



Things Past

Newsletter 120

February 2021

PO Box 289 Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Incorporation Number A0051327F

Dates for Your Diary

General Business Meeting, Monday 15th February, 7.30 pm, at Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Road, Mt Evelyn.

Launch of *Hidden Histories*, Saturday 27th March, 1.30 pm at Hardy House. (See p 10).

Mt Evelyn Street Party organizing meeting, Wednesday 17th February, 7.00 pm, probably at Mt Evelyn Community House Community Room, Wray Crescent, Mt Evelyn. Please check with Paula Herlihy 9736 2935 if you plan to attend.

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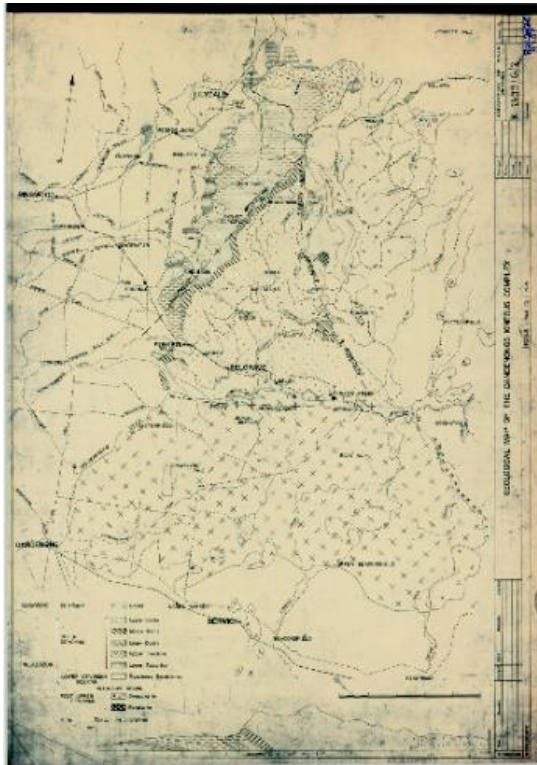
One-Holers and the Nightman



Ted Newton, as an extended joke, dressed as a clergyman to bless and 'Open' his Family's One-Holer
(cont p 5)

Whose Fault was it?

Information about the Evelyn Fault has always been hard to find. In *The Dandenong Volcano*, John Lundy-Clarke described the structure of the Mt Dandenong volcanic caldera:



Geological Map of the Dandenongs Igneous Complex. © State of Victoria. Department of Mines. 1970. State Library Victoria. Reproduced with permission.

The lava cauldron was in the shape of a squashed triangle, the western edge running from Mt Evelyn through Montrose to Ferntree Gully. It was bounded on the south by the Selby Fault (which stretches from Ferntree Gully to near Emerald) and in the east by another fracture in the earth's crust, the Evelyn Fault which passes close to Monbulk. ...

When the final series of eruptions had emptied the cauldron of gases and lava the platform of earlier lava was too weak to carry the weight. It fractured along both the Evelyn and Selby Faults and also across the middle, thus leading to the subsidence of the whole mass of lavas plugging the cauldron.¹

Lundy-Clarke provides a map of the successive lava flows but does not include the fault lines. A geological map in *Ringwood, Place of Many*

Eagles does not show an Evelyn Fault at all, but has a hypothetical 'Dandenong Fault' along the western face of the range.²

Recently we found a 'Geological Map of the Dandenongs Igneous Complex' in the State Library. This map (left) shows the Evelyn Fault running south from Evelyn (Mt Evelyn) township, along the west side of Olinda Creek, to the Silvan area, where it meets the Monbulk Monocline. The other two features that define the edges of the caldera appear here as the Selby and Montrose Monoclines.

The monoclines were named after townships (Monbulk, Montrose, Selby), reflecting their locations, so it seems likely that the Evelyn Fault was named after the township, not the County of Evelyn. The township has also given its name to a type of rock originating from the volcano, the Mt Evelyn Rhyodacite.

Karen Phillips

Flag and Country

Australia Post is doing its bit for Reconciliation by allowing for traditional owners to be acknowledged in postal addresses.³ The idea was suggested by Gomeroi woman Rachael McPhail, and enthusiastically adopted by Australia Post.

