



Things Past

Newsletter 103

November 2016

PO Box 289 Mt Evelyn VIC 3796

Dates for your diary

Sorting/cataloguing meeting: Saturday 19 November 1:30pm at Hardy House.

Tour of Coombe garden & morning tea \$25 with refreshments. 10:30 am 21 January 2017.

Booking essential. Please book directly with Coombe or contact Paula for assistance.

General Meeting: Monday 20 February 2017 7:30 – 9:30 pm Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Road, Mt Evelyn.

Meetings are 3rd Mondays of even months, 7:30 pm at Hardy House for General Business Meetings, and 3rd Saturdays at 1:30 pm on odd months (except January) for speaker/activity. However, dates are subject to speaker availability and other factors

Festa of Maria Annunziata

A festival unique to Mt Evelyn has been 18 years in the making.



Festa procession 2015. Picture courtesy Cr Maria McCarthy's Facebook page.

If you have lived in Mt Evelyn for some

time, you will have heard the fireworks coming from the St Mary's School area in September and wondered what it was all about.

The story begins in a town called Oppido Mamertina, in the province of Reggio Calabria in the 'toe' of Italy. In this town, an annual festa is held on 25 August, which is similar to Christmas here. Everyone has four weeks holiday. About 40 men carry a beautiful carved wood statue of the Annunciation through the town, stopping to bless each home along the way.

Nearly 18 years ago an Italian expatriate living in Australia visited Oppido Mamertina at that special time and brought back a photograph of the statue. Five men from Mt Evelyn, including Tony Sposato, originally from the town, decided to carry the photograph in a parade as an echo of the festa they had loved in their home town. They did this for the first two years.

After the first festival in 1998, after working hard for days, Tony went home and fell asleep. He said he was woken by a bright light. He thought his wife had forgotten to turn the lights off. He had a vision of the statue in a clear part of a wall, above the

Incorporation Number: A0051327F

Opinions expressed in *Things Past* are those of the writers, not necessarily those of Mount Evelyn History Group.

furniture in the room. He felt that 'Our Lady was happy that we had held the festa', and he started to go about and collect money to have a replica statue made for Mt Evelyn. Tony stresses that from the start, strict records were kept and receipts given for all donations. He ensured that the process was 'simple and honest'.

Mt Evelyn's statue was made by Giuseppe Stuflesser in Bolzano in Northern Italy and is the first replica of the Oppido Mamertina statue ever made. It was copied from about 1400 photographs of the original, taken from every possible angle. The statue was carved from cirmolo wood (Swiss stone pine) and painted. The size is scaled down to just under two thirds the size of the original. In all the project cost about \$45,000 to have the statue made and transported to Mt Evelyn for the 2000 festa. The statue is kept in St Mary's Church Mt Evelyn and there are plans to build a glass wall to protect it.

On the day of the festa, the statue is carried to the site of the festivities, the tennis courts at the school, and then back to the church. Those who wish can stay to hear the special Mass, or they can join in the activities and taste the Italian food, which is available in waves throughout the day. The stalls feature authentic Italian food from various sponsors in Mt Evelyn and beyond, barbeque, wood-fired pizzas (from 4pm) and home-made Italian sweets. To buy food you purchase tickets from the booths, and then you use the tickets to exchange for food. You can enter the spaghetti eating contest, the strawberries and cream competition and the Tarantella Dance Competition! All entertainment and activities are free.



The festa has gone from strength to strength. About 2000 people attended in 2015, with buses coming from Melbourne for the event. The committee invites you to attend and experience Italian culture at the Festa. You will be most welcome!

Paula Herlihy interviewing Tony Sposato, 29 Febuary 2016.



Thank You Karen

This newsletter marks the first since we formed independently in 2007 that has not been edited and produced wholly by Karen Phillips. Over the last decade Karen has built up a wonderful reputation for our monthly newsletter, one we were loath to let slip when she decided to rest her pen, her typing fingers and her eyes!

It has taken a sub-committee to replace her, and Karen and husband Kevin continue to be on the sub-committee, for which we are very grateful. Those who have volunteered to be on the Newsletter sub-committee are Karen Phillips, Kevin Phillips, Alison Martin, Janice Newton, Isabel Martini, Marion and Lloyd Stott and Paula Herlihy.

Things Past will appear quarterly from now on.

Lion Seat

Cr Maria McCarthy has liaised with Mildura City Council, and located lion seats similar to ours (see photo provided by Mildura Council at bottom left). It is hoped the Mt Evelyn Township Group committee can borrow Mildura's mould to reproduce seats for Mt Evelyn. Our seat is too worn to copy.

Alan Price will visit Mildura to further the project. The Mildura seats are located in Henderson Park and have been there since at least 1950.

Can You Help?

Maureen Wolff asks for information about Shirley Conlan, on behalf of Shirley's son. Maureen is a relation by marriage.

Shirley and sisters Margaret and June lived on Hereford Road just up from the Church of Christ and the Red Robin. Shirley started at the Evelyn [Primary School] in 1952, and perhaps you have a class photo of her? Please reply on the Mt Evelyn History Group Facebook page, or contact us and we will pass the information to Maureen.

Kitchenalia

Fabienne Harris Smith spoke to MEHG on three kitchenalia topics on Saturday 9 July, illustrated by a display of items from her collection.

Mrs Beeton

Isabella Mary Mayson (1836-1865) was one of a combined household containing 21 children. She was educated in Germany. Soon after returning she married Samuel Beeton who was already an established publisher, being the founder of *The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*.

Isabella is famous for her cookbook, *Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management*

(also published as *Mrs Beeton's Cookery Book*), which took her four years to complete and was first published in 1861.¹ This was a tremendous effort for someone so young, who didn't know a whole lot about cooking. She did 'poach' information from other sources and pass them off as

her own, for which she was correctly criticised, however the book was published in a handsome cloth bound edition costing 7/6. It was the first cook book to have colour plates – ten in all. Other cook books were emerging at the time, but Beeton's was the most successful.

Isabella died in 1865 at the age of 28. With the success of the book, Ward Lock Publishing acquired the rights and wanted the name kept alive, so the news of her death was suppressed in most reprintings. By 1880, well after her death, her books



¹ Isabella Beeton was 21 years old when she started working on the book. It was initially serialised in 24 monthly instalments, in her husband Samuel Orchart Beeton's publication *The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*; the first instalment appeared in 1859. Wikipedia (retrieved 2016-7-20) citing Russell, Polly. "Mrs Beeton, the first domestic goddess". *Financial Times*.

Mrs Beeton's Shilling Cookery, *Mrs Beeton's Everyday Cookery* and *Mrs Beeton's Cottage Cookery* were doing great business.

Revivals of the book took place in 1936, the centenary of Isabella's birth and again in the 1970s.

As part of her Kitchenalia collection, Fabienne collects books and pamphlets about kitchen products, such as recipe booklets and directions for use. There are three books about Mrs Beeton. Nancy Spain, Isabella Beeton's great niece, wrote *Mrs Beeton and her Husband* (1948); Sarah Freeman wrote *Isabella and Sam: the story of Mrs Beeton* (1977), and Kathryn Hughes mortgaged her flat to procure papers and letters to write her passionate Beeton project, *The Short Life and Long Times of Mrs Beeton* (2005).

Joseph Fowler

Joseph Fowler was born in Leicestershire England 1888, one of 13 children. He worked in his Uncle George Fowler's preserving business in Kent and Reading, so he had early experience in preserving fruit. In 1910 he married Elizabeth Harris. George Fowler gave

Joseph the patent for the business, and Joseph and his new wife emigrated to Australia in 1913, settling in Camberwell.

With his prior experience and the high quality of fruit in Australia, he set up business trading as J. Fowler & Co. in 1915. He made home sterilizing kits (bottles, rings, lids and thermometers) and went from door to door with horse and cart selling kits.

In 1920 he bought a shop on the corner of Power Street and Burwood Road Hawthorn. In 1934 Fowlers Vacola Manufacturing Company was registered as a public company. During the 1930s depression era he became a household name. Housewives were urged to bottle their own fruit and make jam. They used the logo 'Mrs B. Thrifty' in their advertisements. He was 'in the right place at the right time'.

Joseph Fowler gave back to the community,

becoming Mayor of Hawthorn, Vice-President of Swinburne Technical College, a member of the Australian Defence League, a Rotarian and a warden of St John's Anglican Church, Camberwell.

Fabienne gave us a detailed account of how the company changed and was sold in the subsequent years. After owner Sabco Pty Ltd of South Australia went into receivership in 1994, Australian Resource Recovery Technologies re-established Fowlers Vacola Australia Pty Ltd with headquarters in Melbourne. Currently only three jar sizes are available: numbers 14, 21 and 31.

Fabienne started bottling in the late 1960s and early 1970s, inspired by her mother in law. Fabienne and her husband would buy cases of fruit, mainly clingstone peaches and apricots, for bottling. In Fabienne's view, clingstone peaches when bottled are the best tasting fruit – absolutely beautiful! Our mouths were watering remembering the bottled peaches of our childhood!

Willow Ware

In 1887 Ralph and Richard Wilson started building metal working

machinery and tools in a rear shed of their family home in Flemington. They formed a partnership 'Wilson Bros.' in 1889 to produce tin plate tea and biscuit canisters.

In 1883 they purchased a property in Buncle Street North Melbourne and diversified into jams, jellies, preserves and sauces, marketed under the 'Penguin' trademark. This trademark is still registered today to insulated plastic coolers. They worked extremely hard and survived the 1890s depression.

Ralph was inventive, and built an extraordinary range of presses and machines. Large food processing companies forced them out of their food product range, and they reverted to their metal work range.

Richard retired in 1905 and Ralph

continued until 1915. The business incorporated as 'Wilson Bros. Pty Ltd'.

During the 1st World War they produced munitions and essential services packing.

Their first domestic tin ware was produced in 1910 by hand. In 1924 the trade mark 'Willow' was registered. The business has remained a family business in the hands of the first Ralph's descendants.

They have produced a huge range of products including printed tin tiles, candle sticks, scoops, letter boxes, and bird cage bottoms, ash pans, billies, kerosene pumps, milk skimmers and canisters.

They re-located from North Melbourne to Sydney in 1932, and had rebuilt and enlarged their factory by 1939.

During World War II they built products for the war effort including mess tins, small munitions boxes, rocket cylinder covers, gas mask respiratory cylinders, and soldier's cake tins. They designed and manufactured a new pack of small arms munitions which was universally adopted by the British Commonwealth and American forces.

Up until 1958 they used horse drawn lorries because of petrol rationing, and these were 'famous'



in Melbourne's streets.

They installed their first plastic moulding machines at North Melbourne producing baby baths and expanded their exports overseas. They contended with severe opposition but gradually they increased their markets with their metal ware and plastics ranges.

In 1965 they became 'Willow Ware Pty Ltd'. By 1970 they exported to over 50 countries. In 1985 they once again produced new equipment suited for use in microwaves.

In 1987 Ralph Wilson IV became the sole proprietor. American and European manufacturers produced their products under licence. They purchased businesses in New Zealand in 1987, 1988 and 1993.

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Olinda Creek Tour

Olinda Creek links the Dandenongs to the Yarra River. On Saturday 17 September we set out to trace the course of the creek and learn its history. We were fortunate in the beautiful Spring day, following weeks of rain that saw the creek flowing strongly.

Olinda Creek was named in 1860 by surveyor John Hardy after Alice Olinda Hodgkinson, daughter of Deputy Surveyor-General Clement Hodgkinson. It had previously been called 'Scrubby Creek' on T.H. Nutt's 1839 survey of the Yarra and 'Running Creek' because it was a perennial stream.



The Upper Falls, Olinda Creek, from the viewing platform.

Our little convoy drove up the mountain from Silvan via Olinda Creek Road, through the Dandenong Ranges National Park. Eight distinct ecosystems have been identified in this forest. We passed farmland that was part of the earliest settlement in the northern Dandenongs (from 1862), called 'Harmony Vale' after one of the properties.

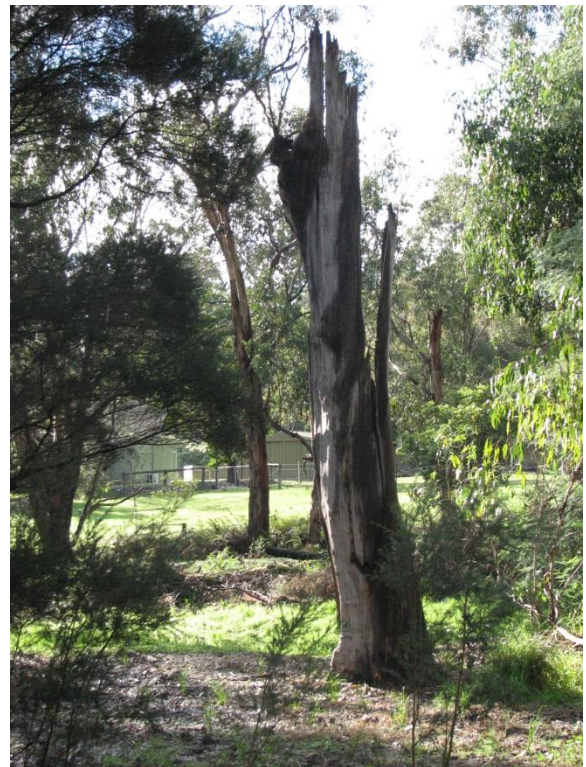
Turning onto Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, we halted briefly at Five Ways, Kalorama, for the view over the catchment and Silvan Reservoir. This is a stopping point on the Heidelberg Artists Trail but the board with Sir Arthur Streeton's painting of the scene is no longer in place.² The view has been a favourite subject for artists; Mt Evelyn's Ernest Buckmaster did many paintings of

² 'Observatory Road Kalorama Park looking towards Silvan Dam', 1937. There is another painting by Streeton on the wall of Silvan Dam, two at the R.J. Hamer Forest Arboretum and one on Mt Dandenong.

the scene.

The main branch of Olinda Creek rises on an unnamed reserve on Monash Avenue, a short distance below Olinda township. Beginning as a Village Settlement in the early 1890s, when small 10 acre blocks became available for selection, the town derived its name from the creek. We did not visit the source but picked up the creek at the Olinda Falls. We visited the Upper Falls via the Falls Track, which passes through a stand of mature Mountain Ash. Common Bird Orchids *Chiloglottis valida* were spotted beside the track.

We continued via the Tourist Road to Montrose, part of which is within the Olinda Creek catchment, then north up Swansea Road. Downstream of Mt Evelyn Reserve, where the creek's floodplain begins, all of its named tributaries are 'Drains'. Unattractive though they sound, these 'Drains' are natural creeks that have been channelled or piped for part of their length.



Scar tree near the Olinda Creek Trail.

Here is the full roll call of Olinda Creek tributaries. Rich Creek, Myrtle Beech Gully and Rifle Range Gully which flow into Lyrebird Gully Creek, and Stonyford Creek, and Clematis Creek*, and Quinn Creek*, and the York Road Drain, and the Cambridge Road Drain which flows into the Heathfield Grove Drain, and the Fuller Road Drain, the Hereford Road Drain, the Melba Avenue Drain, the Lilydale Drain, the

Nelson Road Drain, the Lilydale East Drain, and Little Stringybark Creek, McKillop Creek and Log Creek which flow into Stringybark Creek, flow into Olinda Creek, which flows into the Yarra River.³

From Hull Road we walked down the Olinda Creek Trail to the Aboriginal scar tree. The bark removed from the tree was possibly used for a shield. Stone tools uncovered in the building of the trail and bridge were reburied beside the scar tree by the Wurundjeri Elders in November 2015. The Woi wurrung name for the creek was *Gnurt-bille-warrun* or *Gnurre-bille-warrun*. It was also called *Turruk*, meaning 'reeds'.

The strip of land between Swansea Road and the creek south of Hull Road was the site of the original Olinda Vale Settlement from the 1890s. If not for the name change, we'd be calling this site 'Old Mt Evelyn'. Downstream are David Mitchell's weir and water race, dating from the 1880s. Lillydale Lake (completed in 1990 on the site of a former swamp) was created to reduce the periodic flooding of Lillydale. The ruins of Cashin's flour mill and its water race from the 1850s are preserved beside the lake wall.

The scar tree at Margaret Lewis Reserve, Coldstream.



³ Inspired by Kristin Otto 2005, *Yarra*, Text Publishing, p.52. Starred names * are in local use but are not official names.

Proceeding along Maroondah Highway to Coldstream, we made an unscheduled stop at another scar tree on the Margaret Lewis Reserve. The huge dead Candlebark *Eucalyptus rubida* clearly shows the scar where bark was removed for a canoe. The creek now known as the Lilydale East Drain, a tributary of the Olinda, flows past the Reserve and we surmised that the canoe was made for use on this creek or surrounding wetlands.

We continued via the Coldstream West Road. We crossed Olinda Creek, which flows via a drainage channel from the northern outskirts of Lilydale to the Yarra at Spadoni's Reserve. Lines of trees across the paddocks mark the unlined drains from the former wetlands into the creek.



Olinda Creek joins the Yarra at Spadoni's Reserve.

Victoria Road brought us to Spadoni's Reserve, once part of the Yering Swamp, on the Yarra floodplain. The area is described on John Hardy's 1860 survey map of Yering as 'Swamp covered with dense acacia scrub' and 'Rich alluvial flat chiefly under water in winter'. Originally Olinda Creek flowed, or rather *sank*, into the Yering Swamp. '...the Olinda Creek, ... while frequently running with a vigorous stream a few hundred yards above its mouth, is at its junction with the Yarra at the same time so shallow that it can be passed over dry shod. The local experts in the language of the bush aver that these mountain streams have subterranean courses to the sea'⁴

Landholders Paul de Castella and

⁴ *Leader*, 27 May 1876:
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/196556211> (written after the creek had been channelled).

Macintyre began draining the wetlands about 1860. ‘... a beautifully cut drain, some ten or twelve feet in width and depth, and about five miles in length, now pours out an ample contribution to the volume of the Yarra’, a visitor wrote in 1861.⁵ De Castella channelled Olinda Creek through what is now Spadoni’s Reserve. In 1865 a Mr Spadoni leased the swamp land for growing flax and it became known as Spadoni’s Swamp.⁶



- a. The dry billabong, Spadoni’s Reserve.
- b. Recent planting and stonework in the billabong, Spadoni’s Reserve.

While some drains may have been re-aligned, the drainage system as a whole is possibly the oldest engineering work still in use in the Shire. The draining is now being partially reversed. In April 2016 a weir was constructed so that Spadoni’s billabong would hold its water when the Yarra rose high enough to flood it. Spadoni’s Reserve was a degraded environment only a few

⁵ The Victorian Farmers and Gardeners Chronicle, 8/6/1861:

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/189634647>

See also The Australasian, 27/4/1872:

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/138089739/11285185>

⁶ Leader 3/7/1869: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/196485365>;

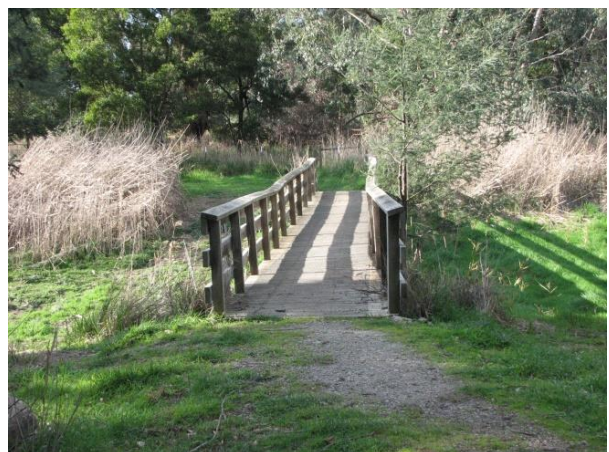
Leader, 8/5/1869: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/196484969>

years ago. It has been restored through extensive planting and has one of only two extant populations of the Buxton Gum *Eucalyptus crenulata*.

We were able to see the confluence of the Olinda Creek Drain and the Yarra from a short distance down the river bank. There were signs warning that the banks were undercut. Doug Wilson remarked that a memorial plaque might one day be erected on the spot: ‘THE MT EVELYN HISTORY GROUP WAS STANDING HERE WHEN THE BANK COLLAPSED’ We returned safely however, via the circuit path and a bridge over the billabong. Several people commented on an old house on a hill overlooking the Reserve. Thanks to Robyn Taylor’s research, we now know it was the Macintyre homestead ‘Coowerp’, built c.1852.

Bridge over the billabong, Spadoni’s Reserve.

Olinda Creek drops around 505m over its



length of 21.4 km (13.3 miles), from its source at an elevation of 580m to 75.7m where it joins the Yarra.⁷ The catchment is about 82 sq km (excluding the Stringybark catchment, which is about 100 sq km). Clement Hodgkinson estimated the volume of water at 2000 gallons (9000 litres) per minute near York Road in the 1850s.

Thank you to Ian James for suggesting this excursion, Karen Phillips for researching the sites and creating a guide and to Kevin Phillips for leading it.

Karen Phillips. Photos Kevin Phillips.

Olinda Creek Bird List

Doug Wilson provided the following list of birds sighted on the Olinda Creek

⁷ ‘Map of Olinda Creek Vic’,

<http://www.bonzie.com/c/a?a=p&p=199945&cmd=sp>

excursion:

Black Duck, Wood Duck, Blue Wren, Red-browed Finches, Ibis, Robin Scarlet or Flame, Rufus Fly Catcher, Grey Fantail, Magpie, Kookaburra, Crimson Rosella and Sulphur Crested Cockatoo.



A flock of Red-browed Finches *Neochmia temporalis* at Spadoni's Reserve.

Kitchenalia Ctd. From page 4.

In 2003 the company moved from North Melbourne to a purpose built factory at Tullamarine with robotic and other automation.

They were leaders in voluntarily providing security and superannuation for their workers, and the company received numerous awards for exports and technology over the years.

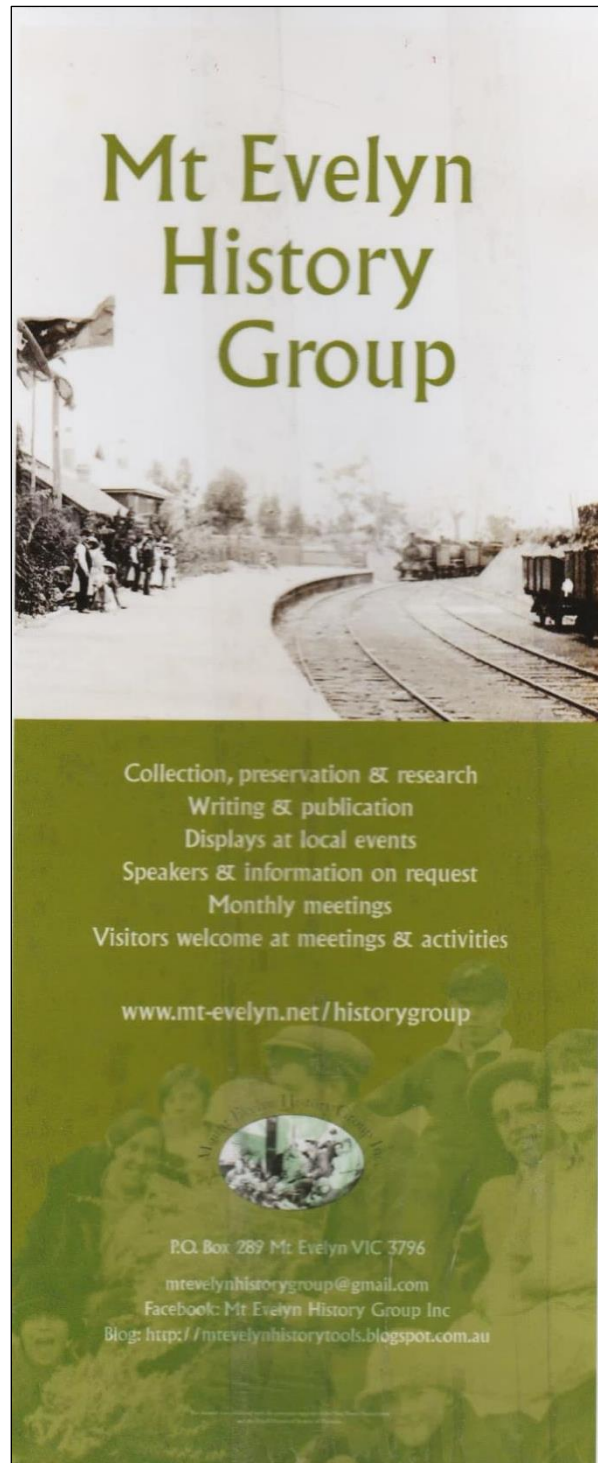
This amazing company survives today and is a true icon of Australian history. It is a remarkable story from humble beginnings in a backyard shed, through hard work and ingenuity, rational planning, foresight and financial planning, and more plain old fashioned hard work. **Paraphrased from Fabienne's notes by Paula Herlihy.**

Mt Evelyn History Group Banner

Mt Evelyn History Group is very pleased to be the recipient of a Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) grant to provide a lightweight roll up banner (pictured) to use with the group's displays.

The banner measures 850mm wide and 2000mm high. It features an early photograph of Evelyn (Mt Evelyn) railway station, and the photo on our logo, showing Harold Shultz and Ada O'Connor and families holidaying at Billygoat Hill in the 1920s.

The designer was John Gillespie, RHSV Artwork Co-ordinator (john@kiplings.com.au), who used ideas and photographs supplied by us.



You know you're part of history when ...

... you remember paying 11 pence for a pie (as a treat) for lunch. Having to drink milk every morning from those little one-third pint bottles delivered to the school – which had been left waiting outside in the school yard during summertime for a few hours before being distributed to us children! Hanging up your leather satchel in the senior/junior boys/girls' shelter shed... **Isabel Martini.**

Readers, can you send us any examples?

Vietnam and Cambodia

During August I was lucky enough to travel around Vietnam and Cambodia, visiting a 4th to 14th century Hindu Cham site at My Son, near Da Nang central coast Vietnam. On display, oddly juxtaposed next to a lingum (a representation of the creative power of Siva), were two American bombs, looking surprisingly similar.



Image of partial lingum and two American bombs at My Son.

The My Son site lost 85% of its brick buildings during the war due to its proximity to underground bases of the Vietnamese Minh.

A highlight of my trip was visiting and viewing from a helicopter Cambodian Angkor a Hindu/Buddhist city-state between the 9th and 15th centuries.

Image of a temple of Angkor from the air.



Image of lingum/ yoni at Angkor

In 1970 I had studied Southeast Asian history with Dr Ian Mabbett at Monash University and had become fascinated by the inscriptions and Chinese records describing the hydraulic agricultural kingdom that, with perhaps one million people, was the biggest city in the world until the Industrial Revolution.

Janice Newton September 2016

Ivor Chalkley memorial planting

Family and friends, including Yarra Ranges staff who had worked closely with Ivor over the years gathered on Saturday 10 September to plant a range of indigenous plants in Ivor's memory at the Mt Evelyn Station site Ivor had tended. The plants were provided by the Shire. A *Corymbia ficifolia* hybrid (formerly Flowering Gum, *Euc. ficifolia*) was chosen to be the main tree to be planted in Ivor's name.

Greg Luke emailed us, noting, 'Ivor Chalkley worked at this property [Dalmeny] in the garden, for 15+ years. We are indebted to him for the ongoing splendour in our garden.' Greg suggested that *Quercus robur* (English Oak) would better suit Ivor's memory as an English gentleman.

Best Wishes for the Future

Mt Evelyn History Group wishes two people who have supported local history over many years all the best in their future endeavours.

Kathy Smalley, Eastern Regional Libraries.

Kathy has attended our functions and promoted our publications, and has been a pleasure to work with. She always offers more than we ask for. Each year as part of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria's History Week, Kathy has arranged for our activities, and those of the Yarra Ranges Heritage Network, of which we are a member, to be promoted through the ERL heritage booklet and on local radio, where she had a regular spot.

Anthony McAleer, secretary of the Mt Evelyn RSL and MEHG member said in an email to Kathy, 'Sorry to hear you are leaving Kathy, you will leave a big hole to be filled at ERL. Can I also say thank you for your support and dedication for our local history, it has been extraordinary, and a huge well done on what you achieved with the military history resource – a wonderful research legacy to leave behind for this community.' See ERL WW1 Commemorative Database:

<https://www.erl.vic.gov.au/local/local.php?code=ww1>

Maggi Solly, Yarra Ranges Regional Museum.

Maggi, who has been the Director of the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, is moving on after twelve years. In her early days at the Museum Maggi supported Mt Evelyn projects such as the successful Impact Exhibitions project run by Morrison House and funded by Adult, Community and Further Education.

Maggi trained Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students at Morrisons in how to create effective exhibitions, which resulted in the dynamic *Transformers – VCAL in Disguise* exhibition mounted for Adult Learners' Week in 2008.

Do Drop In – York On Lilydale

We had an enquiry from Deanne Webb asking if we knew when the York on Lilydale was built.

The York was built on the site of the Do Drop In, which began as a small shop built by Pop (Robert) Adams in or after 1937. Pop had been visiting the area since about 1910.

To the corner shop Pop added a house and a hall. The Hall included a stage and a supper room. The Do Drop In became a centre for dances during the Second World War and catered to huge picnic groups from Melbourne. Pop Adams based his bus service on the site. The store closed in 1955 and the bus service was sold in May 1979.

The Do Drop In burnt down in 1980. The photo below is courtesy Don and Gayle Trapnell, who lived over the road at the time.

Deanne's query was answered in an article in the Mt Evelyn Community Rag of October 1992, written by Greg Elms, about the York. He opens his article with "Part of the Mt Evelyn community now for two and a half years ...", putting its beginnings at 1989.



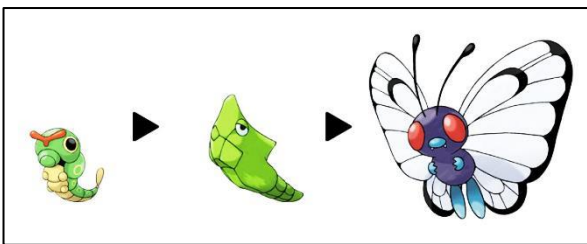
The Secret Life of Hoarde ... errr Collectors

Pokémon Go

No set of articles about collections in 2016 would be complete without a few paragraphs on Pokémon, and in particular the 2016 phenomenon of Pokémon Go. 'Gotta Catch 'Em All' is the English slogan for the Pokémon franchise, and the stories are based around collecting creatures called Pokémon.

The Pokémon media franchise started as a hobby of Satoshi Tajiri, who loved to catch insects and tadpoles as a child. Tajiri turned his passion for collecting creatures into a game for children⁸.

The first Pokémon games came out as Nintendo Game Boy games in Japan on February 27, 1996, and allowed players to catch, train and trade 151 creatures and become a Pokémon Master. A set of Pokémon Trading Cards with its own set of rules was released on October 20, 1996, containing 102 cards.



