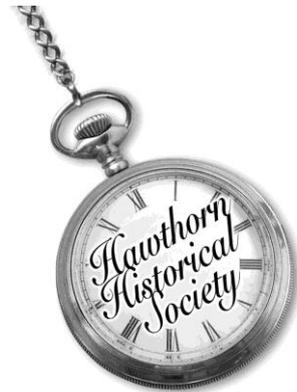


Hawthorn Historical Society



Newsletter • February 2017



*Ernest Prince (centre) in his Barber's Shop in Burwood Road, Hawthorn in 1951
What's going on?
See page 6*

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Hawthorn Historical Society

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

Email: hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.hawthornhistoricalsociety.com.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Hawthorn-Historical-Society-831540006918973/>

Phone: Please contact one of our committee members

Hawthorn Historical Society Inc.

ABN 85 074 207 584

PATRON John Pesutto MP, Member for Hawthorn

PRESIDENT	Elizabeth Love	0408176 905	e.a.love@bigpond.net.au
ACT'G VICE PRESIDENT	Elizabeth Yewers	9819 1218	lizyewers@hotmail.com
SECRETARY/ MINUTES	Andrae Talarico	0411 980 523	
TREASURER / PUBLIC OFFICER	Pamela Carter	0400 644 042	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Ramona De Niese	0423 9310100	
	Jenny Bowen	0421 512 131	

Hawthorn Historical Society Publications

A Brief History Of The Streets of Hawthorn

Gwen McWilliam, (reprinted 2004) \$22

Hawthorn Sketches: Life on the Hill

A companion volume to Life in the Valley
by Gwen McFarlane \$22

Boroondara Musings

2 CD set of collated articles and photographs by
Gwen McWilliam \$25

Hawthorn Village Walk

A walking tour of the original Hawthorn Village by
Elizabeth Love (Based on work by G. Mc William)
2015 \$7.50

A Glimpse of Glenferry

A compilation of articles by Ruth Dwyer written
for the Hawthorn Historical Society, 2016 \$20

Faint traces: Chinese in Hawthorn before the Second World War

Diane Nicholas & Mary Sheehan, 2002 \$15

Hawthorn Sketches: Life in the Valley

A companion volume to Life on the Hill by Gwen
McFarlane (*Currently out of Print*)

How has Hawthorn Changed

An educational resource pack including Power
Point presentation and teacher notes for grades 3
– 5, by E. Love, 2016 \$50 Available on Application

Hawthorn History Walks

Eighteen informative street walks
by G. McWilliam
Sold in sets of 4 walks for \$7.00



Other Publications

KAWARAU

By Jenny O'Donnell
Looks in detail at the construction and
life of Frederick Cato's home in Tooronga
Road.

Copies of KAWARAU \$25 + postage
from the author:
jennnn3040@telstra.com

REMEMBERING MELBOURNE 1850 - 1960

A beautiful publication by the Royal Historical
Society of Victoria with Introduction by Prof
Richard Broome and masses of beautiful
photographs.

Available from RHSV 9326 9288
239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne
\$35 +\$20 postage.

President's Letter

Happy New Year and Welcome to all our members and friends. We know that we have a wonderful year ahead exploring our Hawthorn history and heritage.

At the end of November the Royal Historical Society published a beautiful book – **Remembering Melbourne** – What a delightful photographic record of Melbourne and its suburbs! A big thank you to Liz Yewers who coordinated our contribution to the book. We were able to order a limited number of advance copies at a reduced price. These were quickly on sold but hopefully we can obtain further copies and will let you know availability.

The year culminated in a social gathering at the **Auburn Hotel**. Despite the inevitable busy end of year schedule, fifteen of us found the time to share the festive spirit. One of the gratifying trends of the Society over recent years is the development and broadening of the camaraderie of Hawthorn History lovers. Hawthorn is blessed with plenty of historic hotels, so do come and join us next year, wherever that may be.

Thanks to your hardworking committee we have started the 2016-2017 year with great industry and enthusiasm and have planned an interesting and diverse program of events over the year. We kick off with an informative talk on **February 18th** – history teacher, Loreen Chambers's topic is **Some Pioneers of Early Melbourne**.