The Country name comes between the recipient's or sender's name and the street address.

Example: Ms Jane Citizen
Wurundjeri Country
550 Hereford Road
Mt Evelyn VIC 3796

Finding the correct owners to acknowledge is not always straightforward. Some areas, including parts of the Dandenongs, are the subject of claims by more than one Indigenous group.

The red, black and gold Aboriginal flag was designed by Harold Thomas in 1971 and proclaimed a Flag of Australia in 1995. Following the sale of manufacturing rights to a non-Indigenous entity, some Aboriginal groups are designing flags to represent their own people and country.⁴

Karen Phillips

¹ John Lundy-Clarke 1976, *The Dandenong volcano and settlement in its great forest*, LDHS, p.3.

² H. Anderson 1988, *Ringwood, Place of Many Eagles*, Ringwood City Council, p.4.

³ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-11-11/australia-post-agrees-to-include-traditional-place-names-on-mail/12872484>

⁴ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-11-13/aboriginal-flag-debate-discussion-of-identity/12873222>

Bill and Betty Ford: a Focus for Fun in Mt Evelyn, part 2

(cont from *Things Past*, #119, Betty Ford speaking to Janice Newton)

The Township

The main street (Wray Crescent) shops in the 1950s included Hudson's Newsagency, Mrs Robbie's little fruit kiosk before Frank Condello built it into a proper shop. Next to that John McDonald had a shoe repair shop, then there was Dorward's milk bar, then Sampsons/Gerlach's delicatessen, a very old shop opposite the current library. There were also Wray's Real Estate agency, Lillie's grocer's, Ghiradello's milk bar, Stubb's butcher shop, which became Carswell's, Theo Millard's corner and Perkins Bakery. Bin's café (where the Commonwealth Bank is) had red table cloths, sold fish and chips and was one of the first shops with television.

Mr and Mrs Fletcher were the station masters. Gordon Stroud had a wood yard where the police station is. Jimmy Redcliff had the mechanics shop nearby. Adams bus service, driven by Chappy, drove up and down the Zig Zag (Birmingham Rd). *The Red Robin*, in Hereford Road, was built by Les Peters in 1947. ('Mrs Peters was a sort of mother to me when Bill was leaving early and arriving home late from work. Every morning if she didn't see smoke coming out of the chimney she would come to see if I was all right.')

Millard's fire started in November 1961 (the big bushfires surrounding the town were later in 1962). Betty remembered looting. 'As they were loading all the stuff from this side of the shop, people were taking it from the other side.'

Mowers were found up the back of Snowball Avenue and all over the place. Weeks afterwards they were finding goods in the bush. Laurie White's grocer shop was also burned in this fire and when the fire brigade got it under control Mr White gave the kids chickens and choc wedges from the freezer. 'Take 'em home kids! The kids thought it was wonderful.'

Mt Evelyn also had the *Mayfair Cinema* at the hall during the 1950-1960s. Betty remembers an early film. 'I took Wes to see *Annie Get Your Gun*. He stood up, then was sitting in the aisle then he stood up singing all the songs of the movie. I was

trying to tell him to shut up!'

Changing Lifestyles

During the fifties as electrical connections became more widespread, domestic hardware changed significantly with the benefit of hire purchase long term payments.

'I can remember when I got my first refrigerator, for my birthday. We had a Coolgardie safe at first with hessian hanging down the sides and then we had an ice chest. One of Millard's trucks pulled into the yard. I went outside and said, "What are you doing?" They said, "We've been told to deliver this here." When Bill got home I said, "What's all this about?" He said, "It's your birthday present." It was an *Emcold*. I thought it was so wonderful having a fridge. I was one of

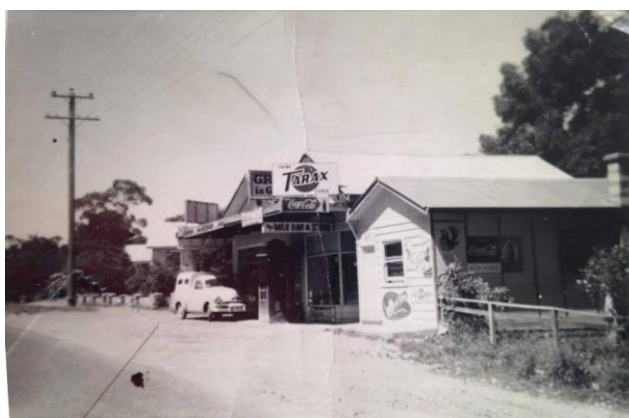
very few people who had one. Three years later we finished paying for it!'

