

Greensborough Historical Society Inc.

# Newsletter

Edition 28, December 2017

Incorporation No. **A0054430X**

ABN **64 318 435 402**



## President's Report

It has been an exciting and successful year due to the work of your Committee and the "Thursday Crew" who are making sure local history rocks.

Attendance at our monthly meetings has been consistent throughout the year with a mixture of guests and members speaking on subjects they are passionate about and we intend to continue with that format next year as well as throw in an extra curriculum activity along the way.

This year we introduced our bimonthly coffee mornings trying different venues and for the small gathering, so far they have been very pleasant and will continue, so come and join us.

Receiving a Banyule City Council Volunteers Group Award was a great achievement and something we can be proud of, beside the financial benefit the publicity gained should not be under estimated.

Our recent book launch *Do You Recall?* was I believe the highlight of the year, we were honoured by the presence of Banyule City Council's Mayor Cr Tom Melican and Cr Craig Langdon with many of the story contributors present.

The success of this publication is due to those that gave us their stories and the book committee that spent literally hours putting them together and editing, they are to be congratulated for a fine effort and the book is selling well.

Thanks to Greensborough RSL, 13 plaques that are to be installed in Main Street Greensborough have just been received and we are hopeful they will be installed early in the New Year.

Greensborough Primary School has its 140th Anniversary in 2018 and we will be having quite an input into its celebration so for those that attended the school, make sure you get involved.

We wish all our members a very happy and safe festive season and look forward to seeing you all in 2018 either on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February at your History Resource Centre open day or our first monthly meeting on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February at Greenhills Neighbourhood House.

Best Wishes to you all

Noel



## Committee 2017/18

**President** Noel Withers 94354513

**Vice President** Peter Van Eeken  
94358715

**Secretary** Norm Colvin 94352903

**Treasurer** John Gibson 94350097

### Committee Members

Sue Brenkovich

Anne Paul

Marilyn Smith

Sue Ballantyne

## Contact the Greensborough Historical Society

Web Site: [www.greensboroughhistorical.org.au](http://www.greensboroughhistorical.org.au)

Email: [info@greensboroughhistorical.org.au](mailto:info@greensboroughhistorical.org.au)

By Post: Greensborough Historical Society Inc.  
4 Jenna Close, Greensborough 3088.

In Person: **Resource Centre**  
34 Glenauburn Road (off Para Road), Lower Plenty  
Open Thursdays from 10.00am to 3.00pm  
Visitors welcome

## Meeting dates and times for 2018

*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. Venue: Resource Centre.

The Resource Centre will be open every Thursday (10am to 3pm) and on selected weekends for research into your family or the local area. All welcome!

Tuesday coffee mornings are held each second month. This is a social occasion and everyone is welcome. Venue varies so look out for the email invitation for details.

**Please check the last page of this newsletter for all dates for 2018.**

**Merry Christmas everyone, and best wishes for happy healthy New Year.  
See you all in February**

## 2017 – A year in review

What a busy year it's been at Greensborough Historical Society! Here is a short review of events.

We hope you enjoyed this year and look forward to seeing as many members and friends as possible at our meetings and events in 2018.

**January** – not a highlight, but worth mentioning. An historic plough, donated to the Society by the Partington family, was stolen from the front garden of the Resource Centre. It has not been found.

**January 26** - GHS President Noel Withers and GHS member Jean Luxford were awarded *Australia Day Community Awards* from Jenny Macklin MP. Noel for his tireless work with the Society and Jean for her contribution to education over many years. Once again, congratulations to you both!



*Left, Jenny Macklin and Noel Withers*

*Right, Jenny Macklin and Jean Luxford*



**February 16** (at the Resource Centre). The Thursday Crew were pleased to meet Geoff Foard who regaled us with stories of growing up in Greensborough. Another visitor on this day was Eric Barclay.



*Geoff Foard and Eric Barclay*

**February Meeting** – Nicholas Abbey spoke about the exciting Springthorpe Project. Among the key themes in the project (a collaboration between Springthorpe, La Trobe University and Darebin Council) are:

- Local Indigenous history
- European settlers
- Landscape design and horticultural history (including the work of Hugh Linaker)
- Hospital and psychiatric care history (Mont Park and Larundel)
- Key individuals such as Dr John Springthorpe and Dr Ernest Jones
- Architectural and heritage-listed buildings history
- Hospital links to World War 1 returned soldiers and other military history
- natural, geological, botanical and ecological history (including the wildlife reserves)
- History of the Springthorpe estate



