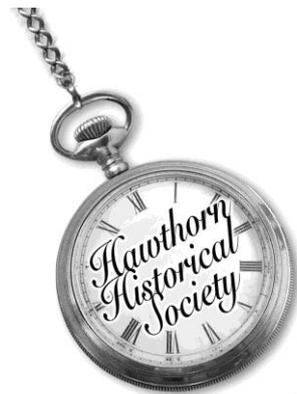


Hawthorn Historical Society



Newsletter • November 2015



Ian Hammet & Elizabeth Love at the History Show & Tell day on 24th October trying out an old table top interactive racing game – Escalado. There was lots of interest in this one.

Photo: Sujay Capoor

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Hawthorn Historical Society

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

Postal Address: Box 8, Hawthorn Community Precinct,
584 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn. 3122

Phone: 9278 4666 (this is the library telephone – you may leave a message)

Email: hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

PRESIDENT	Ms Elizabeth Yewers	9819 1218 lizyewers@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Ms Elizabeth Love	9889 7498 e.a.love@bigpond.net.au
SECRETARY/ MINUTES	Ms Andrae Talarico	0411 980 523
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Lindy Bajurnow Ramona De Niese	
LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE	Letizia Mondello	9278 4666

Hawthorn Historical Society Publications

Faint traces: Chinese in Hawthorn before the Second World War

Diane Nicholas & Mary Sheehan, \$15

Hawthorn streets index

Gwen McWilliam, (reprinted 2004) **OUT OF STOCK**

Street Walks

Village Walk (revised 2015) - \$7.50

Other Walks by Gwen McWilliam, \$5 per set

Publications can now be purchased on our website. Prices include postage



We can now send out your newsletter by email!

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.

Sets for the walks are available from Hawthorn Library for \$5.00 each.



Welcome

Dear Members and Friends

It was a shock to see the hoardings at “Arden”, the property on the corner of Rathmines Road and Burke Road, opposite St Marks Anglican Church. I remember this house as a young girl when our family doctor operated from there. I recall walking down the garden path to the side door leading to the surgery waiting room; the dense silence but for the ticking of the hall clock. My abiding recollection is of the smell of ether which lingered in that place. Sir Cecil Colville lived and practised medicine from these premises for sixty-four years. Hard to imagine this happening in the current age. The State Library of Victoria has a copy of Edna Walling’s design for the garden. Sad to see this go.

Demolitions are all too common these days; a property here today and gone the next. The property on the corner of Lisson Grove and Power Street is one. Descendants of a family which had lived there, contacted Andrae Talarico from our committee with stories to tell and photographs. What wonderful memories to have. When properties disappear, we miss the finials, the iron lace and the corbels; we miss the contribution to the streetscape and we miss the mature gardens. It is very hard to weigh up the desire to preserve something beautiful against the recognition that we don’t live in a museum. We won’t always be able to save all our older houses. What we can do is preserve the stories. We can take photographs of our neighbourhoods now. We can record the memories of those who have lived in those places. We can record our own memories and search out family photographs. Tell us your stories. Lets preserve the memory.

We have been pleased to welcome Letizia Mondello to our committee. Representing the Boroondara Library Service, Letizia is the new library Team Leader at Hawthorn. It is good to have her input to our discussions and eases the use by us of the library resources.

My special thanks to those who contributed to the great success of the History Show and Tell afternoon on 24th October. What a splendid occasion it was. Thanks to the speakers, Jim Love, Elizabeth Love, Rob Gray, John Torpey and Ramona De Niese. Also to those who contributed to the exhibition, Ian Hammet, Megan Peniston-Bird, Sandra Torpey, Ramona De Niese, Michael Talarico and Clive Endicott. Thanks to the hard working committee members who fetched and carried, setting up and putting away the exhibition.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Hawthorn Historical Society:

Albert Isaacs (*Albert was a foundation member of the Society and thankfully has never been far away. We welcome him back*)

Cheryl Cash

Marilyn Stapleton

Michael & Maureen O’Flaherty

Jennifer O’Donnell

Andrew Godwin

Sujay Capoor

Elizabeth Yewers

President

REMINDER – Annual subscriptions are due and payable for the 2015/2016 financial year which started on 1st October 2015. If you haven’t renewed your subscription this is your reminder.

