Arts Society and in 1975, holding a one-man exhibition at the Eltham Gallery. Other exhibitions followed. The paintings (pictured left with June Hall) are on display at the GHS Resource Centre.

Another generous donation was a stained-glass window depicting Greensborough Historical Society, designed and made by Marilyn Smith.

We are very grateful for our members' generosity. These items adorn our Resource Centre and we thank June and Marilyn for sharing their treasures.



GHS welcomed Nicholas Abbey as guest speaker at the February meeting. He spoke about the history of the Springthorpe community in Macleod and a new project to research and document the area. The Springthorpe Project is in partnership with La Trobe University, Darebin Council, Yarra Plenty Regional Library and other stakeholders.

The March meeting took the form of a BBQ at War Memorial Park Greensborough, the weather was kind and all who attended enjoyed the venue. Mayor of Banyule Cr Tom Melican (Councillor for Ibbott Ward) and Cr Peter Castaldo (Councillor for Griffin Ward) were two unexpected visitors to join the group. They both arrived on bikes and enjoyed mingling with the GHS members.

Thanks to Eltham Community Market for their generous cheque to help defray the printing cost of the next book, thanks to Dawn Bennetts for organising this.



1. Charles Frederick Marshall May 1917

ANZAC Day is always a very sad day for those who have suffered at the time of war. At the April meeting GHS Treasurer John Gibson gave a very interesting and poignant presentation on the World War 1 service of Charles Marshall, showing photographs and diaries which were made available to John by Charles' daughter Loris.

Charles (Charlie) Marshall's active service was with the Australian 3rd Light Horse Machine Gun Squadron in WW1. Charlie married John's grandfather's sister Doris Jones after the war.

The May meeting took on a very different tone. GHS Vice President Peter Van Eeken enlightened the members present with the early history of Greensborough and its orchardists through the eyes of noted artist Blamire Young who lived in Greensborough 1906-08.

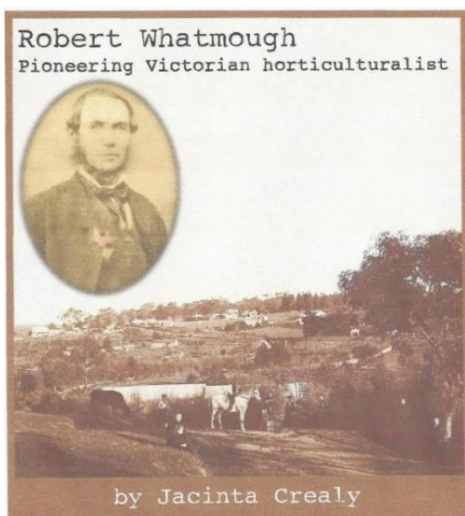


4 GHS members, Noel Wither, Peter Van Eeken, Rosie Bray, Anne Paul and Faye Fort with Mayor Tom Melican

A lovely surprise for the GHS members occurred when they were nominated and won the Banyule Council Community Group Awards (10/05/2017). Not only is this recognition for the work by volunteers over the past six years a great 'boost' for the Society but the win also came with a cheque for \$687.00. Mayor of Banyule Tom Melican was a gracious host who made all present feel that they had contributed to the community and were 'useful'.

The night got even better when the entertainer and MC for the night, was Denise Scott (pictured right), a local girl who grew up in Adeline Street Greensborough. Denise shared her many memories of early days in Adeline Street, attending St Mary's Catholic School and Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg. Denise also agreed to having her story published in a GHS Newsletter.





At the June meeting, members were privileged to be present at the book launch of “Robert Whatmough: Pioneering Victorian Horticulturalist”. Jacinta Crealy had completed and published a history on the life and times of her great, great grandfather, who was one of the earliest pioneers in Greensborough. At this meeting Jacinta was also joined by other members of her family and we are proud



5 Bundoora Homestead

to report that Faye Fort and Gary Partington were included in this group, being descendants of the Whatmough family. The following day Sunday 25/06/2017, Jacinta braved the cold and joined the group for a walk alongside the Plenty River retracing the paths that Robert Whatmough would have taken many times tending his orchard all those years ago. They also visited the Pioneer Children’s Cemetery where 6 children from the Whatmough and the Partington families are buried.

