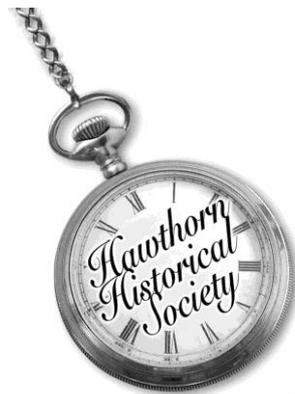
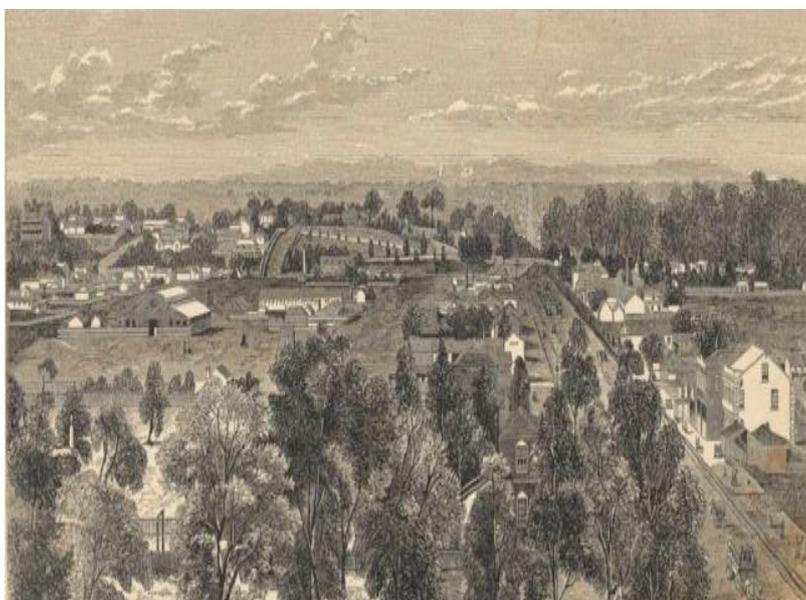


# Hawthorn Historical Society



## *Newsletter* • August 2014



Hawthorn 1863

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# Hawthorn Historical Society

(Hawthorn Historical Society is affiliated with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria)

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	Ms Pamela Carter	
	Andrae Talarico	
	Elizabeth Love	
	Elizabeth Yewers	

## Hawthorn Historical Society Publications

***Faint traces: Chinese in Hawthorn before the Second World War***

Diane Nicholas & Mary Sheehan, \$12

***Hawthorn streets index***

Gwen McWilliam, (reprinted 2004), \$15

***Street Walks***

Gwen McWilliam, \$1



We can now send out your newsletter by email!

[hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

If you would like to receive future newsletters this way

## Hawthorn History Walks

Discover the history of Hawthorn with a series of self-guided walks produced by the Hawthorn Historical Society.

A booklet for each of the 18 walks is available from Hawthorn Library for \$1.00 each.



## Article

## In Pursuit of Beatrice Tully by Elizabeth Love

Beatrice Tully was born in NSW 1867 on the *Illilawa* station managed by her father Walter Tully. At first glance her connection with Hawthorn seems rather tenuous as the photo album she received in 1884 was discovered in Tasmania.



Over 6 years ago a student brought the large leather bound photo album to class at Carey Baptist Grammar School. At the time the child's family were living in Grace Park House in

Chrystobel Crescent. The family had received the album, from a person clearing a house in Tasmania, who, looking for a home for the album, had found the inscription inside the front cover. Mr. and Mrs. Colvin Clark had presented this album to Miss Beattie Tully on her leaving school on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1884. The school was Grace Park House in Hawthorn.

The teachers at Carey recognized the educational opportunity and used the album as part of the curriculum to develop historical perspective and an understanding of how places and people's lives change over time. The album contained a number of unnamed sepia

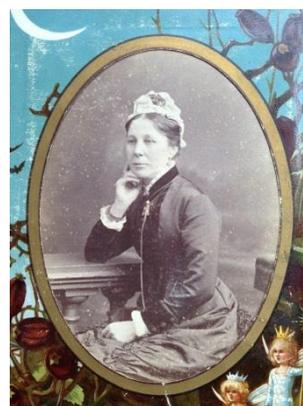


portraits in good condition but a large part of the album's appeal are the pages decorated with scenes of flowers and fairies. Unfortunately the album was in a very fragile state, the binding had split and some pages were only held in place by a thread. It was clearly time to find an appropriate permanent home where the album could receive the necessary care so they contacted the Hawthorn Historical Society.

The inscription provided the starting point for a time consuming but ultimately enjoyable investigation, following leads in Australia and overseas, about Grace Park Ladies College, Beattie Tully and her family, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Colvin Clark. An extensive search

of births, deaths and marriages, passenger lists, electoral rolls, and newspaper notices for Tully and Beatrice Tully in particular, indicated a likely birth, siblings, marriage, and the name of her father. Further investigation of postal directories, rate records and published family trees bore fruit. Gratingly this research ultimately led to a safe home for the Tully photo album with Beattie's great niece.

The information in one particular Tully family tree on Ancestry.com matched the biographical details I had found. It provided several photos, one claiming to be of Beatrice Tully and another said to be her father, Walter Tully. Fortunately *our* Beattie photo album contained the same photograph of Beattie and a strikingly similar photograph of her father Walter. Contacting the "owner" of this tree who was living in the United Kingdom, I asked if he were related to Beattie Tully. The answer was no, but Beattie Tully was the great aunt of his mother, Diana Coultas.