Recent Events

Hawthorn Village Walk – 5th September

Elizabeth Love was our guide to the original Hawthorn Village laid out in 1852. We were blessed with a sunny afternoon after threatening weather, so perfect for this (mostly) gentle stroll. We started at Christ Church, Hawthorn and heard about the grand plan for the Church of England and School at one end of the village with the Catholic and Wesleyan Church reserves at the far end. The village common and residential blocks were laid out between. Lennox street was to run from the Yarra River right through to Power Street.

Elizabeth brought considerable knowledge of the development of the precinct and the stories of the early residents, low and high-born. An interesting selection of early maps and photographs added to the story.

We finished the walk near the corner of Power street and Burwood Road with afternoon tea at one of the local cafes. And, of-course, lots of conversation. This walk proved very popular. With such a large number, some 35 people attending as well as a couple of dogs, it can be hard to hear at the back of the crowd. We will likely limit the numbers next time so book early for next year's walks.



Seniors Festival – 9th October

We were pleased to accept an invitation to mount a display at the Seniors Festival at the Hawthorn Arts Centre on Friday 9th October. A number of community groups joined in this Expo which coincided with a concert in the main hall. This was a good opportunity to raise our profile and meet and talk with local people.



Descendants of Henry Creswick at Christ Church, Hawthorn on 11th October

Thanksgiving Service for the life of Henry Creswick – 11th October

This year marks 175 years since Henry Creswick's arrival in Melbourne in 1840. His connection with Hawthorn is that he purchased the property now known as The Hawthorns at 5 Creswick Street in 1852 and lived there until his death in 1892. The family continued to live there into the 1920's. Henry Creswick had many pastoral and business interests throughout Victoria. He was a founder and benefactor of Christ Church, Hawthorn and as part of the family reunion and celebrations a Thanksgiving Service was held in this historic bluestone church on Sunday 11th October. Elizabeth Love & Elizabeth

Yewers were pleased to attend representing the Hawthorn Historical Society.

History Show & Tell – 24th October

This was a huge undertaking; an exhibition and six short talks in an afternoon in celebration of History Week. Our intent was to encourage our members to share their special interest, to tell their story of discovery and to encourage others to keep going with their interests. We were not disappointed.

Jim Love brought his interest in photography to the task of helping us to look again at some old images of Hawthorn. That he had to dodge traffic to recreate some shots, speaks to his dedication to exactly replicate just the angle of the original. You can see some of these ‘now and then’ images on our Facebook page. **Rob Gray** shared his passion and another aspect of photography by showing his collection of ‘ghost signs’, those faded signs in old brickwork which refer to businesses long gone. We heard something of the Birds (bakery), Balloch’s (bakery) & Beenies (saddlers). **Elizabeth Love**, at short notice, walked us through the changes that have taken place in Hawthorn over time. Then **John Torpey** gave us an insight into the war memorials of Boroondara and the stories behind them. John has been working on the Gallipoli and Beyond committee and has this topic well covered. **Ramona De Niese** through photographs and diary entries was able to share her discovery of her family history and its Hawthorn connections. Finally, **Elizabeth Yewers** retold the story of Staff Sergeant Arthur Cooper’s Bible which was given to him as he left for the “Anglo-German War” in 1914, was lost on the beach at Gallipoli in 1915, was taken to Ireland until it was returned to Arthur’s descendants in Australia 100 years later.



Part of Michael Talarico’s collection of early artefacts

These short talks were supported by a splendid exhibition. Curating this was **Elizabeth Love’s** undertaking and it took much careful thought and planning. We were lucky to have a number of photographs and items of interest from the **Henry & Ling Families** courtesy of Sandra Torpey and her mother Val Ling. The Henry family have had a long connection to Hawthorn, Hawthorn Grove and Kinkora Road. **Michael Talarico** is an amateur archaeologist with a fascinating collection of artefacts collected from all over Melbourne. We were very lucky to have him share some of his collection with the back stories.

Ian Hammet has a collection of interesting early games which he loaned us. **Clive Endicott’s** collection of National board games was of local interest as these were locally produced by Christopher George King. You can read about him on page 6. It was fascinating to be able to look through **early newspapers and magazines** and read the society news from early last century.

