

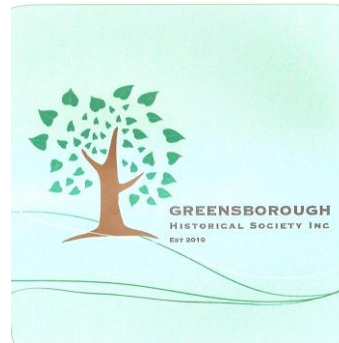
Greensborough Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter

Edition 46, June 2022

Incorporation No. **A0054430X**

ABN **64 318 435 402**



President's Report

We had hoped to be back in our History Resource Centre by now but building works have only just begun so it will be more like October when we are back there for our Thursday meetings.

However we have been made most welcome at the Diamond Valley Library in its new community meeting room so why don't you pop in and have a cuppa and chat with us any Thursday 10am to 3pm.

After a very disruptive 2½ years it has been gratifying to see good attendance at our monthly meetings and we hope that continues as it almost feels like we are back to normal, so fingers crossed.

It was great to see Marilyn Smith back with us after a pretty grueling 12 months of illness (and that was without Covid19), she had been missed.

We have recently received numerous photos from the Yandell family who lived in St Helena Road opposite Ellen Court and whose grandfather Andrew had the nature reserve in Greenhills named after him due to his involvement in getting Heidelberg City Council to purchase it from the Partington family.

This reinforces how important it is for us to get the message out there that those photos that mum and dad had left in an old shoe box are of value and shouldn't be thrown out when they can assist with social and local history.

The Victorian Level Crossing removal authority has been in touch regarding our input at the Greensborough and Montmorency stations which appears to be still in its formative stage but hopefully will gather pace soon. I have provided some photos and requested that space be provided to promote the Society and local history either in printed or electronic form, the latter being shown regularly on the monitors within the waiting room.

GHS member Colin Brooks MP representative for the electorate of Bundoora and currently Speaker of the Victorian Legislative Assembly has been nominated for the front bench for the position of Minister for Child Protection and Family Services and Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers to be taken to the next election. So congratulations to Colin.

After 12 years at the helm as President of Greensborough Historical Society I'm stepping down from that role in September to allow someone else to take over with perhaps a different perspective and new ideas, however I'm not going away and am just as enthusiastic about local history and still get excited when we discover something new which is almost every week.

It would be nice to have a full complement of 9 on the Committee for next year so please give some thought about joining the Committee when elections occur at our AGM in September, you will be most welcome.

Now that we have a little more freedom we may be able to spread our wings and venture further afield with an excursion to somewhere of interest so if you have any ideas of where we could go as an extra curriculum event please let any of the Committee know.

Best Wishes to all.

Noel

Greensborough Historical Society acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as traditional custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and been an integral part of the region's history.

What's happening at GHS during the closure and renovations at Glenauburn Road? by Sue Ballantyne

Renovations

As reported in the March Newsletter, we packed our collection and furniture and sent it to Storage King in Briar Hill on 30/3/2022. Computers are being upgraded at Noel's. Our now empty Resource Centre was ready for some big changes; however, due to a few planning issues with this old building, there was a delay in work commencing.

The builders took over the site on Monday 30/5/2022 and work began in earnest the following Monday. Some internal demolition, relocation of our storage shed, removal of tree stumps and preparation of the veranda took place in that first week.



We look forward to reporting on progress over the next few weeks.

Thursday Crew

During the renovations, our Thursday researchers are meeting at the newly refurbished Diamond Valley Library. We have access to the community room, complete with kitchen, so there's always a cuppa available if you'd like to join us between 10am and 2.30pm. All welcome! We are making good use of the Local History collection to further our knowledge of Greensborough and surrounding areas (see Liz Pidgeon's article on this wonderful resource later in this Newsletter). A big thank you to Liz for organising the venue and to Sarah from DVL for keeping our booking up to date until August.



