

PREVIOUS MEETINGS, EVENTS AND NEWSLETTERS

20 April 2016: Lambis Englezos “The Missing of Fromelles” Report by Marilyn Moore

As a precursor to the centenary of the first battle Australians fought on the Western Front at Fromelles, during World War 1, on July 19th 1916, a joint Coburg Historical Society meeting and Moreland libraries event was held. It attracted about 48 attendees to hear an informative and inspiring talk by Lambis Englezos and to see his Power Point presentation. Many of those present were either descendants of the soldiers who had survived the battle, whom Mr Englezos called “the Miracles” or were descendents seeking information about the process of finding the final resting place of and identifying their dead relatives. Lambis Englezos believes the graves of 10,000 missing Australians are still unknown. His talk was illustrated with original black and white British and German historic photographs and coloured photographs of his campaign to have 1,336 missing Australian bodies found, identified and reinterred in marked graves at Pheasant Wood Cemetery.

Lambis’ talk began with the story of the battle of Fromelles. The battle was a ‘feint’-a diversion to redirect German resources away from the Somme where Britain was sustaining numerous casualties. At Fromelles, the Germans had occupied the high ground for several months ago and had dug in their machine gun positions. They had even built a light railway behind their frontline. The Australians had been there only one week before British Lieutenant General Richard (‘the butcher’) Haking gave the order to start the battle. There was a high water table on the lower ground requiring sandbagging which had to be climbed up and over to begin the fight. There was a 400 yards wide no man’s land of open ground between the front lines where German cross machine gun fire at knee level could mow down the Australian and British troops.

The high Australian death toll in this battle was a senseless loss. Apparently the Victorian battalion was wiped out in 30 minutes with 26 pairs of brothers and many fathers and sons being killed during the battle. Many died trying to rescue their badly wounded ‘cobbers’. It resulted in the greatest number of Australian military casualties (5,500 killed or wounded) in 24 hours in our history. The actions of one of the Australian Commander James McCay, (5th Division) were despised by his troops.

Many women back in Australia died not knowing what had happened to their missing husbands, brothers, or sons and where they had been buried. During the presentation, Coburg Historical Society member Paula Hyndes (also a member of the Friends of the 15 th Brigade) read, with great feeling and empathy, a heart breaking letter from one of the mothers whose son was “missing”.

Englezos’ campaign began in 2003. He lobbied politicians, used the mass media and advocated on behalf of relatives of the missing to have the location of the mass graves found, the exhumation and identification of the bodies and their dignified reburial. His persistence and perseverance as well as his detective work, and multiple visits to Fromelles eventually paid off in 2008. In 2009 bodies in 3 pits were found to be buried on top of each other and separated by soil but in the later pits there was evidence of the bodies were thrown in. As it

was found that British and Australian troops had been buried together in the pits, the United Kingdom and Australia shared the cost of the identification of the remains.

By 2009, the bodies of 240 Australian soldiers had been recovered from 8 pits or mass graves. The identity of 96 had been researched, verified and their remains had received a dignified burial, giving closure to their families. The identity of another 144 Australian soldiers is under investigation. Many more Australian bodies remain to be found and identified at such places as Bullecourt, Villiers-Bretonneux and on the Anzac Peninsula at Krithia

At the end of his presentation, Lambis answered many questions, which indicated the considerable interest in this issue. He was thanked for his excellent presentation and presented with a small gift.

16 March 2016: Dr Janet Scarfe and others "The East Melbourne Historical Society World War 1 project." Report by Marilyn Moore.

A small audience was present at the Coburg Library meeting room, on a warm March night to hear and see Dr Scarfe's excellent presentation on her Historical Society's World War 1 Project. She spoke and gave a Power Point presentation. Her talk started with some relevant Australian War Memorial statistics:

- 420,000 Australians enlisted to fight in World War 1
- 330,000 served overseas
- 155,000 Australians were wounded
- 61,514 Australians died

The East Melbourne Historical Society project grew out of a guest lecture by Major General Mark O'Brien on the exhumation and reburial of Australian service men who had died during the 1916 Battle of Fromelles.

Those considered for study in the project had a East Melbourne connection. This meant they either had enlisted there, given an East Melbourne address for their next of kin, were brought up, lived in, worked in, owned or operated a business or attended church (eg St Peter's Eastern Hill) in East Melbourne. After careful consideration, well known candidates for inclusion -Matron Grace Wilson, Nurse Alice Ross-King and General Sir John Monash- were excluded from the project.

The research and development of a template and website were undertaken by members with either historical research training, IT expertise, good local history knowledge, military knowledge or graphic design skills.

The East Melbourne Society has completed over 500 biographies ranging in length from-300 and 500 words to as long as 3,000 words. The basic information biographies include information on enlistment, unit, service; battles fought, service medals awarded and a photograph. The 40 longer biographies are up to 3000 words in length and comprise the life stories of nurses, written by Dr Scarfe. There are still 20 more nurse biographies to be

researched and written.

The Society gained a grant, which has been spent on exhibition panels and free booklets. The “For King and Country” Exhibition was staged in October and November 2014, and “Gone to War as Sister “ about Great War East Melbourne Nurses was initially staged in August 2015 for 2 weeks and is being revived in April 2016. The Exhibitions were staged within the East Melbourne community, at their local George Street library. Successful openings were organized and hosted for both exhibitions.

Dr Scarfe told the story and showed us photographs of and website entries for several East Melbourne servicemen and nurses. She summarised the findings of her East Melbourne nurse research. She gave hints on what to include on exhibition panels, how to present the information and how to promote the events.

The Coburg Historical Society Secretary, Dr Cheryl Griffin briefly summed up and thanked Dr Scarfe for her informative talk. Our appreciation for her talk was shown by the presentation of a small gift.

Dr Scarfe has agreed to give a curator’s talk for Coburg Historical Society members of the “Gone to War as Sister” exhibition at 1 pm Saturday April 23 at the East Melbourne library, George Street. If you missed Dr Scarfe’s 16 March presentation, and would like to know more about the East Melbourne World War 1 nurses, you are welcome to attend this event.

5 March 2016: Frank Burke “The Old Hume Highway 31-present and future” at Bridie O’Reilly’s Hotel, corner of Sydney and Brunswick Roads, Brunswick. Report by Marilyn Moore

The combined Moreland Historical Societies 2016 meeting was attended by 22 people, including four members of the Coburg Historical Society. It was hosted by the Brunswick Community History Group. The guest speaker, Frank Burke is based in Hamilton Hume’s House at Yass and he talked about the Old Hume Highway 31 project he is co-ordinating. The National Trust is involved in the project. The road was named after the explorer Hamilton Hume and it has been variously called the Hume Highway, Freeway, or Motorway, but never gazetted.

His talk included the playing of the CD “We-re going everywhere...on the Old Hume Highway” sung by Lucky Star and based on his 1962 hit. Coburg Brunswick and Campbellfield are named in the song. Mr Burke has contacted and collected written information and computer visual images from the three Moreland Historical Societies through which the old Hume highway passes as well as the districts of other historical societies, cut by the highway route extending from the Murray River to the former Melbourne Haymarket. He estimated the Old Hume Highway passed through 86 settlements. The material collected and summarized will be put into either a separate or combined New South Wales and Victorian tourist guide to the Old Hume Highway 31.

A New South Wales Old Hume highway 31 spiral bound book has already been completed

with the help of the NSW Transport Roads and Maritime Services. Frank handed around a copy, which is now sold out. The book contained many maps showing the route of the current and former highway. Unfortunately, the Victorian Country Roads Board had not replied to an e-mail sent by Burke about 10 years ago and so the book was confined to NSW. However, now Vic Roads is interested in participating in the project but the “Kennetting” of their Heritage system is proving a great difficulty. Vic Roads must sign off on the finished draft before publication. The NSW and Victorian Road authorities are expected to provide suitable signage directing users to the old highway 31.

There are possibilities of a future Hume Highway television series to mark the 200 year anniversary of the road in 2019 and a dramatization of the story of explorer Hamilton Hume. A tour for drivers of pre 1986 registered cars from Melbourne to Albury along the old Hume highway is being planned with the help of the National Trust (Victoria)

The Brunswick Community Historical Society President asked Mr Bourke to outline the benefits of this project to the various individual historical societies involved. The Coburg Historical Society President, Mr McIlvena stated that he expected the project would promote the road and would generate more tourist interest in the places nominated by the societies and included in the book.

At the conclusion of the talk, the Brunswick Community History Group President led participants, in reading aloud the list of places through which the old highway 31 passes and an attempt was made to sing along with the CD. She thanked Mr Bourke for his talk and presented him with a gift to show our appreciation of his attendance.

17 February 2016: Lucy Sussex: "Fergus Hume's Blockbuster: The Mystery of a Hansom Cab and 1880s Melbourne" Report by Marilyn Moore.

Lucy Sussex was invited by Coburg Historical Society to be the guest speaker at their first meeting for 2016. It was also listed and publicised as a Moreland Libraries Read More event, held on February 17th 2016, at Coburg Library Meeting Room. Lucy was born in New Zealand but now resides in Brunswick. There were about 50 attendees. Lucy used a Power Point presentation to illustrate her talk based on two books. The first was *The Mystery of the Hansom Cab*, written by Fergus Hume (1859-1935). This book was published in Melbourne in 1886 and was a pioneering work in crime genre as well as a global publishing phenomenon. She also spoke about her recently written and published book about Hume and his book titled *Block buster! Fergus Hume and the Mystery of the Hansom Cab*, which won the 2015 Community History publication award. Towards the end of her talk she explained that her interest in *The Mystery of the Hansom Cab* and its author was “sparked” when she was paid to read it, as well as other nineteenth century Australian crime novels, in the State Library of Victoria.

Ms Sussex told us an interesting story about the life of “dandy” Fergus Hume and his first book. He was born in an English mental asylum where his Father worked. He was the youngest of 5 children. The family emigrated to New Zealand in 1861. He was mostly brought up by his older sisters and educated in New Zealand, where he graduated with a law

degree from Otago University although he wanted to be a play write and theatre director. He and one sister left New Zealand for Melbourne in May 1885. Fergus took a job as a solicitor's clerk and apparently also a bank clerk, whilst he researched and wrote his book, based on a detective, a mystery and a murder model and set in deeply divided "Marvellous Melbourne" of the 1880s economic boom with its extremes of great wealth and poverty. Lucy explained the reason for Hume writing his book and how difficulties in getting it published were overcome. New and successful marketing measures were used. Unfortunately he sold the book's copy write to Australian Jessie Taylor for only 50 pounds. Hume returned home to England in 1888, wrote about 140 novels of varying worth and remained there until he died in 1932, "not rich but well respected."

At the end of her talk, Lucy answered the questions posed by the audience. She was presented with a gift on behalf of Coburg Historical Society. Then copies of her books were offered for sale and Lucy was happy to sign them.

December 2015 A new issue of 'Search' has been released: No. 105 DECEMBER 2015: Contents include Coburg Swimming Club and the Three Mile Yarra Swim (final instalment) / Marilyn Moore p654. Old news: Christmas Day Races at Coburg 1897; Christmas in Pentridge 1876; Father Christmas at school [East Coburg State School] 1926 p656. Historic 19th century Coburg: Convict bridges; The American cottage; The Grove (formerly Moreland Grove) p657.

18 November 2015: Joy Braybrook: "John Pascoe Fawkner" Report by Marilyn Moore

On the evening of November 18th 2015, two years after she spoke to Coburg Historical Society members about John Batman, Joy Braybrook was welcomed back to talk to us about and show her Power Point presentation on Batman's rival for the title of Founder of Melbourne, John Pascoe Fawkner.

Coburg has direct links to Fawkner. He acquired two large parcels of land wholly or partially within its boundaries at the early land sales. Sydney Road ,Coburg cuts through one of Fawkner's sections comprising 369 acres which extended from Bell to Reynard Street and Moonee Ponds Creek to Bruce Street. The western area of Coburg and therefore the central western area of Moreland carries the name Pascoe Vale or Pascoe Vale South. Just outside the boundaries of Coburg, the north eastern area of present day Moreland is called Fawkner. A descendant of Fawkner married a J A Springhall who served as a Coburg Councillor from 1909-1913.

Joy started by listing what she believed to be Fawkner's negative qualities, which included his resentment, revengeful behaviour and the ease with which he took offence. She described him as a loner, a maverick and an individualist. However, in the course of her research on Fawkner she moderated her totally negative opinion of him. She came to appreciate his positive qualities including his great resilience or ability to bounce back from adversity, persistence, resoluteness, his defense of the underprivileged, and his achievements or "runs on the board." She stated that he displayed a lack of restraint but was very energetic and dynamic.

The key events in Fawkner's life from his 1792 English birth in 1792 to Hannah Pascoe and John Fawkner until his 1869 Melbourne death were outlined in the address. Fawkner had one sister Elizabeth. He was raised by his maternal grandparents who paid for their intelligent grandson to receive an education. His schooling lasted only until he was 10 years old when his convicted father John Fawkner was transported to Sorrento, Port Phillip Bay arriving in 1803. Hannah and John junior accompanied their husband and father to Sorrento.

By 1804, John and his family were settled in Tasmania. Fawkner carried his father's convict stain but was also as a young man lashed and sent to Coal Creek (Newcastle) for 2 years for helping convicts to escape. He returned to Tasmania determined to make money and established a Hobart bakery, engaged in wood carting and entered the liquor trade. His father ran foul of the law again in 1819 and John Fawkner junior was accused of short weighting bread and stealing. So he moved to Launceston and started another bakery and then a book shop but accumulated a debt. He married loyal and supportive Eliza in 1822. In 1825 he obtained a licence for The Cornwall, and made money representing convicts in court. After his mother's death in January 1825, he took Pascoe as his middle name. In February 1829, he started his first newspaper.-the Launceston Advertiser which resulted in two liable cases. He was also fined for harbouring a convict. He then set his sights on a new life in Port Phillip District but was excluded from Batman's association

Nevertheless Fawkner arrived at Port Phillip on 29th August 1835 and promptly decided to build a house and plant vegetables as well as establish a hotel on land, which was actually Batman's. At first Batman and Fawkner were able to sensibly and successfully resolve their differences. Fawkner began buying land in 1837 and in 1839 he bought his land in Coburg. From 1840 until 1855 he lived on the 709 acre Section 151, with Moonee Ponds Creek marking its western boundary now within Moreland but only partly within Coburg. At Bell View farm he built a substantial timber home with numerous outbuildings and established a large nursery and orchard.

Joy Braybrook did not focus on the animosity between Fawkner and Batman especially as it ended in May 1839 with Batman's early death. She described Fawkner's achievements. He was involved with another 3 newspapers-The Melbourne Advertiser, (1838), the Port Phillip Patriot ((1839-1845), The Geelong Advertiser (1840).

He became a politician. In 1841 he was one of two representatives for the south west ward of the Melbourne Market Commission and then a Melbourne Town Councillor (1842). His prosperous life changed to bankruptcy in 1845. However, his Pascoe Vale property was retained because it had been transferred into his wife's name. Therefore, he could still remain a Melbourne City Councillor. He edited the Port Phillip Patriot and he and his family lived in its office. For many years he campaigned strongly against convicts being transported to Port Phillip. He favoured a separated Port Phillip from the colony of New South Wales, which eventuated in late 1851 He represented Port Phillip in the NSW Legislative Council from July 1842. After separation, Fawkner won a seat in the first Victorian Legislative Council .He moved from Pascoe Vale to Smith Street Collingwood in 1856 but apparently visited his Bell View farm at the weekend until his death. The Fawkner's adopted 2 girls-Eliza Ann and

Sarah.

Fawkner changed his mind several times on the miner's licence issue. He fought for stamp perforations, a court of appeal, simplified land conveyancing rules, help for the poor and the establishment of a parliamentary library. He started a Land Society Co-operative to help ordinary men purchase land, supported the establishment of Melbourne University, the Melbourne Club, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, the Congregational Church and a Collingwood Free Library.

Fawkner sat on the Collingwood bench from 1860 becoming a magistrate in 1862. In 1869, with failing health, he donated his papers to the Melbourne public library. Until 1 month before his death, at 76 years he attended the Victorian Legislative Council where he was considered to be the Father of the House. He had a huge funeral in Melbourne on 8th September 1869.

Joy was thanked for her talk by our President Malcolm McIlvena, and she was presented with a small gift of appreciation. She received a round of appreciative applause from the audience for her informative, lively talk. Afterwards, she spoke with many attendees and sold copies of her Batman book.

21 October 2015 Dr Margaret Kelleher (former teacher) and others: "History of Mercy College Coburg" (marking the 50th anniversary of its opening).

The early years of Mercy College, Coburg: its history and the memories of a foundation teacher and three former students Report by Marilyn Moore.

An audience comprising the current Principal of Mercy College (Dr Michelle Cotter), Historical Society members and former Mercy College students gathered in the Coburg library meeting room on the evening of 21st October to hear about the history of the early days of the school, which is celebrating its 50th year in 2015. The alumnae 50th reunion was to be held at the School on the following Sunday (October 25th). Distinguished Mercy College alumnae include a Rhodes scholar now Monash University Professor, a supreme court judge, a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly and even the first ACTU female President who was enrolled at the school for some of her secondary education.

One of two foundation lay teachers Dr Margaret Kelleher (1966-1969 and 1972) outlined the establishment and growth of the school. Memories of their early years at the school were recollected by Dr Kelleher, former students Diana Heim (Guminski) and Maree Salm (Helliar) (who both attended from 1965 until 1969) and Margaret Carney (a student from 1966 until 1971).

Diana and Maree had searched their houses for mementos of the school including items of their uniforms, flyers or brochures and many photographs, which they displayed in the meeting room. Dr Kelleher had located excursion photographs, staff and form photographs for the occasion. Margaret Carney's search also revealed some memorabilia of her Mercy school days.

The first speaker Dr Margaret Kelleher used a Power Point presentation to illustrate the early history of the school. Its existence can be attributed to Archbishop Mannix. She mentioned the schools location and the uses of the former building on its present site. She outlined the school's start in many local Catholic Primary Schools before the construction of the school building in Sydney Road. Newspaper articles reporting its construction and opening in September 1967 were shown. The School Provident fund's important role in financing the building of the school was pointed out. The School Principals were listed. Dr Kelleher illustrated the growth in the number of students and staff, the changes in the mix of lay and religious staff including the background of the Principals, teacher wages and conditions. She identified changes that had occurred by comparing the first school motto (Virtue is Strength) and the first house names and colours (Xavier –tangerine; Norris-yellow; ONeill-green and OHea-blue) with those of today. There was a listing of years in which various school levels were started such as year 12. She showed photographs of students and teachers participating in early extracurricular activities such as excursions. There was an early school community fight for an overpass to span Sydney Road in front of the school for safer access for staff and students using public transport. The then Principal asked for the help of the students who hand wrote short and clear letters in support of the overpass to a local State Government MP. Dr Kelleher read some of the letters printed in the Coburg Courier resulting in bursts of laughter from the audience. The type of drinking taps at the school was also newsworthy and a source of pride. The early years were apparently happy years for both students and staff despite the Victoria wide shortage of qualified secondary teachers.

Diana Heim (Guninski) and Maree Salm (Helliar) gave a joint presentation accompanied by many smiles and chuckles. Both attended year 7 at St Ambrose in Brunswick under Sister Thecla for the first 2 terms of 1966 because the new Sydney Road Coburg school was not ready for occupation until Term 3 of that year. Diana talked about the important role and influence of Sister Bonaventure (1968-1971) on her students and her philosophy of promoting the education of young women, encouraging them to look beyond the typical female careers of teaching, nursing and secretarial work. Her religious education was real world based. Diana recalled teachers of particular subjects, school assemblies, and daily routine of entering the school building which included changing school shoes for slippers.

Maree described the original school and sports uniform and how its completeness was strictly enforced. She mentioned the wearing of a blue overall. She identified the subjects she studied under particular teachers. As she was in a commercial stream, this course initially finished at year 10 but then was extended onto year 11 in 1969. Maree described some of the extra curricular activities of the students-the staging of a school musical production, International Youth Day marches down Sydney Road, the interschool sports at Coburg oval, a excursion to Tasmania, Mrs Figeon's elocution lessons, religious retreats, world and local events like the death of Dr Martin Luther King and man's first walk on the moon as well as the hanging of Ronald Ryan in Pentridge and visits inside the goal. Handsome single male teachers and harmless pranks were vividly remembered. Diana and Maree ended by saying they were proud to call themselves "Mercy girls".

Margaret Carney placed her Mercy schooling in the context of another time, a more secure and different world where it was easy to get and change jobs. Mothers mostly stayed at home,

looking after their large families and made time to do school canteen duty. Margaret remembered the wonderful annual school fetes, where families donated goods, time and effort to raise funds for the school. The valuable role of fathers around the school was acknowledged. There was an early division of students into those taking commercial and academic subjects. Looking at her HSC class photographs she realized most of her co-students had become teachers (especially primary) and nurses. Margaret became a solicitor. Sport was important at Mercy but some students like Margaret ran away from it.

The presence of Dr Michelle Cotter was acknowledged by Ms Moore who thanked the Principal for her attendance. . The speakers were thanked for their contributions with a round of applause. The reason for the selection of the Mercy College's history as a Historical Society topic was explained and the organization behind this event was briefly mentioned. Those who contributed to the publicity of this event were acknowledged. Then there was time to view the display, chat, exchange information and renew friendships over a cup of tea.

September 2015 A new issue of 'Search' has been released: No. 104 SEPTEMBER 2015: Contents include: Meeting report: Batman's 1835 route revisited: his exact steps to the treaty site / John Daniels (Marilyn Moore). Vale: Shirley Myra Mary Robertson 1932-2015 / Marilyn Moore p644. Vale: Margaret Annie Godony 1927-2015 / Marilyn Moore p645. Coburg Swimming Club and the Three Mile Yarra Swim [Bobby Hyde] (continued) / Marilyn Moore p647.

16 September 2015: The Irish in Coburg: an Overview by Dr Val Noone Report by Marilyn Moore

Twenty nine people attended Dr Noone's talk to Coburg Historical Society members and visitors on Wednesday 16th September.

A sea of hands was raised when our speaker started his presentation by asking us who had Irish ancestors and who had started investigating their family tree?

During the talk we learned that:

- There is no book, booklet, article, or website over viewing the Irish in Coburg.
- Since 1835, 150,000 Irish have come to Victoria.
- There are now 1.7 million Victorians with Irish ancestors
- Not all the Irish immigrants were Roman Catholic as there were some Irish Protestants. One in 5 Irish were Presbyterian, Methodist or Anglican.
- Over half the Irish immigrants were fluent Irish speakers.

The first Irish to come to Melbourne were shepherds who accompanied the Batman and Fawcner parties from Tasmania. They also came with the early overlanders from Sydney. Some of the Anglo Irish came to be judges and lawyers. Bounty Irish immigrants provided much sought after farm labour. More Irish were lured by gold in the 1850s. Between 1850 and 1890 there was a steady increase in Irish immigration, which continued well after the famine ended but which then begun to drop.

Richard Broome's history Coburg between Two Creeks contains local politicians with Irish names like Frank Keane, Murray Gavin and Phil Cleary. It identifies Coburg's Irish street

names like O’Hea, Connelly, Carr, Gaffney and Coonan.

When an alternative name was sought for Pentridge District, Irish names like Tipperary, Donegal and Limerick were nominated, but rejected by Protestant decision makers.

Dr Noone told the history of Coburg over 180 years using ten verbal snap shot stories of the Irish in Coburg:

1 Marion Stewart, born in 1864 at Kalkallo, was baptized by Father O’Hea from St Paul’s Parish Coburg. Her parents Catherine and Colin (a millwright) had come to Australia in 1848 at the height of the Irish potato famine and to escape a typhoid epidemic. In 1873, Marion was married by Father O’Hea to widower Mick Lalor from Epping and they (with their parents) went up country through Kilmore looking for land on which to settle and ended up at Waggarandall in what became known as “Kelly country”. The Kellys and other Irish families took the same route through Coburg, were associated with St Paul’s Coburg and went up country looking for land to select.

2. Michael ODonnell was a strapping young but unskilled Pentridge warder who had arrived in January 1855. “Warder” was a job with a stigma, offered low but certain wages and required long hours. In 1858, two thirds (66%) of the warders were Irish compared to 16% in the general population. They were mostly single. Michael resigned from his job in 1858 after marrying Johanna Barry and they went to Bullengarook to select land.

3 John Singleton, was an Irish Anglican Evangelist, doctor and humanitarian working in Pentridge. From 1855, he spent 5 years on a Newlands farm. He became a Pentridge chaplain and challenged the harsh practices of the Pentridge management and attended to prisoner’s wounds including those of Ned Kelly who sent a message of thanks via his guard to Singleton before he was hanged.

4. Bridget Bourke spoke bad English but fluent in Irish. In 1875, the 60 year old, mostly dressed in black (except for a black and white plaid shawl) was found by police wandering in Bell Street. She was wrongly suspected of being an escaped lunatic. They locked her up and she was to be committed to a mental asylum, after 1 week in remand. This showed the intolerance of Irish speakers showed by mainstream institutions such as press (The Argus reported the case) and magistrates. Luckily, and seemingly with the help of an Irish speaking Police Sergeant Joyce, her family rescued Bridget.

5 A high percentage of Irish people (23%) in Coburg in 1891. This concentration of Irish background people was third after North Melbourne (Hotham) and City of Melbourne. But by the 1933 census, Coburg was not in the first 6 Melbourne municipalities for Irish people.

6 Archbishop Mannix voices working class views on war: In January 1917 in Brunswick, crowds of working class residents came to hear the Archbishop’s talk about the war. His views supported those of locals John Curtin, Frank Anstey, Maurice Blackburn, Frank Brennan and the Labor Party newspaper Labor Call. The majority of Brunswick and Coburg voters were against the conscription plebiscite despite the number of conservative multi property voters. However, after World War 1, a majority of Coburg Councillors voted against

the naming of “Mannix” Street in the Deanery Estate, North Coburg.

7. An April 1929 car crash on the corner of Bell and Nicholson Street into the Merri Creek killed the charismatic, unostentatious, 34 year old Irish speaking car driver, Father James O’Dwyer formerly of Coburg parish who lead the Gaelic League, which promoted the use of the Irish language and edited the republican promoting Irish News later called The Irish Nation.

8. Ted Egan: folk singer, Aboriginal linguist and 2003-7 Northern Territory administrator: He was outstanding yet typical. Born in Higinbotham Street in July 1932 there was an Irish background midwife nurse Regan in attendance. He had a typical Coburg Irish Australian upbringing. He hid his emotions but was gregarious. The family played cards. His father lost his job during the depression. His mother’s brothers had fought in World War 1 for Australia and not for Britain. Ted immortalized the story of his uncles in “A Song for Grace.” He and his family lauded cricketer Bill O’Reilly.

9 Louis de Paor: poet. In 1990 was living in Shaftsbury Street, Coburg. He and Shirley Bourke had 5 red headed children and now live in Ireland. He published 2 bilingual books whilst living in Melbourne. He encouraged others to study the Irish language to regain some of their Irish Australian heritage. At the 2011 Census, there were only 7 Irish speakers in Coburg including poet and writer Colin Ryan.

10. Coburg in family histories: The 100th anniversary of the arrival of Irish ancestors is being celebrated at the Coburg Cemetery by families of Irish pioneers eg the Kennedy-McDermott century family gathering in 2007 and the McNamara - Meany family in 2009.

Dr Noone stimulated some discussion by questioning the reasons for the current interest in family history. An enthusiastic audience proposed a number of reasons. Val stated that he thought the availability of on line resources, the baby boomers’ time and money, as well as the rise of an ethnic rights movement had produced an appreciation of our distinctive Anglo Saxon, or Celtic immigrant ancestors and their culture. He believes there is a rebellion occurring against the sameness of globalization. He concluded that through Coburg’s history, there is an enduring sense of Irish Australian identity with music, dancing, literature, mythology and religion at its heart. Coburg is part of the migration history of a large percentage of Victorian families of Irish descent.

Dr Noone was thanked for his interesting and thought provoking talk, which offered us a different perspective on Coburg’s history. We all adjourned to supper, continued the discussion and left with smiles on our faces and joy in our hearts.

19 August 2015: The Annual General Meeting of Coburg Historical Society Report by Marilyn Moore

For the 43rd Annual General meeting of the Coburg Historical Society, our Secretary, Dr Cheryl Griffin had arranged for the loan of a poster display on the subject of Women in Victorian Local Government, which had been put together to celebrate the century of women in Victorian Local Government in 2014. Coburg’s first female Councillor (1976) and Mayor

(1979-80), Shirley Robertson, Frances Duggan (nee Barratt) Coburg's first woman Council candidate in 1938 and Coburg's first unsuccessful independent Council candidate Jean Dale (1975) were included in this display. Another display, prepared by Dr Griffin, featured Coburg's later female Councillors and Mayors Pauline Taylor (1990-1), Norma Willoughby (1991-2), Geraldine Rawson (1992-3) and Patricia Cooper (1993-4). About 20 people attended the meeting. The audience included Councillor John Kavanagh and former Historical Society President, Laurie Burchall. The Society's current patron Councillor Meghan Hopper, the second female Mayor of Moreland, after Stella Kariofyllidis (2000-1), chaired the meeting. The Hopper surname is remembered in Coburg because an endorsed ALP candidate, Councillor Mark Hopper represented Coburg's East Ward from 1992 until 1994.

The minutes of the last AGM were approved and seconded. The President, Malcolm McIlvena and Secretary, Dr Cheryl Griffin gave short oral summaries of their written reports, published in the AGM booklet. The Treasurer, Ken McLeod spoke to his financial statement, which had been audited. He recommended no increase in annual membership subscription for the 2015-16 year. All reports and items were passed and seconded. The only nomination for 2015-2016 auditor was Mr Tim Baker who was elected to that position unanimously. The Chair read out a list of the office bearers and committee. She welcomed two new members to the committee-Linda Penaluna as Treasurer replacing Ken McLeod who was retiring and Marilyn Moore as an ordinary committee member. The Mayor presented Malcolm McIlvena with an award for 10 years of service to the Historical Society Committee.

The President then introduced the Mayor, Meghan Hopper who gave a short address. Her talk was about heritage overlays placed over some of Moreland's significant Inter War buildings in major Moreland thoroughfares, like Lygon Street, to try to protect them. After she was elected to Council, she had taken her grand mother to see the Lygon Street changes, which had prompted her to stand for public office. She told us that her grandmother had been born in a house in Shaftsbury Street, Coburg. Her grandfather had told her stories about men collecting night soil in horse drawn vehicles, which travelled down the bluestone lanes. Although brought up in Werribee, she often visited and stayed with her grandparents who now live in Oak Park. She said she was drawn to Brunswick because of its character and history. She has now lived in Brunswick for 9 years.

Mayor Hopper is doing a part time Doctorate in journalism at Monash University. She is looking at the media coverage of women in federal politics from about 1984 until at least 2010. She has already noticed a change in how women are reported in the media, from an early concentration on their personal life and their role and traditional tasks as wives to more independent, politicians acting mostly in the public sphere. She noted the discrepancy in the number of female Liberal/National Party and Labor federal representatives. She mentioned the introduction and impact of the affirmative action targets for the ALP and noted there are a majority of female Councillors in the current Moreland Council. She said she would like to see more women in parliament in all parties but felt that the longest serving women, Bronwyn Bishop, has proven to be a poor role model for conservative women entering federal politics. Meghan had previously worked as a Communications Officer for Emily's list and is currently a student member on the Monash University Council, as well as

being a Moreland Councillor.

After answering some questions, acknowledging the recent death of Coburg's first female Councillor and Mayor, Shirley Robertson and listening to comments from the audience, the Mayor closed the meeting and everyone was free to enjoy the special supper provided, to view the display, mingle and chat.

15 July 2015: Batman's 1835 Route Revisited –his exact Steps to the Treaty Site by John Daniels: Report by Marilyn Moore

John Daniels, a teacher at two Coburg secondary schools (both now closed) for many years and former Secretary of the Broadmeadows Historical Society, was the guest speaker at the Coburg Historical Society meeting on July 15th at the Coburg Library meeting room. He gave a Power Point presentation based on his article, which had been published in the Victorian Historical Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria in June 2014.

One aim of John's research has been to solve, once and for all, the mystery of the route of John Batman's 1835 6 day walk around what became the Melbourne metropolis and environs, to find the male chiefs or "headmen" of the Woiwurrung tribes. His second aim was to identify where Batman's treaty with these Aborigines was signed. He used primary documents, including Batman's diary, the map drawn by Wedge in Van Dieman's Land at Batman's direction after the walk, a current Melway's Directory, as well as the topographical landmarks, water courses and crossing places identified during his fieldwork walks over the landscape.

John started by summarizing the various locations of the treaty site as outlined in James Bonwick's book (1863) (Merri Creek, Northcote) Blackburn's book in the 1880s (Plenty River at Eltham) Sutherland 1888 (Darebin Creek at Epping) J S Duncan 1986 (Edgar's Creek at Thomastown) AH Campbell 1987 (Darebin Creek, Bundoora); Merv Lia 2008 (Merri Creek at Coburg Lake) and stated that they were all wrong. He also challenged the accuracy of existing portraits of John Batman stating them to be "romantic" and based on a painting by F W Woodhouse of the Treaty signing event. He suggested the existing maps of the area, which Batman may have had and followed. Daniels looked for any diaries written by those who accompanied Batman on the boat the Rebecca or on the walk, to compare them to Batman's. Only a mate, Robert Robson who was not one of the walkers, wrote an account in the 1860s, and this was considered to be unreliable. The log of the Rebecca, which may have contained useful information, was lost when it sank in 1839. Contrary to the opinion of one of Coburg Historical Society members regarding the impact of syphilis on the brain and so the accuracy of Batman's diary, Daniels told us that it has been verified as being written in Batman's own hand, was business like and showed the writer to be intelligent. Daniels does concede that Batman would have made entries in a note book diary at night "after a long slog" and because unfamiliar territory was traversed, the entries may not have been entirely accurate or complete. Daniels has concluded that distances in the diary were overestimated and suggested the reasons for this such as the walk was taken in new territory, during winter (June) where walkers would have to go through long and wet grass, with the 11 walkers carrying very heavy packs.

To accompany his detailed talk and to retrace the route he believes was taken by Batman's party, John Daniels used slides comprising relevant written entries from Batman's diary, parts of Wedge's map, aerial or oblique photographs and sections of Melways maps. Daniels explains why Batman's party did not see the Yarra River as they followed the Maribyrnong River. He asserts the party traversed such areas as Sunshine North, St Albans, Kealba, Tullamarine, the eastern Keilor Plains and the Woodlands area as well as Fawkner, Pascoe Vale, Strathmore and Essendon,. Two places on the walk- a well and corner were named after one participant on the walk, James Gumm. They also went to Horseshoe Bend, Mt Iramoo, which Daniels argues is Redstone Hill, and the river flats now the Flemington Race course.

Batman's treaty with the Aborigines has been described by Daniels as the only recognition in Australian history that Aborigines owned the land until the 1992 Mabo decision or "the only formal act of Aboriginal land disposition in Australia." The land was seemingly to be leased from these Aborigines as Batman was to pay them yearly in kind for the use of their land. Unfortunately, Batman died within 4 years of signing the treaty and the government stopped all payments to the Aborigines. Daniel's concludes that the treaty site was on the eastern side of the Merri Creek at the rear of where Lakeside High School used to be.

The speaker's talk was commented upon by our Secretary, Dr Cheryl Griffin (in the absence of our President) and she presented John Daniels with a token of our appreciation. The evening ended with supper and a lot of further discussion of the topic.

June 2015 A new issue of 'Search' has been released: No. 101 JUNE 2015: Contents include: Durham mystery [will of Joseph Storey] - update / Wendy Lowry p636. Coburg Swimming Club and the Three Mile Yarra Swim / Marilyn Moore p640. Coburg Cycling Club images project p641.

17 June 2015 Local Football Clubs and their importance to their communities by Paul Daffey Report by Marilyn Moore

It was typical winter football weather, raining and cold on June 17, when Paul Daffey journalist/commentator/ writer and now tour guide addressed 16 Coburg Historical Society members, some adorned in their footy team colours, at Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall, Coburg. Paul talked about three Coburg Football clubs- Coburg that entered the Victorian Football Association in 1925 after 3 other teams moved to the Victorian Football League (VFL) and two Essendon and District Leagues clubs, the first being West Coburg, founded in 1927 and the second, Blessed Oliver Plunkett's, dating from 1947 and in 1995, renamed the North Coburg Saints.

Paul stated that changes in the football clubs have reflected changes in the inhabitants of the area. For example, the 1947 West Coburg teams had largely Australian born players whereas now it has many overseas born players reflecting the various waves of migration and new settlers into northern Melbourne including those from Lebanon and even North Africa.

North Coburg Saints now Northern Saints:

The football club grew out of the Catholic Young Men's Society and the Young Catholic Worker's groups at Blessed Oliver Plunkett's. At first, it was run by Blessed Oliver Plunkett's church committee men, and fielded only junior teams. This church administration link was broken in 1978 and senior teams were started. Originally the team was based at Raeburn Reserve near the BOP school, then at Hallam (Pascoe Vale North) and Hosken (North Coburg) reserves. Its first coach, tradesman was Bill Doherty. The club had many working class players and it struggled. Until 1998 its colours were the BOPS school colours of green and red. From 1996, its players wore the Fremantle jumper with colours purple, red, green and white. In 2006 the dominant green and red colours were reinstated. At the end of 2007, North Coburg Saints, which had never won a premiership, merged with Fawkner Amateurs, Fawkner Park and Moomba Park. The combined club has now won one premiership. Fawkner Amateurs had won 6 premierships before amalgamation and Moomba Park 1. It currently has 50-70% Lebanese players, but according to Paul, its 2 best players are from an Italian background. This year it has a team in the top level of the Essendon and District Football League. Its home ground is now Charles Mutton Reserve in Fawkner. It produced Paul Chapman who played for Geelong and the Alessio Brothers who went on to play for Coburg Football Club in the VFL and Stephen played for Essendon Football Club in the AFL. Its current President is Michael Caruso who regularly provides a simple Italian style meal for all the players after training, which engenders strong team spirit and attachment to the club.

Coburg West:

Shore Reserve is West Coburg's base. It has celebrated its 50th anniversary. It played A grade in the Essendon and District Football Leagues in 1965 and notched up its first premiership. Its senior team has won 15 Premierships in the Essendon and District League. It has produced well known players like David Dench (North Melbourne) Wes Lofts (Carlton) and Brendan Ellis (Richmond). It has 300 juniors in its club and is "progressive" because it concentrates on running school clinics. It encourages junior players to stay for a meal after training, with halal food served to cater for its many Muslim players. This year its senior team is playing on Coburg Oval whilst its junior teams play at Shore Reserve.

Coburg Football Club.

This club dates from before 1891 and celebrated its centenary in 1991. When Coburg was a manufacturing centre, the north of Melbourne was a football stronghold with players who worked in local Coburg industries and owners of these businesses making up the committee. Coburg won AFL premierships from 1926 until 1928 and was runner up in 1932.-1934. In later years it won premierships in 1979 and 1988-9 and was a runner up in 1980 and 1986. The AFL teams including Coburg were very parochial and had deep roots in their particular areas. During hard economic times of the 1930s, footy provided cheap entertainment. Coburg has a long history but sadly many of its records (including its annual reports from 1930 until 1947) were lost when their home ground at Coburg Oval was leased by Coburg Council to the VFL club North Melbourne in 1965. North Melbourne had long lacked a large home territory being squeezed between Carlton, Essendon and Footscray and received a financial inducement to move to Coburg oval. Some Coburg committee men joined the North Melbourne committee. In 1965 Coburg, still played as an AFL team, trained at Brunswick and played at Port Melbourne. The Coburg President, Treasurer and Secretary, backed by the

executive of the AFL led a rear guard action and in 1966 North Melbourne left and Coburg regained its ground. It resulted in Coburg Councillors being voted out of office. Coburg Football Club stars mentioned by Paul Daffey included goal kickers Lance Collins and Bob Pratt who left the VFL club South Melbourne and played for Coburg without a clearance; and playing coaches Bob Weatherill and Jim Jenkins. Paul Daffey also outlined the career of Saad Saad who now plays for Seymour in the Goulburn League. His nephew Adam Saad who played for Coburg Football Club has already been drafted to the Gold Coast AFL club.

Coburg Football Club coaches that were mentioned in Paul's talk included Mick Erwin 1969-1973; Kevin Breen, 1994-5; Col Kinnear 1977-1980, Phil Cleary 1994-1992 and present coach Peter German since 2014. It was surprising to hear that the new federal leader of the Greens Dr Richard Di Natale at one time also played for Coburg. Major sponsors of the club in 2015 are the ETU/CFMEU and Bendigo Bank and Piranha is their naming ground sponsor.

After the talk, Paul answered questions and there was a short discussion. The present level of interest of Councils in local football clubs was questioned. This contrasts with strong Council support for the clubs in the 1920s. There was mention of the sad death from a heart attack during a May 20 game of Northern Saints Reserves Captain, Mohamed Allouche. Our President made a presentation to Paul accompanied by a short message of appreciation. Then Linda warmed up the party pies and Lois put out her home made cup cakes decorated with smarties in the colours of a variety of AFL footy teams-a great end to a very informative and interesting talk!

20 May 2015: Growing Up in Pascoe Vale and representing the area in State Parliament by Christine Campbell. Report by Marilyn Moore.

Nineteen members of Coburg Historical Society braved the wet and rainy conditions on Wednesday May 20th to hear Christine Campbell speak at Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall, Sydney Road, Coburg. Christine is the former member for the State Legislative Assembly seat of Pascoe Vale. She retired from State Parliament in 2014.

She started her talk by respectfully acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which the meeting was held. Christine divided her talk into her first 23 years when she lived in the Hardy family home in Cumberland Road Pascoe Vale and representing the citizens of Pascoe Vale area for almost 19 years from 1996 until 2014.

Christine Hardy was brought up in Pascoe Vale. Her parents Jack Hardy and Margaret married after World War 2. They met at the St Joseph's Tennis Club, Brunswick West. Jack left school during World War 2 and soon found himself conscripted into the army to fight in New Guinea. Christine revealed that her Dad was always opposed to conscription. After the War he was trained as a carpenter and built houses in Pascoe Vale. Jack Hardy was a founding member of the Pascoe Vale RSL. Christine had 5 siblings all born about 2 years apart. She attended her local school Blessed Oliver Plunkett Primary in Landells Road, Pascoe Vale.

Christine vividly recalled her parents running a driving school and the three telephones, two-way radio and booking book in their kitchen. Up to sixteen driving instructors would also be in and out of that room. The business had an impact on the family. Family members were expected to answer the phone after only 3 rings to show their interest in the caller. However, the phone was disconnected during tea time, to ensure the family had at least 1 hour of uninterrupted time together. Christine talked about how busy Gaffney Street was at “knock off time” at the Lincoln Mills and other Coburg North factories. Christine’s father gave driving lessons to many manufacturing industry workers in the area, who started shifts at 6 or 7 am and often gave a first lesson at 5 am, dropping the worker off at his workplace at the end of the lesson. The busy time for lessons would start again after the factory workers finished work and then it was important to establish a quiet, recognizable pick up point for the student. Her Dad often taught the first member of a Coburg or Pascoe Vale family to drive and they got their driving license before buying a car.

The Melbourne football team was important in the life of the Hardy siblings as their father barracked for the Demons. Christine reminded us that the great Melbourne Football Club coach Norm Smith lived in Bell Street, Pascoe Vale South and at some stage Ron Barassi boarded with the Smiths. The Church picnics in Mr Dagg’s furniture van were a highlight for Christine’s whole family. Mr Dagg lived in Turner Street next door to the Turner Street kinder and vehicles traveling around the egg-about at the Turner and O’Hea Street intersection often ended up demolishing Mr Dagg’s fence. Her Dad loved playing squash with Pascoe Vale South resident and accountant, Mr Dan Ryan and bowls at Coburg West Bowling Club. Her parents decided to send her to St Columba’s, Essendon, for her secondary education. Christine still regrets this separation from her Pascoe Vale friends. She married Kevin Campbell when she was 23 years old.

Christine nominated unopposed for the State seat of Pascoe Vale to succeed Kelvin Thomson. At the time she was working for a Pregnancy and Family Support organization. After her election, and on her first day in the Victorian Parliament she wondered how a woman from Cumberland Road, Pascoe Vale who had done nothing startling could be elected to State Parliament. However, she realized she was Pascoe Vale born and bred and she or her family members had extensive community networks, which would be invaluable in her success in representing Pascoe Vale. She mentioned how she had managed becoming publicly recognizable and famous. Her strategy for clearly demarcating her public and private life ensured she shielded her immediate family from the spotlight. She outlined the strategy she used to help her constituents achieve their goals, named and showed photographs of some of the activists she had met, and told us about some of the funding received for schools and organizations she had helped to secure in the seat of Pascoe Vale. She was very proud to be a part of the State Government’s apology in October 2012 to single mother’s whose babies had been taken away from them for adoption, despite the earlier support from the Christian Church for orphanages like St Josephs Children’s home in Broadmeadows. Christine was also proud of her environmental achievements in securing land for future community use in Coburg North (Harmony Park) and the former Vic Roads land along Edgar’s Creek. She also championed multi-culturalism in our community. Her valedictory speech in State Parliament was disappointingly cut short by the Liberal Legislative Assembly Speaker who allocated far more time to former Premier Ted Baillieu for his farewell speech. She kindly donated a full

copy of her valedictory speech to our Society.

Christine thanked the Coburg Historical Society for asking her to speak about her early years as it made her seek information from her parents and spend time identifying and reviewing her achievements in State Parliament. She allowed the book made for her by her office support staff from Glenroy, Oak Park and Coburg to be viewed by our members. Still strongly identifying as a Pascoe Vale person, Christine values, knows and respects the area, its organizations and its residents. She expressed a great interest in road safety and would like to do more work in that area, in the future.

Our President Malcolm McIlvena thanked Christine for her attendance and talk and presented her with a small token of our appreciation. She then showed some members her Power Point photographs and continued to answer many questions from our members and visitors over supper.

15 April 2015: Dr Ross McMullin "Some amazing and significant men who could have changed Australia for the better but were killed in World War 1" based on his book 'Farewell Dear People'. Report by Marilyn Moore.

Dr Ross McMullin accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker at our Wednesday 15th April meeting, held at the Coburg Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall. About 30 people attended.

Dr McMullin told ten biographical stories of potentially extraordinary, inspiring and irreplaceable Australian leaders who were killed on the battlefield of the Great War. Photographs of the men illustrated his stories and he read excerpts from original documents. His talk was based on his historical biographical book *Farewell Dear People* first published in 2012 and winner of the Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History and the National Cultural Award in 2013. It was a contribution to our knowledge of World War 1, published two to three years before the beginning the 100th anniversary of World War 1. It was based on a very high standard of research and writing that Australian historians at national, state and local level have subsequently sought to emulate.

Dr McMullin explained that before 2012 the consequences of World War 1 had been described in collective terms such as the number killed and wounded. He decided to tell the stories of exceptionally talented individuals of the Lost Generation.

His identification and selection of the forgotten life stories of these 10 men was aided by his previous extensive historical research of Australia from Federation to World War 1. The men whose stories were told in his book came from various Australian states, various social backgrounds, had a range of qualities, showed outstanding potential before 1914, died during the war and their death was followed by some evidence of national mourning.

The following men were a tragic loss to Australia during World War 1:

Geoff McCrae - the creative all-rounder:

A Melbourne Grammar and Melbourne University Architect, from Hawthorn, he was tall and

very handsome. He was promoted to the 60th battalion commander under Pompey Elliott. He died at Fromelles from a bullet in his neck in July 1916 after his commander was forced to substitute the 60th for Alf Jackson's 58th battalion, as the assault battalion. McCrae's family were proud of him but feared his bravery. So loved, respected and esteemed was Geoff by his men, that despite the great danger, they somehow retrieved his body from the battlefield.

(Gordon) Clunes (Mackay) Mathieson-the medical scientist:

Born in Stanley, close to Beechworth, Victoria, the only surviving son of two parent teachers in rural Victorian schools. Clunes developed a love of learning, a strong work ethic, a range of cultural interests and a liking for animals. He was an all rounder- marvellous medical scientist researcher, appreciated the humanities and participated in sport despite his short height and chubby build. He was to have been the first director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. He was a renowned cheery personality. He enlisted as a doctor and was dedicated to treating the wounded men in the field in the Krithia battle on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

A Turkish bullet found and killed him on 26 April, 1915.

(Edward Frederick) Robert Bage:- the engineer/explorer:

A student at Melbourne Grammar and youngest and only son in an East St Kilda family. Bob's father died when he was only 3 years old but he grew up capable and self reliant. At an early age for a few years, he lived in England with his mother and sisters. A Melbourne Grammar and Melbourne University educated engineer, he started working in irrigation. Later he worked for the Queensland Railways and then joined the regular Australian army as an engineer. Bob was a motivated student, very good at Latin, surveying and chemistry. He liked walking, motorbike riding, and rowing. He was involved in the volunteer militia and amateur stage productions where he worked behind the scenes. He had a reliable, unflappable personality and was intelligent and an industrious, untiring worker. He successfully applied for leave from the army to join Mawson's expedition to the Antarctic. According to Ross McMullin, his senseless death at Gallipoli was caused by the unreasonable order of Australian Major General W.T. Bridges who chose Bage as a reliable man, in broad daylight, to peg out a forward trench line to which he intended to order his men to advance.

Tom Elliott- Australia's Kitchener:

Son of a labourer tramways worker, from Marrickville NSW with Irish born parents, he attended a local public school and then evening classes at Sydney Tech. He was a Duntroon graduate after gaining the highest intake entrance marks and graduating third in his year. He played rugby for Duntroon. Initially a lieutenant in the 7th Light Horse he landed at Anzac on 20 May, where his brigade supported and reinforced the 10th battalion which was in action on the southern flank and at Lone Pine. He transferred to Pompey Elliott's 15th Brigade and led the 60th battalion on its orderly march through the desert to Suez Canal. He successfully handled an adjutant role, was promoted to major and worked well with Major Geoff McCrae in the 60th battalion, in the Middle East and on the Western Front. He was intelligent, sharp, quick, decisive, brave under fire, articulate, big and strong and had a compelling personality. He was transferred to the 15th brigade headquarters by Pompey Elliott just before the Fromelles assault because he was such a well regarded valuable officer, but returned to the 60th to help McCrae and both were killed (Elliott by a bursting shell) whilst leading their men at Fromelles.

Edward Larkin - the administrator/politician:

Born near Newcastle to a quarryman/miner father and Irish Catholic mother, Ted attended St Benedict's Marist Brothers school in Chippendale then St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill as a boarder. A brilliant student, on leaving school he laboured in rural areas and then worked on the railways to help out his family financially. In 1897 he started work as a writer. By October 1903 he was a probationary police constable and NSW Australian rugby team player. He was a clerical constable in the detective branch by 1905 where he utilized his first rate clerical skills. From mid 1909 he was an administrator of the Rugby League using his organization, persistence, thoroughness, and applying his progressive approach. Determination and good humour were his hallmarks. He was undeterred by change or challenge. In 1911 became a Justice of the Peace and board member of the Royal North Shore Hospital. By 1913 he was the ALP state member for the electorate of Willoughby on the lower North Shore. At 34 years of age, he joined the AIF to do his duty and provide a good role model for sportsmen and their organizations. He was a Sergeant in the 1st Battalion and was soon disenchanted with its mismanagement. He got sick in Egypt but refused to return home. Bean noted his fine influence on his fellow servicemen. He showed more political potential than Real Estate Agent Jack Lang who later became a NSW premier. He was killed on the first day of the Gallipoli fighting at what later became known as Lone Pine and left a wife and two little boys.

Carew Rendell - a winemaker:

The fourth child and first son of South Australian parents, his father's family being one of the earliest in South Australia. His mother died when he was 4 years old and he was brought up by his father and a maiden aunt at Reynella south of Adelaide. He was firstly home educated, then attended Morphett Vale public school. At 10 years he transferred to St Peter's in Adelaide and lived with his mother's family. He had a strong sense of his British and Australian family heritage including a great interest in his military ancestors. His father had vetoed his voluntary enlistment at 17 years in the Boer War. When he was 19 years, he took over the running of Reynella and under his management it prospered because of his scientific expertise, decisive leadership and faith in modern methods. He had an impressive benevolent English squire management style and his capable, well paid staff repaid him with their loyalty. He liked horse riding and boxing. He was active in many clubs and liquor and wine organizations. He was patron of the local football and cricket clubs and Clarendon Agricultural Society. He joined the 9th Light Horse and was deputy commander of this unit, which left Melbourne in February 1915. He ensured the best care for the 402 horses on board and only 2 perished on the voyage. His unit was involved in the Gallipoli Walker's Ridge fighting where he proved to be dashing, selfless, brave and inspiring. He was promoted to Colonel and was assured, decisive but humble. After the Nek charge, he was critical of the standard of British NCO's and their men. He was killed in a Turkish trench at Gallipoli in late August 1915 whilst leading the reinforcement of Hill 60.

George Challis- Footballer:

Born in the midlands of Tasmania, his father was a butcher. He received a limited education at a "bush school" then won a scholarship to an independent school, Launceston High, where he was known as a good all-rounder though he excelled at maths and

rowing, football and cricket. He became a teacher at the school and was a lieutenant in the militia, in charge of the school cadets. He played football for Launceston and represented Tasmania after which the Carlton Club recruited him in 1912. He became an Audit Clerk in the Victorian railways. He was at first surprisingly rejected by the army on medical grounds as unfit, but then accepted at the end of his outstanding 2015 football season because of the need for reinforcements for the 23rd battalion. He was made a sergeant, left Melbourne in October with minimal training and in Egypt was assigned to Pompey Elliott's brigade and the 58th battalion. He marched through the desert to Ferry Post to protect the Suez Canal. He was in France by mid 1916 and when the 23rd battalion was bombarded outside the village of Fromelles, George Challis, aged in his mid 20s, as well as his company commander were both killed by the same big German shell.

The following three men were all members of the "Westralian gentry" who tended to socialize together and inter-marry. They all joined the 10th Light Horse Western Australian squadron and all three died in the charge of the Nek on the Gallipoli Peninsula on the same day - 7th August 1915. The story of Wilfred Harper's death inspired Peter Weir's film "Gallipoli".

Gresley Harper - the barrister:

Gres was the third son of five brothers in a pioneering Western Australian Swan River family. He was educated at Guildford Grammar School at Woodbridge created by his father Charles Harper- explorer, grazier/farmer and state politician. Gres then attended St Peter's Adelaide. He was excellent at languages and played football and cricket. As Western Australia had no university, Gres moved to Melbourne to study law at Melbourne University after satisfying an entrance requirement to pass algebra. He lived at Trinity College and was a popular extrovert. On graduation he did his articles in Melbourne. After 6 months residency in WA he could practice law there and decided to become a barrister and had a fine reputation. He was described as articulate, diligent and intelligent. He had a compassionate, nurturing streak and was also cheery and supportive.

Wilfred Harper - the farmer:

He was the youngest of the five sons of Charles Harper and like his brother Gresley was educated at Guildford Grammar. He excelled at practical subjects like geography, geometry, agronomy and physiology. He was a sergeant in the school cadets. He was also an athlete, likeable and popular. He did further studies at Perth Technical School and worked in his father's office at Woodbridge. He then ran another of his father's farms, Ferndale near Balingup. He practiced varied progressive and innovative agriculture; he was knowledgeable, capable, industrious and popular in the local community playing cricket, participating in agricultural shows and fighting bushfires.

(Alexander) Phipps Turnbull - The Rhodes Scholar:

West Australian born, Phipps was the first son of Alec Turnbull, who had been educated at Wesley College, played cricket and was an oarsman, on the land in the Riverina, a horse racing enthusiast, "in business" and held multiple prestigious business club memberships. Phipps paternal grandfather was a Victorian politician. His mother was a Lee Steere whose father was a grazier and Western Australian politician. Phipps grew up on Lynburn, an

isolated sheep station and wheat farm, out from Esperance, Western Australia. At 10 years, he attended Perth High School and lived with his maternal relatives. Phipps was exceptional academically, with a language flair and played cricket and soccer. He won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford where he studied arts including the subject of jurisprudence, for which he received a rare first class honour. He served in the King's Colonial cavalry regiment at Oxford. He qualified to practice law in London and returned to Western Australia and worked in a Western Australian law firm. He became Commissioner of the Supreme Court for taking affidavits. He was active in rowing and a yachting club member. When he enlisted in the Light Horse, he held the rank of corporal and was later promoted to lieutenant.

In conclusion, Dr McMullin stated that his book retrieved the forgotten stories of the lives of Australian men, who could have contributed so much to Australia "with their talent, tenacity, ideals and humanity" and who he hoped would not be forgotten again. He answered a number of questions from the audience followed by an enthusiastic round of applause. Another volume of *Farewell Dear People* is in "the pipeline" to publicize the stories of more Australian servicemen who died, though they had the potential to contribute so much to our country in the years following the war. He was thanked by the President for his very informative and interestingly presented talk, relevantly delivered a week and a half before the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. He was presented with a small gift of our appreciation, after which he sold and signed books and chatted individually to members of the audience.

17 March 2015: The Combined Meeting of the Moreland Historical Societies: The Anzac Centenary Project Report by Marilyn Moore

Coburg Historical Society was the host for the 2015 combined meeting.

Dr Cheryl Griffin introduced the topic of the Anzac centenary project. She reported that Wills electorate was allocated \$115,500 for the local commemoration of World War 1. She briefly described some other federally funded Wills projects to be run by Moreland libraries, schools, RSL clubs and at Fawkner and Coburg cemeteries for walks, theatre productions, concerts, films, and other activities. The Coburg History Society was granted \$15,000 and our project will be based around the former Coburg Primary School pupils who enlisted to fight in World War 1 and who are also identified by the Coburg Primary School book. It will aim to recover lost stories of men who were born, grew up or lived, even for just a short time, in Coburg before enlisting. The Society member volunteers will research the lives and service records of these service personnel and write their biographies, for inclusion in a book to be launched in April 2017.

Kitty Owens was named as the leader of the Coburg Primary School art project. It will include the commissioning of a metal Memorial in the Coburg Infant School southern fence and students planning a memorial garden using art works.

Judith Mooney, the Greater Melbourne Cemetery Trust manager of communication and community engagement, told us that they had a \$150,000 grant from the Health Department for an Anzac commemoration project. The Friends of Coburg Cemetery (FOCC) are planning

to hold four walks around Coburg Cemetery visiting the graves and telling the stories of those who enlisted to fight in World War 1 and are memorialized in the cemetery. The first cemetery walk will be on 19th April and other walks will occur in May, June and November. However, as FOCC lacks the time and research capacity, they are partnering with Coburg Historical Society and hoping for the help of members to provide them with the stories from their research for use in their future activities.

The Friends of Coburg Cemetery (FOCC) President **Julie Stratford** outlined the history of the group, its aims and activities. Another member of FOCC and Community Advisory Committee Member to the local GMCT Trust, **Lee Anthony** spoke about the Poppy Tile commemorative project, which the Trust hopes will commemorate those who went to war, came home and got on with their lives, but who eventually died and are buried in GMCT or other Australian or New Zealand cemeteries. The Poppy tile packs include a large and small tile and can be purchased for \$11 by descendants of those who enlisted to fight in World War 1. The 100% Australian made adhesive tiles can be attached to granite, cement and brass on graves, cremation niches, memorials or letter boxes of houses where World War 1 soldiers once lived. These packs can either be bought over the counter at the Fawkner Cemetery Office, online at www.poppytile.com.au, by writing to Judith Mooney, P O Box 42, Fawkner, Vic, 3060 or by telephoning her on (03)93553106. Apparently many of these Poppy Tile kits have been sold via RSL clubs in NSW and in NZ but Victoria is lagging behind, perhaps because of the great popularity of the 5,000 Poppies Project. Judith Mooney reported that community volunteers had already knitted or crocheted 225,000 red poppies.

The next speaker was archivist **Shirley Turner** who is a member of both Coburg Historical Society and FOCC. Her talk was accompanied by a Power Point presentation. Shirley is currently volunteering at the Victorian Public Record Office, digitizing the Department of Veteran Affairs repatriation records and personal case files of World War 1 service personnel. Project Albany concentrates on the AIF repatriation records and files of the 30,000 troops in the first convoy to sail out of Albany on 1st November 1914. Only 1,294 of these troops were Victorian. Because Victoria is using volunteers to digitize records, we are making a lot better progress than other states with about half of the relevant records already digitized. There is also a second project - Battle to Farm - to be launched in April. This involves the digitization of applications made for farm settlements by returned World War 1 servicemen. The digitization of these records will add to the comprehensiveness of the stories of our returned soldiers.

The last speaker of the night was **Barb Wilcock** who used a Power point presentation to illustrate her talk on 'Researching her family history: The Coburg connection'. Her family story concerned her great grandfather, Andrew Johnston, bicycle maker of Thistle Bicycles in Coburg, and his son (her great uncle) (John) Donald who worked for his father. Andrew Johnston, a Scot, was the President of the Coburg Cycling Club (CCC) from 1905 until 1920. His son, known as Donald fought in the 2nd brigade of the 7th battalion during World War 1. Unfortunately, Donald's name appears on the CCC Honour Board 'killed in action' section. He died in May 1915 at 20 years of age in a disastrous Gallipoli peninsula battle and lies in an unmarked grave. Barb carefully informed us of her sources of information to illustrate to us how stories of our forebears, like World War 1 soldiers, can be stitched

together. As Barb will tell the story of Donald Johnston on the Friends of Coburg Cemetery walks this year, if you want to hear more about his story, please attend one of the FOCC walks.

18 February 2015: Dr Gary Presland: Living off the land, caring for country: Pre European Aboriginal life in Coburg. Report by Marilyn Moore

At the first meeting in February 2015, Dr Gary Presland was the guest speaker. He illustrated his talk on pre European life with projected images of early paintings and sketches, by Europeans of hunting, fishing and gathering as well as photographs of the main food Kooris would have gathered in Coburg. At least 25 members and visitors attended the meeting which was held in the Perlstein annex of the Bluestone Cottage/Museum at 82 Bell Street Coburg.

Dr Presland stated at the beginning of his talk, that there seemed to be no permanent but only transitory Aboriginal occupants of the Coburg area. The land now known as Coburg and Brunswick between the Moonee Ponds and Merri Creeks was part of the estate of the Wurundjeri-Willam clan comprising about 100 to 150 people who spoke the Woi wurrung language, which was one of six language groups found in the Kulin nation. The six language groups of the Kulin nation had the same beliefs, understanding of the dreaming stories, were related by marriage and had commonalities with and could understand the 5 other languages. The Wurundjeri-Willam were bilingual, understanding and speaking the language of their father's group and that of their mother's mostly from the north of the Great Dividing Range. Clan heads met to make decisions and to that extent the society was democratic. Each individual had and knew their place in the world. They knew that if they kept doing what they were told to do, and managed their landscape, no change would occur. Their life was philosophically rich.

Coburg's newer volcanic rocks, about 800,000 years old, had weathered to a soil able to support a grassy woodland. Dr Presland asserted that the aborigines would gather food from the Coburg area starting in late spring and ending in summer. The Coburg area was on their route from the Great Dividing Range where they spent the colder, wetter months down the creek and river valleys heading further south to Port Phillip Bay. There was little hunting in the Coburg area with only a few Eastern Grey kangaroos on the fringes where there was more open plain grassland. However, there was much fishing along the Merri and Moonee Ponds Creeks. According to Dr Presland, there has only been one Aboriginal camping site identified along the Merri Creek in Coburg. In the 1930s, William Hanks reported that he had found stone scrapping tools and chippings as well as a midden of fresh water muscles shells near to the Merri Creek at Coburg. The bulk of the Aborigines' food was gathered by women and Aboriginal food needs could be satisfied within 4 to 5 hours daily. There was the gathering of tuberous plants (lilies, orchids, yam daisy) in the area. It has been estimated that 32% of plant species could be used as food. Women would use their digging sticks to dig these tubers out. Fire at 3 to 5 year intervals would have been used to reduce grass tussocks and increase the range and number of herbaceous plants. The other uses of fire were for signals, giving danger warnings and clearing the area of animals. The clans would move around their estate in a year being at a particular place for at a particular time for food gathering or hunting, ritual ceremonies, and to manage and so fulfill their obligations to their country and its landscape. In Aboriginal Society, the good of the group was more important than and often overrode the

good of any individual.

The clan comprised a number of bands of families, which were also gathering and hunting groups. Each member of the clan could trace themselves back to a common ancestor. The clan members did what they were told and marriages were arranged by a girl's father or other male relative. Wurundjeri married outside their language area to a person of the opposite moiety. Females married at child bearing age in their early teens whereas men married after their initiation in their 30s. Therefore, generally husbands were older than their wives. Daughters were married off to gain reciprocal hunting favours with adjacent different language groups, to increase the chances of survival of their birth group and that into which they married, in hard times. Widowed women would remarry single men in their deceased partner's group.

The clan head and leader of the Kulin or Ngurungoeta of the Wurundjeri at the time of European arrival was Billibellary. He was also the custodian of the Mt William stone quarry where stone of prized high quality for the making of axe heads was mined. Stone axe head blanks were traded as far away as the Lachlan River in southern New South Wales and to the Western District of Victoria.

At the end of his talk, Dr Presland answered questions on Aboriginal birth control, the use of eels as food, the preservation of food, the remarriage of widows and the reason for his interest in the subject. He was thanked for his talk by the Secretary Dr Cheryl Griffin who presented our guest speaker with a small gift. Dr Presland received an enthusiastic round of applause from the appreciative audience. He kindly continued to speak individually with and answer further questions of audience members.

December 2014: Search newsletter no. 100: Contents include: Recent talks: Pompey Elliott / Dr Ross McMullin; Colonial Victoria's historic stained glass craftsmen 1853-1899: Ferguson and Urie / Ray Brown; The Australian Army Nursing Service at work in World War One / Dr Kirsty Harris [reports by Marilyn Moore]. Vale: George Walter (Wal) Harman. The bluestone cottage turns 150. An 1890 robbery in Coburg. Some memories of Coburg Lake.

19th November 2014: Dr Kirsty Harris: topic: Australian Military nurses during World War 1. Report by Marilyn Moore.

At the last meeting of the Coburg Historical Society for 2014, on November 19th our guest speaker was Dr Kirsty Harris. Her interest in the topic is a result of a number of her close relatives and ancestors working in the medical sector as doctors and nurses, her paternal grandmother Bessie Proudfoot being an Australian army World War 1 nurse and her own 10 years of service in the Australian Army. Dr Harris is an Honorary Fellow in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne. She was awarded the 2008 C.E.W. Bean Prize for Military History for her PhD on the work of Australian women in World War I. This was the basis for her book *More than Bombs and Bandages* published in 2011.

Dr Harris used a power point presentation showing many World War 1 black and white

photographs to illustrate her very interesting and well researched oral presentation on the topic. She corrected mistakes and elaborated more fully on the story of Australian World War 1 nurses, which was recently told in the ABC series Anzac Girls.

She outlined the diverse roles that Australian nurses filled during World War 1. It was not simply confined to the care of patients, but could include running a hospital kitchen or Red Cross store, massaging immobile limbs, doing shopping for patients, providing cups of tea, counseling, facilitating communication, organizing and implementing activities and entertainment to lift or maintain morale and being a surrogate mother, sister or grandmother or aunt. The presence of Australian nurses was important in reducing their patient's depression and aiding in their healing and recovery. However, Australian nurses disliked nursing malingers and prisoners of war, because they were the enemy.

Dr Harris believes that the cream of Australian nurses cared for our World War 1 servicemen. In the early war years they were graduates from large public civilian hospital and already had nursing experience. They were often older than their male AIF patients, some being aged in their fifties. The last Australian World War Nurse died in 1998, aged 104 years. It was competitive to be accepted into the AAN Service and Victoria supplied one third of the Australian Army nurses, of which nearly 800 were Victorian born. These nurses served in 15 foreign countries and at sea. They nursed in base hospitals with the overflow of patients accommodated in tents as in Egypt; purpose built hatted hospitals, as in England; tented hospitals as in Greece, and the Middle East, as well as in tented casualty clearing stations close to the front line; on hospital and transport ships such as the Kyarra, Kanowna or after 1916, the converted passenger liner Aquitania; on barges, as in France and on evacuation hospital trains. They were faced with inadequate medical supplies and food, insufficient time to care for patients because of the number under their care, cramped "ward" conditions, extremes in temperature, disease and primitive facilities. However, they were exposed to the great advances in medical practice. They stitched wounds and sterilized operating implements, resuscitated patients, gave blood transfusions, set broken limbs, became ambulance drivers, assistant surgeons in operating theatres, pathologists, anesthetists, bacteriologists, and X-ray operators. The service of hundreds of them was recognized when they were awarded the Royal Red Cross or Military medals.

The pre 1914 Victorian nurse apprentice training system was referred to briefly. It was confined to females and took place in hospital wards, being supplemented by lectures delivered by matrons and doctors. In Victorian hospitals, nurses worked in wards, operating theatres, midwifery and outpatients.

Dr Harris mentioned that some Australian Army nurses had connections to Coburg. The daughter of the Coburg Shire President in 1886-7 and bank employee, Horatio Kelson and a former Pentridge Prison nurse served in the AANS. Nurses Dickson and Elizabeth Regan are buried in Coburg Cemetery. There was a Moreland connection to Australian World War 1 nursing, because the Number 5 Infectious Diseases Hospital was established at Glenroy (1915-1917) where Sarah Duff nursed.

Some nurses served for a longer period than the AIF men they nursed. They joined in 1914

and were discharged in 1920. After the War, the Army nurses sailed home on hospital ships with their patients, dealt with the Spanish flu outbreak and worked in the repatriation hospitals. The national registration of nurses was instituted and unions were formed. Some ex-Army nurses started private hospitals. They were eligible to join the Returned Services League and state based Returned Nurses clubs. The Victorian Returned Nurses club is still in operation.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Dr Harris agreed to answer some questions. She told us that now she has researched, written and lectured on Australian World War1 nurses for 14 years. Because 2015 is the centenary year of the Gallipoli landing, Dr Harris already has a further 7 speaking engagements on nursing the AIF at Gallipoli. However, her interest and research efforts are starting to turn towards her fascinating and intriguing Australian family history starting from Darling's governorship. She was thanked by the President Malcolm McIlvena and presented with a small gift of appreciation, which was followed by an enthusiastic round of applause. Kirsty sold and signed copies of her book and continued to answer even more questions over supper.

15th October 2014: Colonial Victoria's Historic Stained Glass Craftsmen 1853-1899: Ferguson and Urie / Ray Brown. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On an unexpectedly cold Spring Wednesday night October 15th, Ray Brown addressed 19 Coburg Historical Society members on the topic of his intriguing hobby, which combines family history research with the development of an informative website on colonial stained glass (<http://fergusonandurie.wordpress.com>). Ray started his website in 2012 after discovering he was a descendant of James Ferguson. In the same year, he received a commendation in the Victorian Community History Awards. On the website is a combination of over 350 informative articles from his family history and stained glass window research and over 2,700 of his photographs taken of windows in 500-700 buildings. The Ferguson and Urie Company began as a plumbing, slating and glazing company in 1853, three months after the Principals arrived in Port Phillip from the United Kingdom. By 1854/1855 they were advertising stained glass as well as plumbing work. The first Ferguson family home was at 24 Little Curzon Street North Melbourne, which James had purchased in 1853. James Ferguson and James Urie replaced the European imported, paler colours in stained glass with deeper, darker, richer colours, which could take better advantage of the brighter Australian light intensity. Ray mentioned the role of David Ralph Drape who was contracted to come to Melbourne to work for Ferguson and Urie but didn't find either his promised new Curzon Street North Melbourne workshop or any stained glass work, during the Gold Rush years. He went to the diggings and rejoined the company in 1863. John Lamb Lyon worked in the company after arriving in Port Phillip in 1861 and left to join another stained glass Sydney firm in 1873. Ferguson and Urie supplied stained glass windows throughout Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania up the east coast as far as Rockhampton and to New Zealand. Ray found the Ferguson family motto "Sweeter after difficulties" printed in stained glass in the second Ferguson family home, Ayr cottage in Leonard Street, Parkville built in 1887 and now owned by Melbourne University. Photographs of the house and family were found in a cardboard box handed to Ray by his cousin. A photograph of the company staff dated June 1887 shows 29 employees, in addition to James Ferguson and James Urie. According to Ray,

by the late 1880s the stained glass monopoly had been broken and James Urie died in 1890 followed by Ferguson in 1894. The business passed to the next generation. However, it was detrimentally impacted by the depression of the 1890s. A main building in Collins Street Melbourne was sold in 1899 and demolished by Whelan the Wrecker in 1915. The Curzon Street workshop was also sold in the late 1890s. The firm was wound up in 1899. Ray used a Power Point presentation to illustrate his lecture. He showed photographs of the oldest Ferguson and Urie stained glass window he has located at St Margaret's Church, Eltham (1861). Dating from 1862 is a window in St Paul's Bakery Hill, Ballarat. He also showed windows in Beechworth Burke Museum (about 1864); St John's Toorak (1868); St Thomas's Catholic Church Drysdale (1873); St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Colac (1877); six windows at Rupertswood, Sunbury dating from 1875; and more at the Parkville home of his ancestor, Ayr Cottage, Parkville. The largest and second largest stained glass window both made by Ferguson and Urie in Scots Church, Collins Street Melbourne were donations paid for by brothers Sir Samuel and John Wilson. Not only is Ray interested in finding Ferguson and Urie windows in their original buildings but those windows that have been successfully relocated to other buildings. For example, the windows of the original St Paul's Cathedral were sent to St John's Anglican Church Queenscliff. The window of the race horse Briseis, the 1876 Melbourne Cup winner, was removed from one Camberwell house but installed and found in another. The full length Shakespeare window (1862) was saved from the Apollo Concert Hall in the Haymarket and relocated to the State Library of Victoria; the windows of St George and St Andrews Box Hill had been removed from a demolished West Melbourne Church. Closer to Coburg, Ray has found Ferguson & Urie windows in Christ Church, Glenlyon Road Brunswick and at St Andrew's Uniting Church, Sydney Road Brunswick. The President thanked Ray for his presentation, gave him a gift of appreciation which was followed by an enthusiastic round of applause from audience members who were able to ask him additional questions and talk further with him over supper.

Postscript: A few days after Ray Brown gave his address to Coburg Historical Society on Saturday 13th October, the morning ABC radio news reported that the western part of St Jude's Anglican Church, dating from 1866 to 1870 and located at 351-357 Lygon Street Carlton had been damaged by fire. The estimated 1 million dollar bill included a very significant Ferguson and Urie window depicting faith, hope and charity, which Ray had not mentioned in his talk. The faith window was significantly damaged although hope and charity survived a lot better. I sent the photographs I managed to get to Ray who replied: "To think, that after 147 years, a work of art like that can be destroyed in one tiny fraction of time in its history! No doubt my 3xGt Grandfather, James Ferguson, would be either fascinated or appalled by all of this. It's a blip in time and I can only continue on and document the history of the windows from when they were made until their demise, whether it be a short time after it was made or a century and a half or more later. It's so sad to see such fabulous works of art being destroyed." St Jude's has a congregation of 800 and the church building was used continuously as a meeting place by the local community. Now the building will be out of action for at least one year, the unique and priceless burnt artefacts can never be replaced and the cost of repairing what was damaged will be great.

Our sympathy to members of St Jude's congregation, the local community and Ray Brown.

September 2014: Search newsletter no. 99: Contents include: Vale: Pat Burchell 1936-

2014 p617. The will of Joseph Storey, waterman of Durham and Coburg / Cheryl Griffin p619. Launceston Elliot - Britain's first olympic champion, who later came to live in Whittlesea / Gwen Hawke and Maureen Doyle p621. List of soldiers in World War Two with Coburg connections p622.

17th September 2014: Pompey (Harold Edward) Elliott: our charismatic, controversial and very successful World War 1 military leader: by Dr Ross McMullin. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On a bitterly cold, showery, Spring night –17 September - 50 people attended Coburg Library Meeting Room to hear Dr Ross McMullin talk about and bring to life the exuberant, dedicated, loyal, frank and passionate “hands on” military leader and Victorian commander of the 7th Battalion of Gallipoli and 15th Brigade on the Western Front , ‘Pompey’ Elliott. This was a joint Coburg Historical Society and Moreland Libraries Read More event. In the absence of the Coburg Historical Society President, Dr McMullin was welcomed and introduced by Coburg Historical Society Secretary, Dr Cheryl Griffin.

Ross started his talk by commenting that the library meeting room temperature almost matched that experienced by the Australians on the Western Front during World War 1. However, his audience soon forgot about this as Ross outlined Pompey’s First World War record, and gave us a glimpse into his larger than life, strapping, ‘Jumbo sized’ character, by reading some of the touching letters Pompey wrote home to strangers like the sister of one of “his boys”, Corporal Fred Wright, and accounts to his children, Violet and Neil, written in language appropriate to their level of understanding. Humour was injected into the talk by the retelling of some of “the rollicking good yarns” recorded by “Pompey’s boys”- the men who fought under Pompey’s command.

By 1914, Pompey was 36 years old, married (in December 1909 to Kate Campbell, 3 years his senior,) with two children. and lived in Northcote. He was Melbourne University law graduate and a partner in a law firm, who was also interested in soldiering, confident, and straight talking but definitely ‘no dog for style’ in dress. Pompey had been born in West Charlton Victoria in 1878, the fourth of seven surviving children of Thomas Elliott and Helen Janverin, who was 20 years her husband’s junior. He was educated at Ballarat Grammar after his father unexpectedly struck gold in Western Australia. According to Ross, Pompey had extraordinary courage, great capacity, competency and strength of character.

Pompey suffered a wound in his foot whilst he commanded the 7th Battalion at Gallipoli. The battalion distinguished itself at Lone Pine and Pompey was there until August 1915 when he contracted pleurisy, and was hospitalized and sent to England.

Ross told how Pompey in March 1916 successfully marched his 15th Brigade, deficient in adequate water supplies, 35 miles across a desert to the Suez Canal, and how he acted on their arrival to ensure water for his troops was provided, as promised by his superiors. He looked after his men when they were in and out of the trenches. He even visited his wounded boys in hospital, whilst he was on leave.

According to Ross, Pompey was wounded in the left buttock later in 1918 and the reaction and recollections of his men were retold as Pompey was treated on the battlefield, in the midst of fighting. Pompey had tried to stop the carnage of Fromelles but his British superiors ignored his pleas and as a result he sobbed his heart out in his tent after the battle because of the huge and needless loss of Australian lives. After the battle of Polygon Wood, where he personally led “his boys”, the Australian objective was reached as well as that of the unsuccessful British. The British troops were astounded to see a brigadier in the front lines, in the thick of the fighting and Pompey’s forthright battle report was suppressed. During this battle, his brother, Captain George Elliott, a doctor, was dying and Pompey was terribly conflicted because he could not go to him.

Ross outlined the story of Pompey’s brigade’s fighting at the Battle of Villers Bretonneux in April 1918. The British had been forced back 40 miles and French civilians were streaming from the front lines. Some of the British Units were full of exhausted, frightened soldiers. However, when the French civilians saw the Australians arriving they were heard to say they could go back home, so great was the fighting reputation of the Australians and their confidence in them. Pompey’s men did not let the French down. The Australians of the 15th and 13th Brigades with their backs to the wall and outnumbered by Germans, used their brains and endeavour to spear head the advance on the third anniversary of ANZAC Day. They again plugged the holes in the British defence, ended the German thrust forward and also spearheaded the Allied advance to victory.

Pompey’s Brigade respected and had great confidence in their commander. They showed their admiration for him, whilst waiting to be shipped home, by voluntarily organizing a spontaneous token of their respect for their commander when they marched to his chateau accompanied by bands, did a ceremonial maneuver and gave three cheers. Pompey addressed his men telling them to have faith in themselves as Australians, to be proud of themselves and of their country. He stated the Australians had showed themselves to be the equal of the British! When Pompey returned home he entered federal politics as a Senator. But that is another story.

After his talk, Cheryl summed up the essence of Ross’s talk. Dr McMullin agreed to answer some questions on his reasons for researching Pompey, a larger than life character and largely forgotten character by the 1980s; compared Monash with Pompey and heard from one of our audience, Bill, whose father had been one of “Pompey’s Boys”. Cheryl presented Ross with a small gift as a token of our appreciation, which was followed by much applause from the audience. Ross then offered for sale and signed his award winning book on Pompey Elliott and several other books he has written.

20th August 2014: The 42nd Annual General meeting and the family history of Moreland Mayor Lambros Tapinos. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The Annual General meeting of Coburg Historical Society was held on August 20th. It was chaired by Councillor Lambros Tapinos the Mayor of Moreland who stated in his opening remarks that “to promote local history is important”. A resolution was put to the meeting to approve the minutes of the previous AGM, they were seconded and the resolution was

passed. Councillor Tapinos asked the President Malcolm McIlvena to give his report followed by the Secretary and Treasurer. The committee for 2014-2015 comprises the same people in the same positions as for the previous year. After a short debate on the issue of annual membership subscription rates and categories, it was decided that there would only be one category of membership and the rate would increase by \$5 to \$20.

The mayor addressed us on “his history”. Born in 1979 in Brunswick, to Greek born parents, Mayor Tapinos has one brother, John, 11 months older than himself. He grew up in Cliff Street and his parents both worked for Craig and Seeley at the Chef factory, one of two factories at the end of his street. Before working there, his father ran a menswear shop in Sydney Road near Victoria Street until “the recession we had to have” in the 1980s. His Mother previously worked in clothing or textile factories.

Mayor Tapinos states that he comes from a working class background. Like his brother, he was christened at St Vasilios, attended Brunswick North Primary School and then Brunswick High now known as Brunswick Secondary College located in Victoria Street, Brunswick. Lambros always strove to be the School captain, a member of his secondary school’s SRC and in the SRC at La Trobe University. He held the position of Vice President, President and then National Union of Students President before becoming that organisation’s National Welfare Officer. He started doing a humanities degree in history and then was advised to switch to business by a friend. However, he did not enjoy his business studies although he eventually completed the degree. He is presently enrolled and studying for a Masters degree by distance at Macquarie University in Ancient history.

Mayor Tapinos’s parents met in Brunswick via the local butcher. They were married at St Vasilios in Staley Street, Brunswick. They were both economic immigrants who have sought to work and save to buy property. They are part of a community of relatives, friends and shop keepers living in the Dawson Street / Sydney Road / Albion Street area of Brunswick. They settled in Cliff Street, only a few doors away from Lambros’s mother’s family home.

His mother came from a mountainous peninsula area in southern Greece known for its towers, vendettas, feuding, inaccessibility, Byzantine churches and ancient archeological sites. She was sponsored to come out with her 2 brothers in 1968 on the Greek owned boat of the Chandris line “Patris” which sailed from Athens to Perth and then to Melbourne. Her voyage was made during the closure of the Suez Canal (1967 until 1972) and was more uncomfortable than the voyage of her future husband. She was 1 of 6 children. Her father had fought in World War 2 but escaped and hid in houses and got back to his village. Members of both Lambros’s paternal and maternal families had been executed by the Germans. During World War 2 strong bonds were established between the Australian forces and the Greek people, which he speculated could explain the volume of migration by Greeks to Australia after the War. According to a family story, his mother’s grandparents had business dealings in Madagascar but lost all their money when they sold up, purchased land on the outskirts of Athens, sold it and deposited the money in a Greek bank. His maternal relatives eventually settled in Cliff Street, Brunswick. Lambros grew up knowing his maternal grandparents very well. If his Mum was not home, his grandmother was always only a few houses away and she was an excellent cook. His grandparents started to have regular trips back to Greece when

Lambros's maternal grandparents started going to visit his Mother's brother's family including their children (Lambros's cousins) who had gone back to Greece to live. He believed his maternal grandparents were caught between 2 cultures-Australian and Greek.

His father was the youngest of 9 children. His paternal grandfather died before his son (Lambros's father) was born. His Dad's widowed mother could not subsist on the land and immigrated to Australia in the mid 1960s with her children in search of a better life for them. She and her children were also sponsored by family members already living in Australia. Lambros's father speaks some Albanian but Lambros is yet to discover how and when he learnt it. On a trip to his Dad's village on Evia Island, he met an aunt who told him a story of a marriage of a relative to a well-off Ottoman family, but Lambros realizes this needs to be more fully researched and substantiated. His Father also came to Melbourne Australia on the "Patris" from Athens but unlike his future wife, via the Suez Canal. Therefore, he came before the closure of the Suez Canal in 1967. Mayor Tapinos noted that many Greeks from the Peloponnese have settled in Brunswick, whereas those from northern Greece have settled in Coburg.

Lambros Tapinos represents South Ward. He was elected to Council in 2008. He has now been the Mayor of Moreland twice, his first term being 2008 until 2009. After his address, Councillor Tapinos answered questions, accepted a gift of appreciation from the President and then chatted further with Historical Society members over supper.

19 July 2014: Robyn Annear: Whelan the Wrecker. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On the dull, cold Saturday afternoon of 19 July, nearly 50 people squeezed into the smaller of the Coburg Uniting Church Halls to hear Robyn Annear, who had come by train from Castlemaine to talk about the iconic Melbourne demolition firm of Whelan the Wrecker. In the audience was Barbara, the daughter of Tony Whelan. Robyn gave an interesting, informative and entertaining talk, which was greatly appreciated by all present. It was the first time Coburg Historical Society had held a Saturday meeting which, given the bleak winter weather, was a more acceptable time for the attendees.

Robyn Annear was born in 1960 which was the heyday of Whelan's-the original recycler's of building materials. Whelan's operated from 1892 until 1993 from the Stawell Building and rear depot full of treasure at 605 Sydney Road, Brunswick. The founder was Jim Whelan a big man with a stoop who wore a bowler hat stuffed with cotton wool. He had been hit in the head by a brick which had fallen 6 floors in 1911. Their "Whelan the Wrecker is here" slogan originated in 1921 when an employee chiselled a direction into the side black wall of a building, for a collector of broken bricks. The 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne brought many visitors to our city, which was then a big small town with too few rambling hotels which were incapable of accommodating all our visitors and so they had to be billeted in resident's private homes. In the 1960s, Melbourne was modernizing and before new buildings could be erected, obsolete buildings had to be demolished, many by Whelan's.

Robyn said that the late Keith Dunstan featured Whelan's in his stories in his 'In Black and White' column in the Melbourne Sun on a slow news day. However, when he declined to write a book about the firm, Robyn took up the project in the 1990s when she was awarded a

State Library of Victoria fellowship, which gave her the opportunity to explore all their archive boxes from the Whelan business. At that time she was also able to interview Myles Whelan, the managing Director of the firm as well as Owen and Tony Whelan. All were born story tellers and when not working on demolition sites, dressed in most “undemolisher” like clothes.

Whelan’s also demolished the North Melbourne Benevolent Asylum in 1911, making way for the construction of many interwar year red brick homes in a sea of Victorian era buildings. The 1932 New Year started with the demolition of the much loved Stewart Dawson building and the construction of the Manchester Unity building at the corner of Collins and Swanston Streets, all in 9 months. Robyn also talked about the construction in 1893 and demolition in 1959-1960 of the Colonial Mutual Life-formerly Equitable Assurance building on the north west corner of Collins and Elizabeth Streets. In the building trade this building was thought to be jinxed, because 12 men had died during its construction by builder David Mitchell, who was the father of Dame Nellie Melba. When Whelan’s demolished this dangerous building without loss of life, the firm gained a reputation as one to be trusted.

The firm’s only nocturnal demolition was of the heritage St Patrick’s Hall in Bourke Street in 1957, which was picked apart from the back when it was feared the State Government would intervene to halt the demolition. Robyn talked about parts of Melbourne’s buildings being recycled and used in the construction of Eltham’s Monsalvat and at Melbourne University.