Guest speaker at the July meeting was Ella Hughes the Bundoora Art Gallery manager, who told those present about the early days of that area and the history of Bundoora Park, reputedly named by the first European settlers after the Aboriginal word “Bundoora”, meaning: the favourite haunt of the kangaroo. The mansion was built in 1900. With the assistance of Latrobe University and the Commonwealth Government, Darebin Council has restored Bundoora Homestead and it is now open to the community as an Art Gallery.

Another July event occurred when the Banyule Council invited us to join them in a culture exhibition with Jessie Stanley who skillfully made patterns of local soil depicting the area’s history in the forecourt of WaterMarc Greensborough. As the day was inclement it was decided that we should set up our stall and Jessie should display her work in the foyer of the WaterMarc pool.





6 Pte Herbert Godber

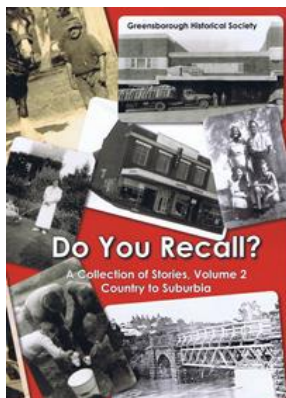
"Post cards from the battlefield" was the subject for the August meeting. Guest speaker Jillian Durance shared a wonderful collection of World War 1 postcards sent from the battlefields by Jillian's grandfather Private Herbert Godber to his sweetheart Ivy Partington, later his wife. An album which Jillian displayed showed the intertwined friendships in rural Greensborough in the early 1900s. Other post cards included those from Fred Starling, A.K. Lines, and Walter West.

Greensborough Historical Society was lucky to have the same hard-working committee on board following the September AGM. President: Noel Withers; Vice President: Peter Van Eeken; Treasurer: John Gibson; Secretary: Norm Colvin; Ordinary Committee members: Marilyn Smith, Anne Paul, Sue Ballantyne and Sue Brenkovich. Grateful thanks to these committed people who plan activities and make things 'work' at the monthly meetings and other events. Without our dedicated Committee the Greensborough Historical Society would not be as successful as it is today.

Speaker at the September meeting was GHS member Bryan Henderson who with his siblings has had a lifetime with the Scouting movement. Bryan was a wealth of information about the history of Scouts and Brownies and was proud that he and his brother George became Queen's Scouts. Those present were kept laughing with some 'corny' campfire jokes, learned to tie a 'reef knot' and were shown Bryan's Jamboree shirt. Bryan then went on to present a report on a 1951 'Pathfinders Badge' by Neil McPherson from Preston, which included Neil's notes from his research around the Greensborough area. Neil's report is in the GHS collection.

During this year not only has GHS been recognised for its contribution to the local community with an Achievement Award but it was nominated for the 3rd time by Museum Victoria for its input into the Victorian Collection by a voluntary organisation. Success for the team led by our archivist Sue Ballantyne.

Ever busy President Noel Withers has been spreading the news about the history of the local area by speaking at local primary schools and other organisations, and conducting historic walks around the area. In late October, Noel gave a brief background talk about the early history of Watsonia, as part of YPRL local history talks. Noel's talk began with Robert Hoddle's 1837 survey of the area on his way to what is now Greensborough then talked about Watsonia's development from the 1920s when the early settlers brought land at Watsonia either as a 'spec' or to build their family homes. There were many 'old Wats' residents in the audience who added some humour to the talk.



The highlight of the year coincided with Heritage Day (October 28th) with the launch of “Do You Recall?”, the Society’s second book of local oral histories. The new book contained 32 stories of memories from the local area. The foreword of the book was written by Banyule Councillor Mark Di Pasquale and Councillor Tom Melican, Mayor of Banyule launched the book at Greenhills Neighbourhood House. Councillor Craig Langdon also attended. There was an air of excitement about the whole event with so many people



7 GHS member and contributor Leslie Hooper

featured in the book present.