Then on **Sunday 5th March** we will again have our marquee at the **Glenferrie Road Festival**. This is an important opportunity to mingle with local residents, to gather new information, to promote ourselves, join up new members and inspire all to

join us on our **Yarra Street History Walk**, scheduled for **Sunday 19th March**. Yarra Street is one of the oldest streets in Hawthorn and there are so many fascinating aspects to its 170 year history.

On another front, the committee has continued to consolidate our financial position and organizational capacity, firstly with an internal review of the Society's structure and goals. To date this review has resulted in a draft two year business plan, the establishment of protocols for event planning and membership management. We have prepared the first stages of resource manuals for committee members, grant applications and local history room volunteers. We will continue work to establish a collection policy, and define procedures for cataloguing and archiving our resources. However our most pressing concern is to secure a viable and affordable home for an office, storage, display as well as an area for our members and others to access our growing digital resources.

We aim to be an inclusive, dynamic and progressive society. To achieve this end we need your support, skills, ideas, photographs and memories. If you can assist us in any way, don't be shy, - get in touch.

And while we celebrate a New Year, why not make it your New Year's resolution to attend as many HHS events as you can in 2017. Looking forward to catching up with you all.

Libby Love
President Hawthorn Historical Society
0408 176905



WEBSITE

Your membership includes access to the Members Only section of the Website. You should have received an access code by email. If you have not received such advice please email us. If you need help to get this up and running, call Liz Yewers 9819 1218 or send an email to hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Website is at <http://www.hawthornhistoricalsociety.com.au/>

On the website you'll find a link to our latest Facebook postings. You don't need to subscribe to Facebook to see these interesting stories and photos.

The Dean family and Invergowrie

1872 – 1910

by Bob Kerr

The property at 21 Coppin Grove we know as Invergowrie, was for over 37 years owned by the family of Melbourne merchant Charles Edmund Dean. From 1872, when Dean's wife Margaret purchased the property, until one of his granddaughters sold it in 1910.

On 28 August 1871, the executors of the estate of the late Sir James Palmer agreed to George Selth Coppin's offer of £11,000 to purchase one of Palmer's properties, the Burwood Hill Estate. A subdivision of the property had been designed, to be called St James's Park. Lot 67 of the subdivision, a little over 2 acres, included Palmer's original bluestone residence. The first auction of the subdivision was scheduled for 7 & 9 October 1871.

At the time of Coppin's transaction with Palmer's executors, Charles Dean and his family, and the Dean's friend Mark Collier, were living in Boroondara on a 23 acre property, part of Elgar's Special Survey. They advertised an auction of the farm equipment to be held at the property on 7 December 1871, as, it was stated, Collier was planning to leave the district.

On 12 July 1872, Dean and Collier placed an advertisement in the Public Notices section of The Argus newspaper informing readers that: "*All communications for C E Dean, Esq., or for M Collier, Esq., to be addressed Burwood Mansions St. James's Park, Hawthorn*". On 17 July 1872, the title for Lot 67 of St James's Park was transferred from George Coppin to Margaret Dean, the wife of Charles Edmund Dean.

At the time of the Dean's move from Boroondara to St James's Park, there were four Dean children. Three go on to play a part in the family's association with Coppin Grove during the following 37½ years.

Firstly, the eldest daughter Clementina Florence Gertrude Dean only spent a little over a year at Coppin Grove. In December 1873 she married Melbourne Tea Broker McHenry Pearce (H. P.)

England. H. P. England will enter the story further down.

Charles Dean led what appears to be a quiet life until his death in August 1877. As expected his Will makes no reference to the Coppin Grove property. However, by a stroke of luck a single page in one of Dean's Probate packets provides us with a summary of what had occurred in 1872, when the property was purchased. It summarises the transactions for the purchase by Coppin from the Palmer executors, Margaret Dean's purchase from Coppin, and adds that Margaret Dean had sold to John Hanlon Knipe a portion of Lot 67 that fronted to Shakespeare Grove. The document is dated 21/6/1881. Given the date, the document was most likely created while assessing Margaret Dean's Probate and mistakenly left in her husband's Probate packet when the matter was finalised.

Margaret Dean died 31 March 1881, at Coppin Grove. In her Will she named as her Executors, Son Alfred Augustus (A. A.) Dean, and long time friend Mark Collier. The Will left the Coppin Grove property to Margaret's youngest daughter Clara Margaret Dean and, following her death, any of Clara's children. The Will twice makes reference to the property by the name 'Amoa' (sic). In the early Probate documents the property, valued at £3,800, is referred to as 'Amoe'.