This was a splendid day with varied stories and approaches to them. We trust it encouraged our members to think about their own journey of discovery and to plan to share it with us next year.





CHRISTOPHER GEORGE KING, born sometime around 1865, was once a salesman for fancy-goods company Jordan Tillmans, before becoming a successful Victorian manufacturer. Christopher, came from England, probably via New Zealand as a child. His humble beginnings and the lean times during the 1890s depression did not deter him from establishing businesses in manufacturing games and leather goods. As the successful owner and director of C.G. King PTY LTD he also had several properties in Carlyle Street HAWTHORN, as well as the King and the National buildings in Burke Road, Camberwell.

Our particular interest in Christopher George King is that he registered the brand name **"NATIONAL"** and manufactured in Hawthorn a series of very popular Australian board games, which are now collector items and are well represented in the collections of the National Archives and the Powerhouse Museum. He achieved all this from his weatherboard "toy factory" in Westley Street, which is shown on the 1903 MMBW map No. 1559. The factory was

situated directly behind the home he shared with his third wife Mabel at *Chandon*, 18 Carlyle Street Hawthorn.

The board-games under the NATIONAL brand reflected the interests and concerns of the Australian population during the period from the 1890s through to the 1940s. Many of the popular games had a focus around motoring and sport - *National Steeplechase*, *The Game of Tennis*, *The Yacht Race*, *The Motor Car Game*, *The Great Game of Charades*, but others reflected changes within society and more serious concerns during periods of War - *Around the Commonwealth by Aeroplane (1911)*, *Dug Outs and Trenches (1915)*. The illustrations on the familiar game of Snakes and Ladders are particularly interesting. This game has been used for the moral instruction of young children, reinforcing the consequences of behaviour. Representations of Penitence, Truthfulness, Kindness, Self Denial and Faith are pictured and rewarded with the player moving up the ladder whilst Covetousness, Unpunctuality, Cruelty and Dishonesty cause the player to slide down the snake.



Upon his death (1st January 1928) Christopher King left real estate to the value of £25,042 and a personal estate of £11,337, to his wife and two children, Frank and Grace. His son Frank then carried on the business for a few years but it seems to have been liquidated around 1932. Following this it would appear that a number of similar games appeared but without the National brand logo.

Elizabeth Love

From our Archives

We are pleased to reprint here an article written by Ruth Dwyer for the February 2010 edition of the Hawthorn Historical Society Newsletter.