A good number of people enjoyed the walk through Yandell Reserve prior to the launch of the book; afternoon tea and a catch up with old friends followed. It was a day to be remembered and one which will never be forgotten by the hard-working members who made the book and event possible.

The December Newsletter which is wonderfully produced by our archivist Sue Ballantyne reports that 13 plaques are due to be installed in Main Street, Greensborough early in 2018. President Noel Withers has worked hard on this project overcoming numerous difficulties associated with our original concept of the plaques being on stands within Main Street footpaths, the plaques have now been attached to property walls.

Although the beginning of the year began with an unsettling event, 2017 ended with a successful report that 5,148 items have been added to Victorian Collections with a gradual increase in output each year. The GHS website is well-used with an increasing number of visits to the site.

In 2017, President Noel Withers represented the Society at many local gatherings. Other workers were Rosie Bray numbering the new items and 4 cataloguers, Sue Ballantyne, Peter Simmenauer, Marilyn Mullavey and Norm Colvin. Marilyn Smith ably looked after the photographs and Dawn Bennetts was very successful with the publicity and grants from the Eltham Community Market. Peter Van Eeken spent the past year compiling an in-house Digital Library along with many snippets of information.

The meetings have had a consistent attendance and the Thursday research crew work steadily sharing any information which can be helpful to others. Visitors regularly call in on Thursday morning to ask questions or to do some research. The Greensborough Historical Society continues to grow from strength to strength.

Chapter Nine A year of achievements - 2018

The year 2018 began with high hopes and great expectations and this was mainly due to the abounding enthusiasm of the Committee and Members of GHS. At the beginning of the year there were 5,280 items listed on the Victorian Collection and we had 69 financial members.



8 Rosie and family with Colin Brooks

Australia Day January 26th, congratulations go to foundation member Rosie Bray on her award of the Order of Australia Medal for her services to the community. The actual award was presented on April 16th 2018 at Government House and Rosie was so pleased to have her family present to share the moment with her.



9 Sue and Jenny Macklin

Congratulations to our wonderful Archivist Sue Ballantyne who received an Australia Day Jagajaga Award for her tireless work with GHS. Sue really deserved this recognition and we are so proud of her.

Speaker for the February forum meeting was Cemetery Historian David Weatherill, who documented the story of the hunt for unmarked graves on the edges of the La Trobe University, formerly Mont Park and in the Preston Cemetery which took place in 2013.



10 Peter Simmenauer at work on Thursdays

The March meeting was well attended. Speaker Peter Simmenauer needed no introduction, as he is one of the Thursday crew who catalogues new items to Victorian Collections, maintains various lists of collection items and researches areas of interest, particularly in the Grace Park area. Peter's subject was "The Battle of Greensborough - The Heidelberg to Eltham Railway". He presented a well-researched talk on the politics and behind the scenes issues with the Greensborough Railway line. This included a plot to bypass Greensborough's township and put the line through Nell's land.

After the afternoon tea break Archivist Sue Ballantyne followed the railway theme and presented some of the recently posted "railway" pictures from our local Facebook pages, and pictures of the current works at Rosanna station.



At the March meeting, Secretary, Norm Colvin was pleased to announce that our Honorary member Atis Lejins, was awarded the Romanian Order of Merit and is now a Knight of the Officer Class. Atis was a WW11 refugee who lived in Greensborough in the 1950s and returned to Latvia as an adult. He is currently a member of the Latvian Parliament. Atis was kind enough to send a lovely story about his memories of his childhood in Greensborough which was included in the second book "Do You Recall?"

11 Atis Lejins

The April meeting took on an ANZAC flavour with Treasurer John Gibson presenting the story of Ernest Augustus Garrott's time serving in WW1. Special visitor was Lorraine Collins the widow of Ernest's grandson Graham, which added special interest to John's talk.