An (unsuccessful) attempt to auction the property was made on 21 September 1882. There's no mention of the Dean family in the advertisement, a linkage of the property to Sir James Palmer is made on two occasions. A newspaper advertisement on 24 November 1882, suggests the possibility that an auction of surplus household furniture was held; furniture not wanted by Clara Margaret Dean.

The Executors Account of Administration for Margaret Dean's Will dated 12 June 1883, informed the court that: Miss Clara Margaret Dean had vacated the house from 27 November

1882; since that date, it had been let to Rev. Charles Strong, at an annual rental of £250; and the property had been retained by the executors.

In February 1884, at All Saints, St Kilda, Clara Margaret Dean, Charles and Margaret's youngest daughter married Henry Skerrett-Rogers. Skerrett-Rogers was an Irishman, and a Tea Trader, living in Foo-Chow, China. It's very likely the couple were introduced to one another by Clara's sister Clementina and brother in law H. P. England.

During the 1870s H. P. England had organised a number of tea shipments from China to Melbourne and had spent time in China. There is even the tantalising possibility Clementina and their children accompanied H. P. England on his trips to China. A Mr H. S. Rogers is recorded as arriving in Melbourne in April 1883.

Six months after Clara and Henry married they sailed for Hong Kong. Then on 2 October 1885, in Dalkey, Dublin, Ireland, Clara gave birth to a daughter Clara Muriel Skerrett-Rogers but sadly, just short of four weeks later on 29 October, Clara Margaret died. So, at this point, according to her grandmother's Will, the young child Clara Muriel Skerrett-Rogers would upon reaching 21 yrs of age, or when she married, become the new owner of 21 Coppin Grove.

Charles and Margaret Dean's son Arthur Augustus Dean married Mary Jane Dawes in July 1884. This

Sources:

- Victorian historic Birth Deaths and Marriages
- LANDATA – Land Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning
 - Various historic Title Certificates for 21 Coppin Grove
- National Library of Australia
 - TROVE digitised newspapers
- Public Records Office of Victoria
 - Will and Probate documents
 - Shipping – Index to Unassisted Inward passenger Lists
 - Borough of Hawthorn Rate book entries

was also a short lived marriage as Arthur died in August 1886.

From 1886 we are left with the Dean's friend Mark Collier taking responsibility for the administration of the Coppin Grove property.

Mark Collier died 31 May 1897. In his Will he appointed the Dean's son in law H. P. England his executor. So from 1897, H. P. England was looking after the Coppin Grove property for his niece Clara Muriel Skerrett-Rogers.

On 25 May 1907, Clara Muriel Skerrett-Rogers became the registered proprietor of 21 Coppin Grove, St James's Park Hawthorn. At the time of the transfer she was living at No 26 Avenue Tourville, Paris, France.

An advice of auction of the property was published, with the event to be held 9 June 1907. In the advertisement the property's link back to the late Sir James Palmer was again prominent but the Dean name was not mentioned. The advertisement indicated that the property being presented is to be sold by auction for removal. It is clear that the property failed to sell.

On 7 January 1910, William Murray McPherson became the registered proprietor of 21 Coppin Grove, St James's Park Hawthorn. After more than 37 years, 21 Coppin Grove was no longer owned by the family of Charles Edmund Dean.

- Genealogical Society of Victoria
 - General research of some source material
- State Library of Victoria
 - Maps of Coppin's subdivision of St James' Park, 1871 & 1872
- Books and Articles
 - Gwen McWilliam – Hawthorn History Walks – St. James Park
 - Meredith Gould – Hawthorn Heritage Study for the Hawthorn City Council
- Ancestry data base
- Conversations with members of the Dean / England family

More About Charles Edmund Dean coming in our next newsletter

Cover Photo

Taken circa 1951, the cover photo shows one of the regular Friday night functions held at Ern Prince's (E.W. Prince) hairdresser shop at 353 Burwood Road, opposite the Hawthorn Town Hall, to raise money for the endowment of a bed in the Children's Ward at the Austin hospital. The function was called the **Ern Prince Social Club**. Ernest Walter Prince (centre) became a Life Governor of the hospital in 1951 for his fund raising efforts. his regulars included Norman Banks from 3AW and Max Reddy and Stella Lamond, husband and wife comedy duo of stage and radio.