Peter Van Eeken making good use of the Local History collection

Other activities

Working Bee at the Greensborough Cemetery: On Thursday 28/4/22, we were unable to use the library due to a previous booking, so Noel organised a working bee at the Greensborough Cemetery. It was hard work but satisfying to see the result. Noel reported to members the next day: "Eleven of us had a very successful working bee at the cemetery yesterday removing self-sown vegetation from grave sites that in some cases was damaging the memorial. We were finished by noon, just in time as the rain started so well done us! Many thanks to those who attended with their loppers, spray packs, reciprocating/chain saw and muscle. Some of the memorials are in poor condition so I will seek avenues for funding to address this issue."



Our photographer Marilyn Smith was not well enough to join us, but sent Graham along to record the day's work.

Biggest Morning Tea: Our fundraiser for the Cancer Council took place after the May meeting on Friday 27/5/22 at Greenhills Neighbourhood House. A scrumptious afternoon tea was enjoyed by all. Thanks to those present for their generous donations – we raised \$166 for this great cause. We hope to have our 2023 **Biggest Morning Tea** at our refurbished Resource Centre.



Thanks to Committee member Dianne Fox for organising the fundraiser and for the photo.

Tuesday Social Morning Coffee: A small group continued to meet for coffee and a chat (venue top floor Greensborough Plaza near Muffin Break) at 10am on the second Tuesday in April and May. We have decided to trial a monthly catch up for the rest of 2022.

Please join us, bring a friend – all welcome! Next morning coffee will be on Tuesday 12th July at 10am.

For your diary, the remaining Social Morning Tea dates for 2022 are: 9th August, 13th September, 11th October, 8th November and 13th December.

Feature Article *Thanks to Liz Pidgeon for her continued support of Greensborough Historical Society.*

Local History Collection at Diamond Valley Library



Public libraries play an important role in sustaining our collective heritage and culture and in promoting a sense of history and belonging in the local community. Local history collections tell the story of the roots, evolution and contemporary circumstances of the local area and its residents, as they provide an understanding of the past. They are of value to future generations.

Diamond Valley Library was opened in 1984 as part of Victoria's 150th year celebrations. The library previously occupied space in the Shire of Diamond Valley Civic Centre. The Local History collection has been in existence



since at least that time. It is one of four across the Yarra Plenty Region (the others are at Eltham, Ivanhoe and Mill Park libraries).

Diamond Valley Municipal Branch Library. Shire of Diamond Valley Handbook, 1980, YPRL Collection

The main focus is the geographic area covered by the former Shire of Diamond Valley, including Diamond Creek, Greensborough, Watsonia, Yarrambat, Plenty and parts of Bundoora. It includes material of relevance to the present City of Banyule and Shire of Nillumbik.

A significant collection of historical photographs from the 1860s to the 1990s (now digitised and accessible online) were donated to the library soon after it opened by the Nillumbik Historical Society, based in Diamond Creek.

The relatively small collection is principally paper-based. These include published books, documents, photographs, pamphlets, unpublished works and compilations, press cutting files, newspapers and municipal records.



Local History collection at DVL, June 2022, Photographs S. Ballantyne

Major themes include early settlers, the development of local townships and communities, local institutions and organisations, urban development and housing, the development and construction of

the Greensborough shopping Centre and other facilities, social and urban planning issues, the natural environment, the development of the library service, the Diamond Valley Art Collection and limited information on indigenous history.