After months of negotiations and organisation finally the GHS Resource Centre received a new aircon/heating unit gratefully enjoyed by the regular members. The unit was partially funded from the Federal Government "Stronger Communities Programme". On 17th May, Jenny Macklin interrupted her busy schedule, officially turned on the new unit and also stayed for morning tea. All present appreciated Jenny's visit and support of our application for funding.

12 Jenny Macklin

Nick Cree was the special speaker for the May Forum. His presentation was titled "Cruises to Nowhere", which revolved around a journal of events surrounding his paternal family's yacht the "Gulnare" sailing from England in the pre WW11 period. At the same meeting Noel Withers gave a brief presentation called "Historic Greensborough and its Pioneering Families", explaining that this was the show he gives to school groups.

At the June meeting Noel Withers gave an interesting presentation called "From Songlines to Tollways". The talk took us back to the road development from the pre-settlement period through to the proposed North East Link project. It included the arrival of John Batman, the development of District Road Boards, then local government to current day.

Vice President Peter Van Eeken compered a "Trivia" game called Tell the Truth at the July meeting. The ladies' team were victorious over the men 7 to 6. Following the afternoon tea break Noel Withers led the "Bring a Treasure" segment. Many interesting items were on display.

July's Committee meeting decided that there be no rise in membership fees.

Greensborough Primary School asked GHS to assist the school with their 140th anniversary celebrations on 18/08/2018. Sue Ballantyne liaised with the school Principal and staff leading up to the BIG day. GHS members Eric Barclay, Gary Partington and Norm Colvin and volunteers Peter Ellingsen, Robyn Heywood and Jan Muller were all classroom visitors for talks with the children.

GHS also supplied the Primary School with access to the Society's collection of school photos which were displayed around the school, loaned items for display, provided information on the history of Greensborough, produced a display at Greensborough Plaza (thanks Dawn), Marilyn attended the 'Dress-up Day' in May and took photos, and GHS members attended the Reunion Day with an information stall. GHS Honorary Member Atis Lejins from Latvia sent a lovely letter of congratulations, detailing his time attending the school. GHS was fortunate to have access to school photographic slides from the late 1970s to 1980s, which we scanned and returned digital copies to the school. Copies of the photos are also available at the Society's Resource Centre.

Throughout the school, the mood was electric with former pupils and teachers catching up with each other. Stories good and not so good were related, lots of laughter and camera clicking. The whole event was a huge success. The School community heartily thanked GHS for all their help.

Vice President Peter Van Eeken reported that the Digital Library, begun in March 2016, housed some 20,000 records pertaining to local history. Archivist Sue Ballantyne reported that GHS has over 5,600 items on Victorian Collections and has been nominated again for the Victorian Collections Award for Excellence in Museum Cataloguing (Volunteer Run Organisation) which we won in 2013.

The recent publication "Do You Recall" was nominated by committee member Anne Paul, with the assistance of the Committee, for the 'Local History - Small Publication Award' in the Victorian Community Awards.

The Annual General meeting was held on 21/09/2018. Committee Members for 2018/19 remained the same: President: Noel Withers; Vice President: Peter Van Eeken; Treasurer: John Gibson; Secretary: Norm Colvin; Ordinary Committee members: Marilyn Smith, Anne Paul, Sue Ballantyne and Sue Brenkovich.

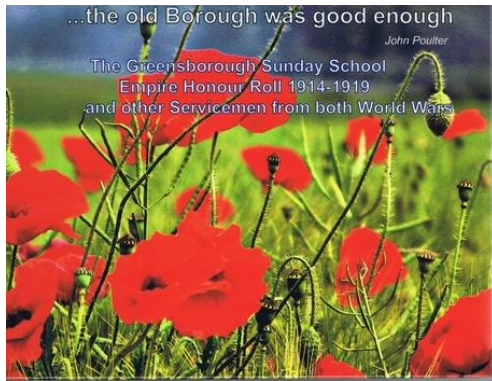
In his President's Report Noel Withers said he was pleased to announce that completing installation of the 13 plaques in Grimshaw and Main Streets was a gratifying achievement. The project was funded by Greensborough RSL and thanks go to Noella Jacobs of Greensborough Chamber of Commerce in getting permission from the shop keepers and owners to attach the plaques to their walls.