Armed and Masked Footpads at Hawthorn *By Ruth Dwyer*

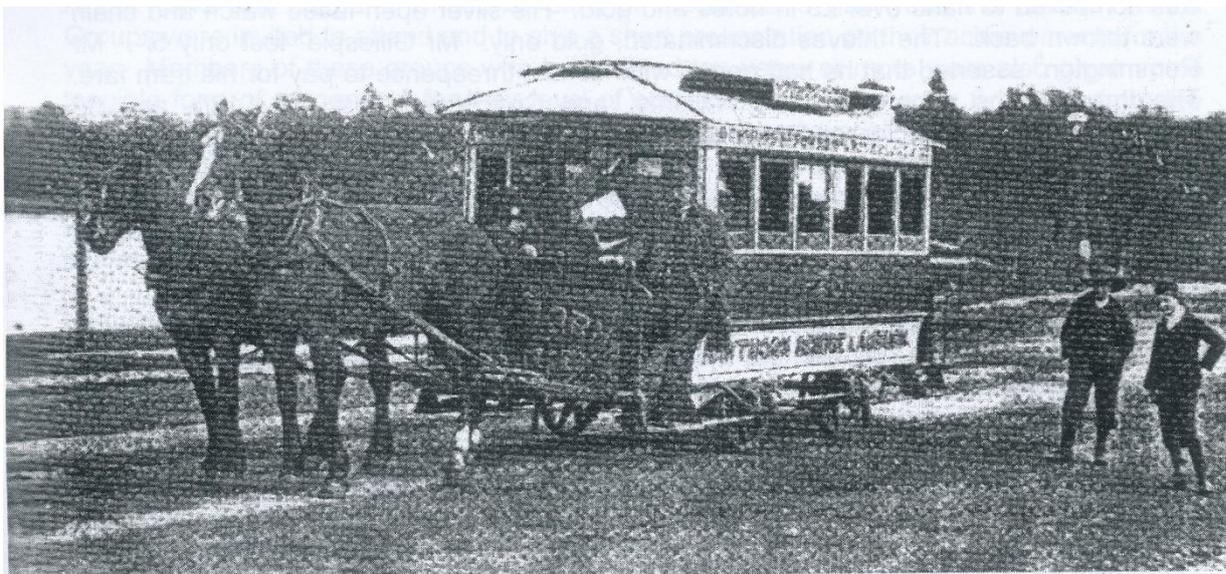


Image: *Clang, Clang, Clang : a study of Melbourne's tramways* / Marc Fiddian.
Pakenham : Pakenham Gazette, 1993, p. 17.

At half-past twelve o'clock on Sunday morning the 18 August 1901 the last Richmond cable tram arrived at the terminus. Eight passengers, all gentlemen for Hawthorn, crossed the bridge near Christ Church to continue their journey homewards aboard the horse-tram. The driver, Thomas Taylor, took their threepences, saw them aboard, and urged his horses to begin the long pull up the hill to Power Street, thence by way of this thoroughfare to Riversdale Road. The horse-tram then began to travel east, negotiating the curve in the rails near the thickly wooded bend in the riverbank, a notorious locality for cases of garroting, murder, arson and burglary. The horses continued on in the gloom, the municipal fathers having decided on dousing the streetlights after midnight.

'Stop those horses!' cried a man, pushing the muzzle of a revolver against Taylor's cheek. 'Pull up your horses, you -----, or I'll spill your brains on the floor!' The slouch-hatted man with the long tweed overcoat and crepe veil then moved swiftly from the platform into the tramcar throwing Taylor before him. He was joined by a 'collector', similarly clad, a tall thin man with a deep voice. Another with black slouch hat appeared on the rear platform, his face covered with a mask falling to his chest obscuring vital features and characteristics. A fourth moved about in the gloom in front of the horse-tram keeping watch, his coat collar turned up.

'Turn out your pockets if you don't want a funeral in your families!' Mr Park¹ had been thrown in from the rear platform where he had been smoking and pondering upon a legal problem. He was

¹ Mr William Leslie Park, Solicitor, of 22 Rathmines Road, Auburn

quickly relieved of 35 shillings, and his watch and chain, later returned, with the gold and medal attached not so. Mr Jones² raised his umbrella striking the masked man about the shoulders, 'You ruffian, you took me down for £6!' The footpad turned, thrust his revolver with some force taking skin from Jones's nose and causing him to slump to the floor. Jones was then searched again; his gold watch and chain were removed £7/10/- was taken from an inner pocket. Jones was ordered to remain on the floor. Mr Hill³ was compelled to hand over £5 in notes and gold. His silver open-faced watch and chain were thrown back. The thieves discriminated, gold only. Mr Gillespie⁴ lost only 5/-. Mr Remmington⁵ asserted that he had parted with his last threepence. to pay for his tram fare. The three youths aboard, Davie⁶, Williams⁷ and Crutchfield⁸, lost 12/-, 12/-, and 5/- respectively. The 'collector' approached Taylor⁹ last, roughly snatching the box containing the fares from around his neck. The haul amounted to £2/10/-. He missed the £5 in Taylor's pocket. The whole process was carried out with a professional air, reminiscent of the techniques of gaol warders and gleaned only £25 all told. The footpads disappeared in the direction of the Wallen Road bridge.

The shaken Taylor urged his horses to the terminus at the Riversdale Hotel on the corner of Auburn Road where he reported the matter. His boss thought it was a joke until he saw that the box containing the fares was missing. The matter was reported to the police who stationed six mounted troopers, too late, at the Wallen Road bridge.

Taylor, the following day, searched the area near the wooded bend in the river to see if he could find the box. He strolled down to the bridge at Wallen Road. In the mud was threepence, a few steps further on was another coin, and still another a yard or two further. There was no trace of the box; it had possibly been emptied of silver and thrown into the river. Taylor was informed that a hansom cab had been seen at the bridge early on the Sunday morning. For some evenings past several suspicious characters had been seen observing the locality. The police also informed him that the fourth footpad had probably traveled to the bend in the earlier horse-tram.