Thank you to members **Ken and Robyn Prince** for this wonderful photograph and their family story.

If you recognise any faces in the crowd in the **cover photo**, please get in touch. Ken & Robyn would love know.

Perhaps you have some photos or stories about earlier days in Hawthorn and would be happy to share them with us. Contact one of our committee members.



We'll share more about Ernest Prince, his father Ernest and their 50 years in Hawthorn in the next edition of our newsletter

**

FRED WALKER



Now that Vegemite is safely back in Australian hands we couldn't let the moment pass in order to remind you that Fred Walker hailed from Hawthorn. He was born on 5th January, 1884 at *Dunraven* in Burwood Road just west of Henry Street. His father Harry (Joseph Henry Walker) was an entrepreneurial biscuit manufacturer and patented "an improved self raising flour" in 1878. By the time of his death in 1886¹, Harry had moved from biscuit manufacturing to a cooperage business. He sadly died at the age of 33 in an industrial accident. This was a difficult time for Emily Walker. She had three young sons; Percy was 4, Frederick was 2 and Theyre just a new-born. Two years later Percy died at the age of 6.

Fred Walker attended Caulfield Grammar School and in 1899 joined J. Bartram & Sons who were produce and export merchants. At the age of 19 he formed his own company Fred Walker & Co. in Hong Kong, returning to Melbourne in 1908, importing and exporting mainly foods. He married Mabel Perrin at St Columbs Anglican Church in 1913. She was the daughter of Col. & Mrs Perrin of *Les Avants*, Hawthorn (5 Harcourt Street). In later life Fred and Mabel lived almost opposite at 2 Harcourt Street (now *Ellerslie*) where Fred died in July 1935. He was buried at the Boroondara Cemetery. The period post WW1 was quite unsettled for businesses. In 1923, Walker appointed chemist, Cyril Callister, to develop a yeast extract. Vegemite was first marketed in 1924. The following year, Walker engaged James L. Kraft of Chicago to manufacture processed cheese in Melbourne and the Kraft Walker Cheese Co. was formed in 1926. Cheesemite sandwich anyone?

¹ Note: The Australian Dictionary of Biography entry for Fred Walker has him 6 years old when his father died but I believe he was much younger. Nevertheless I have largely relied on this for these brief notes E.Y.

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/walker-fred-8953>

TUCK FAMILY GROCERS

Walter Robert Tuck (1847 – 1930)
Mrs Bertha Tuck – nee Fritsch (1849 – 1936)

The Tuck family operated a grocery business in Camberwell Road, Hawthorn, for over 60 years. Well located across the road from the Fritsch Holzer Brick works, on the corner of Harold Street, this business would have been perfectly positioned to service the many workers and families in the area.

Walter, ‘Waddy’ Tuck was born in Hackney, London in 1847, the son of William Frederick Tuck and Emma Gifford. William and Emma with their eight children emigrated to Australia on the *Ayrshire* in 1852 when Walter was three years of age. Then when Walter was 11, his mother died in Melbourne. His father re-married the following year and it is possible this is when the family moved to Chiltern, in northern Victoria where William worked as a clerk for the Great Extended Gold Mining Co.

Walter married Bertha Fritsch in Chiltern in 1869. Walter was 22 and Bertha 20. They were to have six children, the first two born in Chiltern and the remainder in Hawthorn. In 1874 they moved to Hawthorn, renting a house in Camberwell Road near Burwood Road from Augustus Andrew Fritsch, Bertha’s brother. Walter worked at the nearby brickworks until, in 1878, they moved to the other side of the road to land that would later stand on the NE corner of Harold Street, and commenced trading as grocers. Through a complex arrangement, the land was gifted to Bertha by her brother early in 1876, and she borrowed from her mother and a building society to build a brick building with three rooms plus a shop.