### Walter and Eliza Tully

I then met with a thrilled Diana, a retired anthropologist, from Canterbury, who had many more photos and details of the Tully family. I was able to confirm the results of my research with the invaluable Tully family story written by family members in 2000.<sup>1</sup> Beattie's father Walter Tully was born on 21<sup>st</sup> January 1829 in Kildonan, Sutherland, Scotland. Her mother Elizabeth Sutherland was born the same year and in the same district. Walter was 24 years of age when in July 1853 he first departed for Melbourne and upon his arrival travelled to Harrow in the West Wimmera region where he worked for a while before returning to Scotland to marry Eliza.

The couple married at the end of May 1856 and set sail for Australia just 22 days later on the *Mermaid*, arriving in Victoria in mid October. They settled in the Wimmera and Walter became the manager at *Koolmurt Station* near Harrow. The couple's four sons were all born at Harrow as was probably their first daughter Elizabeth (1864).

However their youngest daughter Beatrice was born in 1867 after her parents had moved to *Illillawa Station*, near Hay in NSW.

Town clerk and Boroondara Returning Officer.<sup>ii</sup> Slatterie, had previously been the editor and proprietor of the *South Bourke Standard*, Hawthorn's four-page weekly newspaper, Walter was a highly respected sheep breeder and manager, winning prizes and good prices for his merino sheep as well as officiating at sheep dog trials. An 1876 newspaper report of his departure to Victoria, appeared in the *Riverine Grazier*.<sup>iii</sup> The article describes the farewell speeches and the presentation of *a very handsome clock under glass shade, and chimney ornaments to match*, which were given to Mr. Walter Tully and his wife. The article stated that Mr Walter Tully, *one of the very best judges of sheep in the Riverina*, and owner of *Illillawa* and *Mernugle* was leaving the district after 10 years, to settle in Melbourne *for the education of his children and enjoyment of a time of ease and comfort after his many years of toil*.



The three older sons, David, James and William were aged 19, 17, 15 at this time. Another brother Walter, aged seven had drowned in an unfortunate accident whilst swimming with his siblings, earlier in the summer of 1869, in the Murrumbidgee River. We have no record of the older boys

attending school in Hawthorn, however, Beattie and presumably her older sister Elizabeth, known as Lizzie, attended school at Mrs Colvin Clark's Grace Park Ladies College and may also have been boarders at Grace Park in their final years.

The Ladies College at Grace Park House, situated at 19 Chrystobel Crescent (formerly 17) educated the daughters of a number of successful local families. The house was the originally the home of early Hawthorn settler Michael Lynch and was valued at £180 in the Hawthorn rate Book of 1874 when the Colvin Clark's took up their occupancy.

Walter Tully was listed in the Hawthorn Postal Directory on the south side of Burwood Road near the Glenferrie Road intersection in both 1877 and 1878 next door to Apollos Slatterie, Hawthorn published between 1861 and 1873. However it seems the Tullys only lived here for a short period as an advertisement placed in the Argus on 23/7/1878 notified potential purchasers of the sale by auction of his household furniture including a mahogany extension table, chiffoniere, wardrobes, bedsteads, wash stands, carpets and curtains.

### Beattie Tully

After leaving school in 1884 it is believed that Beattie lived with her parents on the 8,110 acre property *Mountside* near Winchelsea, Victoria, but at some stage the family also bought a house in Seymour Grove Brighton. Beattie married Archibald Young Craig of *Ariah*, Temora, NSW on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1899 at *Mountside*. Possibly they met through family connections, as the bride's cousin Mr. B. Tully was also the best man. *The Australasian* provided a detailed description of the occasion.<sup>iv</sup> Beattie wore a white silk dress trimmed with chiffon and orange blossom, which was very popular for weddings at this time. However it was her going away outfit that caught my attention as I imagine she looked very stylish in grey voile trimmed with white surah and chiffon, her outfit completed with a Tuscan straw hat trimmed with black and white feathers. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a gold brooch with pearls and sapphires and the bride's gift to her husband was a pair of gold links. *Surah* I discovered after an internet search, is a *lightweight, lustrous twill weave constructed fabric with a silk-like hand*.<sup>v</sup>

Six weeks after the wedding, her mother Eliza, died at *Dunvagen*, their Melbourne home in Brighton and was buried in Brighton Cemetery.<sup>vi</sup> Beattie moved with her husband Archibald back to Merri Merrigal Station Hillston, New South Wales where Archibald was an overseer. He was also station manager for a time at *Keewong* and *Koonaburra* before settling in Cobar where he had stock interests of his own. They raised five children - Agnes (b.1901), Thelma Louise, (b.1902), Ailsa (b.1906), Walter Archibald (b.1907) and Douglas Robert, (b.1908).

Sadly Beattie's husband Archibald Craig died in Cobar aged 52 years, from pneumonia and influenza during the 1919 epidemic, which took the lives of more than 6000 in New South Wales alone. Their youngest child Douglas was then only 11 years of age. We don't know any more about Beattie during these difficult years.