It would appear that the footpads were never apprehended, in spite of the reward of £200 offered by the government. 'Sticking up' a horse-tram was unique in Australia, perhaps in the world, and stood a good chance of winning the prize offered by an outrageous London scandal sheet for an account of a new crime!

Sources

Argus, 19 August 1901, p. 5; 20 August 1901, p. 5; 21 August 1901, p. 8; 22 August 1901, p. 6; 23 August 1901, p. 5.

Australasian, 24 August 1901, p. 14.

Weekly Times, 24 August 1901, p.21.

Victoria Police Gazette, 22 August 1901, p. 321; 29 August 1901, p. 326; a search from 29 August 1901-31 December 1902 revealed that no arrests relating to the holdup had been made.

² Mr Charles H Jones, salesman, of 26 Currajong Road, Auburn.

³ Mr Ninian C Hill, dealer, of Prospect Hill Road, Camberwell.

⁴ Mr W D Gillespie of Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn

⁵ Mr Walter Remmington of 14 Hart's Parade, Hawthorn

⁶ W D Davie of 173 Riversdale Road, Auburn.

⁷ W J Williams of Falmouth Street, Auburn.

⁸ Phillip Crutchfield, student, of Prospect Hill Road, Camberwell.

⁹ Thomas Taylor, driver, of 12 Leslie Street, Hawthorn.

Forthcoming Events

Dates for your diary

Local History Room – Hawthorn Library 11am to 1pm
Wednesday 11th November

Wednesday 25th November

Committee meets – 2nd Tuesday at 7pm in the Local History Room

Hawthorn Historical Society - Annual General Meeting

Saturday 21st November at 2.30pm

584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn, 3122

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Elizabeth Rushen, historian, writer and past President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria.

Subject: James Denham Pinnock

Preliminary Planning for 2016

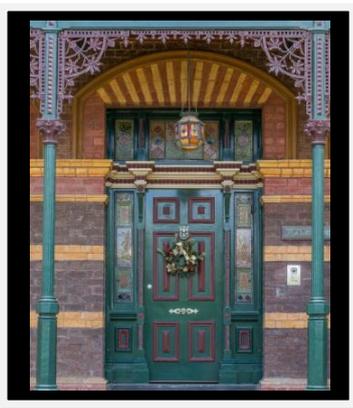
February 2016 – Picnic at Morang Road Reserve and visit to the Wurundjeri gardens. Date to be confirmed.

Glenferrie Road Festival – Sunday 6th March 2016

We will be looking for volunteers for the day

April 2016 – A street walk, probably in the Creswick street area. Date to be confirmed

GREETINGS CARDS



Attractive greeting cards featuring an image from one of Hawthorn's beautiful old houses will be available for sale at the AGM.

Left blank inside for your personal message.

Price: \$4

Some recent research queries. If you can add any information, photos or anecdotes please contact the Society.

- ❖ 26 Oak Street – old photos
- ❖ Information about Bills Street – mainly concerning it being blocked to through traffic
- ❖ Hawthorn Amateur Football Club, St Columbs Football Club & Auburn Football Club. James Nicolas is writing a book and welcomes any memorabilia, photographs or stories.
- ❖ Greengrocers in Hawthorn – The Iacono family
- ❖ Italian families in Hawthorn in the 1950's

**HAWTHORN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC: NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be held on Saturday 21st November 2015, 2.30 pm, in upstairs meeting
rooms 3&4 of Hawthorn Community Precinct, 584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn
AGENDA**

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of 2014 Annual General Meeting, 7th December, 2014
3. Annual Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of Committee
6. Forthcoming Events
7. Guest Speaker: Dr Elizabeth Rushen - "James Denham Pinnock (1810 – 1875)"
8. Refreshments

Nominations are called for the 2015/2016 Committee of Hawthorn Historical Society. For enquiries please 'phone Elizabeth Yewers, 9819 1218. Completed nomination forms should be returned by Thursday 19th December 2015 to: The Secretary, Hawthorn Historical Society, Box 8, Hawthorn Community precinct, 584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn 3122

Ias a financial member of HHS wish to
nominate
.....for the position of

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Public Officer

Committee Member

Signed: (Proposer).....

Signed: (Seconder).....

I, accept this
nomination

Signed: Date: