

Mount Evelyn History Group Inc.



Things Past

Newsletter 126

August 2022

Wurundjeri Country

PO Box 289 Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Incorporation Number A0051327F

Dates for Your Diary

Annual General Meeting, Monday 15 August, 7.30 pm, at Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Road, Mt Evelyn.

Tarralla Creek Excursion, Saturday 17 September. Details to be confirmed.

General Business Meeting, Monday 17 October, 7.30 pm at Hardy House.

November Breakup Meeting, Saturday 19th November at 1:30pm at the home of Mary and Glenn Golds, 3 Bligh Crt, Lilydale. Thank you Mary and Glenn for your offer. They have a large covered outdoor area ideal for warm or inclement weather, in fact for anything except a storm like a tornado!! You can make your own tea and coffee and we will cater for a light afternoon tea. RSVP to pherlihy3@gmail.com when you know so we can cater. All welcome, members and friends.

Meetings are 3rd Mondays of even months, 7:30 pm at Hardy House for General Business Meetings, and speaker and activity times are on alternate months at times by arrangement - please check your email inbox.

Landslide!

In This Issue...

Landslide!	1
Does Anyone Remember the Heyens?	2
Does Anyone Recognise This House?	2
Claude Park Kinane, Woodlander (1879-1927): The Artist	3
Amy Clifford, of Clifford's Corner, Part 2	5
Building in a Landslip Zone	8
50 Years of Scouting	8
A History of Whaling	8
The Meritorious Service Medal – the RSL's highest honour – to Roger Boness	10
Vale Carolyn Joyce Scarborough	11
Vale Stan Beaumont	11
From Kev's Rain Gauge	12



Lantern slide – Landslip, Dandenongs, Victoria, July 1891 [BA 1657]. Photographer A.J. Campbell, Museums Victoria, Public Domain. Creative Commons.

cont p.7

Does Anyone Remember the Heyens?

Henry and Dorothy Heyen lived on Hereford Road in 1946/1947. They could have lived in the area before then, but records place them in Mt Evelyn at that time at least.

My late mother-in-law, Coral Maxwell, was a ward of the state and lived with the Heyens for a time as a service girl from the Department of Children's Welfare. Coral would have been around 16 years old and on her second 'placement' in other people's homes. She was responsible for helping with the children, housework, cooking, and the daily running of the home. Coral loved to read, and was often chastised for stopping her work whenever she saw an open book or magazine, according to reports filed by her employer, Mrs Heyen. Coral often purchased women's magazines from the local store.

The Heyens rented their home, which might have been on the ridge part of Hereford Road, closer to Mt Evelyn than the Lilydale end. The couple, who were then in their late twenties, had four children, Barry (10), Carlyne (4), Royna (3), and baby John. John would have been born during their time at Mt Evelyn. Barry would have attended Mt Evelyn State School.

By all accounts, they were a boisterous couple, and according to the Department reports, things weren't always bright in the Heyen household. The butcher had stopped calling, and there were mentions of brawls and affairs. The name 'Gordon' was mentioned in paperwork on several occasions as an acquaintance, and not as a member of their household. Mr Henry Heyen worked as a driver in the city and was away most of the time, while Mrs Heyen was reported as being 'fond of liquor' and accused of frequenting hotels. Toward the end of August 1947, eviction was imminent.

Department records tell us that Coral was removed from their home at that time, with no shoes, and with more life experience than a girl of 16 should have known.

This request for information is not to denigrate the Heyens in any way. We all know how tough life



The grave of Henry and Dorothy Heyen, Rookwood Cemetery, NSW. Mrs Heyen lived to 91 and was a great great grandmother.

can be, particularly when the only goal is survival. I'd dearly love to know the site of their home, and any other happenings at the time that might

have affected Coral's way of life there.

Do you remember the Heyens of Hereford Road? Even vague recollections are welcome. Please email me at lisa@lisakingauthor.com with any snippet of information you can share.

Thank you,

Lisa King

Does Anyone Recognise This House?

Reg Varty writes from Queensland: I am seeking to identify the house pictured here.



The photo is captioned 'Unknown home (May have been where Emily worked)'. 'Emily' is Emily Doris Christina Varty, elder sister to my father Allan Noel Varty, of Inverness Rd, Mt. Evelyn.

Does anybody recognise this home which I understand, could, I repeat, *could*, be located in Mt. Evelyn. I would be most grateful for any information.

Contact: regv@netspace.net.au

Claude Park Kinane, Woodlander (1879-1927): The Artist

This is the first of three articles highlighting the lives of the Woodlanders, nature writers who rented 'Walden Hut' on Swansea Road between 1903 and 1907, to escape the 'throbbing city', and who went on to influence other nature writers and the youth of their generation.

Claude Park Kinane was born in 1879 to Thomas, of Tipperary, Ireland origins, and Janet (nee Cunningham) of 'Glen Isla', New Street, Brighton.¹ This large property was gardened by Thomas Kinane through the 1880s, and the picturesque driveway formed into Kinane Street in 1885.



Frederick McCubbin 'A Winter's Evening' 1897, NGV Australia.

Claude attended the Brighton Orphanage State School No. 2048 (now Brighton Beach School), which was open to local resident students as well as to the orphans who boarded there. In 1890 he

received a prize for Home Exercise and in 1893 he was listed as the highest scoring Upper 6th boy, the 'most popular boy' as well as sharing the senior drawing prize. Included in the prize list was Charles Barrett, achieving an award for Gymnastics.²

By young adulthood Claude's family lived in an environment surrounded by nature and art during times of burgeoning Australian nationalism. Between 1896 and 1901 an abandoned orchard and a cottage on the land was rented to artist Frederick McCubbin and his wife Anne. Frederick used the orchard and little stream as subjects for several of his artworks and often had gatherings of artists from the Heidelberg School.³ The

painting at left depicts the small stream that ran through the McCubbins' lease on the corner of New Street and Kinane Avenue.⁴ Brighton Beach itself was, until at least the 1960s, a 'seaside rural suburb', with tea-tree from Brighton Beach to Middle Brighton, 'thick with tracks' and the 'habitat of many birds and lizards'.⁵

The Woodlander Years

In 1903 Claude was invited to join the Woodlanders by former schoolmate Charles Barrett, who in turn had responded to the idea of Edward Brooke Nicholls. Claude worked as a law clerk at the office of his cousin Herbert Turner and resided at 37 Hope Street, South Yarra. The photographs we have of Claude show the lengths he would go to obtain a

¹ Weston Bate *History of Brighton* 1962. Lindsay Mace *Brighton Recollections* 1994. Research courtesy Andrew Arnold.

² *Caulfield and Elsternwick Leader* 27 Dec 1890, p5, *Oakleigh Leader* 30 Dec 1893, 5, *The Age* 6 Jan 1894, 11. Ancestry .com 'Cooper Coveney Family'.

³ Susan Lanteri, 'When Brighton was still a Village': Frederick McCubbin Revisited, *Brighton Historical Journal* vol 131, Summer 2004-5.

⁴ Lanteri, 'When Brighton was still a Village'.

⁵ Bate 1962, Lindsay Mace *Brighton Recollections* 1994.



A DAMP PREDICAMENT.
Scorched above by the sun, and tormented beneath by leeches, the lot of the bird-photographer is not always a happy one.

Charles Kinane at work. *New Idea* 6/2/1906 IV 'Nature and the Camera'.

good bird photograph. He took up land in Gippsland about the time of the final visits of E. Brooke Nicholls and Charles Barrett to Walden Hut in 1907.⁶

"The Artist" was an artist in the sense of a photographer. He was really a solicitor's clerk but he showed great skill and patience to become a pioneer of nature photography.⁷ He was the only Woodlander to try to survive permanently by living on the land.

Marriage and farming

After a long five year engagement, due to a lack of finance, Claude married Brighton neighbour Elizabeth Ower in 1910. The Owers had Scottish ancestry and, after migrating in the early 1850s, had some success in Camperdown, after which they moved to Brighton and built a mansion called 'Leura' on The Esplanade. Without a honeymoon, Claude and Elizabeth moved to a small house on land at Neerim East, which Claude had named 'Glen Isla' after his Brighton home.

Elizabeth had modern ideas about the scope for women in society. She had tried being a governess, then learned typing and shorthand and

had taken a position in an insurance company. She was however a city girl, terrified of snakes, and her childhood in an affluent household with servants ill-prepared her for cooking and life at the new Gippsland 'Glen Isla'.⁸

Describing himself as a farmer/orchardist in 1910,⁹ Claude wrote a letter to *The Argus* commenting on the value of netting to prevent rabbit damage to grain crops, including his own illustrative photographs.¹⁰

In 1911 Claude and Elizabeth's daughter, Marjorie Valentine, was born in Warragul. A few months after the birth, the family had to leave the Neerim property. Rabbits were not the only problem. Irish potato blight took hold in the area and his potatoes could not be sold. It seems likely that Elizabeth's father, William Ower, financed their move to an orchard in Lilydale/Mt Evelyn, back in the neighbourhood of 'Walden Hut'.¹¹

Between 1914 and 1924 Claude was listed as an orchardist in Lilydale.¹² In 1915 their son, William Ower Kinane, was born in Lilydale.¹³ Citing his address as Mt Evelyn, in 1922, Claude wrote to *The Argus* about the greater likelihood of local owners burning off being the cause of large bushfires than the urban visitors boiling their billies and lighting up cigarettes. He had nearly been burned out three times.¹⁴ A letter to the local *Lilydale Express* soon after, expressed his shared concern with others over 'road pirate' cattle roaming free and causing damage to farms.¹⁵

cont p.9

⁶ First mention in Neerim electoral roll is 1908.

⁷ Charles Barrett *Koonawarra*, 1939,.

⁸ Family Notes of William Johnston Ower 1917-1918, augmented by memories of Marjorie Kinane.

⁹ Electoral Rolls 1914-1925.

¹⁰ *The Argus* 13 Aug 1910, p.7.

¹¹ Family Notes of William Johnston Ower 1917-1918, augmented by memories of Marjorie Kinane.

¹² Ancestry.com Electoral Rolls.

¹³ Births Deaths and Marriages Victoria

¹⁴ *The Argus* 22 Dec 1922.

¹⁵ *Lilydale Express* 26 Jan 1923, p.1.

Amy Clifford, of Clifford's Corner, Part 2

(For Part 1 see *Things Past* #125, May 2022)

Clifford Shearing's mother, Amy Edith Alice May, known as 'Bon', told him about her home at Clifford's Corner in Mt Evelyn. Ever since Clifford can remember his mother was called Bon, a nickname she picked up as a young woman in Melbourne -- from the kitchen cleanser Bon Ami. He never heard anyone call her Amy.

Amy/Bon was born in 1902, and attended Evelyn State School, which opened in 1910. Her mother, Mrs Sarah Clifford, was elected to the first Evelyn School Committee in April 1911, and was highly regarded in the community.

Mentions of 'Amy Clifford' in newspaper reports of school and Sunday School events show her as active and involved. School Empire Day celebrations in 1911 included races for the children, with Amy coming first in the girls' race.¹⁶ She received second prize at the Evelyn Methodist Sunday School first anniversary event in 1912.¹⁷ At the 1914 school Christmas Party 'the occasion was taken to present Amy Clifford and Alex Morrison with their qualifying certificates'.¹⁸ At a patriotic concert in aid of the Wounded Soldiers' Fund, 'the children sang "*Rule Britannia*", a pretty effect being added by the unfolding of a curtain displaying the figure of Britannia, portrayed by Miss Amy Clifford, who was arrayed in all the historic panoply of the Ruler of the Waves.'¹⁹ Performing in a cantata '*A Day in the Woods*' in 1916, Amy sang '*Grandmother's Song*'.



Amy Clifford, c. 1941-3, in Durban, South Africa, with Smuts, the family's Doberman Pinscher, and a family friend, Roy Faulks. Photo supplied by Clifford Shearing.

Her mother was one of the four ladies commended for making the excellent costumes.²⁰ Around 1915, "It was a wet day", recalled Alec Fall, who began school in 1912, "and there was only about a half dozen of us at school, and we had to have nature study, and Amy Clifford was the oldest girl in the school at the time. She was doing an examination paper, and me being a nice young feller ... we were doing nature study on moths ... I dipped my moth in the inkwell, and threw it over there and it lobbed on her examination paper ..."²¹ Bon married an Australian, Carl Welman, and went out to Durban, South Africa, with him in the

1930s as part of a move by the firm Felt and Textiles (later Feltex) to set up business there. Carl was an electrical engineer. Felt and Textiles ceased operating in 1970.

Carl and Bon divorced in Durban, and she married Clifford's father Cecil Shearing. Clifford thinks his mother always regretted whatever happened to sour things with Carl.

Clifford believes the man in the picture is Roy Faulks, an Australian, who was the Managing Director of Felt and Textiles. He came to South Africa, he believes, on the same vessel as Bon and Carl Welman, to establish the South African branch of the company.

The dog, Smuts (named after the South African Prime Minister), a Doberman Pinscher, was famous in Clifford's family for many things including delivering papers from his Mum and Dad's first grocery shop. The delivery person, who rode a bike, would give a paper to Smuts, who would take it to the customer's front door, clearing the gate if necessary to do so. He was also, so family legend has it, famous for catching burglars. Apparently he never barked. He

¹⁶ *Lilydale Express* 2/6/1911.

¹⁷ *Lilydale Express* 15/11/1912.

¹⁸ *Ringwood & Croydon Chronicle* 25/12/1914.

¹⁹ *Ringwood & Croydon Chronicle* 2/6/25/12/1916.

²⁰ *Lilydale Express* 17/11/1916.

²¹ *Mt Evelyn Primary School No 3652: 1910 – 2010 Centenary Edition*, p.10.

would let a burglar in but not let them leave. He would come up quietly from behind them as they were leaving, put his front paws on their shoulders, take them by the back of their necks and then hold on to them flaying and screaming until Mum arrived, and asked Smuts to release the burglar — which might only happen once the police arrived.

Smuts was also Clifford's guardian, when Bon was working in the store while her husband was away in Egypt in World War II. Smuts would be left to guard baby Clifford's pram. Apparently no one ever dared to come near; his low but menacing growl was sufficient to keep them at bay. Clifford was told that once he started crawling and climbing onto his Mum's lap, Smuts become jealous of him. His parents became worried that Smuts was unreliable, and gave him to a friend who lived in an area called The Bluff, with coastal bush. Smuts died after being bitten by a monkey.

Among Bon's fondest memories was going to school on horseback. The Mt Evelyn Primary School history mentions that her mother took her to school on a lead pony. The school had no pony paddock to our knowledge, so the pony could not stay at the school the whole day. To her children, Bon spoke about riding to school on her own and then slapping her pony Nellie on the rump and sending it trotting off home. She said her mother did the same when it was time for her to get picked up.

In reconciling the stories, it is likely that when she was young she would have been on a lead pony in both directions. After a while the pony would know the routine and Amy was independent enough to ride alone, so Nellie could be slapped on the rump to return home in the morning. That much was common practice. It would be more unusual if the pony could be sent up to the school by itself in the afternoon, but it

sounds as if Amy mentioned the fact because it was noteworthy.

Clifford was told his mother's family raised horses in Mt Evelyn, maybe draught horses for cartage. Alf Knowles noted that 'the Cliffords were well to do and had a holiday house'.²² They also cut wood; from Janice Newton's research, this it is likely to have been for the Railways. When Clifford was very young, about five, his Mum had him on a horse at a guest farm. He got on after breakfast and wouldn't get off until supper time!

Bon came back once to Australia, in the mid-1950s. She visited her only close relative, nephew Bruce Clifford, who lived in Camberwell. Clifford recalls that it wasn't a happy visit for her, as Bruce was very busy and couldn't spend a lot of time with his aunt. Clifford visited him in the mid-1980s, and he and his wife Barbara were very welcoming. They seemed completely unaware of Bon's disappointment.

Bon described how all of her brothers had died of illness or accident when they were relatively young. She spoke particularly about Arthur's accident with the horse and cart (see Part 1 in previous issue). Arthur, born in 1890, was the youngest of the boys, and died at 16 in 1905.

Clifford had heard his grandfather had died in a farm accident — probably a reference to Samuel's death while cutting wood in 1928, described in Part 1.

Clifford traced descendants of one family member to find 'they were "hillbillies" in Tasmania — in-bred and very strange'. He says he is pleased to be related to 'strange but interesting' rather than 'boring'! He was happy for us to include the less

savory news items about his relatives for the same reason!

Personal information as told by Clifford Shearing to Paula Herlihy



Amy 'Bon' Clifford with her daughter and son. Photo courtesy Clifford Shearing.

²² Notes, Alf Knowles, 1960s.

Landslide!

from p.1

The steep western face of the Dandenongs, especially at Montrose, has always been prone to landslides. A 1993 study by the Shire of Lillydale identified sites of twelve major landslides that had occurred in the previous 150 years, and many smaller ones. The great landslide of 1891 still stands out as a terrifying example.

'The landslip occurred in the Montrose area in the early afternoon of Sunday 12 July 1891 following three days of continuous heavy rain. Large gum trees were hurled into the air and large rocks weighing many tons were tossed around, as 30,000 cubic metres of earth slid down the mountain at an estimated speed of 40km per hour. The landslip covered an area 1.4km long.'²³

The debris flowed north to Heathfield Creek, surged up the opposite side of the gully, sank back, and then followed the gully north-east as far as The Boulevard. Two people, William Jeeves and Mrs Herschell, were caught in the debris flow and were lucky to escape with their lives. A house, outbuildings, garden and bridge were destroyed and two horses swept away and killed. Montrose was sparsely settled then. A landslide on that scale today could have catastrophic results.

Tracing what remained of the landslide more than 130 years later, Kevin and I identified likely remnants of the debris flow at Sheffield Road and in the eastern corner of Richards Reserve. In the Heathfield Creek Reserve at Belvedere Drive, a small playground is located on the debris mound (a jumble of compacted earth and rock fragments). A dividing line between forest and regrowth is visible on the mountain side above Montrose township. This line probably marks the start of a landslip and may be from 1891. The site remained visible for many years.

'There's a great scar on the side of a neighbouring hill, where a landslide occurred long ago. ... Nature

tries to hide it with her living mantle; but for some reason plants are shy of growing there.'²⁴

The 1993 study describes the landslide site as a scarp located about 350 metres west of the junction of Ridge Road and Falls Road, Mt Dandenong (photo p. 1).²⁵ That would put it at Melway 52 F11, below the Kyeema Track. We found a likely spot along the track, where there is a rock scatter on the surface, the slope drops away sharply from a levelled area, and another track leads straight down. We didn't descend this near-vertical track; we'd never have got up again.

Mt Evelyn has had landslides, generally not on the steep western side, but along the Aqueducts. In 1923 a large landslide was caused by the flushing of the 'syphon' (piped section) on the O'Shannassy Aqueduct between Forest Road and Clegg Road.²⁶ In December 1934 a 'slow-motion' landslide breached the channel between Silvan and Mt Evelyn.



Workmen with steam shovel and cart repairing the Silvan Aqueduct after the landslide, January 1935. Photo Cedric (Louise) Hordern.

'After the heavy downpour when 13½ inches of rain were recorded in 30 hours, the storm water caused several huge fissures to develop in the hillside, which eventually shifted on a face of about 150 yards wide, for a depth of 16 chains, completely blocking the foundation and causing the cement casing to collapse.

²³ 'Development in Areas of Possible Slope Instability', Shire of Lillydale 1993, pp.43-45.

https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0022/401755/mann-NPS1-Development-in-Areas-of-Possible-Slope-Instability-Resident-Information-Guide,-Shire-of-Lillydale,-November-1993.PDF

²⁴ Charles Barrett 1942, *From a Bush Hut*, Cassell, p.130.

The book is semi-fictional but it describes accurately the environment around the Olinda Creek valley.

²⁵ <https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/791422>

²⁶ *The Reporter* (Box Hill), 1/6/1923.

Gangs of men, working continuously night and day, have since been employed clearing the debris from the channel, where two huge Iron pipes have been temporarily placed in position over the damaged portion to maintain the flow, which is the main source of supply to Melbourne at the present time. The whole surface of the hillside appears to be sliding downward, carrying huge trees, fencing, and Mr Henderson's raspberry patch intact towards the watercourse.²⁷

Five months later another major landslide occurred in Montrose, wrecking the O'Dowd house (*Things Past* #125). The site must have been at, or close to, the 1891 site. Landslides can recur on the same spot, so building on old debris flows is not a good idea.

Karen Phillips

Building in a Landslip Zone

When we were building our house in Currajong Avenue Mt Evelyn in 1974, there was a lot of discussion of landslip, as we are on a slope leading down to an unnamed creek.

Ultimately the builder recommended that we excavate a 16 foot deep hole and fill it with concrete to act as an anchor to hinder the house slipping downhill on its slab, and this was done. He said any pipes into or out of the slab would probably break at the slab edge as it moved over time (due to landslips and earthquakes).

There was quite a break over the far side of our creek that we have always assumed was a landslip – like a small earth cliff stretching across the block. I'd say it was around a two foot drop, maybe even two and a half. The length was maybe half to three quarters of the width of the block (50–75 yards) but it might have extended into the neighbouring property.

At first I thought it was an old walking track cut into the side of the bank, but as I looked more closely realised it definitely wasn't a track. We decided it was an earth slip, especially since our

builder and others had been talking about them. For example there was maiden hair fern at the top and the bottom, as if a patch of fern had been divided. I think it looked fresh-ish then, in the mid-1970s, the order of ten years old.