By 1930 she had moved with two of her daughters Agnes and Ailsa to 22 Irrara Street, Croydon, Martin NSW. The girls married in the 1930s and the Electoral rolls of 1943 show her unmarried son Walter, now living with her at this same address. The Victorian branch of the Tully family lost contact with Beattie when her sister Lizzie, who did not marry, died in Melbourne in 1946. Beattie followed six years later on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 1952 at the age of 85. Some effort has been made to follow the lives of her children who married in New South Wales, some of whom we know died without issue. The best line for future enquiry would appear to be the union of Agnes Beatrice Craig with David Dunlop in 1930 or from Robert Douglas Craig who married Rita Edgar in 1938. However, at this stage it would seem that Beattie has no living direct descendants.

### Grace Park Ladies College

But what of the Grace Park Ladies College and Mr and Mrs Colvin Clark ... Mrs Colvin Clark nee Sara Ann Kidd was born on June 29<sup>th</sup> 1830 in Hull, Yorkshire, the fourth child of Hannah and Samuel Kidd. She was baptised at the Fish Street Independent Church. Her father Samuel was a missionary and also Professor of Chinese in Malacca, where the older children were born, but ill health forced the couple to return to England where Samuel became pastor of a church in Manningtree Essex. Sarah and her older sister Mary were two of 28 pupils attending a boarding school in Marsh Street, Walthamstow in Essex in 1841. Sarah was seven years old when her father was appointed the first Professor of Chinese at London University, and only seventeen when he died suddenly in 1848.<sup>vii</sup>

Her mother Hannah Kidd, was the daughter of William Irving of Hull, but I can discover no connection to Professor Irving of the famed Hawthorn Grammar. The 1851 England Census shows the widowed Hannah Kidd, working as the Principal of a Ladies School in Bushey, Yorkshire, where both Mary and Sarah were her assistants. However by 1861 the family had moved to Addison Crescent Kensington, London where Hannah was the Lady Principal of Addison House. Four of her daughters worked alongside her, Mary and Sarah as governesses, Catherine as a French teacher and Rebecca as a music teacher.

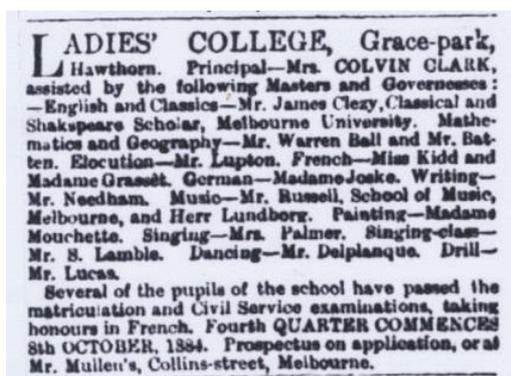
Robert Colvin Clark, was a widower from Colombo, Ceylon, with a son and two daughters under the age of ten when he married Sarah in Kensington, England, in the first few months of 1865. They must have travelled shortly afterwards to Melbourne where Robert had agreed with the London and Colonial Company Ltd. in England to act as its agent in Melbourne and set up Colvin Clark & Co. at 3 Flinders Lane in February 1866.

The first of the couple's two sons, Lindesay, had been born in Carlton just a few weeks previously. A second son, James, was born in St Kilda 17 months later in June 1867.

Although advertising as merchants and general agents, the Colvin Clark & Co. specialised in the importation of ale, hops, malt and stout. The company placed frequent advertisements for No. 3 Trent Ale Brew from Burton on Trent. However things did not go well business wise for Robert, because in March 1867, the London company was wound up and liquidators appointed. By the following January, the financial agreement with Robert Colvin Clark was broken and he was dismissed from his job. Claiming he was contracted for 5 years, at a salary of £750 per year with 2 ½% on all remittances, plus the right to sell goods under his own endeavour, he took the London and Colonial Company to the Supreme Court asking for reimbursement of loss of income to the value of £4,500. There were counter injunctions and claims by the liquidator for money to be realised through the sale of the Australian company's property and assets, and these claims were aired in hearings before Justice Molesworth, another well-known Hawthorn resident. Things dragged on over several years, even though Mr Colvin Clark returned to England in 1868 to try to settle the dispute. His finances may have been severely challenged, with a wife and five children, and this could have encouraged his wife Sarah to make use of her previous skills in education.<sup>viii</sup>

Early in 1871, when their younger children were just 5 and 4 years of age, Mrs Colvin Clark followed in her mother's footsteps. She began advertising in the South Bourke Standard that she *receives a limited number of YOUNG LADIES for instruction in usual branches of Superior English Education, Accomplishments and such Modern Languages as may be required*. Her ladies school was then located at Longcroft Power Street, Hawthorn, on the opposite side of the road from Hawthorn Grammar, a boy's school run by John Meeson and later by Professor Martin Irving.

By 1874 she had relocated her Ladies School to Chrystobel Crescent, leasing the *Grace Park House* and some of the surrounding land. The house had originally been designed by colonial architect John Gill for the Irish publican and landowner Michael Lynch in 1857 and had been extended over the next 20 years. The Hawthorn Council valuation in 1882 said the house had 12 rooms, increasing to 15 rooms in 1886. The house, a simple cement house rendered in the Georgian style, comprises two storeys.<sup>ix</sup> It is one of the earliest surviving mansion houses in Hawthorn and was added to the Historic Building Council register in 1989.<sup>x</sup>



1884 advertisement.