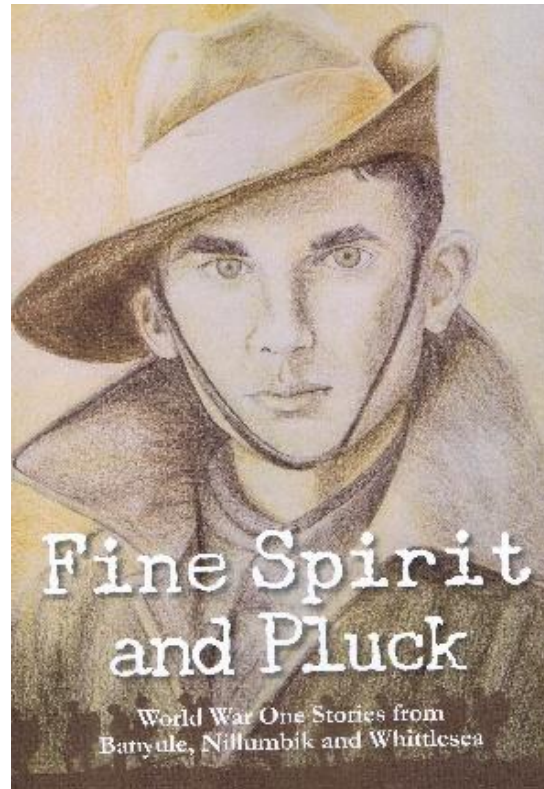
Editions of the *Diamond Valley News (Leader)* were regularly collected forming a significant resource for local history. 1966 to 2016 are held in hard copy. A newspaper indexing project (accessible via the catalogue) is ongoing.

In 2016 YPRL published *Fine Spirit and Pluck: World War One Stories of Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea*, a collaborative project in response to the Anzac Centenary. *

Recent additions to the collection have included publications relating to living during the coronavirus pandemic. Since the redevelopment of the library completed earlier this year, the collection has been moved to open access, perfect for browsing. The collection can only be accessed in the library. Some items are unique and fragile and we encourage a “handle with care” approach when using the collection.

Search the catalogue via the website at yprl.vic.gov.au. Once on the catalogue page, choose the options “online images” to search photos and documents.

The Wikinorthia resource also includes local history stories and articles of interest. Visit <https://wikinorthia.net.au/>



If you would like to discuss a donation to the collection, or any research query please contact me. If you have not visited the “new” Diamond Valley Library this year, we would welcome your visit.

Liz Pidgeon

Local and Family History Librarian

Yarra Plenty Regional Library, lpidgeon@yprl.vic.gov.au, 9 Jun 2022

*Would you like to read *Fine Spirit and Pluck*?

Copies are available for loan from YPRL <https://www.yprl.vic.gov.au/>

Limited copies available from Liz Pidgeon. Contact Liz directly via email lpidgeon@yprl.vic.gov.au

It's Winter, the Footy Season – a look back at the “Nursery for Footballers”

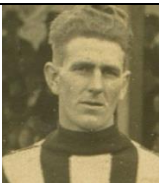

An article from the *Hurstbridge Advertiser*, October 3, 1930: *This district is the nursery for several prominent footballers. From Diamond Creek the brothers Coventry of Collingwood – Syd (captain and also winner of the Brownlow Medal) and Gordon, champion goal kicker, and Edmonds, also in Collingwood. From Greensborough Club, Joe Poulter, formerly of Collingwood and South Melbourne, and at present coach to Echuca; Clem (“Digger”) Splatt, of Hawthorn, until incapacitated, and last, but not least, Stan Judkins of Richmond, who has just been awarded the Brownlow Medal. Will all teams please note? We have several more promising colts deserving of a tryout in the near future.*




This made me wonder who else might have come from Greensborough to the VFL, now the AFL? I consulted Rex Smith who provided the following information on Greensborough Football Club players:

Correction to the March Newsletter:

In our article on Gus Lines, I incorrectly added to Norm’s article: “*Locally, he was a player and president of the Greensborough Football Club; Gus captained the football club to its Premierships in 1920 and 1922.*” The dates are incorrect: In 1920 and 1921 Greensborough Football Club was captained by Fred Honeychurch; Harold Hodgson was captain in 1922 and 1923. 1922 was the inaugural year of the DVFL and Boro were premiers. A.K. Lines was captain in 1925 (a premiers year) and also in 1926.