The earliest television sets were purchased in 1956 in time for families to watch the Olympic Games. The Fords had one of the first televisions in Mt Evelyn. After purchasing their television Betty knew they needed a licence.

'So after dropping the kids to kinder, on the way back I had to go to Mrs O'Connor at the Post Office, and I walked in and I said I want to pay for



Bin's cafe



The Red Robin

a TV licence. She said, "You want a *what?* ... I don't know what to do". Anyway she worked it out and I got my licence, walked past the (timber) yard and Bill said, "Did you pay?" and I said, "Yep, and I'm the very first one in Mt Evelyn to get it!" Bill immediately went into the shop where Theo Millard's brother Peter worked and said, "You'd better get yourself into gear, mate." Peter said, "Why?" "To get your TV licence." "How do you know I haven't got my TV licence?" "Because we've bought the first one in Mt Evelyn." "Oh, I'd better go and do it." Many of the town knew of or had even visited to view the new television that Peter and Barbara Millard had bought. Peter knew 'he was going to cop it from Bill all day', if he didn't acknowledge his oversight.

Working Life

Bill's first job from Mt Evelyn was working for McEwans. He had to use public transport to get there. The bus driver, Jack Burchill, would stop right outside the house in Hereford Road and toot the horn every morning at 10 to 7 am. There were no bus stops. You just stood on the highway, or got the personal service which Jack gave Bill, to take the bus then catch the train from Lilydale.

Bill then became a transport driver for Wilkinson's transport company in Lilydale, earning £7 a week and often having to walk home from Lilydale as, after trips from Melbourne or Warburton, he was too late for the last bus. Occasionally if Betty wanted to go to town she would meet Bill in Lilydale and they would go together in the truck (not company policy). On one particular day as Betty waited in Lilydale for him to park the truck he came back to her as white as a sheet. 'I said, "What's wrong with you?" He said, "I've just got the bullet." I said, "What for?"' There had been a kerfuffle about wages and overtime the day before and in front of a younger worker Bill had said, "Tomorrow, when I go to Melbourne I am going to the Union. I've had this!" Bill did not in fact go to the Union but 'the kid blabbed. That was enough to get the sack.' The owner, who was also aware of Betty being a passenger sometimes, paid Bill his wages and refused to give a reason for his job termination.

Almost as quickly as Betty had, after her early job termination, Bill was re-employed. After a couple

of days at home Bill was down the main street of Mt Evelyn talking to Theo Millard (of Millard's timberyard, hardware store and joinery). Theo offered him a job as a driver and Bill named his terms of £10 a week and extra for overtime, which Theo accepted. Bill thought that was wonderful. This was to begin a wonderful period of work, family and community involvement through the Millard's workers' families.

When the 'double sling' trips from the Melbourne wharf to Mt Evelyn got too much, Bill thought he would move part time into selling televisions. Instead he became a manager at Wright Brothers store in Lilydale, selling televisions and other goods, for the remainder of his working life of 28 years.

Betty and Bill had five sons: Wes in 1948, Doug in 1951, Wayne in 1952, Trevor in 1955 and Des in 1956. When her children were older Betty joined Bill at Wrights as an assistant in the afternoons. Later she worked for the Shire for 28 years as a Home Help worker, becoming at one time their oldest worker. 'I'd do four jobs a day, walking anything from John's Crescent, to McKillop Road or Burke Street, all around Mt Evelyn. Old people and people who'd just had babies.'



Bill and Betty on their 40th anniversary.

In her retirement and after Bill passed away in 1994 Betty spent a lot of time doing voluntary work for the RSL, including acting as Treasurer. When she died the RSL mourned the passing of 'one of our stalwarts'.