There were 60 students enrolled at the Mrs Colvin's Grace Park Ladies College by 1886 and still 58 in 1890 when newspaper advertisements highlighted the school's large staff of Visiting Masters and governesses. Mrs Colvin's College had an excellent reputation and an educational standard that also prepared young women for Matriculation and University Examinations. In 1884, the year Beattie left the school, three of her classmates, Elizabeth Evelyn Buzzard, Isabella Moffat and Eliza Campbell Tough had successfully passed the University Examination.<sup>xi</sup> It would seem the success of the school and the opportunities offered in Australia, encouraged three of Sarah's sisters to emigrate to Australia and over a number of years they were employed as music and French teachers at the school. Two sisters remained unmarried and lived in Victoria for many years.

Robert Colvin Clark died in February 1886, a little over a year after the presentation of the photo album to Beattie. He was 73 years old. The local Burwood Road undertaker Herbert King was in charge of the funeral procession, which left his residence Grace Park House for the Boroondara Cemetery, Kew at 3 o'clock on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February.<sup>xii</sup> The couple's elder son Lindesay, was already studying at Melbourne University and later that year received second-class honours, along with fellow Hawthorn resident, John Monash (later Sir. John Monash). Lindesay graduated as a Civil Engineer and early in his career was engaged in tunnelling and work on a water supply schemes in and near Melbourne. He married a local Hawthorn girl, Jessie Meekison, the daughter of E. R. Meekison of *St Vigeans* in Manningtree Road in 1895 and the couple settled in Tasmania where Lindesay became mine manager of Mt Lyell and later, also the manager at Anchor and Briseis tin mines.<sup>xiii</sup>

The other Colvin Clark children also moved away from Victoria. James Ambrose and Eliza Wilhemina, children from his first marriage, had married in the early 1880s and moved to Queensland and New South Wales. Annie Colvin Clark became the Principal at Eridge School and Kindergarten in Bowral NSW by 1900,

where private pupils were also taken for Continental French, Music and Drawing. As a sign of the times and change in the expectations of education and future employment of girls, she also advertised in 1912, that the school offered instruction in Pitman Shorthand. Robert and Sarah's younger son, Edwin George was manager at *Redbank station* Hawkwood, Wide Bay in Queensland by 1903.<sup>xiv</sup>

Mrs Colvin Clark retired, selling household furniture and school fittings and requisites in January 1895, and at the same time announcing the new principal, Miss Emily Edeson. Miss Edeson, who had been a teacher and Vice Principal under Mrs Colvin Clark, took over the helm in the second half of the year. She advertised for day and boarding pupils in newspapers as far away as Bairnsdale, highlighting the wonderful situation of the school set in 4 ½ acres of land extending from Chrystobel Crescent to Mary Street. The school continued for some time before relocating nearby and the Grace Park Estate was subdivided and developed after 1900, with the house itself surviving as a boarding house for Hawthorn College, then a private nursing home, before being restored as a beautiful private residence in recent years.

Sarah Colvin Clark went to live with her son Lindesay and his family in Derby, Tasmania, where he was a mine manager. Sarah had lived a long life and a productive one, making a significant contribution to the education and well being of the many young women who came under her care. She died in Derby on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1927, one day before her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday and was buried, along with her husband Robert and her step-daughter Annie Colvin Clark, in Boroondara Cemetery at Kew.

<sup>1</sup> Shepherd's Journey: Tully Family History by Daphne Duckett and Margaret Robson, 2000.

<sup>1</sup> The Riverine Grazier, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 1876, p.2

<sup>1</sup> Sands and McDougall Melbourne Postal Directory, 1877 and 1878.

<sup>1</sup> The Australasian, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 1900, p.46

<sup>1</sup> Glossary of Fabric Terms. www.fabric.com

<sup>1</sup> The Argus, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 1900, p.1.

<sup>1</sup> Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Volumes 1-20, Oxford University Press, 2004-14

<sup>1</sup> The Argus, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 1868. p.2

<sup>1</sup> Michael Lynch and Grace Park, by Gwen McWilliam

<sup>1</sup> Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number: H0730

<sup>1</sup> The Australasian, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 1884, p.15

<sup>1</sup> The Argus, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1886, p.1

<sup>1</sup> Obituary, The Examiner, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1951, p.4

<sup>1</sup> Australian Census records

## FAMILY REUNION

Recently I had the pleasure of meeting Diana Coultas at her home in Canterbury and reuniting her with a long lost photo album that had belonged to her great aunt, Beatrice Tully.

It was such a happy occasion for us both and here Diana is pictured inspecting her wonderful surprise. I'm told it has prompted much family conferencing and set them off with renewed vigour to reconnect with members of their extended family.



## Article

### The Dead Man's Penny and the Lost Soldier of Fromelles by Elizabeth Yates

In the early 1960s I was living with my parents in a rented house in Carnegie where I found in the garage a rather attractive medallion showing Britannia and the name William Duncan. Although we didn't know what it signified my parents had kept it over the years and when I recently discovered it again, I decided to investigate what event it commemorated.



It was then that I found it was a Next of Kin Plaque or Medallion presented to families of British (and thereby Australian) soldiers who had died in the First World War. As these plaques were so unwelcome to those who had lost their husbands, sons or brothers, they gained the title of Dead Man's Pennies and on some occasions were even returned in protest.