**March Meeting** – something different! a barbeque at War Memorial Park.



Around this time, GHS member Rosie Bray was injured when knocked down by a car crossing the road near Safeway. Rosie is a key member of the Thursday Crew and was sorely missed whilst recuperating from her injuries. Rosie wrote this piece from her hospital bed:

*April 25<sup>th</sup> is always a very special but sad day for Rosie Bray.*

*This year, for the first time, Rosie has not been able to pay tribute to her dear Dad, who was killed 26/6/1941. Captain Thomas Thrupp died on active service and for Rosie and her mother, both felt the loss so badly.*

*Every ANZAC Day Rosie pays tribute to her Dad at the Greensborough War Memorial Park Service. Only a small tribute but it means so much to her.*

*This year was different because an accident has prevented the personal tribute at the ANZAC Service.*

*However, Alexandra, Tom and Emma Brooks took Rosie's place and paid tribute to Captain Thomas Thrupp. These young people eagerly leapt to do this small task - absent Rosie B. but present via these three young people.*

*So the ANZAC Spirit lives on via this generation.*

*A vote of gratitude and thanks to Alexandra, Tom and Emma Brooks for their absolute kindness to just one of the community.*

**April Meeting** – at our ANZAC meeting, GHS Treasurer John Gibson delivered a very interesting presentation on the World War I service of Charles Marshall. Charlie's photographs and diaries were made available to John by Charlie's daughter. Thank you, John, for another great ANZAC meeting. A huge amount of preparation goes into these talks, from the research to scanning of photographs and organising the information into a cohesive presentation. Charles Marshall's photograph collection can be viewed on Victorian Collections.



*Charles Marshall, 1917*

**May Meeting** – While doing some research, GHS Vice-President Peter Van Eeken found an article called *Procession of the fruit*, by Blamire Young. Based on this piece of writing, Peter presented a talk on Blamire Young, the early history of Greensborough and its orchardists.

**Banyule Volunteer Award** – GHS was honoured to receive a Banyule Volunteer Group Award in May 2017.

*Left to right: Noel Withers, Peter Van Eeken, Rosie, still recovering from her accident, Banyule Mayor Tom Melican, Anne Paul and Faye Fort at the Volunteers Award Dinner.*

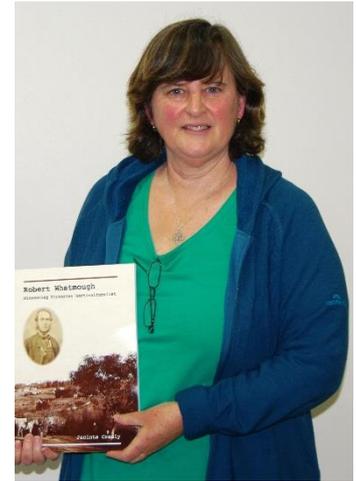
All members of GHS are volunteers, and give their time freely to ensure that Greensborough's history (and that of the surrounding suburbs) is kept for future generations.



**June Meeting** – We were joined by many descendants of the Whatmough family when Jacinta Crealy launched her book *Robert Whatmough - Pioneering Victorian Horticulturalist*. Jacinta's talk covered both her research and Robert Whatmough's life.



*GHS members and Whatmough descendants at the June meeting*



*Jacinta Crealy with her book on Robert Whatmough*

**July Meeting** – Ella Hughes, Gallery Manager of Bundoora Homestead Art Gallery spoke to the meeting about the history of the Homestead from Smith family home to Convalescent Farm for returned servicemen, to Repatriation Mental Hospital before finally becoming a public art gallery for the Darebin community.

**Also in July** – GHS members attended an Art Installation by Jessie Stanley at WaterMarc. With soil sourced locally this work revealed some of the area's history - the text running around the perimeter was written by former resident -and GHS member - Val Wilson, a snippet of her recollections of growing up in the area in the 1950s.



**August Meeting** – our guest speaker was Jillian Durance who shared a wonderful collection of World War I postcards sent from the battlefield to Greensborough. The recipient was Ivy Partington, with most cards sent by her 'sweetheart' and later husband, Herb Godber. Other postcards were from 'Boro boys including Fred Starling, A.K. Lines and Walter West (who thanked Ivy for the newspapers). The postcards showed the intertwined friendships in rural Greensborough in the early 1900s. The album in which the postcards are displayed was a gift to Ivy from her future in-laws on August 22, 1917, 100 years before Jillian shared them with us.