When I was home with the kids in the 1970s I used to notice lots of small earthquakes – sufficient to rattle the glass in the window frames.

Paula Herlihy

50 Years of Scouting

1st Mt Evelyn Scouts recently celebrated Barry Kennedy's 50 years as a Cub, Scout and Venturer Leader. He has been a Cub Leader with 1st Mt Evelyn for 30 years, and is also Ranger at the Clifford Park Activity Centre, Wonga Park. At a ceremony on 1 June, Barry was presented with a certificate acknowledging his 50 years of service.



Barry Kennedy receives his 50 Year Award. Photo Kevin Phillips.

A History of Whaling

The origin of whaling in North America and also in Australia was the topic of Ross Martin's talk at our July meeting. His interest was sparked when he discovered that one of his ancestors had worked in the whaling industry.

Ross has kindly made his notes available, and we will include these in the next issue of *Things Past*.

²⁷ *Healesville & Yarra Glen Guardian*, 15/12/1934.

Claude Park Kinane

from p 4

The public record and family history suggest that the Kinanes struggled with their farming enterprises. 'Claude was never a success – as the world sees success. He was a very hard-working man, and strictly honest ... but never made more than a bare living.'²⁸

By 1922 Claude and Elizabeth were forced to leave the orchard. Claude was in poor health. He was described as a thin nervy man, prone to headaches. A knee injury ended the possibility of his continuing to farm. The couple moved to Beaumaris and took on a wood yard and produce business in East Malvern. They were doing well and thinking of buying a car when tragedy struck.²⁹

Death and Legacy

Claude Kinane died six hours after a head on collision with a car when riding his motor cycle in Jasper Road Bentleigh in 1927, aged 45. He suffered a dislocated shoulder and broken arms. He died of shock after surgery.³⁰

Although the driver of the vehicle had drunk some alcohol and was driving down the centre of the road, a witness stated that Kinane declined to make a statement as 'he didn't want to get the poor beggar into trouble'.³¹ The Inquest determined that the death was accidental, after a visiting doctor declared that the driver of the car was not drunk.³²

Claude's wife Elizabeth tried to run the business for a while, then rented it out and took up work mending stockings. She managed to educate her

children and make ends meet, even so far as being able to have holidays by renting out her home in the summer months.³³ Daughter Marjorie Kinane completed University High School, worked as a teacher, bookkeeper and carer-companion for her mother. Most of her later working life was with Connellan Airways in Alice Springs, where she was awarded a posthumous Order of Australia for her service to community health in 1988. Her brother William became an engineer, radio station and business manager and active community member in Warwick, Queensland.³⁴



Janice Newton and Elizabeth,
grand-daughter of Claude Kinane,
NSW, 2021.

William's only daughter Elizabeth, and her daughter's family, live in inland NSW, where Elizabeth is very involved with wildlife rescues. After the death of Claude, *The Emu* published an obituary noting the fine work in nature-photography that had 'attracted much attention years ago.'

'As one of a party of young nature students, who called themselves "The Woodlanders" and spent week-ends in a hut ... named after

Thoreau's "Walden" Claude Kinane got some bird-pictures which have never since been equalled in Australia. He was the first to get pictures of the newly-hatched Cuckoo throwing its fellow-nestlings – some Blue Wrens – out of the nest, and no one has since succeeded in getting Cuckoo pictures at the same interesting stage.'³⁵ This special photograph was sent to the British Museum after a request from a volunteer there, but no record of this has been found.³⁶ Claude's photographic legacy remains the stunning photographs in the New Idea articles; his image in the newspaper of his rabbit proof wire netting;

²⁸ Family Notes of William Johnston Ower 1917-1918, augmented by memories of Marjorie Kinane.

²⁹ Family Notes of William Johnston Ower 1917-1918, augmented by memories of Marjorie Kinane.

³⁰ Claude Kinane Inquest 21 June 1927, VPRS 29/P/0000, Unit 001115, 1927/705.

³¹ *The Age* 22 June 1927, p. 14.

³² Claude Kinane Inquest 21 June 1927, VPRS 29/P/0000, Unit 001115, 1927/705.

³³ Family Notes of William Johnston Ower 1917-1918, augmented by memories of Marjorie Kinane.

³⁴ Ancestry.com Electoral Rolls 1940s to 1980, *Warwick Daily News* early 1950s.