I decided to try to research the William Duncan commemorated on this particular plaque and began by consulting the online AIF records, but there were a number of William Duncans and none of them had a connection with Carnegie. I then thought of checking the Sands & McDougall Melbourne Directories to check who had lived at our Carnegie address before we moved there, in case it was a member of the Duncan family, but it turned out to be a Mrs. Robina Sampson so I could still not link the medallion with this address. However, I went through the AIF records again and met with success as I found Robina Duncan was the sister of a William

Duncan who, as a private in the 58<sup>th</sup> Battalion, was one of the many Australian soldiers who had died at the Battle of Fromelles in Fleurbaix, France, on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1916. He was 27 and had lived in North Fitzroy and was employed as Labourer/Brick maker. His sister made repeated attempts to find his burial place but he was one of the many soldiers with an unknown grave. His name appears on the Australian Cemetery Memorial in Fromelles.

In the Argus of 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1917 he is remembered by friends as follows:

*In sad and loving memory of our dear friend Private William Duncan (Bill), previously reported missing, now officially reported killed in action in France, July 19, 1916.*

*Though the waves of ocean divide us,  
And you sleep on a foreign shore,  
Remembrance is a relic  
That will last for evermore.*

*Loved and remembered by all*

## News

- WELCOME to new members Allison Gately and Lindy Bajurnow.
- DO YOU KNOW the whereabouts of this house? It is thought to be located in either Hawthorn, Camberwell or Kew and probably connected to the Cussens family
- COMMUNITY GRANT – we have applied for a local community grant for money to establish a portable data resource storage for our photos and files and also develop a number of history walks, associated booklets, notes and presentations. We hope to hear some good news about this initiative later in the year.
- INTERESTING EXHIBITION – Explore the dark history of Melbourne’s port – The exhibition **Sailing into Melbourne** has been created by the Public Records Office of Victoria and showcases major records covering grim stories of quarantine, devastating shipwrecks and grand voyages and includes letters, ship registers, photographs and plans. The display is in the Old treasury Building from June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 until 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
- 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY- Auburn Uniting Church in Oxley Road is celebrating 125 years with a thanksgiving service to be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>



## RECENT ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION

Our collection is growing in both range and quality. Here are just a few of our recent additions.

- Catalogue of plants from J. Scott & Son Nursery, 1889. Donated by D. Sutherland.
- Church of Immaculate Conception history booklet 1869-1969.
- Register of Common School Hawthorn, Index to pupils 1850-1870s
- Rural Village to Urban Surge, History of Presbyterian congregation at Hawthorn, F. Maxwell Bradshaw. 1964. Donated by T. Hart.
- Practical Measure, 100 Years at Swinburne, Peter Love. 2007.
- Swinburne, 75 years of Distinction. 1908 - 1983, B. Hames. Swinburne College Press
- Over 25 auction and subdivision maps from the estate of John Beswicke. Courtesy of his grandson Ken Bethell.
- Photos and plans of Rotha, mansion built by John Beswicke in Harcourt Street. Courtesy of his grandson Ken Bethell.
- The City of Hawthorn Centenary Souvenir Supplement of the Standard News. 1960. Donated by Donated by Robert Solokois.
- Hawthorn 125 years of Progress. A Souvenir Issue of the Progress Press. 1985. Donated by Robert Solokois.
- Heritage planning documents for Robert Cochrane Kindergarten. Donated by Cameron Syme.
- Photos of Auburn Primary School memorabilia. Courtesy of Cameron Syme.
- Tramway by the River, A brief history of the Hawthorn Tramways Trust. Donated by E. Love.
- Hawthorn house photos by John Suriano, 1981 Donated by G. McWilliam.
- Old Yarra History, as told by the Geology of Burnley, Heyington, Tooronga, G.B. Pritchard, 1944
- Copy of The History of Hawthorn, by A.N. Smith, 1934
- Hawthorn Craft Markets, Commemorating 20 years of Quality Handicrafts, 1999
- Hawthorn Peppercorns. G. McWilliam. 1976
- A History of Hawthorn, Peel, Zion and Yule. 1993
- Notes and photo of Josiah Green.
- Secondary School Project on Hawthorn 1884. Donated by Suzie Eisfelder.
- Class photos of Robert Cochrane Kindergarten and Glenferrie Primary School, 1967- 1975. Donated by Suzie Eisfelder.
- Photo of Invergowrie. Donated by Tim Gibson
- Photos of the Hawthorn Historical Society members and activities.
- Wurundjeri Garden, Guide for Visitors. Revised 1997
- Notes on Sir Stanley Seymour Argyle. Donated by Ian Argyle.
- Receipts of Hawthorn businesses. Donated by Surrey Hills Centre.
- Catholic Scouting. Photocopy of Chapter 5. Scouting in Hawthorn. A history 1909-1993

## Website update

### JULY 2014 WEBSITE MUSINGS

The website continues to be an extremely effective way of communicating with others in the community. It has enabled people to connect with us not only to ask for help with their research but to pass on valuable information to us about our Hawthorn history and heritage. Some folks have started to donate photos and memorabilia no longer needed or discovered forgotten in cupboards and we have also gratefully received items from deceased estates. Items among our recent acquisitions have included old school photographs of Glenferrie Primary School, a terrific school project from 1984, special editions of the Standard News and Progress Press celebrating Hawthorn 100<sup>th</sup> and 125<sup>th</sup> birthday, a copy of the Hawthorn Common School Index of students from 1850-1870 as well as a number of pamphlets and booklets which will be wonderful resources for the future.