Janice Newton

One-Holers and the Nightman

(from p 1)

Dunny (British dialect and cant) from *dunniken*: *danna*, excrement and *ken*, house. (Macquarie Dictionary)

The One Holer

The anthropologist Mary Douglas explains how most cultures draw a line between what they see as pure and what is polluted. In western culture and many others the matter that leaves our body, or fluids and substances that come out of our body are considered polluted. They are spurned and names for them become parts of forms of abuse (as in wog, scab, snot, pus, fart and various more earthy terms related to urine and faeces).

When holiday makers came to Mt Evelyn in the 1920s and 1930s to build shacks on their small bush blocks, most had been city dwellers with access to water and sewerage systems. The necessity to move back in time and to construct family one-holer, waterless, dunnies caused some anxiety. It led to the development of a type of folk humour which could be called 'grotesque realism' (Bakhtin). Humour helped people deal with their closer contact with polluted body leavings.

My uncles, Wally and Ted Newton went through the streets of Mt Evelyn with a bell and a home-made megaphone inviting people to attend the Grand Opening of their 'One Holer'. Evidently old people trudged along Fernhill Rd and Burke St to attend a ceremony in which Ted dressed as a parson to bless the new dunny, wearing his shirt back to front and his hair plastered down very flat (see photo p 1). So ashamed to see the crowd assemble for this significant event, the two sisters, Nancy and Gwen, hid.



Stringy-bark Dunny, Walcha, NSW

Other families joked about how they were digging a hole through to China, or so deep the matter would break up before it hit the bottom. Alternatively, they gave amusing names to the dunny or the process of emptying it. One family called their deep hole surrounded by kerosene tinned walls attached to saplings, 'The Waxworks'. When the dunny can had to be buried another family called it 'Burying Aunty'.

Readers may recall their own families' special terms and stories.

The Nightman

If building your own dunny created pollution anxiety and humour, employing someone to remove the most foul of your body leavings was even more embarrassing. Anxieties were played out with apocryphal tall stories and humour, masking shame, disgust and sometimes fear.

When the Council employed him, the nightman took on a marginal identity in the small community. The nightman wore an old cap and carried the cans on his head. Sometimes the bottom of the can was broken and the contents would spill over him. He came Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays and did not care if you were sitting on the can when he

replaced it with an empty one from the small door at the back. The nightman was reputed to have retrieved two shillings from a full can. When he dropped his lunch in a can he picked it out, exclaiming relief that it was in its paper bag.

There were flies everywhere and people recalled the riddle: "what has one horsepower, 12 cylinders and flies?" You could not see the cart for flies. The content of the cylinders was ploughed into the ground at Bailey Road.

People were disturbed when he crossed over into 'normal' society. When he went into the bakery at the top of the town to buy his sandwiches,

'he'd smell the place out for a few hours'. The nightman also delivered wood in his cart, but when he made deliveries of flour he used a different cart. The property of the nightman could symbolise pollution as well. A local wag borrowed the nightman's goat to lead across the stage during the final judging of the Belle of the Ball at a dance.

'Down by the dam he'd sit to have his lunch. People went past holding their noses because of the stink. "Stuck up bastards, he'd say. I'm carrying around something they can't carry around!"' He was reported to be gruff, even animal-like and replied to a snooty woman who asked him if he had found the Lord, "I didn't know He was lost!'. Another woman storekeeper said to him, 'I wouldn't do your job for *anything*, not even if you paid me £20' and he supposedly retorted, 'Madame if I got £20, I'd *eat* the stuff!' Once the nightman's cart overturned when it hit the railway tracks on York Road. The policeman came over and asked him what he was doing. He sharply answered: 'Stocktaking, what do you reckon!'

However, when children went too far and began to mock his ladylike, dignified wife, by asking him 'How was Mrs Poop?' he saw red and chased them down the street.

Ideas of contagion and pollution centre on the figure of the nightman who, after all, was doing an unpleasant job removing the embarrassing bodily waste of the townsfolk. Their anxieties were remoulded as jokes, tall stories and sometimes fears reflecting grotesque realism. One interviewee even alluded to the possibility that the nightman was spreading a dangerous infectious disease. Eventually modernity washed away this embarrassment and anxiety over pollution. Water closets, toilets and lavatories distanced us from bodily waste, but Mt Evelyn residents had already contributed to the vast array of folklore about dunnies and the nightman in Australia.

Sources: Interviews with Mt Evelyn residents and former holiday makers, 1990s.

Janice Newton

Sir Hugh Evelyn

Sir Hugh Evelyn (1769-1848), who practically lived in a debtors' prison, has been suggested as a possible inspiration for Charles Dickens' character William Dorrit.

As Sir Hugh had no children, the baronetcy became extinct on his death. William John Evelyn then became the head of the family. The County of Evelyn was named after William in 1849.

You can read Sir Hugh's life story at: <http://www.mirlibooks.com/sir-hugh-evelyn.html> where you are able to download a pdf.

We have an 'Evelyn Name Tree' online in our 'Hidden Histories of Mt Evelyn'. You can see it [here](#).

Pipe Remnant

Nothing now remains of the village settlement between Olinda Creek and Swansea Road that was the original 'Olinda Vale'. This section of pipe has been preserved on the site. About 20 cm in diameter, it is made of iron, lined with concrete and wrapped in bitumen. Its purpose is unknown, but it might have been connected with the Aqueduct pipeline, which crossed the valley not far away. It is located at the foot of a pin oak tree that may be a survivor from one of the village gardens.



You can read about the 'Vanished Village' in our *Hidden Histories* online display [here](#).

Karen Phillips

Photo: Kevin Phillips

Ted Matthews (1905-1995): a Man of Many Parts, part 2

(cont from *Things Past*, #119, interview with Ted).
See also *Things Past*, #82, #86.

Early Residents and Businesses 1930s on

Although too busy with the bakery to be involved himself, Ted was impressed with the work of the local Progress Association and the whole community was pleased when the Zig Zag with thirteen bends in Birmingham Road was straightened and York Road sealed. Ted did become a member of the Recreation Reserve Committee, headed by Mr Outhwaite. They met once a month at *Westhill* and arranged to rent the Reserve to people from Melbourne for picnics. The Reserve land had previously been a farm with a house called something like 'Westlake'. The town would have appreciated an oval closer to the town but the site considered, on the corner of Birmingham Road and Hereford Road, was not quite big enough.

Early business names included Jimmy Low's Greengrocers on the corner of Hereford, York and Monbulk Roads (*Things Past* #106). This became Gerlach's later and was close to Haugh's butchers. Haugh passed on the butcher business to his son-in-law Charlie Stubbs. Charlie and Ted were virtually the only two people with cars in the township so they were sometimes called on to take pregnant women to hospital. Ted was anxious about this because he did not know what to do with the umbilical cord if the birth took place in the bread van. Charlie Stubbs had a 'ute, the back was filled with clean straw to carry the carcasses. One pregnant lady had to lie there on her trip to hospital.'

Hughie Wray ran the newsagency and, with his wife Alice, the State Bank from their little double milk bar shop. Hughie asked Ted to be his first client. Later Wray focused on Real Estate (*Things Past* #111).

Ted remembered some of the people of means or some note in Mt Evelyn. Jack and Mrs O'Connor from the Post Office were 'great personalities'. Jack came from a good Catholic family. In those days it was an offence for Catholics to go into a Protestant Church. One of Jack's children peeped into the Presbyterian Church and really got into trouble over it.

Mr Flood lived on the corner of Birmingham Road and Channel Road and was noteworthy in that he owned a car. Later three old women lived in this dwelling. There was some mystery surrounding these three and an eccentric retired Army officer from India.

A Mr Greenwood who owned Beaurepaires Tyre Company, lived opposite the Matthews on Grantully Street. The Gilberts ran *Grantully Guest House*, while Dick Knowles ran the *Outlook* (*Things Past* #75) which early on had mainly workers from Silvan Dam. Outhwaites lived at *Westhill* (see [Things Past Index](#) for more information) on a few acres, though he worked as an accountant in Melbourne. It was a big rambling place with a verandah all around, 'more or less a mansion as far as Mt Evelyn was concerned'. Morrisons had an apple orchard, growing some peaches and cherries as well. School teacher Elsie Dorrington was a leading light. 'She would be our most famous citizen. Eventually Mayor of Mornington. A very active lady.' (The Elsie Dorrington Reserve in Mornington is named after her).