13 Jill and Pam Riley looking at the plaque of the Ashril Theatre which their father (Lou Riley) used to own.

The report continued with a list of the organisations that GHS have worked with during the year: Banyule City Council, Diamond Valley Community Support, Greenhills Neighbourhood House, Greensborough Chamber of

Commerce, Greensborough RSL, Federal and State Governments, Nillumbik Shire Council and Yarra Plenty Library Service. The Society had 76 current financial members.



Speaker for the Special General Meeting held after the AGM was Bryan Henderson who gave a presentation on his research into the Greensborough Sunday School Empire Honour Roll 1914-1919. The talk was based on the book written by himself, entitled "...the old Borough was good enough". Bryan's book also includes many locals who served in WW11. The book is available at the GHS Resource Centre if you'd like to have a look.

The Annual Heritage meeting was celebrated on Saturday October 27th 2018 at Greenhills Neighbourhood House. This was also the GHS Seniors month activity. GHS Vice President Peter Van Eeken presented a history of the growth and development of the Greensborough district.

At the November meeting, Norm Colvin give a presentation of Down Memory Lane, which included pictures of Watsonia and Lower Plenty. He went on to show an informative film on 1950s plans for an expanding Melbourne from the MMBW, which showed Greensborough local and previous Mayor of Heidelberg, Cecil Jessop as Chairman. Sue Ballantyne followed showing recent pictures of the Main Street signs and some of the termite damage.

The December Newsletter's President's Report summed the year with the good and the not so good. Good-- the membership was growing and the camaraderie was good. The aircon/heating was a plus, but it came as a surprise when Banyule Council advised that the kitchen was due for refurbishment under the Banyule City Council maintenance program. The kitchen works included replacement of all existing cupboards, shelving, sink and laying of a new floor surface as well as providing hot water to the sink adjacent to the toilets. All looked as if it was going to plan however due to a plumbing issue half of the building was flooded causing water damage to the stock of books.

During the kitchen renovation, termite damage was found in the ceiling and external walls. Further repair work was scheduled for over the December break.



14 An unceremonious end to the old kitchen



15 Part of our shiny new kitchen



16 Termite damage removed from ceiling

All the Society's activities were well attended in 2018 and have become a popular way of exchanging local information. Many old friendships have been renewed and new friendships

were made at the forums, special general meetings and other activities. Open days on Saturday afternoons have been inconsistent. There can be a feast or a famine of people calling in. But just the same, the kettle is always boiling and a big welcome at the door for anyone who ventures in. Thursday research days stay about the same, always starting with a cuppa and sharing any news of the local area.

Stories came thick and fast thus adding to our archives. Thanks to Dawn Bennetts who is successful at getting events published in the local papers, letting people know when the events occur.

The GHS website www.greensboroughhistorical.org.au/ and quarterly newsletter edited by Sue Ballantyne continue to give the reader news of the GHS and interesting stories by members (thanks Sue).

The Collage below shows the interest and industry of the Thursday crew, not to mention friendships which have been forged.



Chapter 10 Fancy a cuppa? - 2019

The year 2019 began with mixed feelings. We gathered in January to assess the flood damage and reinstate the Resource Centre to a usable space. And enjoyed our first cups of coffee from the shiny new kitchen.

Thanks to Noel and Gary for moving a display cabinet.



17 Noel and Gary move a display cabinet



We thank Banyule Council for making our Resource Centre available, and for the ongoing maintenance, but there is no doubt that with the growth in membership and people attending on Thursday, that we are bursting at the seams. And for the future, all members agree that it's imperative that we either have another location or an expansion of our present location.

Congratulations to Anne Paul on receiving a Jagajaga Australia Day Award for her "Services to the Community". Anne has been a Committee member since 2011, and brings a wealth of heritage knowledge to the Society.

Thanks to a grant from Federal Government GHS was able to purchase 2 new laptops to replace 2 of the aging desktop computers, as well as a new scanner.