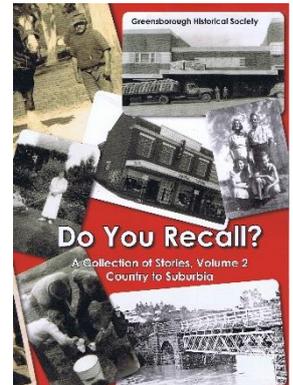
**September Meeting** – The meeting began with the Society's AGM at which the Committee of Management was returned for another year. Our guest speaker was GHS member Bryan Henderson who commenced with a general history of the scouting movement. Bryan and all of his siblings were involved in Scouts or Brownies, with Bryan and his brother George becoming Queen's Scouts. During his talk, Bryan told some corny 'campfire' jokes, taught us to tie a 'reef knot' and showed us his Jamboree shirt. Bryan then presented a 1951 'Pathfinder Badge' report by Neil McPherson from Preston. Neil travelled throughout Greensborough making observations about the area in great detail considering he was only 15! His report gives an insight into the area at the time.



*Bryan and his 'Jamboree' shirt*

During the cold **Winter** months, the Thursday Crew battled the cold in the Resource Centre. The ancient heating/cooling in the building was not able to cope. Committee member Anne Paul prepared an application for a "Stronger Communities Grant" (from the federal government's Department of Industry, Innovation and Science) to replace the old units with more efficient split system air conditioning. The application was successful and we hope to have the new units installed in time for our return in 2018.

**October Meeting** – our Heritage Meeting for 2017 began with Noel leading a walk through the Yandell Reserve, followed by the launch of the Society's second book *Do You Recall?* by Banyule Mayor Cr Tom Melican. This was the culmination of several year's work in collecting stories, interviewing people and writing their stories, then selecting and editing these stories into book format. A real group effort, mainly by members of the Thursday Crew, and a big thank you to all contributors.



We were thrilled to be joined by many of the people whose stories appear in the book, presenting each with a copy of *Do You Recall?* A delicious afternoon tea followed the launch and many reminiscences were shared by those present.

Copies are available via the GHS website, at Society meetings and over the counter at several local outlets.

**November Meeting** – we finished the year with a collection of photos of Greensborough and surrounding areas from our archive, presented by GHS Secretary Norm Colvin. Norm's local knowledge always informs and entertains, and this annual presentation is in it's third year.

**December** – no meeting, but the Thursday Crew celebrated a successful year and the start of the summer break. The Resource Centre will be closed from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December and re-open on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

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**Breaking News** – Our long-awaited Main Street plaques arrived this week and will be installed early in 2018. More details in the New Year.

**Greensborough Primary School 2062** will celebrate its 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018. GHS is assisting the school with historical information and we will keep you informed of developments. The celebration is planned for August, date to be confirmed.

**Greensborough Football Club** will celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018.

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**Railway news** from the past, as the Hurstbridge line undergoes major works in 2017/18.

From *The Argus* 31/10/1922 with thanks to Dawn Bennetts.

### **Horse Races Train**

*The 7.16 a.m train to Eltham yesterday morning was delayed in peculiar circumstances. A horse on the line at Eltham ran in front of the train till it reached Greensborough keeping to the track all the way - a distance of three miles.*



**Printing of this Newsletter supplied courtesy of Colin Brooks MP.**

## Greensborough Historical Society Inc.

### 2018 Meeting Schedule

**HRC** – Historical Resource Centre (34 Glenauburn Rd, Lower Plenty)

**GHNH** – Greenhills Neighbourhood House (Community Drive, off St Helena Rd)

**SGM** – Special General Meeting **AGM** – Annual General Meeting

March meeting brought forward to avoid Good Friday.

September AGM brought forward to avoid Grand Final Eve holiday.

Date	Day	Start Time	Meeting
17/01/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
<b>10/02/18</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Open day HRC</b>
21/02/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
24/02/18	Saturday	1.15 pm	Forum GHNH
21/03/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
23/03/18	Friday	1.15 pm	SGM - GHNH
<b>15/04/18</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Open day &amp; BBQ HRC</b>
18/04/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
28/04/18	Saturday	1.15 pm	ANZAC Meeting - GHNH
16/05/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
25/05/18	Friday	1.15 pm	SGM - GHNH
<b>09/06/18</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Open day HRC</b>
20/06/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
30/06/18	Saturday	1.15 pm	Forum GHNH
18/07/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
27/07/18	Friday	1.15 pm	SGM - GHNH
<b>12/08/18</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Open day HRC</b>
15/08/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
25/08/18	Saturday	1.15 pm	Forum GHNH
19/09/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
21/09/18	Friday	1.15 pm	AGM - GHNH
<b>13/10/18</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1.00 pm</b>	<b>Open day HRC</b>
17/10/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
27/10/18	Saturday	1.15 pm	Heritage meeting TBA
21/11/18	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Committee HRC
30/11/18	Friday	1.15 pm	SGM Christmas Meeting – GHNH