When the Harrison boys from Melbourne moved in they wanted to 'establish themselves' and Ted's son Allan was chased by John Harrison through the street until he sought refuge, running right through the corner shop into their kitchen for safety.

After the war, in 1947, Ted was worn out from the bakery as he had been working up to 18 hours a day, with only Allan Reid (*Things Past* #82) to help, as former employee Keith Smith had joined up for war service. Ted was baking as well as delivering when he injured his wrist playing football. Kneading the dough was all wrist work so Ted sold the bakery and did what he always wanted to do – buy a farm. He had not worked out exactly what he would do to support his family but knew he would find something. The Matthews bought twenty acres from the Underwoods (*Things Past* #109) on Old Hereford Road. The 'pimple' hill on this farm, Ted believed, was the 'Mount' of Mount Evelyn.

There were two houses on the farm and at first the Underwoods' daughter Beryl and son-in-law Ken rented, then later Ted and Edna's daughter Lauris and son-in-law (Dixon) raised their family there. The driveway ran from Old Hereford Road up past the old milking sheds and tennis court to

the houses on top of the hill. The houses were only two metres apart. The property, then called 'Ingalara', included the land where the Yarra Valley Water Tank is now located, and the present 'Seven Elms' property.

cricket pitch and even attempting golf on the Old Hereford Road farm, tragedy struck on 8th February 1983 when both houses were destroyed by a bushfire. Unwilling to start again from scratch, aged almost eighty and, sadly, unable to



The Matthews and Dixon Houses. Photo from Peter Dixon

Work turned up sooner than expected. Ted knew Theo Millard (*Things Past* #92) who had started a small grocery store with timber as a sideline. Theo rented Ted's house in Grantully Street then built two doors up. Meanwhile Theo's business grew from six employees to fifty-six and focused



entirely on the timber and joinery. Theo, aware that Ted had sold his bakery, approached him to ask if he would work as bookkeeper/office manager for three months, until the farm work really set off. Theo believed Ted's local knowledge of who was or was

not credit-worthy would prove useful. The three months lasted fifteen years!

Ted had great respect for his employer, Theo Millard, who had given him complete autonomy, so often did extra at home in order to help him out. At the same time his small farm held eight cows brought from Yarra Glen which Ted hand-milked, separating the cream and sending it to Melbourne.

In April 1954 Ted and his passenger, Mrs Iris Pierson-Jones, survived a serious collision with the train at the Birmingham Road crossing, when his car was dragged seventy feet along the track.

After thirty six years of raising children and ten grandchildren and many very happy times, playing tennis on their own court, bowling on a

find what they wanted in Mt Evelyn, the family relocated to a high position in Mooroolbark, with a view of the mountains.

On their wall they put an enlarged photograph of the view from their former home.

Ted Matthews was house boy, boundary rider, sheep butcherer, tuck pointer, butcher's deliverer, baker, office manager, dairy farmer, sportsman, and married for life to the girl with the lovely smile he had pursued with strategic resolve when he was nineteen. He passed away a year after he was interviewed in 1995, aged ninety, his wife Edna following him two years later, also aged ninety.



MT Evelyn identifies Ted and Edna Matthews who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently.

(cont p 12)

Zig Zag Hill Climb

Andrew from Melbourne wrote about the 1928 Zig Zag Hill Climb:

'I read in issue 2, 2007 of the *Things Past* newsletter that you would like some information on the results of the event, particularly the names of winning cars or drivers. I came across this article from the October 8th, 1928 edition of the *Argus* (via TROVE digitised newspapers <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/3961552#>), which describes the event, and includes the event's results.'

Fast Times on the "Zig-zag."

The roar of high-powered engines disturbed the quiet of the Mt Evelyn district on Saturday when the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria held a hill climbing test of unusual severity on the Mt Evelyn "Zig-zag." Driving skill and engine performance of a high order were called for. ...

The weather was uncertain shortly after 9 o'clock when competitors on formula "weighed out" at the Kew weighbridge. Owing to the difficulty and danger of the ascent, the officials waived the usual regulation and permitted competitors to make a trial run over the course, which measures approximately seven-eighths of a mile (1,500 yards).

Club and police motor-cycle patrols assisted in the supervision of track arrangements, and the officials using the field telephone connecting the starting and finishing points, and two intermediate controls kept the course clear and regulated the running of the cars. Conditions included a dead stop at a point about mid-way on the course. ...