We are gradually building our database of photos and digitalized records and resources and hope in the near future to make these resources more accessible. We have applied for a local Government community grant to facilitate this. Meanwhile check the list of recent additions to our collection.

I would like to pass on a BIG thankyou to all members who have taken the time to read and respond to our requests for information. It is exciting that we are starting to build a network of enthusiastic people who support each other with information and suggestions. Shortly we are to set up a Facebook page for the Hawthorn Historical Society and hopefully this will facilitate wider networking beyond just our local community.

We now get a large number of questions from the general public. We endeavour to answer if we can or guide them to the resources available so I am including some recent queries. If you know more about any of these topics that we can pass on please email us at [hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.au](mailto:hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.au) or phone me (Elizabeth) at 98894798

### SOME RECENT RESEARCH QUERIES

- Photos of the Beehive Hotel and any information about previous owners and licensees, in particular James Colvin and his descendants.
- Information about house *Tatiana* in Berkeley Street associated with James Butchaf, from archivist at Beleura House Museum Mornington.
- The date of construction of the railway overpass at Lilydale Hawthorn east.
- Information about William McNaughton, Donald and Duncan Love, Hawthorn residents in 1870s onwards.
- Information about the Cussens family and the houses where they may have lived.
- Photos and information about Hawthorn West Kindergarten in Brook Street.
- Information about Alexander Stenhouse Hume WW1 serviceman and employee of the Hawthorn City Council
- Changes to the landscape around Auburn Road and old brickworks site from teacher at Auburn Secondary College
- Photo of Betty McDowell and or her lingerie shop in Glenferrie Road
- Levy family of *Hawthorn House*, St James Park
- Request for information about history of 22 Urquhart Street.
- Charlotte and Mary Langford living at 108 Riversdale Road for about twenty years 1920-1940s.
- William Leslie Park and Hawthorn Grammar School

## Article



## THE MELBOURNE TRAM MUSEUM by Elizabeth Love

With a group of female friends I recently visited the iconic tramways building in Wallen Road. The museum is housed in the old Hawthorn Depot, which was originally built for the Hawthorn Tramways Trust. It houses 21 fully restored trams and Warren, our volunteer tour guide and tram enthusiast, provided us with a thoroughly entertaining talk and tour of the museum. The original three story building was built for the Hawthorn Tramways trust in 1916 with a second shed opening two years later. The depot included a machine shop, electricity substation, clothing store up stairs and the first training school for electric tram drivers.



**Figure 12** Relaxing on cable car with ticket to ride

The first trams to operate in Melbourne were horse drawn and operated from 1884 to 1923. The Hawthorn horse tram ran from Hawthorn Bridge via Burwood Road, Power Street and Riversdale Road to Auburn Road, terminating outside the Riversdale Hotel, but it ceased operation in January 1916.

My favourite tram in the museum was the restored cable tram. Cable trams ran in Melbourne for fifty five years and consisted of an open construction dummy or grip car and a closed trailer. The large and strong, grip man stood in the centre of the dummy car, working the brakes and levers that operated the cable grip mechanism, which attached the tram to the moving underground cable. Twenty people could be accommodated in the dummy and up to thirty-eight in the trailer during a "crush". Travelling between only 8 and 12 mph, passengers did not exactly experience high-speed travel, except perhaps when going round corners but those who chose to travel in the open compartment would certainly have encountered Melbourne's renowned weather – all four seasons in one day.

An electric tram operating from St Kilda to Kew opened in 1913 along Glenferrie Road and the celebrations in each municipality along the route, drew large crowds despite the poor weather. They came to see not only these amazing new trams, but enjoy the pomp and ceremony of mayoral speeches and the cutting of ribbons by the Lady Mayoresses.

The tramways reached their height of patronage during the Second World War. The level of safety and comfort passengers expect today is in sharp contrast to the many photographs over the years, of passengers hanging off the trams and perched on the running boards as the trams made their way along. My father once told me how in his youth he had boarded the tram at a run as it was turning the corner at Riversdale Road into Power Street.



**Figure 2** A Bundy clock used to record Times

The museum, which opened in 2003, has a terrific collection that represents the rich tramway history of Melbourne and there were many points of discussion amongst the group, from the role of conductors, trade unionism, the training of women as drivers and planning of infrastructure to deal with increased demands and new designs of rolling stock. I was intrigued to see the Bundy clock and the key which was turned by the tram drivers as they arrived at each timing point, usually at the end of each section, so that the Tramways Board could keep track of whether the trams were running on schedule.

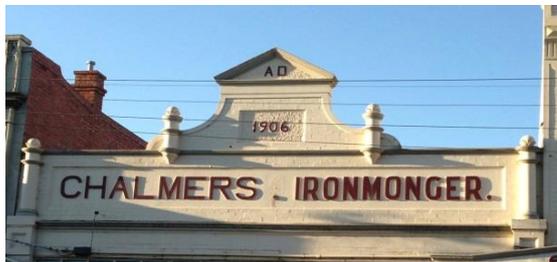
Our small group enjoyed recognizing the more familiar recent trams and many memories were animatedly recalled as we sat like schoolgirls in one of the W class trams, which were retired from service in 1989.