Many thanks to GHS member and collector of history of the Greensborough Football Club, **Rex Smith**, for the correction. – *Sue Ballantyne, Editor.*

Greensborough Football Club players who played senior VFL/AFL			
Player	Club	Year/s	Number of games
Fred Chanter	Fitzroy	1920	1
Clem Splatt ~ 	Collingwood Hawthorn	1922 1925,26,27	2 20
Joe Poulter ~ 	Collingwood South Melbourne	1923/28 1928/29	83 32
Bill McDowell	North Melbourne	1927/28	11
Stan Judkins	Richmond	1928/36	133
Ken Carlon	Melbourne	1949/50	30
Bruce McMaster-Smith	Fitzroy Carlton St Kilda	1960/61 1962/64 1965	13 26 15

Ray Willett		Collingwood	1960/61,64	20
Richard Burrows		Richmond	1961	5
Ted Potter ~		Collingwood	1963/73	182
Lee Adamson ~		Collingwood	1966/73	96
Dennis O'Brien		Collingwood	1971	1
Robert Hyde~		Collingwood Essendon	1973 1977,79	62 1
Bruce Gonsalves		Collingwood	1975/76	5
Tony Keenan		Collingwood	1982, 84	3
Russell Dickson		Collingwood	1985/87	20
Neil Brindley		Collingwood	1987	1
Danny Stevens		North Melbourne	1996/99	15
A current player, Thomas Brindley has played a couple of games with Richmond reserves this season. He is the son of Neil Brindley.				

~Collingwood player photos from www.forever.collingwoodfc.com.au

Other local VFL players to mention – the Cordner family of Diamond Creek and later Ashmead in Grimshaw Street. The Cordner sons did not play 'local' football, but came via the grammar school and university competitions.

Player	Club	Year/s	Number of games
Edward Cordner (snr)	Melbourne University**	1905 1901-12	260
**Melbourne University (known as University) was the 9 th VFL team, competing in the VFL from 1908-1914.			
Ted Cordner (jnr)	Melbourne	1941-43, 1946	52
Don Cordner	Melbourne	1941-50	166
Denis Cordner	Melbourne	1943, 1948-50	152
John Cordner	Melbourne	1951	6

Many thanks to **Rex Smith** for sharing his vast knowledge of the Greensborough Football Club.

Sue Ballantyne June 2022

Committee 2021-2022

President Noel Withers 94354513 **Vice-President** Norm Colvin 0409 815 246
Secretary Peter Van Eeken **Treasurer** John Gibson 94350097
pve101@yahoo.com.au

Committee Members: Sue Brenkovich, Dianne Fox, Sue Ballantyne, Chris Foster

Contact the Greensborough Historical Society

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In Person: **Resource Centre**
34 Glenauburn Road (off Para Road), Lower Plenty
CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS April to June 2022

Newsletter edited by **Sue Ballantyne**.
Contact Sue with your comments or ideas for stories at sueballantyne2010@hotmail.com

Meeting dates and times for 2022

New members and visitors are most welcome to join us at our meetings.

Committee meetings are generally held at 7.00pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

Date	Day	Start Time	Meeting/Activity	Venue
15-06-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
25-06-22	Saturday	1:15pm	Forum GHNC	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
20-07-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
22-07-22	Friday	1:15pm	SGM GHNC	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
09-08-22	Tuesday	10am	Morning Tea	See website for details
14-08-22	Sunday	1pm	Open Day	Resource Centre
17-08-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
27-08-22	Saturday	1:15pm	Forum GHNC	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
14-09-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
16-09-22	Friday	1:15pm	AGM GHNC	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
08-10-22	Saturday	1pm	Open Day	Resource Centre
11-10-22	Tuesday	10am	Morning Tea	See website for details
19-10-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
29-10-22	Saturday	1:15pm	Heritage Day	TBC
16-11-22	Wednesday	7pm	Committee Meeting	Resource Centre
25-11-22	Friday	1:15pm	Christmas Meeting	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
13-12-22	Tuesday	10am	Morning Tea	See website for details

Printing of this Newsletter supplied courtesy of Colin Brooks MP.