Mr W. Whitbourn, in his six cylinder Graham-Paige, made the best time for the day, completing the course in 1min 59 2/5sec, under the C and D classes grouped in the trade stock standard event. Exceptional consistency was shown when, later in the day, Mr Whitbourn repeated the performance in class D in the open event, his time being the same to a fraction of a second. In the open event (B class) Mr J. A. Day, driving a four-cylinder Bugatti, obtained second place in time, covering the course in 2min, 2sec.

Lunch followed at Mr Outhwaite's house 'West Hill' at the top of the Zig Zag.

In responding [to a toast], Councillor McGhee said that he could recall the time when the hill on

which the club test was being held was traversed by little traffic other than bullocks. It had been named Bullock Hill, and he thought that it should be renamed Automobile Hill.

There are several other articles about the event:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/205473911>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/32232812>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/147066996>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/58404971>

Andrew added:

'During this COVID lockdown I have been emailing a friend each week, and as a point of interest I include a 'snippet' of local history. I find the *Things Past* newsletters a wealth of information. I have learned a good deal about the area (there were trains, and trams, a hill climb event, a first aid post, an open aqueduct splitting the town, and an aerial ropeway! And possibly some hidden WWII bunkers (but that might be bunkum).'

We are certainly fortunate to have these fascinating transport and water supply relics in our district. Some are treated in our [Hidden Histories](#) online exhibition.

You know you're *really* part of history if ... you can remember moustache cups

Invented by British potter Harvey Adams in the 1860s, moustache cups were popular in Victorian and Edwardian times, when luxuriant moustaches were in fashion. They feature an interior ledge to keep the whiskers out of the drink. They declined from the 1920s on. Not many people around today would remember them in use.

We don't have the matching saucer for this example, unfortunately. The cup has a square



'footprint' and quite dainty floral decoration. One can imagine some dashing gentleman sipping from it when taking tea with the ladies.

Since we couldn't meet or run activities safely during the last year, we decided to create an online book *Hidden Histories of Mount Evelyn*, at <http://www.hiddenhistories.mt-evelyn.net>,

HIDDEN HISTORIES
OF
MOUNT EVELYN

MOUNT EVELYN HISTORY GROUP INC

map takes poetic licence with history.

The map depicts the Evelyn region, a central hub of activity. To the north, the Evelyn River flows through the landscape, with several hills and mountains marked. The town of Evelyn is centrally located, surrounded by various smaller settlements and landmarks. To the west, the town of Brown Wood is situated near a large forest. To the east, the town of Kallorama is visible, along with the Sylvan Forest. The map also shows the Evelyn River, Lake View, and various hills and mountains. The map is titled 'EVELYN' in large, stylized letters.

Many thanks to Yarra Ranges Council for a Small Grant of \$1000 to cover the IT work and design, and thanks to Joy Phillips for hosting the book alongside our website on her mt-evelyn.net website.

Yarra Ranges Regional Museum has won an award for the interactive eBook *My Home, Yarra Ranges*. The Australian Museums and Galleries Association has awarded the Museum The Archival Survival Award for Small Museums/Galleries.

'*My Home, Yarra Ranges* follows the journey of Yelli, a Helmeted Honeyeater and Bo, a Leadbeater's Possum, as they visit places across the Yarra Ranges and uncover stories about people, objects and images from the Museum's collection. The eBook is also intertwined with puzzles, games and colouring pages produced by local artists.

To download the eBook, go to <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Experience/The-Arts/Our-creative-community/My-Home-Yarra-Ranges-eBook>

Adam Mappinson's Map of Mt Evelyn

Hawai'i: Interesting Snippets

(concluding Paula and Tim's holiday in Hawai'i)

Hawai'ians, male and female, were surfing on the sea before the Christian missionaries arrived and tried to stop the practice, not least because both sexes surfed naked. What I did not know was that Hawai'ians also 'surfed' downhill on long grass slopes! Our electronic Shaka guide led us to the remnants of Holua sled runs on Hawai'i, the Big Island. A lava run was covered in earth and grass, and the riders threw themselves onto a wooden sled to see who could go furthest and at the highest speed. This sport was particularly popular among the ruling classes and the Big Island was the home of King Kamehameha and his descendants for much of the time. The sport was used as a test of bravery, and death was not an uncommon outcome.