At the conclusion of her address, Robyn answered questions. Our President Malcolm McIlvena presented her with a gift to thank her for visiting Coburg to give her much appreciated talk. Then Robyn sold and signed all the copies of her book she had brought with her. She enjoyed afternoon tea in the large Uniting Church hall still talking to Historical Society members and visitors about her latest book before taking the tram to the city and catching a train home to Castlemaine. Many thanks to the Uniting Church for allowing us to use their halls for this special daytime meeting.

July 2014: Search newsletter no. 98: Contents include The story of Betty Brownlie / Marilyn Moore p608. Laurie Burchell receives award of merit from RHSV p611.

18 June 2014: Clare Wright: The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The guest speaker for our June monthly meeting on the evening of Wednesday 18th was Dr Clare Wright, the recent recipient of the Stella Prize for Australian women’s writing. On a cold winter’s night, she kept the audience of about 100 Coburg Historical Society members as well as Moreland residents, enthralled for over an hour as she spoke about the hitherto unrecognised role of women in the Eureka Rebellion and at the Eureka Stockade on 4 December 1854. The talk was organized and hosted by the Coburg Historical Society and was also an event in the Moreland Libraries Read More programme.

Clare has been excited and very busy since she received her award. She mentioned that she had received many positive responses from readers of her new book. In her website biography, Clare states that “you are a lucky person indeed to get paid for what you love

doing.” Clare’s talk clearly displayed her enthusiasm for our history. She is actively attempting to bring a new audience to history via her publications, talks and television documentaries.

She explained how research for her first book-Beyond the Ladies Lounge-Australian Female Publicans, led to her 10 years of research and writing of her second book, The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka. In her first book, to be republished soon, there is a reference to Mrs Bentley’s Eureka hotel, which was burned down in 1854. Surprisingly Clare had been unable to readily discover the Christian name of Mrs Bentley although quite a lot was already publicly known about her husband, James Bentley.

At the start of her research for her new book, many male historians made it clear to Clare that there was nothing more for her to discover about Eureka. However, Clare made the point that she asked different questions to those of former historians who had researched and written about the event. Therefore, different facts, from all the Eureka archival data she had to wade through, were relevant in answering her questions.

She found a woman had died at the Eureka Stockade. She spoke about the role of Ellen Young, a former English Chartist, who wrote letters, poems and political reports, which were published in the Ballarat Times. Clare believed Ellen “stuck her neck out” further than Peter Lalor who became a Eureka martyr when one of his arms was blown off. She also identified the roles in the Eureka Rebellion of Sarah Hanmer’s Diggers Defence Fund with money raised at events held at her leased Adelphi Theatre and Clara Du Val Seekamp, former actress and the common law wife of the Ballarat Times editor, as well as the brave and feisty Irish teacher Anastasia Hayes, who was the most likely originator of an Irish petition against a goldfield judicial injustice suffered by an Irish miner.

To Clare, the Eureka Rebellion was a “youth movement”, because 80% of the Ballarat population in 1854 was aged less than 40 years. Clare moved her audience to tears when she read the account of the post natal medical treatment and demise of Sarah Skinner on the rain sodden Ballarat Gold Fields in May 1854. The death of Sarah was dismissed by the authorities as “natural causes”and her babe was said to have died of “weakness.” Clare argued that male miners had come to Victoria expecting to find a new and better life when in fact they found poverty, resulting in their inability to adequately care for their families. They could do nothing legally to address their financial situation because they were taxed, but disenfranchised and also had no political representation. Clare brought her talk into the present when she stated that people needed to stand up for injustice then, just as they do now.

Clare strongly emphasized that she didn’t see the identification of women and the discovery of their roles in the Eureka story as in any way subtracting from, downgrading or making irrelevant, the contribution of men to the Eureka Rebellion. She believed that by telling the story of women’s contributions a more complete and accurate understanding of the event was given. It provided an opportunity to humanize the men involved, as characters with emotions and feelings. It increased our understanding of the actions these men took.

After her prepared talk, Clare answered questions. She acknowledged the role of Koorie

women and the contribution of people of different racial, religious and national backgrounds to the event. She mentioned that a woman, Margaret Johnston, lived on the goldfield in the Ballarat Government camp and she wrote a brief diary of the 1854 events from the military point of view, which is quoted in her book. Clare acknowledged that women on the goldfields often felt liberated, were allowed to be more enterprising and far more independent than those living in permanent urban settlements. During her talk, Clare revealed that thousands of words had been cut from her original manuscript. This comprised the social history of the goldfields and dealt with the lives of women and children including their education. One questioner asked Clare what she intended to do with this material, to which there was no definite answer.

At the conclusion of her talk, Clare was given an enthusiastic round of applause from the audience. She was thanked by the President of the Coburg Historical Society, Malcolm McIlvena who presented her with a gift in appreciation for her uplifting and very informative talk. She then signed copies of her book.

21 May 2014: Phil Cleary: Growing up in Coburg and living in and representing Moreland. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On May 21, Phil Cleary was the guest speaker at our monthly Coburg Historical Society meeting. Over 25 members and visitors were treated to an inspirational oration. Phil stated he was proud to have lived in Coburg and Brunswick all his life. During his talk he listed some well known sports people who had grown up in this area. Coburg and Brunswick are “in his bones”, “his patch” and “his place” and he feels a strong sense of belonging to this very special area that has produced a unique politically independent tradition, of which he was a recipient and example. He has always been and remains physically and mentally a part of this area. The Merri Creek is important to Phil with his childhood memories of paddocks, farmer McKay’s cows, mud holes and birds. He later realized its significance to Melbourne and its indigenous inhabitants.

Education was the important key that opened up Phil’s world. His schooling (primary and secondary) was in Coburg except for his Year 12 at North Melbourne campus of St Joseph’s College. He later went to university, also outside the area. Before coming back to live and settle within the boundaries of Moreland, he lived in trendy Carlton.

He spoke of the interconnectedness of everything which resulted in important events all having great relevance to him. He mentioned Australian events such as the Royal Commission into child abuse and violence against women, the abolition of the law of provocation defence in Victoria, the last execution in Australia of a prisoner by the State in 1967, the opposition to conscription and education policies of Whitlam as well as world events like the Northern Ireland peace process and the Viet Nam War. He observed first hand the actual cost of World War 2 to his mother’s family where his alcoholic grandfather sought solace from his dreadful experiences in a bottle. The cause of his darkest day - the murder of his sister- in August 1987 occurred in Coburg.

His family and his Irish ancestry are important to Phil. All his Irish grandparents lived in Brunswick. Given his connection to Moreland, surprisingly he declared he would prefer to be buried with his ancestors in Eganstown near Daylesford rather than within the boundaries of our municipality. His aspirational parents, bought a private working class property, north of Coburg Lake and rejected rental accommodation provided for the “older style working class” in the East Coburg Housing Commission Estate. Phil’s parents told many stories and passed the tradition down to him. Consequently he waxes lyrical about the value and his love of oral history and marvels at the accuracy of the memories he has collected. He noted that today young footballers do not tell stories, unlike the older players and suggested it was because football had now become a full time career and current players do not have full time jobs in addition to playing football. Phil studied history at university and particularly loves family history and describes it as “his sanctuary”.

Australian Rules Football has been an important constant in Phil’s life and gave him local hero status as a Coburg footballer (1975-1987) and coach (1984-9) in a team that won VFA premierships. After retiring as a player, he was a VFA/VFL football broadcaster. His return to more direct participation in the game occurred when his two sons started to play. This brought him back to coaching at the Coburg West Club at junior level where he is now in charge of the under 16s.

He admits he used his “local hero status” as a successful springboard into a political career. He was the federal independent member for the electorate of Wills from 1992 until 1996. He employed two historians-Clare Wright and John McConville- in his electorate office. Taking a prominent role in the Republican debate, he still believes Australia should be a republic with an elected president who could hold and espouse views different from those of the Government and the Opposition. He has always opposed the misuse of power and authority. Phil conveyed the impression that his opportunity to meet and talk with Paul Keating was particularly valued because Keating made great progress towards indigenous reconciliation.

At the end of his talk, Phil answered many questions from the audience. He was presented with a token of our thanks by our President and continued to answer further questions and talk with many people over supper.

20 May 2014: Award of Merit to Laurie Burchell

On May 20, at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, the unprecedented contribution Laurie Burchell has made in increasing our awareness of and preserving our local history and his meritorious service to Coburg and Waverley Historical Societies was recognised when an Award of Merit was presented to him by the Vice President, Professor Richard Broome.

Laurie had been nominated for the award by Coburg Historical Society, which was supported by Waverley Historical Society. Both societies contributed to the writing of the citation read by Professor Broome which accompanied the award. It detailed Laurie's many achievements and his exceptional contributions to Coburg history over 21 years.

The Moreland Mayor, Councillor Lambros Tapinos has commented that Laurie Burchell is a

worthy recipient of such an award.

How lucky are we to have Laurie as a member of Coburg Historical Society.
Congratulations Laurie!

16th April: Janine Smith and Dr Cheryl Griffin: Researching World War 1 service personnel. Report by Marilyn Moore

On 16th April, a joint presentation to Coburg Historical Society members and Moreland residents on researching World War 1 servicemen was given by Moreland librarian Janine Smith and Dr Cheryl Griffin, Secretary of Coburg Historical Society.

Janine identified the various sources of information as listed in the Read More Remembering World War 1 information sheet (available in Moreland City Libraries). The sources ranged from books, newspapers (The Brunswick and Coburg Leader - available on Trove, and Brunswick and Coburg Star, 1914-1918 available at the State Library Victoria), photographs (on Trove and Picture Victoria) to various websites (such as Anzac Centenary) and local honour rolls, to the Moreland City Libraries Local History Catalogue where digitized versions of Coburg High School magazines and the Coburg State School Soldiers Record Book are available. There are also blogs, such as Dr Cheryl Griffin's 'Fighting the Kaiser.'

Cheryl used a Power Point presentation to identify where she had found information about various service people linked to Coburg (eg. local honour boards, the list of people for whom a Coburg Lake memorial tree was planted, Australian service records) and told stories about a few World War 1 service personnel like Dr Carl Dyring, Bud Taylor and Milanie Ambler. She described Coburg fundraising efforts during the war, talked about the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919 and how a servicemen's pay often helped the financial position of a whole family. She used Public Record Office Wills and Probate records to gain additional information about individuals. Cheryl detailed 100th anniversary of World War 1 commemorative events such as the Poppy Tile Project being run by the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust; the 5000 Poppies Project; the many talks being given by historians at the Shrine Visitor Centre; and the Monash University 100 stories about World War 1 personnel being researched and made available on line.

Audience members commented on the great usefulness of the interesting presentations. The evening concluded with supper, again provided by Coburg Historical Society.

19th March: Barry Dickens: The last hanging in Victoria - Ronald Ryan, Pentridge, February 1967. Report by Marilyn Moore.

Barry wrote the play 'Remember Ronald Ryan' which explored the political truth behind Australia's last execution.

On the 19th of March, Barry addressed an audience of about 30 members and visitors. He spoke on the topic of the execution of Ronald Ryan in Pentridge Prison on 3 February 1967. Ronald Ryan was the last person hanged by the State in Australia. His talk was based on his play Remember Ronald Ryan which received the Premiers Award for drama in 1995 as well

as Amnesty International and Australian awards.

Barry outlined his personal experience of the execution day in 1967. He was a teenager on his way to work, totally unaware of the event. He observed from his early morning train, a slogan "Hang Bolte" which had been newly painted on a large water pipe near the railway line. It shocked him and resulted in a conversation with his more politically aware older brother. He told us that he did not write the play out of interest in the topic but was invited to write it by Playbox theatre personnel. He was reluctant to take up the commission because of its sad subject matter at a time when he thought he should be happy and positive to support his pregnant wife. However, he was convinced by others that only a play-write with working class empathy and social justice values could write the play. The research and writing of the play took 2 years.

His research involved talking to hundreds of first hand observers of Ronald Ryan and Peter Walker, their escape from prison, their trial and sentencing and the people present at Ryan's execution. Dickins wanted to find out how Ryan and Walker looked, what they did and said as well as people's reactions to them. A diary of his research is contained in his book *Guts and Pity* published in 1996. Dickins read a full transcript of the trial before writing the play. The people he talked with included Ryan's wife and daughters, Father John Brosnan, Pentridge Warders and its then Governor Ian Grindlay. Peter Walker refused to talk to him without payment.

From his research, Dickins concluded that Ronald Ryan did not kill the warder George Hodson. He stated in answer to a question that the decision to deny Ryan a reprieve was made by the Liberal party cabinet and not only by the Premier (later Sir) Henry Bolte. He noted that Liberal party MP Brian Dixon lobbied very strongly to stop the hanging. He believed Ryan was executed because he had been found guilty of killing a Government employee, a Warder, who was considered to be an authority figure and "one of their own."

He told us that Ryan, at the end of his trial and shortly before his execution looked neglected and pitiful but when his mother, Cecilia visited him, she showed a mother's love. Ryan decided to return to his Catholic faith before his death. He retained his humanity until his execution, demonstrated by expressing sympathy to warder Ken Leonard on the recent death of a family member. According to Dickins, Leonard cooked Ryan a last breakfast on a makeshift stove, after hearing Ryan's tummy rumbling. But Ryan rejected the food saying his death and the lime pit awaited him and Ken looked as though he needed the feed. Dickins believes Ryan retained the hope of a reprieve until the end. Whilst researching, Dickins discovered that Ryan had been subjected to cruel remarks from warders and revealed and described how two of them had assaulted him during a visit to Pentridge.

Barry told us about the play's setting in D Division, described some of the scenes and talked about the unexpected places in the story where the audience cried. The play's opening night audience included many former Premiers of Victoria and was followed by what Dickins termed "a wake" to which the Ryan family members were invited including Ryan's son who apparently took 'a fancy' to the pork pie hat of the actor playing his father.

At the end of his address, some audience members gave their own accounts of their experiences of the day of the escape in December 1965. The identity of Ryan's original break-out accomplice, "the professor" was confirmed. Peter Walker (unknown to Ryan before the escape) was then given the opportunity to accompany Ryan in the break-out.

Barry Dickins, an engaging speaker, was thanked for his fascinating and insightful stories and presented with a small gift. Over supper, Barry continued to talk to audience members and answer questions about the hanging of Ronald Ryan.

19th February: Suzy Pinchen: The Moreland bluestone lanes campaign. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The guest speaker for our first meeting for 2014, on 19 February, was a Brunswick resident for over 30 years and RMIT social work lecturer Suzy Pinchen. She spoke about the 18 months of struggle from May 2012 until September 2013 to save all of Moreland's bluestone lanes, the majority of which are in Coburg. Powerpoint illustrated her oral presentation, and she laid out a display of the written and visual materials, which had been used during the campaign.

Suzy described the campaign as a collaborative effort in which the required skills of particularly talented participants were successfully harnessed to reach the goal of saving Moreland's bluestone lanes. At the heart of the campaign were the internationally recognized principles of the Burra Charter, to which the residents successfully referred in their campaign to save the bluestone lanes.

The involvement of Suzy and her husband in the issue began after their perceived value of their neighbourhood bluestone lanes was articulated in a letter to the Sunday Age, which was published on 6 May 2012. Suzy read their letter to the audience. Save the Moreland Bluestone Lanes (SMBL) was formed from a meeting of 310 residents held soon after this letter was published on 9 May 2012. The 2011 Moreland rights of way strategy was suspended by Council in the same month.

SMBL embarked on a media campaign to educate Moreland residents on the heritage, cultural, social, health and environmental value of bluestone lanes. Photographs of lanes were taken as proof of their beauty and artistic value and widely displayed. SMBL enlisted the help of artists and musicians to disseminate their message. They wrote letters and sent press releases to the media. The group identified 50 bluestone lanes most in danger of being concreted and erected posters warning local residents. Afternoon teas were organized in lanes as educative and social functions for all local residents including those from non Anglo Saxon cultural backgrounds and later "clean up" campaigns in lanes were arranged followed by refreshments. The group established a website and Facebook page (with over 4,000 friends) to which residents could send lane photos with captions and photos with location of any lanes they found damaged (mostly caused by developers), which were then forwarded to Council. SMBL produced surveys, posters, leaflets, flyers, information sheets, letters and reports. They held stalls at municipal festivals and in known meeting places including the Victoria Street Mall Coburg from which information could be disseminated and new

members recruited. At the 2012 Council elections, they organized the vote for Councillors who were pro Bluestone Lanes “Just say Yes” campaign. Of 40 candidates, 13 were pro bluestone lanes and 5 pledged to support their continuance and were their preferred candidates. Another campaign was “chalk the bluestones yellow,” which involved writing the names of cancer sufferers on bluestone blocks in a central Coburg lane.

SMBL successfully rebuffed every argument made by their opponents on disabled access, the non existence of alternative construction and maintenance skills and the need to divert for bluestone lane repair, Council community services funds from such areas as children, aged care and libraries. Suzy was astounded to realize that Council’s approach to this issue actually obscured the truth. SMBL successfully argued that bluestone lanes were pervious and would reduce run-off, that old lanes and their reconstruction with old bluestone blocks would produce zero carbon emissions, and that bluestone lanes over their longer lifetime would cost only 2 percent more than concrete lanes. A positive spin off of the campaign was that it increased participant resident connectivity, which was good for health.

At the Council meeting on 11 September 2013, a 10 point resolution for the retention of all the Moreland bluestone lanes was passed, which included the development of a Bluestone City policy and an investigation into invigorating Moreland’s Heritage/Cultural Significance Advisory Committee. The campaign is still ongoing, with the formation of the Citizens Protecting Bluestone lanes action group to ensure Council implements all its resolutions, with Suzy Pinchen being one of the two conveners.

December 2013: Search newsletter no. 97: Contents include: Growing up in West Coburg Reynard Street 'village' in the 1940s [West Coburg 1938-1951; Coburg West Primary School no. 3941] / Grant Wallace, notes by Marilyn Moore. Clare Grammar.