The museum is open to visitors every second and fourth Saturday of each month from 11am to 5pm or by arrangement. It is well worth a visit

## Article

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CHALMERS? By Elizabeth Love**

Very few long term Hawthorn residents will not have some knowledge of the old Chalmers' Hardware Store on the north side of Burwood Road. It has long been one of Hawthorn's iconic buildings with its impressive façade, stained glass windows and distinctive entrance tiling. John Chalmers built it, as *Chalmers Ironmonger* in 1906.



The store always seemed to hold a diverse range of goods. In the Saturday Dec 2, 1933 edition of *The Argus*, Chalmers were advertising *Fly-Doors, 6/6; Screens, 3/3; Safes, 3/; Lawn-mowers, 39/6; Hose, 4 1/2 d.*



John Chalmers and his wife Mary Jane (néé Knowles) lived in a number of homes in Hawthorn over many years. They were at Burwood Road in 1903 (once numbered 487), 58 Auburn Grove in 1914 and also at *Tal'carn*, 10 Dean Ave from 1937. John was well known within the community, a vestryman at St Columbs Church, and was a member of a Citizen's committee that campaigned in 1916 for the extension of the tramway along Burwood Road from Power street to Camberwell Road and he served as a Hawthorn councillor through the war years from 1916-1925 and as Mayor of Hawthorn post World War1 during 1921/22. John died in 1946, six years after his wife, nicknamed Queenie, and both are buried in Boroondara cemetery (Kew). They were survived by their son Cyril, daughter in law Ella and grandson John.

John Chalmers started his ironmongery business in 1886 and the building at 655 Burwood Road dates from 1906. Chalmers' Hardware had survived until relatively recently. In the face of growing competition from the mega hardware stores, it was popular with local residents possibly because of its "old fashioned" feel. There were wooden floors, shelves packed to the ceiling, wooden stepladders and ancient counters with little box drawers full of screws and counters with little box drawers full of screws and nuts and bolts. The store seemed to stock almost everything and the staff not only knew their wares but could always be relied upon to give you sound advice on any of your home handyman projects. Shoppers could even purchase just five screws to finish off that job rather than the standard packet of thirty, of which 25 were later discarded. But what I remember most was the customer service –there was always someone to assist you.

Many locals who had enjoyed more intimate shopping in their local hardware store were distressed when the building was sold and the business, linked now with Mitre10, was relocated in 2005, to a building a few doors further along Burwood Road and then finally to Kew. For several years the original Chalmers building was occupied by The Persian Carpet Company but recently they too have moved on and there were signs of intense building activity.



Shops and houses along Burwood Road have been under considerable pressure from developers in recent times so I was not surprised to see this promotion for a modern multistorey apartment block on the Chalmers' car-park site

Yet I was also somewhat relieved a few weeks back to see a For Lease sign advertising that "three fully refurbished Victorian shops" will soon emerge from under the dust and clutter of building equipment. It

would appear that some considerable effort has been made to preserve the building and the external Victorian features and the building will have a new life. The photograph below shows detail of the pressed tin ceiling and decorative stained glass above the front display windows.

Future customers hope that the new shop owners will take up the challenge to meet the high benchmark of Chalmers' renowned customer service.



## Review of Hawthorn Historical society event

### Christopher Martin – A Life in Music

**Speaker: Mary Ryllis Clark, editor of 'CHRISTOPHER MARTIN – In the Middle of the Music'**  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

Saturday was a bleak, dreary Melbourne winter day. Just right for curling up in front of the fire...or, if you were one of the brave souls prepared to brave the weather, to come to be warmed by hearing Mary Ryllis Clark share stories by and about Christopher Martin, who for many years lived in Hawthorn and who sadly died in 2011.

We were fortunate to be joined by Annette Martin, Chris's widow and their son Ben, both acclaimed musicians. Both Annette and Ben shared stories and insights and Mary spoke and read excerpts from Chris's memoirs to illustrate his life's journey from the town of Tiverton in Devon to his time as Head of Strings at the Conservatorium of Melbourne and latterly, conductor of U3A Orchestra, in Hawthorn. And there was music to illustrate ideas and times important in Chris's life and career.



Chris found a passion for music through a local amateur musician in his town, however having neglected his studies in favour of playing the violin, he was forced to leave school at the age of 16 to work in the local lace factory. When he was offered a place at the London College of Music, the factory owners sponsored him to travel to London each week for his lessons as they did later when he was studying violin at the Royal College of Music.

We were fortunate to have in our audience, a number of members of the U3A Orchestra who also shared reminiscences. Mary's words captured the essence of Chris Martin; his warmth and humanity, his musical sensibility and sense of humour and his love of people and love of music. It was a joyous occasion. Copies of 'CHRISTOPHER MARTIN – In the Middle of the Music' by Mary Ryllis Clark can be ordered directly via [maryryllisclark@gmail.com](mailto:maryryllisclark@gmail.com)

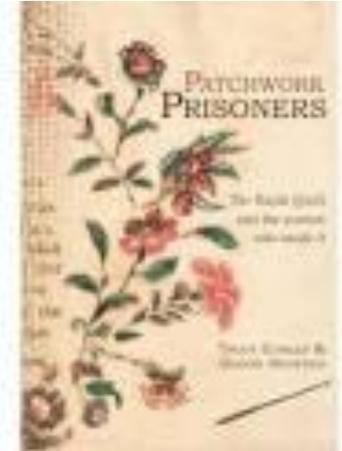
## Book review

### **PATCHWORK PRISONERS : *The Rajah Quilt and the women who made it***

by Trudy Cowley & Dianne Snowden

Published by: Research Tasmania, 2013

The Rajah quilt is a beautifully crafted quilt, made by women being transported on the convict ship Rajah, to Van Diemen's land in 1841. It is now held in the textile collection of the National Gallery of Australia and while it is valued for its beauty, it is also considered important for its connection to the early history of the colony. Some 180 women were on HMS Rajah and Miss Kezia Hayter, the matron assigned to the ship, set a number of women to the task of sewing. The quilt was presented to the Governor's wife, Lady Franklin, on their arrival in July 1841.