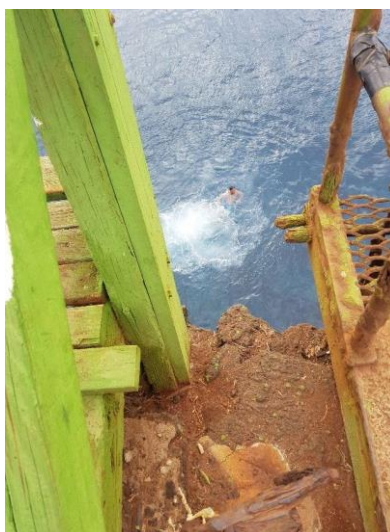
And then there is jumping into the sea from a great height! The Shaka guide led us out to an informal site at the southernmost point of the Big Island, where Hawai'ians were jumping 40-50 feet from the cliff face into the sea, and then climbing back up to repeat the fun. We did not consider joining them!

Captain Cook

The stories I had heard about Captain Cook's death always seemed a bit unbelievable. Here is a man, feted on his previous visit, and speared when he returns to repair his ship. The actual site where Cook was speared is hard to reach except by boat or a long hike, so we contented ourselves with photographing the memorial on the site from across the bay. The first bit of unusual information, is that the Hawai'ians had a warring

season and a three month Makahiki season of Harvest where battles and conflicts were prohibited. When Cook first arrived on the Big Island, he arrived in the holiday season. As a result he was welcomed and encouraged to join the festivities. All was well. When he returned needing repairs to his storm damaged ship, the Makahiki season was over. And because he was expecting a warm welcome he was a little off guard and reacted poorly to opposition.

Some Hawai'ians stole the *Resolution's* Jolly Boat (or maybe not – the stories vary). Cook offered to trade it for a wooden fence that bordered a sacred burial ground, to repair his ship. The



Hawai'ians were appalled at the crassness of defacing a burial ground. Cook took the wood anyway. He needed supplies and help to repair his ship, so he decided to kidnap Kalani'ōpu'u, an elderly High Chief, to compel

the Hawai'ians to help. He marched through the town, but as soon as he touched the old man he was surrounded and he and his men fired into the crowd. Cook was clubbed over the head, speared, and stabbed with an iron dagger. Several crew and Hawai'ians also died. The young Kamehameha, Kalani'ōpu'u's nephew, was present that day.

Most of Cook's body was never recovered. Following the traditions of the day reserved for Hawai'ian High Chiefs, the body

was disembowelled and baked to remove the flesh. The bones were cleaned and preserved. The Hawai'ians helped to repair Cook's ship, and returned some of his remains to his crew for a formal burial at sea.



Paula Herlihy

Ted Matthews (from p 8)

References

Interview of Ted Matthews by Janice Newton 6 February 1994.

Information and photos courtesy Peter Dixon.

Healesville Guardian, 17 April 1954; *The Argus* 14 April, 1954.

Lilydale Lawn Cemetery,

australiancemeteries.com.au/vic/yarra_ranges

Mt Evelyn Rovers Football Club 50th Anniversary 1931-1981.

Janice Newton

From Farms to Suburbia

A new book on the history of Mooroolbark, *From Farms to Suburbia, the Development of Mooroolbark*, is now available. Written by Anthony McAleer OAM and estate agent Geoff Earney, the book focuses on the changing patterns of land use and ownership. Many advertisements, plans and photos from past land sales are included. The attractive design is another triumph for Joy Phillips of Feralart.

The book is available from any of the offices of The Professionals real estate agents.

From Kev's Rain Gauge

Rainfall (in mm) for Mt Evelyn, McKillop, and Melbourne for the last three months.

	Nov-20	Dec-20	2020 Totals	Jan-21
Mt Evelyn	62.9	66.1	1130.5	114.1
McKillop	60.3	70.1	1212.6	110
Melbourne	48.8	42	782.6	88

McKillop readings courtesy Jean Edwards

Melbourne figures from Bureau of Meteorology: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/>

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