Caterpie evolves into Metapod, thence to Butterfree! Graphic from <http://roundpeg.biz/2015/08/is-your-website-evolving>

Various Manga (paper comic books) were published from November 1996, including one with a hero called 'Red'. It was however the TV anime (video cartoon) series based on the games, which premiered in Japan on April 1, 1997, that took over the world. The main character is a young Pokémon Trainer named Satoshi, after Satoshi Tajiri. The English translation is Ash Ketchum, with 'Ash' sounding a bit like 'Satoshi', and 'Ketchum' reminiscent of 'red' tomato sauce, or ketchup, and 'Catchem'! Part of the fun is the subtle punning. How many Pokémon there are depends on the version of the game, and each game has a Pokédex listing the Pokémon and their

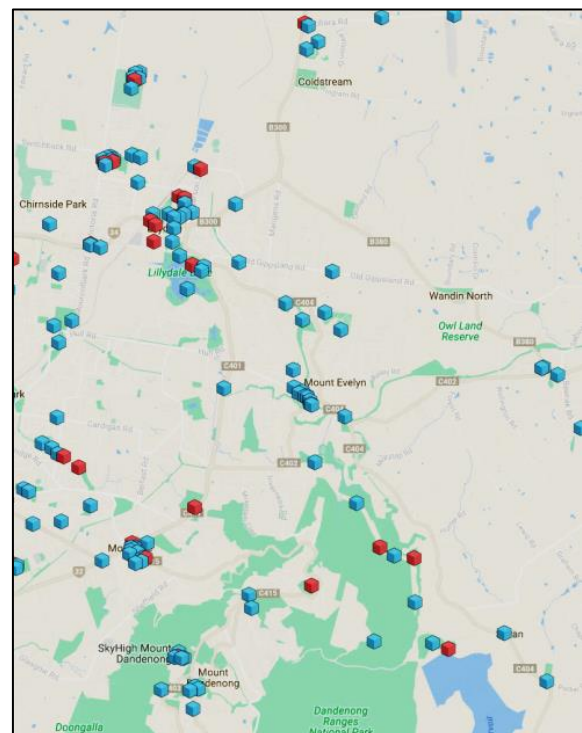
⁸ Bulbapedia
http://bulbapedia.bulbagarden.net/wiki/History_of_Pok%C3%A9mon.

characteristics.

Pokémon Go currently has 149 Pokémon.

In order to 'Catch 'Em All' you can catch them in the 'wild' using balls or evolve them as you gain 'experience'. The higher evolutions are hard to find and hard to catch! You can also earn eggs and incubate them to add to your collection. The collecting part of the game is the essential base – everything else relies on catching the Pokémon.

The game can be enjoyed at the purely 'Collect 'Em All' level, or trainers can go on to battle with their Pokémon, but a beaten Pokémon only ever faints, and is nursed back to health by their loving trainer!



Mt Evelyn is on the Pokémon World Map!⁹ The map shows Pokéstops (sites where you get free things like balls to catch Pokémon with) and Pokégyms (places you can battle) around the world. It is not 100% correct – we have more stops than are shown on the map, and three gyms, but it gives you an idea of how a Pokétrainer can map out a fun day taking the kids around and seeing the real world as well as gaining experience and maybe some elusive Pokémon along the way. It is a friendly game, where working in pairs or teams improves your chances of success.

This startup game by Niantic has chosen non-profit sites with good parking like recreation grounds and churches, with

⁹ <http://www.pokemongomap.info/>

landmarks like statues and signs for Pokéstops and Pokégyms, and in Mt Evelyn many of them are historical signs or memorials. From the historic Bollard Trail the 'Pop Dam' (Pop Adams!!), Guests at the Outlook, Station master and the Band Plays On are Pokéstops. From the Timeline Fence, they have chosen Swaggies in Tough Times, 80 years of Scouting, and The First Train.

The Bakery Mural in Station Street and the mural of Morrison House on the Scout Hall (both by David Monks of Tiger Signs) are Pokéstops, as is the Memorial Cairn in the RSL Gardens. The memorial in front of Hardy House, Birmingham Road is a Pokégym, not a Pokéstop. There are about a dozen others scattered about the town. The Old Silver Fire Bell at the CFA is no longer a Pokéstop, at the request of the CFA.

An occasional series by Paula Herlihy.

STOP PRESS

Best wishes to Marion Stott who had a serious health scare in October. We wish her all the best for a speedy recovery.

From Kev's rain gauge

Rainfall (mm) for Mt Evelyn, McKillop, and Melbourne for the last three months and Year To Date (YTD) for October.

Kev notes that McKillop seems to have been more soggy than Mt Evelyn in October, and that the weather radar on one of the heavy days had narrow rain bands travelling south to north so may account for it.

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	YTD
Mt Evelyn	104	105.7	94.5	829.3
McKillop	120.1	117.2 5	138.5	915.2
Melbourne	61.2	85.2	63.4	513

McKillop readings courtesy Jean Edwards. Melbourne figures Bureau of Meteorology: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/>

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Detail from Nan Yaxley's painting Christmas at Billygoat Hill (1985).