³⁵ *The Emu* Vol 27, 1927, 61,

<https://www.publish.csiro.au/mu/pdf/MU927061>

³⁶ Barrett 1939, p. 35. Charles Barrett claimed that the British Museum of Natural History had the cuckoo photos after a request from R. Lydekker.

and two commissioned photographs of the South Yarra Presbyterian Cricket Club and The Robert Harper and Co's Scratch Football Team.³⁷ His school results and letters to the editor demonstrate his facility with language but it seems more likely that the bulk of the lyrical and descriptive words written by the 'Woodlanders' were by Charles Barrett and Edward Brooke Nicholls. However, it was Claude Kinane who 'followed the gleam' of Henry Thoreau's inspirational thought in Walden most literally, in his attempt to abandon city life for a simple rural life where one could pare down one's needs and live close to nature.

Janice Newton

The Meritorious Service Medal – the RSL's highest honour – to Roger Boness

The nominee must already be a Life Member of the League, and have given outstanding service to the RSL over a long period of time. It is awarded on a very limited basis to preserve its prestige. Roger joined the Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch in 1972, was President from 2011 – 2021 following retirement, and was awarded Life Membership in 2019. He is currently Vice President.

At a ceremony on Sunday 26th June the State Vice President Terry Makings AM presented the award as the State President was in Queensland. Sadly for those present, the man himself was isolating at home with Covid 19, but it meant we could praise Roger as he truly deserves, and spare his blushes. His award was accepted on his behalf by Betty Crittenden.

A friend from his days in Vietnam related how Roger looked after his men 'like a mother hen', ensuring they always had everything they needed, and personally carrying any equipment they could not. He was in the field nine of the eleven months he was in Vietnam and nearly died when he caught malaria after being sent into the field with no malarial protection and no food.

Roger was for some time attached to a New Zealand contingent in Vietnam, and maintains close ties to this day. When he met the New Zealand commander (who was Maori and short of stature) the New Zealander said how pleased he was to see that Roger was six foot tall, white and red haired, because he would be sure to be shot first! Roger replied that his orders were to stay two steps behind the commander.

But it is Roger's work in revitalising the Mt Evelyn Sub-Branch, ensuring it remains true to the RSL's purpose of supporting members and their families, and ensuring the Branch is a member group of its local community, that has been his outstanding contribution over many years. When a Mt Evelyn member was deployed on active service in Afghanistan, Roger ensured his family was looked after while he was away, and that he received a proper welcome home on his return to Australia.

As Welfare Officer he visits members at home, in hospital and in nursing homes, and arranges gardening services, handymen and chauffeuring as required. He created an afternoon friendship group where members can enjoy indoor bowls, darts and billiards, or each other's company over afternoon tea. He oversaw the lease and refurbishment of the RSL hall; he and others maintain the gardens. He is the Sub-Branch representative on RSL's Region 2, a representative on the Yarra Valley Vietnam Veterans Committee, a guest speaker at too many groups to list including schools and Scouts, and has been a dedicated Appeals volunteer for 32 years.

Terry Makings finished by saying 'Roger, you are an outstanding person of your generation, a proud Vietnam Veteran who served his Sovereign and Australia well and a true living example of the RSL motto of *Serving Still*. You have earned the utmost respect in the [RSL] across the veteran and wider community. You are a most worthy recipient of the League's highest honour.'³⁸

Paula Herlihy

³⁷ Libraries Australia, 59986059, Series Jorgenson and Westmore Family Photographs, 1904, St Kilda Library Lib ID 68457322, 1904.

³⁸ Based on Terry Makings' speech and reminiscences of others at the event.

Vale Carolyn Joyce Scarborough 'Carol', nee Willis (16.5.1952 - 26.3.2022)

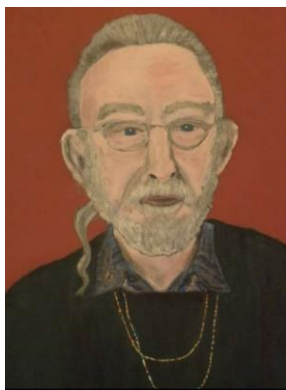


Carol was born in Burwood, daughter to Joyce and Alan Willis. The family moved to Mt Evelyn in the 1950s and that's where I met Carol as we went to Mt. Evelyn Primary School together and then on to Lilydale High.