The quilt carries an inscription which hints at part of the story:

*“TO THE LADIES  
of the Convict Ship Committee  
This quilt worked by the Convicts of the Ship Rajah during their voyage  
to van Diemens land is presented as a testimony of the gratitude with which  
they remember their exertions for their welfare while in England and during  
their passage and also a proof that they have not neglected the Ladies  
kind admonitions of being industrious.  
June 1841*

The British Ladies' Society for the Reformation of Female Prisoners was established by Elizabeth Fry, the prison reformer, early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Amongst other charitable works, it supplied prisoners with fabrics and sewing supplies and trained them in “useful work” as a means of reformation and restoration to society.

This book is a well researched work which combines scholarship with excerpts from newspapers and law reports of the time to tell the story of these women from conviction to death. There is detailed statistical analysis of information alongside stories which paint a picture of life in Van Diemens Land through the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the patterns of life, work, marriage and death for convicts and ex-convicts. These women's life and character begin to take shape as does a picture of the early colonial days.

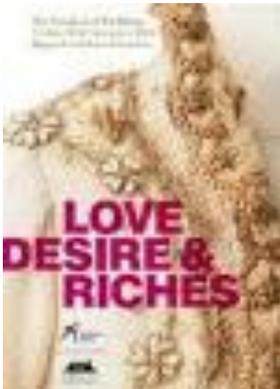
A good read if you have an interest in convict and early colonial times, particularly the lives of convict women.

Detailed histories of the women of the Rajah can be found on-line at <http://www.researchtasmania.com.au>. You may need to register to be able to access some content on this site which deals principally with female convicts.

To see an image of the Rajah Quilt go to the National Gallery of Australia Website:  
<http://nga.gov.au/rajahquilt/>

To borrow the book: City of Boroondara Library Service call number is **365.994 COW**  
The library service holds 4 copies of this book

## Upcoming Events



UPCOMING EVENT - we are also asking for expressions of interest to attend the exhibition at Ripponlea House in Elsternwick, entitled **Love, Desire and Riches – The fashion of weddings.**

We would attend on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September as a group. Ring Elizabeth 9889 7498 to express your interest.

**We Want You!**

Join Hawthorn Historical Society to assist with local history projects, research

or to share information about Hawthorn.

**Where:** Local History room at Hawthorn Library

**When:** 1st Thursday of every month from February to November 2014

**From:** 2.00 - 3.00 pm

*Did you know.....*

We keep the latest newsletters from other societies in a box in the Local History Room at Hawthorn Library.

They are not for loan, but can be read and photocopied at the Library.

*You are cordially invited to a Service of Thanksgiving to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Auburn Uniting Church complex*

*on*

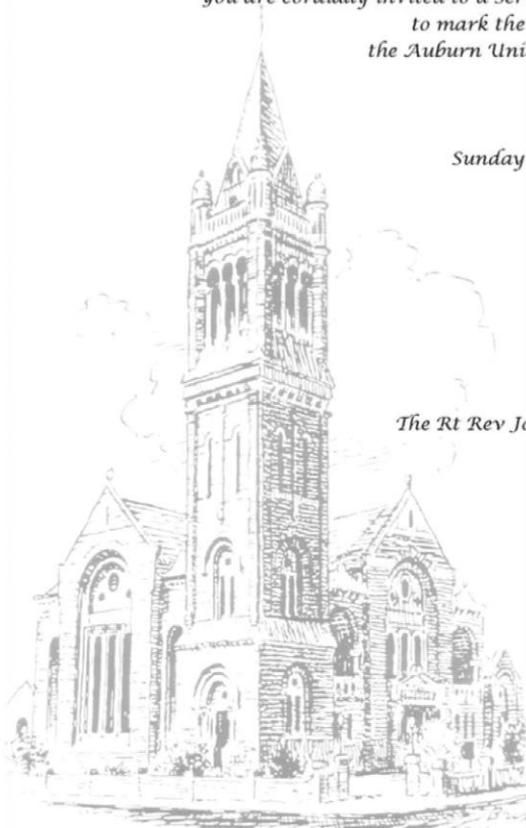
*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014*

*at*

*10.00am*

*followed by lunch in the Church Hall*

*The Rt Rev John Parkes AM KStJ guest preacher*



*RSVP for catering purposes*  
*5<sup>th</sup> September 2014*  
*9818 2119*  
*mail@auburnuc.org.au*  
*81 Oxley Road Hawthorn 3122*

*Guests are asked to be seated in the Church by 9.50am. Clergy and academics may robe in the Eileen Pawsey Room from 9.30am, with the liturgical colour Red. Parking is limited, and guests are encouraged to use public transport - nearest station Auburn; Tram 16, 70, 75; Bus 624.*