18 Noel receives the Victorian Collections Award from Dr Julie Cotter

The Society for the second time won an award from Museum Victoria for the input into its Victorian Collections and cataloguing excellence by a voluntary organisation for which our Thursday contributors can be most proud, particularly Sue Ballantyne, Marilyn Mullavey and Peter Simmenauer for their cataloguing. Congratulations gang.

Membership is growing and monthly meetings are well attended as well as the coffee mornings and open days thanks to Sue Brenkovich and Dawn Bennetts for their promotion and organisation.

We were advised that NBN was now available to our History Resource Centre however NBN Co. will only allocate one connection to the allotment that we share with Lower Plenty Kindergarten which was already connected so we have gone 4G which we are very happy with. GHS is very grateful for the annual heritage grant Nillumbik Shire Council allots us, which goes towards providing us with to the internet, without which we couldn't function.

Speaker for the February Forum was John Noack from the Heidelberg Historical Society who spoke on "The Robson House and Mollison Station."



19 GHS members Kath and John Gibson with Ian McLaughlin

The Thursday crew deserted their research tasks on 21/03/2019 and paid a visit to Yallambie House to view the historic home and its outbuildings. Owners Ian and Vicki McLaughlin made us very welcome and we visitors supplied food for the morning tea. Many thanks to Ian and Vicki for their hospitality and sharing the story of the home they love.

Guest Speaker for March was Jim Poulter who presented "Batman's Treaty - The Real Story", just one of the theories around the location of the signing of Batman's Treaty with the local indigenous people.

Our April Open Day (14/04/2019) was a very social BBQ.

All 13 Historic Plaques have been installed in Main and Grimshaw Streets. Greensborough Chamber of Commerce has produced a brochure featuring the plaques, including a map and additional information.

The GHS Committee gave a warm welcome to new Committee member Dianne Fox. Di has been a member of the Thursday crew for the past few years and brings a wealth of knowledge in the areas of research and genealogy.



20 Adrian Bennetts and Noel Withers cook the BBQ



21 Gary unveils His late brother Trevor's running shirt

Gary Partington generously donated a precious running shirt that was worn by his late brother Trevor at many athletics meets around Victoria, including the Greensborough Gift in the 1960s.

Life Memberships were awarded to Gary Partington and Rosie Bray at the AGM in September. Gary is a regular member of the Thursday Group, attends most Open Days and is a wealth of knowledge on the old Burra. Foundation member Rosie Bray OAM is an active member of the Thursday Crew, provides morning tea at most events and generally keeps track of, and writes reports on local events.

The ANZAC Meeting in April was well attended to hear Norm speak about “Which Charlie?”, the story of Charles Swanwick’s WW1 experiences, and Sue’s “story in pictures”, based on Samuel Rich’s photographs of his service with the British Army in WW1.



LEST WE FORGET

Thanks go to everyone who prepared food and joined in the fun at the BIGGEST MORNING TEA held on May 23rd for Cancer Council. Over \$160 was raised to help with research and to fight this horrible disease. This was our first attempt of community fundraising, and being successful it won't be our last.



22 GHS Biggest Morning Tea 2019

Guest speakers at our May meeting were GHS members Bruce McDowell and Rex Smith who gave the good crowd an overview of the Greensborough Football Club. Rex and Bruce in their presentations showed photos listing many names synonymous with Greensborough. Lots of stories surfaced at this meeting.



23 Visitor, now a member Ted Budge looking and remembering the Greensborough Football Team

Open Day on June 6th was a demonstration of why we need more room in the Resource Centre. The whole place ‘rocked’ with visitors, all had questions and shared happy memories of their time in the Greensborough area.

Picture on the right is a ‘mock up’ of Rosie Bray and Dawn Bennetts showing that more room was needed in the Research Centre.

The picture was taken by Marilyn on a cold day, hence the blanket.

Called *No room in the Inn*, this



picture was ‘blown’ up and given to each Banyule Councillor at a Council meeting to convince them that we need their help by enclosing the veranda to give more storage space. The result of persistence and patience looks as if this request could be made possible.