Carol's first job was working at Coles and then as a Nanny for the Norris family at 'Olinda Park' in Lilydale, a beautiful property which has since been developed. Carol lived at the Buckmasters' house when she was sixteen.

She was involved with the Peugeot club and participated in motorkhanas. I remember being in the orange Peugeot with her, travelling down Old Lilydale Road like it was a race track and hanging on for dear life. Carol was also involved in the Wandin East Tennis Club and the Wandin East Primary School where her children went to school. She was a member of the Pine Ridge Tennis Club in Clegg Road Mt Evelyn.

Carol had a talent for painting and drawing which she discovered later in life and was awarded a 'runner's up' prize for her portrait of her uncle 'Nelson Wilson' in the 'Not The Archies', the Yarra Valley's alternative to the Archibald Prize.



Carol loved to sing and enjoyed many different genres of music including Open Mic nights where she would get up on stage with her tambourine. Caz and I shared many good times together, she was funny, quirky, open minded and always ready

for anything. We became blood sisters in Primary School.

She will be sadly missed and fondly remembered.

Mary Golds

Vale Stan Beaumont (June 26 1934 – July 4 2022)

Stan was from Liverpool in the north west of England. He was a fan of Liverpoolian stand-up comics and was himself noted as a humorous speaker and joke teller.

He joined the British permanent army and spent several years in Cyprus. He worked with machinery in various factories during his working life, rising to responsible positions.

A very sociable man, he spent most of his life as

a Freemason, and was proud to have been a Grand Master of four lodges, and to have been welcomed at lodges around the world, including India. His nickname from these circles was 'Radar' – a joke because he said he had absolutely no sense of direction and was always getting lost.

After moving to Mt Evelyn in 2014, he joined several groups including Probus, the RSL, the Mt Evelyn Township Group and the Mt Evelyn History Group. He greatly enjoyed outings and events.

Stan had two great passions in later life, his lifetime of collecting (see *Things Past* #106 August 2017), and birds. When I met him he had

two cockatiels in a large cage in his lounge-room at Mt Evelyn. The birds flew freely in the house during the day. He fed birds outside, and many were attracted to talk to his cockatiels through the windows.



His principal collecting interests were cigar bands, matchboxes and beer labels, and he was disappointed to find that cigar bands were not collected in Australia. He had belonged to two Belgian cigar band collecting clubs, attended major cigar band collectors' events in Europe, and kept up correspondence with many other collectors. The British magazine *Lancashire Life* did a full page article on him, and he was given a full page in the Australian magazine *Collectormania*. He is listed as the main cigar band contact in the Scottish publication *The Lyle Price Guide to Collectibles*.³⁹ At Christmas in 2016, he donated his collection of model cars to children (*Mt Evelyn Mail* Tuesday 6 December 2016). In 2019 Stan (and birds) moved to 'Sylvan Glades' in Monbulk. He passed away just past his 88th

birthday. His daughter Janet posted, 'As in life, his stubbornness saw him hanging in there when his body was telling him to let go. May he fly high and Rest In Peace with his beloved birds'.

Stan is survived by two sons and his daughter Janet, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Janet and her sons Jack and Tom live in Melbourne.



This photo shows Stan and daughter Janet, 21 April 2019.

Paula Herlihy

From Kev's Rain Gauge				
Rainfall (in mm) for Mt Evelyn, McKillop, and Melbourne for the last 3 months.				
	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	YTD
Mt Evelyn	50.0	154.2	67.6	482.6
McKillop	48.5	180.9	79.6	532.1
Melbourne	24.0	52.4	36.2	326.0

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

Contact Us

President: Paula Herlihy, telephone 9736 2935, pherlihy3@gmail.com

Editor: Paula Herlihy, pherlihy3@gmail.com

Memberships: Tim Herlihy, therlihyau@gmail.com

Newsletter distribution: Kevin Phillips, kev.phillips@bigpond.com

Newsletter layout: Alison Martin

General enquiries: mtevelynhistorygroup@gmail.com

Postal address: Mount Evelyn History Group Inc., PO Box 289, Mt Evelyn, VIC 3796, Australia.

Website: www.mt-evelyn.net/historygroup

Archived newsletters: <http://www.mt-evelyn.net/thingspast>

Mt Evelyn History Tools Blogsite: <http://mtevelynhistorytools.blogspot.com.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MtEvelynHistoryGroup2016/>

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

³⁹ Tony Curtis 1983, *The Lyle Price Guide to Collectibles*, Lyle Publications, Scotland.