20th November 2013: Joy Braybrook talk about early Melbourne with particular reference to John Batman Report by Marilyn Moore

At the November 20 meeting, our enthusiastic guest speaker was Joy Braybrook, who grew up in Strathmore and trained as a teacher in Coburg. She has written and published a “concise, readable and informative” book entitled John Batman An Inside Story of the Birth of Melbourne. Her story covered the landscape features, inhabitants, fauna and flora, exploration and settlements around Port Phillip and Western Port Bays prior to the founding of Melbourne and the early development of our city. She referred to the tall, well proportioned, extrovert, ‘hare’ like John Batman, who she considered to be a more loveable character than his rival founder contender, the intelligent but diminutive, ‘turtle’ like John Pascoe Fawkner. Her talk was accompanied by a Power Point presentation comprising the drawings included in her book. Her talk was overseen by a John Batman doll made for her by Phyllis Veith, the illustrator of her book.

There was mention of the 1803 Charles Grimes map, the 1824 Port Phillip explorers Hamilton Hume (a friend of Batman) and William Hovell, the roles in the settlement of Port Phillip District of various Port Phillip syndicate members namely Joseph Gellibrand, John

Wedge and Charles Swanston. There was reference to the possible sites and reason for Batman's treaty with the Aborigines as well as the contribution of surveyors Robert Hoddle and Robert Russell in the laying out of Melbourne. By 1838, Batman's health was failing and he could not walk. He died bankrupt in May 1839 from syphilis, which tarnished his reputation. However, although admitting Batman had an eye for the ladies, Joy believes the disease was not necessarily contracted through his own sexual exploits but possibly transferred from his mother through the placenta or contracted through childhood sexual abuse.

Batman had a link with the City of Moreland because whilst exploring the area to the north of the Yarra River, in 1835, he and his party almost certainly walked north-east to south-west across the land now covered by the municipality. Joy acknowledged that Batman's rival John Pascoe Fawkner had many more links with the City of Moreland. Coburg Historical Society member Laurie Burchell pointed out that our library meeting room is located on the lands originally owned by John Pascoe Fawkner.

At the end of her address, Joy answered questions including one that required her to decide whether John Batman or John Pascoe Fawkner was the founder of Melbourne. Joy has decided they were co-founders.

After her talk, Joy was thanked by our President Malcolm McIlvena who presented her with a small gift of appreciation. She stayed during supper to sell and sign copies of her book, as well as talk to audience members. She invited members to view her album of photos showing Melbourne memorials to John Batman as well as features she thought Batman saw or passed during his 1835 walkabout in what is now suburban Melbourne. She also brought for our perusal the reference books and articles on which her talk and book were based and kindly donated to the Society several photocopies of references on the route of Batman's 1853 treaty walk.

16th October "Presumed Ned –the discovery of the lost Pentridge Burials" Jeremy Smith, Senior Archaeologist Heritage Victoria. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On October 16th, Jeremy Smith spoke about the lost Pentridge burials to an audience of between 60 and 70 people at the Coburg Library. The audience comprised members of the Coburg Historical Society as well as non member Moreland residents who attended the talk as part of the Moreland Libraries Read More program. Jeremy used a PowerPoint to illustrate his talk, which covered a vast geographic area extending from central Melbourne to the coastal beaches of Port Phillip Bay, to Greta in north eastern Victoria and to the Kimberley area of Western Australia. His story concerned the solving of a mystery about the location of the graves at Pentridge Prison and the identity of their executed occupants.

After 1865 it became government policy to bury executed inmates within the prison walls and so to deny their families the opportunity to bury them. At the Old Melbourne Gaol, the prisoners' graves could be identified by the initials and date of execution carved in basalt blocks of a wall opposite their resting places. About 34 convicted prisoners had been executed at the Melbourne Goal until 1924. After its closure, the coffins of executed

prisoners were exposed during construction works, requiring their relocation and reburial at Pentridge prison in 1929 and again in 1937. However, in 1929 the coffins were separated from their 'headstones' and the bluestone blocks were reused in the construction of sea walls at Brighton, Black Rock and Beaumaris beaches. These bluestone blocks have now been placed on the Heritage register.

From 1932 until 1967 another 10 convicted felons were executed and buried at Pentridge Prison. However, the records listing all those reburied and buried within the Prison walls failed to accurately locate these interments.

Jeremy stated he had the role of co-ordinating historians, forensic scientists and archaeologists in solving the mystery. However he also carried out fieldwork. Background information from reports, photographs in the Argus newspaper, inscriptions in the relocated bluestone blocks in Melbourne Gaol, old gaol plans, original lists and diagrams were found and examined to help reach a solution.

Jeremy Smith's story began in 2002, when archaeologists from La Trobe University were brought in by RMIT after the university acquired part of the old Melbourne Gaol, commenced works on the site and discovered a coffin, one apparently not found during the 1937 relocation. This began a tradition of excellent relationships between archaeologists and developers of previous gaol sites.

However, the lack of grave location documentation has not prevented the solution of the mystery surrounding their location. At the closure of Pentridge in 1997 one triangular piece of land to the east of D Division was known as the prison burial site. In fact, only one coffin was found within that area. Ultimately the sale of the prison to a private developer and its redevelopment has helped in the unearthing of individual as well as mass grave sites within Pentridge.

There were real ironies resulting from the punitive decisions made and actions taken by the Pentridge Prison authorities who displayed a lack of respect for the remains of the convicted executed prisoners, including failing to adequately document the location of their graves. The bodies were buried in very deep graves (according to Jeremy, possibly to instil fear in the prisoner grave diggers) and encased in lime supposedly to hasten decomposition. However, the lack of water seeping through the clay soil meant the lime really preserved the coffins and bodies. The ultimate punishment for one of the Old Melbourne Gaol executed prisoners, Ned Kelly, would have been the stealing and hence loss of his skeletal bones. However, the bones taken from the Old Melbourne Gaol coffins by school children in 1929 were not those of Kelly. His coffin, when located in 2009 and identified in 2011, appeared to have been unopened. The skull stolen in 1978 from the old Melbourne jail and kept by Tom Baxter for years in a Tupperware container on his Western Australian Kimberley pastoral property, after forensic tests, turned out not to be Kelly's but most likely that of Frederick Deeming who was executed in 1892. The mass grave where Kelly was supposed to be buried had been disturbed by drainage works and there were fears that the bones could have been discarded. However, the mass grave where Kelly was buried was found during further construction work, 30 metres away from where it was expected to

be. A DNA test based on his female descendent line allowed the identification of Ned Kelly's skeletal bones, which Jeremy Smith pronounced to be remarkably intact except for a large part of Kelly's skull.

The identified remains of the exhumed executed prisoners were offered to their families for reburial. The family of Ronald Ryan, the last prisoner executed in 1967, claimed his remains, as did the family of Colin Ross executed in 1922 and pardoned in 2008. The Kelly family also reclaimed Ned's remains and he is buried at Greta cemetery with his mother. The remains of other executed prisoners have been respectfully reburied in a larger cemetery to the east of D Division, but these prisoners' lives and exploits are deliberately not celebrated.

Jeremy Smith was happy to answer many questions from a very interested audience. He was thanked by the Coburg Historical Society on behalf of Moreland City Council Libraries for his excellent talk and presented with an appropriate gesture of our grateful appreciation. Supper provided yet another opportunity to talk further with our knowledgeable and accomplished guest speaker.

September 2013: Search newsletter no. 96: Contents include: The lantern tour of Royal Melbourne Hospital, Royal Park campus / Marilyn Moore p586. Athol Bruce Attwater OAM: local patriot and 'the ideal local representative' / Marilyn Moore p587.

18th September: talk given by Mr Grant Wallace about growing up in Coburg West in the 1940s. Report by Marilyn Moore.

Despite the rainy night, the meeting was well attended. The audience included three members of the Wallace family as well as three other 1940s West Coburg Primary pupils who also lived close to Reynard Street (formerly known as Reynard's Road) Coburg West.

The President Malcolm McIlvena welcomed the visitors and members and listed the apologies. He briefly reported on the business of the committee meeting, which took place before the main meeting. He mentioned the talks about Coburg history he had given to community groups and the proposed future visits by school children to the Bluestone Cottage, as well as the guest speaker at the next meeting, Mr Jeremy Smith (Heritage Victoria Senior Archaeologist). The Treasurer was then asked to give his report.

Mr McIlvena invited Grant Wallace to deliver his talk about growing up in Coburg West in the 1940s including - his family home and life in Lascelles Street, the Reynard Street businesses, his visits to the nearby Progress theatre and other entertainment, the transport of the time and his schooling at Coburg West Primary. During the talk, Mr Wallace's CD of 1940s music, was played. Mr Wallace referred to a landuse map of businesses and buildings (including St Alban's Church, the Progress Hall and Theatre, Coburg West State School and the Post Office) along Reynard Street in 1944-5 and 1950, which had been prepared by Marilyn Moore and was based on the Sands and McDougalls Directories. Near the end of his talk, a number of photographs (kindly scanned by Tim McKenna) were projected onto a screen. They showed Mr Wallace's house in the 1940s and 1997, the Reynard Street shops and other businesses in 1997, 2007, and 2007 as well as a his painting of the school, his line

drawing of the Reynard Street streetscape in the 1940s and a 1946 Grade 2 class photograph, which created a lot of discussion

Mr Wallace presented a bound copy of his talk to the President. It is hoped that it will be published in a later edition of Search. The President thanked Mr Wallace and presented him with a gift. Over supper, Mr Wallace kindly gifted some pre decimal currency coins, a 12 inch wooden ruler and World War 2 voucher to the Coburg Historical Society collection.

August 2013: 41st Annual General Meeting of the Coburg Historical Society, 21 August 2013. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The President opened the meeting. He explained that the Historical Society Patron, Mayor Cr Oscar Yildiz was invited to be the chair, but could not attend because he was overseas. The Deputy Mayor Cr Lita Gillies had a prior engagement. The meeting was chaired by Councillor Sue Bolton who represents the north east ward in Moreland City Council.

The minutes of the previous AGM (below) were confirmed and passed. As per the meeting agenda provided to attendees, the following reports were given:

- President – Malcolm McIlvena directed members to his printed report, in which many committee and ordinary members were thanked for their contribution. However, he reported that he had recently been notified by Moreland Council that they will be phasing out, within 4 years, the Operation Grants to community groups, which will then be expected to become self sufficient. He reminded members that presently much free history research and advice is provided by Society members to the Council.
- Secretary- Cheryl Griffin thanked Marilyn Moore for organizing guest speakers for many of our monthly meetings. She outlined some ways in which the Society's members presently provide free help to Council Officers.
- Treasurer- Ken McLeod thanked Moreland Council for the administrative grant, the use of the library meeting room for monthly gatherings and the Bluestone Cottage as a museum. The public liability insurance scheme arranged through the Royal Victorian Historical Society was praised. The 2012-2013 financial year membership fee of \$15 is to remain unchanged. The auditor for 2012-2013, Tim Baker, was thanked and re-elected for the 2013-2014 year.

The 2012-2013 officer bearers and general committee members were then re-elected, unopposed, for the 2013-2014 year.

Councillor Sue Bolton gave an interesting talk mentioning her background and identified current Moreland heritage issues.

Sue comes from Tambo, a small town in outback Queensland, with a population of about 700 people. It is to the north of Charleville and south east of Longreach and on a main highway. Sue noted the area around Tambo originally had an aboriginal population but stated that as they challenged their land disposition they were "all "trucked out" to Palm Island or an aboriginal mission near Rockhampton." According to Sue, there is one remaining Aboriginal family in Tambo, but they are not original inhabitants of the area. The Tambo cemetery contains Chinese graves. The Chinese are another ethnic group which is not

mentioned in Tambo history stories or brochures for the tourists.

Sue told us she grew up under the rule of the Country Party Premier Joe Bjelke-Petersen. This was an era when Brisbane heritage buildings like the well known and prominent “Cloudlands Ballroom” were bulldozed during the night.

By 1982, Sue was living in Brisbane and driving buses. Trams had already disappeared from the Brisbane streets. She drove buses for 8 years in Brisbane and joined the relevant union. She later worked as a public servant where she disliked the public service hierarchical decision making structure. Sue spent 5 years in Sydney before arriving in Melbourne in about 1994. She lived first in Coburg, then in Brunswick and lastly in Glenroy. She was elected to the Moreland Council in November 2012.

The Moreland heritage issues she identified were:

1. The saving of the Glenroy Koori Open Door Education, Ballerit Murrup secondary school campus.
2. The means which can be used to educate residents about the Brunswick Free Speech fights of the 1930s.
3. The ways to acknowledge the history of the former Coburg Pentridge prison on the site.
4. The saving of the Bluestone Lanes campaign, which originated in Brunswick
5. The need for a history of Trade Unionism throughout Moreland City.

At the end of her talk, Sue welcomed questions and gave enlightening answers. She was then thanked and presented with a gift of appreciation by the President Malcolm McIlvena. She continued to talk with many members all through supper.

July 2013: Bruce and Sue Garrett: "The World War One Memorial Avenue of trees at Lake Reserve". Report by Marilyn Moore.

On July 17, the Garretts (Bruce and Sue) gave a joint talk illustrated with a power point presentation about the research they have voluntarily undertaken on the service personnel (all men) commemorated for their contribution to the victory of the Allied forces in World War 1, in the Avenue of Honour trees at the Coburg Lake Reserve.

The Garretts became very interested in the Avenue of Honour Trees when researching an uncle of Bruce's - Tasman Montifore- who had died on active service during World War 1. They attempted to identify the servicemen whose names had been commemorated by a tree at the reserve by looking at Laurie Burchell's article 'The missing war memorials in Coburg' in *More of our History* (1995). Tasman Montifore was listed and his tree was number 81 planted on the northern side of a path paralleling Gaffney Street now Murray Road. However, this list revealed that 3 trees were planted but not given a plaque and this puzzled the Garretts. They also looked at the list of names on a plaque installed on a rock at Coburg Lake in 1990 in place of the missing original individual plaques on each tree and noted a discrepancy in the names listed. This intrigued them.

As a consequence, they began to research the background of each soldier to try to ascertain his connection with Coburg. Did he grow up in Coburg or work there? Was Coburg where his parents lived or where his widow moved to? Was it the place of his enlistment? In addition, they examined the honour boards erected by many Coburg organizations and any lists that existed like that from Coburg Primary School, to work out whether any other service personnel had been overlooked in the Coburg Lake Reserve Avenue of Honour or on the 1990 plaque.

In the course of their research they discovered that some servicemen had two trees in the Avenue of Honour when two branches of a family had nominated the same man. Their research has taken them beyond the secondary sources to primary sources provided by Australian Government documents. They outlined the difficulties they had with names: only surname provided, incorrect spelling, the use of an alias, preference for a nickname resulting in a different first initial or preference for a second name and so the reversal of initials. They found at least one man with a plaque in the Avenue of Honour had not died on active duty in the years 1914 to 1918. They read many very sad stories about the death of service personnel from Coburg. After years of research, seven identification mysteries remain and the reason for the inclusion of at least 2 servicemen in the Coburg Avenue of trees is still a puzzle.

When their very valuable research is complete, the intention of the Garretts is to very kindly and generously pass it on to the Coburg Historical Society so it can be easily available to interested researchers. Their work includes digitized lists of World War 1 servicemen whose names appear on Honour Boards erected in various parts of Moreland. As it will be 100 years since World War 1 in the years 2014 until 2018, it is anticipated that the Garrett's research will be very well used. We remain indebted to them for all their hours of dedicated work, as well as their very interesting talk.

June 2013: Treasures of the Museum Collection: Coburg Historical Society June 2013, Cheryl Griffin

At the June 2013 meeting, our Secretary, Cheryl Griffin, introduced us to some of the treasures of our collection. We met Mickey and Minnie Mouse, soft toys made in the 1930s that live in the La Belle Dame Room and saw photos of a Mickey and Minnie themed decorated cart, part of the Centenary of Victoria Celebrations in 1935. The photos are part of our collection and are available on Picture Victoria. We saw the Official Souvenir for Coburg's Centenary Celebrations, held from August to October 1939 which is on display in the Museum's Council Room. There were photos, too, again from our collection and available through Picture Victoria. Cheryl also showed us a program and some photos from Coburg's Art Festivals of the 1940s, part of a larger collection on display at the Coburg Library during June. Next came photos of Coburg's very own Coburg Cowboys, whose HQ was at the Southern Cross Ranch in Bell Street. Their chief was Indian Pomp. They did lots of fundraising during WW1. Cheryl also showed us images of a house cup and banner, a fairly recent donation to our collection from the daughter of the owner of Clare Grammar School. The school operated firstly out of Holy Trinity Church then moved to The Grove from the start of the 1949 school year. It closed at the end of the 1954 school year, due to the ill health of the headmistress Mrs Nicholson. Research into the school is ongoing. Finally, we were shown a page from what Cheryl considers one of the highlights of our collection: the

Coburg State School World War One Soldiers' Book. She has been researching the lives of the young men featured in this book and told us about several of the soldiers, including 22 year old Robert Cail who was gassed twice while serving on the Western Front and returned to Australia with gas poisoning in November 1918, around the time of the Armistice. Unusually, Cail emigrated to America, calling first at Honolulu where a married sister lived and finally settling in Los Angeles. He didn't marry, worked on oil tankers for a number of years and became a US citizen in 1930. He died in December 1949, a long way from his childhood home in the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

June 2013: Search newsletter no. 95: Contents include: Memorial Avenue of Trees [First World War soldiers], Lake Reserve p573. Stories of life at Holeproof [June Stockman (nee Beadle), Florence Bell (nee Cerini)] p574. Coburg Festival of the Arts p575. Memories of an English immigrant child, growing up and working in Coburg between the wars: Ethel (Owens) Marsh / Marilyn Moore p577.

May 2013: Jeff Whittington: History of the site buildings and trees of Royal Park campus of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, south side of Park Street, City of Melbourne. Report by Marilyn Moore.