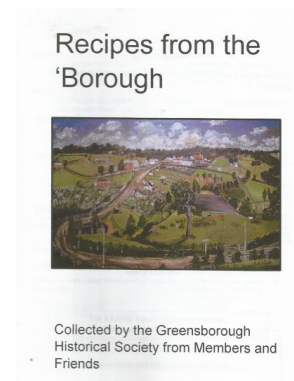
The June Forum meeting took on a different flavour when Committee Member Anne Paul was guest speaker, giving a detailed presentation called “Victorian Democracy and Greensborough”. Anne told of the beginning of democracy in Victoria, listing the elected MPs and showing their achievements.

At the July meeting, Peter Van Eeken presented a well-researched history of duelling in the earliest period of the Port Phillip District, involving a future resident of Greensborough.

Monthly training sessions for the Thursday crew commenced mid-year with sessions on Victorian Collections and how to find information through the Internet, the Digital Library and Digger database. These sessions were so popular with the Crew that they will resume in 2020. Each session was well prepared by the presenter and the fact that all who attended really wanted to learn about the subject.



GHS Secretary, Norm Colvin took the members and friends down 'memory Lane', at the August meeting. Norm's presentations are well received by members and there is always a huge response of local memories from the attendees no matter what photographs are being shown.



The launch of our Recipe Book ("Recipes from the 'Borough'"), at the September AGM, showed another initiative of GHS. Many and varied recipes from the members and old favourites from grandma's cook book came to the surface. Thanks to the members for sharing their favourites, Marilyn Mullavey for typing the recipes, Sue Ballantyne for editing and the volunteers, Committee and members at GHS for their support in all projects. The booklet is on sale for \$5.00.

Membership figures showed growth with membership at 95 (September 2019).

October was a very busy month with members showing their skills and networking: On 20/10/2019 GHS helped Leith Park and the Old Colonist's Association to celebrate its 150th Anniversary by producing a display on the history of Greensborough; from Monday October 21st to Sunday 3rd November we had our annual display at the Diamond Valley Community Support window (thanks Dawn). And historic Greensborough station photos were supplied to the owners of Cafe' 134 near the Greensborough Station for display in the cafe.

Heritage Day 26/10/2019 was a bit of a wash out ... in fact it was a big weather disaster. The plan was to have a BBQ at War Memorial Park, followed by an explanation of the history of the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial by Norm, then a walk to the Homefront Project chainsaw statues. A good many stalwarts (both members of GHS and the public) braved the dreadful weather, and an early BBQ and Norm's talk went ahead. The heavens opened as we were about to cross to the Homefront statues and the afternoon was abandoned. However, all was not lost. On January 14th 2020, a goodly crowd of members gathered after coffee at the Shopping Plaza and learnt about the symbolism behind the Homefront statues from Sue Ballantyne.

GHS showed its presence by having a stall at Latrobe Market in November 2019. Thanks to the GHS members who attended on the day.

The final meeting for the year on November 29th heard Norm present Memory Lane featuring recent additions to the collection and some humorous advertisements.

GHS was represented at the Plenty Heritage Forum's display at Eltham Library (Dec.2019-Jan.2020)

Thursday Crew members enjoyed a Christmas lunch at Shillinglaw Cottage, and closed for a well-earned rest over the Christmas break.

To sum the year up - it ended better than it started and lots of things were achieved.

Late news (2020)

In February 2020, Treasurer John Gibson reported that financial membership had reached 100. What a great achievement in this, our 10th year.

Rosie Bray was the recipient of a Jagajaga Community Volunteer Award for 2020 on Saturday 7th March 2020.



24 Latrobe Market November 2019



25 Coffee morning at the Plaza 14/01/2020

Committee 2019-2020

President	Noel Withers 94354513	Vice President	Peter Van Eeken pve101@yahoo.com.au
Secretary	Norm Colvin 94352903	Treasurer	John Gibson 94350097
Committee Members:	Dianne Fox Marilyn Smith	Sue Brenkovich Sue Ballantyne	Anne Paul

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of Colin Brooks MP.**