Bertha Tuck, nee Fritsch, was the youngest child of Augustus Andreas Fritsch Snr., a potter, and Caroline Louisa Mathilde Lindner. They were married in Silesia, Prussia, in 1830/34 and had seven children before emigrating to Port Phillip in 1849 where Bertha was born. Augustus Snr was soon working as a potter in Victoria Street, East Collingwood and had land in Northcote where his son Albert lived and worked as a gardener. In

Alfred Walter Tuck (1873 – 1921)
Miss Annie Bertha Tuck (1886 – 1976)

1851 Augustus Snr, was naturalized as a citizen of New South Wales². In 1861, Augustus Jr., Gustav, set up business as a brickmaker, first in Collingwood and, in 1874, in Hawthorn. He acquired land on both sides of Camberwell Road for clay pits and brick making, eventually confining the works to the western side. Gustav’s brickworks were next to that of the Holzer brothers and in 1883 the two merged to form the largest brickmaking works in Victoria. In contrast to this success, in 1883, Bertha was faced with Walter’s grocery company becoming insolvent and was taking in boarders to make ends meet. Nevertheless they continued to trade and at the turn of the century Walter handed management of the store over to Alfred. Maybe their household needed additional income because thereafter Walter listed his occupation as ‘carrier’. According to the postal directories, Walter & Bertha’s eldest son **Alfred Tuck** became the proprietor of the grocery from 1900 until his death in 1921. Alfred was born in Chiltern in 1873 just before the family moved to Hawthorn. Neither Alfred nor his sister Annie married and both continued to reside at the Hawthorn address. Their two brothers took up other professions, one as an engineer and one as an orchardist.

At Alfred’s death, Bertha picked up the reins again and ran the store until her death at the age of 87 in 1936. One presumes her daughter **Annie Tuck** was at hand because Annie then appeared as grocer until 1942 when E. Eddelbuttel is listed as the grocer. One of Walter’s grandchildren remembers ‘Aunty Annie’ running a lolly shop near Camberwell. Annie continued to live at the premises until 1954 when she moved to Bowen Street Camberwell. She lived there until her death in 1976.

Elizabeth Yewers

² The legislation enabling separation of the Colony of Port Phillip from New South Wales was passed on 1st July 1851.

Coming Attractions



SOME PIONEERS OF EARLY MELBOURNE

Speaker: Loreen Chambers

From an 'unnamed little shanty town' in 1836, a village grew to be Melbourne the golden capital of a colony newly-created in 1851. The physical development of this unprepossessing place on the banks of the Yarra was to become, however, the home for some intrepid, energetic and surprisingly talented people.

This talk will introduce some of the earliest settlers, such as Superintendent Charles Joseph La Trobe at *Jolimont*, John Pascoe Fawkner of *Pascoevale*, Georgiana McCrae of *Mayfield* and James Palmer of *Burwood* (later *Invergowrie*) who came to live there.

Loreen Chambers taught history at Scotch College before teaching for over twenty years at Lauriston Girls School where she became Head of History.

She is currently the Vice-President of the C J La Trobe Society which was formed in 2001 to promote understanding and appreciation of the life and times of Charles Joseph La Trobe, Victoria's first Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria from 1839. She is a past editor of its journal *La Trobeana*.

Saturday 18th
February
2 pm

Hawthorn Community Precinct
584 Glenferrie Road
Hawthorn 3122

All Welcome
Information: 0412 141 277
hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com



GLENFERRIE ROAD FESTIVAL

Sunday 5th March
10 am to 4 pm

Our annual opportunity to engage with local residents, hear some stories and encourage people in their research and to promote history.

All hands on deck. Let us know if you can help out.

Sunday 5th
March 2017
10 am – 4

Glenferrie Road
Look for us outside Readings
Bookstore

All help welcome
Call 9819 1218 or email
hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com



YARRA STREET WALK

Sunday 19th March at 1.30 pm
Walk through 170 of fascinating history
with guide Elizabeth Love

Numbers strictly limited, please let us know you are coming

Sunday 19th
March 2017
1.30 pm

Meet on the corner of Yarra Street
& Burwood Road.
Members free. Guests \$5

Essential to book
Information: 0408 176 905
hawthornhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

OTHER DATES

Local History Room

Wednesday 8th February
Wednesday 22nd February

Hawthorn Library 11am to 1pm

Wednesday 8th March
Wednesday 22nd March

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday

Wednesday 12th April
Wednesday 26th April

Saturday April 22nd Talk by Ian Hundley "The rise & decline of the urban landscape in Boroondara"