At the 15 May meeting, which was held on a very cold night, many members attended to hear the story of the old Mount Royal Hospital in Poplar Road, Parkville presented by the guest speaker, Jeff Whittington, currently the Facilities Officer of the Royal Park Campus of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Jeff has worked on the campus since 1975 and has always been fascinated with the history of the buildings. He is a member of the Royal Melbourne Hospital Heritage Advisory Committee. He leads heritage lantern tours fortnightly on Friday nights from late May until early October.

Jeff gave an illustrated outline of the 160 years of the organization, starting with the Immigrants' Aid Society during the gold rush years of the 1850s to its aged care emphasis in the early 2000s. He emphasized the change of use and its consequent numerous name changes.

The 2,560 acre Royal Park, in which the Royal Park Campus is located, was designated a recreation reserve in 1850. In 1858, 142 acres in the north-west of the reserve were excised for an experimental farm bounded by the Moonee Ponds Creek. This farm was abandoned in 1860 but the land was leased to a tenant for farming. In 1862, the Immigrants' Aid Society built in St Kilda Road (not on the current Royal Park site) a Hospital for Chronic Diseases as part of an Immigrants' Home, and later added a Blind Asylum and a Night refuge. The complex on both sides of St Kilda Road was rebuilt in 1866. Also in 1866, part of the former Model farm was reserved for a future industrial school to care for neglected and orphaned children. By 1870, the Immigrants' Aid Society had become the Immigrants' Aid Society's Home for Houseless and Destitute Persons. Later it was extended to include a laundry, hospital, more dormitories and a mess hall. In 1875 the buildings for a girls division of the industrial school plus staff and service wings were constructed and occupied at the Royal Park site. Later the boys section was occupied. However, by 1880-1881 the Industrial School buildings were all vacated. In 1882, the male inmates of the Immigrant Aid Society for Houseless and Destitute Persons were transferred to an empty Industrial School site at

Royal Park. Women were transferred there much later in 1914 after the Society was renamed Victorian Homes for the Aged and Infirm in 1902. By 1925 another name change had occurred to more accurately represent the patients who were the elderly infirm. It became the Victorian Benevolent House and House for the Aged and Infirm with far more infirmary than benevolent beds. By 1939, the hospital was known as Mount Royal. Further name changes occurred in 1958: Mount Royal Special Hospital for the Aged; 1979: Mount Royal Hospital, 1991: North West Hospital; 1999: Melbourne Extended Care and Rehabilitation Service; and in 2005 the Royal Melbourne Hospital-Royal Park Campus.

Jeff compared the Royal Park Campus in 1975 when he started working there with the Campus today, and showed many black and white photographs. He named some of the famous former patients at the campus and showed photos of parts of the Edina -a pleasure boat which sailed on Port Phillip Bay-now installed in the campus grounds.

According to Mr Whittington there are 2 trees on the campus which are heritage listed. Also there are 4 buildings which are considered of heritage significance. They include buildings constructed in 1875, an art deco kiosk built in 1938, a chapel built in 1957, a gatehouse and a half refurbished coach house where visitors and staff used to wait for a hansom cab.

Jeff invited the Coburg Historical Society members to participate on one of his Friday night lantern tours. The funds raised from his tours go to help with the upkeep of the courtyard garden and heritage maintenance like repairs to the chapel bell. The Coburg Historical Society's President thanked Mr Whittington for his excellent talk and power point presentation and he was given a small gift of appreciation.

April 2013: 'Beyond the Facade: Our Station' and power point presentation by Jenny Davies. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On the 17 April, 2013, Jenny Davies talked about Flinders Street Station to members of the Coburg Historical Society. She illustrated her talk with many excellent photographs. Jenny partly based her talk on her book "Beyond the Facade: Flinders Street, more than just a railway station" published in 2009 for the 100th anniversary of the Station in 1910.

The theme of her talk was the competition held to design the Flinders Street Station in the 1890s compared to the current railway station precinct design competition being held by Major Projects of the State Government. She mentioned former plans for the station such as those during the Premiership of Sir Henry Bolte which luckily did not come to fruition. Changes within the station building were mentioned like the clocks over the north eastern entrance being automated, the second floor children's nursery being closed and changes in the layout and tenancies of the commercial spaces.

The 1890s competition had the clear aim of designing a central railway station building for people and businesses, of which all Melbourne people could be proud. The current competition lacks such a clear definition, but designs must meet the needs of transport and be sympathetic to the main Flinders Street Station building and other heritage buildings including the Banana vaults. Thankfully, the retention of heritage buildings of significance

has been guaranteed. The competition entrants will be reduced to 6 before the public will be asked to vote, through the media, for the precinct design they favour. However, their vote will not count. The 1910 building was constructed with local materials supplied by local Australian firms. There is no such expectation in the current competition. The builder of the 1910 station was not to interrupt any passenger service and there was to be no passenger injured in the course of construction of the building. She mentioned the sacking of the Williamstown builder of the 1910 station as a result of delays. However, a Royal Commission established that the bureaucrats, who were altering the winning design, were responsible for the delays and the builder was paid compensation. She noted that the building completed in 1910 was never officially opened.

Jenny showed photographs of the original Railway Institute facilities in the building and has prepared a virtual tour of the interior of the Flinders Street Station on the web at www.flindersstreetstation.com

She is continuing to collect stories from users or former tenants of the Flinders Street Station. She is now moving on to collect stories from Victorian Railways apprentices and welcomes contributions which can be e-mailed to: jenny.davies7@bigpond.com

March 2013: “Researching Middle Class Women at the beginning of the nineteenth century - their mobility and education” by Gwen Jones. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The guest speaker at the March meeting, Gwen Jones based her talk on her 1982 Melbourne University Master’s thesis “A lady in every sense of the word: A study of the Governess in Australian Colonial Society.”

She explained why she started research on a history Masters degree and how she decided on the topic. Gwen did her research in the pre computer era of the 1970s and she decided her best source of information would be letters from Governesses. She set out to find and read them in libraries and archives but was also referred to several, older people who had had a governess and were willing to be interviewed. Another source, she found and examined, was a list of people applying for teacher registration, compiled in 1901 at the behest of the first Director of Education, Frank Tate. It listed the names, education, experience and current employment of the applicant which helped with the identification of former or current governesses. Other sources, Gwen consulted were the records of Benevolent and Female Immigration Societies. This time consuming research was done during Gwen’s long service and annual leave and outside her teaching hours.

In the nineteenth century, men hired to teach children in families were called “Tutors”, often of independent means, whilst women were hired as Governesses. Many Governesses did not want to be “just a teacher” as the occupation of Governess had greater social status and was a more respectable nineteenth century occupation for a woman.

Gwen outlined the attributes and qualities of Governesses and concluded they came from the Middle Classes but were not all adequately educated. They had to be ladylike, have good manners and handwriting, and teach drawing room accomplishments like the playing of a

musical instrument, dancing, art and perhaps speak a foreign language, like French. These women rejected anything “working class”. Governesses wanted to secure a position in “a comfortable home.” They never referred to their salary, or wage but received an allowance. Many were so young they had not yet “come out” and thought their grandmother would have been scandalized if they had known their grand daughter had been required to accompany her charges to some family social occasion, downstairs. Some fell prey to their employer and left abruptly before they lost their reputation and future employment prospects. Many Governesses became very attached to the children in their care.

Gwen discovered the unexpected mobility of Governesses. They courageously travelled for employment into the unknown, by ship to different colonies and New Zealand. They went by bullock dray and coach to distant parts of Victoria and Australia. They would sometimes only stay in a position for a few years, until the children they taught and cared for had grown up or perhaps even died. Then the governess would have to look for another position in newspaper advertisements. The period between positions contrasted with the continuous employment enjoyed by public school teachers. The number of governesses in Australia increased, when those from overseas were joined by the Australian born.

The meeting ended with the President thanking the guest speaker and presenting her with a small gift.

March 2013: Search newsletter no. 94: (Moreland history news no.9) Contents include: Holeproof Knitting Mills, Brunswick and other suburbs.

February 2013: Celestina Sagazio of Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust: 'The heritage value of cemeteries and conservation techniques'. Report by Marilyn Moore. The first guest speaker for 2013 was Dr Celestina Sagazio who worked at the Victorian National Trust for 26 years and now works for the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust. This was a joint meeting with the Friends of Coburg Cemetery on Wednesday 20 February. Dr Sagazio spoke on the subject of the heritage values of cemeteries and conservation techniques. She illustrated her talk with a power point presentation including photographs of the recent infrastructure improvements and heritage interpretation at the Coburg Cemetery, aerial views and photo images of various Melbourne cemeteries.

Dr Sagazio argued that cemeteries offer a sense of continuity with our past communities and landscapes. They contain an historical record of the local communities that created them and headstones, which can have fascinating historical facts, sometimes found nowhere else. Cemeteries are time capsules and are the least changed cultural aspect of our society. They reflect attitudes and the social and economic development of their local communities and sometimes contain fine memorials, buildings, structures, gates, fences, layouts and landscapes. But for a long time they were ignored as a consequence of our fear of and our reluctance to talk about and consider death. Dr Sagazio argued for the acceptance of the principles of cultural heritage significance (aesthetic, historic, scientific and social) and the conservation management practices, as outlined in the Burra Charter (1979 and revised in 1999).

In Victoria, the National Trust Cemetery Committee (now disbanded) was the first to do heritage surveys and assess the historical significance of cemeteries. At one time, significance was synonymous with the graves of white, Anglo Saxon, well-to-do males. Now those of women, the poor, working class, other ethnic and racial groups as well as children are considered in significance assessments. Cemeteries can also be an important habitat of native plants, birds and animals.

Dr Sagazio believes that every cemetery has at least local significance. The existing features of each cemetery should be recorded and its significant features identified. Victorian Cemeteries can now be protected by their listing on the Victorian Heritage Register if they have state significance or covered by a Local Government Heritage Overlay if they have municipal significance.

The cultural significance of the cemetery is conserved by maintaining, repairing, preserving, restoring, reconstructing and adapting. The philosophy of the Burra Charter ensures conservation practices are underpinned by the cautious approach of doing as much as possible to care for the cemetery and make it useable, but changing it as little as possible. The responsibility for grave maintenance lies with the descendants who hold the right of interment. If descendants cannot be located, newspaper advertisements can be placed in local papers to try to locate them and if there is no response, then work on graves can be carried out. Dr Sagazio advised us that it is better to repair cracked gravestones than to replace them with new ones. The appropriate adhesives for different headstone materials should be identified and used. A metal, which will not rust should be used to brace a badly broken tombstone. She advocated a gentle approach to the cleaning of headstones-no scrubbing with hard brushes, no harsh detergents, and the use of fish oil on iron work once the rust is brushed off. Great care should be taken with inscription renewals as the original lettering can be obliterated. She strongly advocated obtaining the advice of expert conservators before repair work begins.

February 2013: The Friends of Coburg Cemetery (FOCC) now have their own website at <http://www.friendsofcoburgcemetery.com>

December 2012: Search newsletter no. 93: Contents include: Heritage walks: lessons learned from an Armadale heritage walk with Malvern Historical Society 13 Nov 2011 / Marilyn Moore p5.

The documentation of Moreland's old shop signage

Local resident Matt Bird has been busy photographing and documenting old shop signage around Moreland. He's come up with some fascinating finds.

Check out his blog (type:melbourne) <http://typemelbourne.com/>

If you have information on the signs Matt has already photographed or can suggest others he should look for, contact him via his blog.

14 October 2012 Coburg cemetery walk

Conducted by Friends of Coburg Cemetery Inc., this walk was part of Australian heritage week. Read the first issue of the FOCC newsletter [here](#)

Coburg Art Festivals of the 1940s

From 1944 to 1948 Coburg Council put on week-long art festivals (art shows, music, drama, opera etc) during July and August. The festivals were free, at least to start with, and featured high profile artists. Hector Crawford and Glenda Raymond were involved in the first festival. So was Gertrude Johnson and the National Theatre Movement. Rupert Bunny was a member of the organising committee as was Sir Bernard Heinze. It claimed to be the first festival of its kind in Victoria. We are seeking information on these festivals. In particular, we would like to make contact with anyone who might have attended a festival event and has memories (perhaps even programs or photographs) to share.

Please contact The Secretary, Coburg Historical Society, PO Box 295, Pascoe Vale South, Victoria 3044 or email Cheryl Griffin: cag1@iinet.net.au if you can help

September 2012: Search newsletter no. 92: Contents include: A shining light [Presbyterian Church in Coburg] / Ken McLeod p1. Colonial Victoria's navy [Victorian Navy] / Les McLean p7. Returned and Services League of Australia [RSL] Coburg sub-branch / David Thompson p8.

September 2012 - Cate Hall on the saving of the Coburg Swimming pool and the High School for Coburg Campaigns. Report by Marilyn Moore.

The address was given by East Coburg community activist, Cate Hall. She and her family had lived in the area for only 6 years before Cate joined other mothers in the 'Save Coburg Swimming Pool' campaign in early 2008. She then took a lead role in the 'High School for Coburg' group. Cate's address outlined in detail what the members of each group did to successfully overturn previous decisions made either by Moreland City Council on the Coburg Olympic Pool or the State Government on a year 7 to 12 High School in Coburg.

The 'Save the Coburg Swimming Pool' campaign used an online petition, attendance at Council meetings, public meetings with two guest speakers - former Councillor Frank Cox and Kelvin Thomson MHR- and a Council candidate Q and A, to persuade Moreland Council to repair, upgrade and reopen the pool. A 'Friends of the Olympic Pool' group has now been formed with the aim of getting the pool heated and the entrance and landscaping heritage listed. However, the future of the pool is not guaranteed because the Council Aquatic Strategy recommends the closure of one Moreland swimming pool.

The participants in the 'High School for Coburg' group, including Cate, decided their campaign would be transparent, persistent and remain politically unaligned. The group members agreed to build a case based on their own reports and to present their case in their own way. They wanted to gain and show community support through events, meetings and the internet. They would lobby multiple government ministers and departments, not only those directly involved. They would present and represent their case to the media. After 4

years, with 900 people on their e-mail list, the provision of 71 stories for the media, letters of support from Moreland and Darebin City Councils, 12 local Primary Schools and four developers, the Education Minister, Martin Dixon recently announced that Coburg Senior High School would become a year 7 to 12 school in 2015. However, the money for repairs and changes to the existing school has not been allocated in state budget for the 2012-2013 financial year.

For more information on the High School for Coburg Campaign and updates, please go to highschoolforcoburg.org

August 2012 John Kavanagh's Mayoral Year and his maternal family history. Report by Marilyn Moore.

On the 15th August, the Annual General Meeting was held. After the formalities were completed, the current Mayor of Moreland, John Kavanagh, who was first elected to Council in 2004, spoke about his Mayoral Year and his maternal family history.

Councillor Kavanagh gave an outline of his maternal family history and detailed the political activism of the Barrys. His Irish Great Great Grandfather from Cork was transported to Van Diemen's Land for stealing 6 sheep. His Great Grandfather William Barry senior worked as a garbage collector for the Melbourne City Council, started a Labor Branch in Carlton and held office in the Municipal Workers' Union. His Grandfather, William Barry junior, worked at the Newport railways workshop foundry and then for the Tobacco Workers' Union as Secretary before winning ALP pre-selection for the safe state seat of Carlton and working in the health, housing and forestry ministries. He was also elected a Councillor for Melbourne City Council in 1939. From 1932 until 1955, William junior argued strongly against capital punishment in State Parliament. He significantly contributed to Melbourne winning the 1956 Olympic Games.

John Kavanagh's grandmother Mary (Moodie) Barry was the first woman to sit on the State Labor executive (1950-1955), fought to stop the hanging of the last woman (Jean Lee) in Victoria in 1951 and agitated to have women prisoners accommodated outside the walls of Pentridge Prison. John Kavanagh told us that his mother always said that the political process gives ordinary people the opportunity to do extraordinary things. As well as John, two others members of the Kavanagh family – Peter and Paul have been involved in politics. Peter represented Western Victoria for the DLP in the Victorian Legislative Council. Paul Kavanagh was the unsuccessful Australian Democrats candidate for Albert Park in a 2007 by- election.

Councillor Kavanagh did not wear robes or a mayoral chain whilst addressing the meeting. He stated that he saw the role of Mayor and Councillor as providing a community service. John described himself as the only "independent" on Council. He was the first non ALP member to be elected the Mayor of Moreland and he stated there was no prior deal before the mayoral vote, except some Councillors had ensured he was going to put up his hand for the position and had promised to vote for him. John Kavanagh works as the Mayor for four weekdays and teaches at St Matthews's Primary School in Fawkner for one day per week. He said that he had attended many community functions in the capacity of Mayor and

therefore had not been home in the evening from Good Friday (6 April) until 12 August. He considered it a privilege to be the Mayor. By representing the Council at so many community events he gained insights into many things.

He considered the Mayor had no special authority above that of any other Councillor, but did have a casting vote at a meeting, if there was a tied vote. Councillor Kavanagh considered the role of the Mayor to include the chairing of meetings; working with Council Officers to implement the Council Plan; controlling his fellow Councillors; supporting the Council Staff and being a visible community and Council representative.

At the end of his address, the President presented the Mayor with a gift and discussion continued over a delicious supper. Notes by Marilyn Blizzard-Moore.

July 2012: At the July meeting of the Coburg Historical Society, Clare Johnston, a Moreland City Council Open Space Planner, reported on what had been done at the Coburg Lake Reserve and possible future changes there. She mentioned that the dry rock walls had been refurbished, a playground built on the Reserve, De Chene Parade side, the exotic water birds removed and garden beds re-established along the Murray Road rock walls. This work was largely funded by the Northern Sewerage Project. The Council is now considering how to celebrate the 100 years anniversary of World War 1. Many of the 160 trees, planted in 1919 and making up the Avenue of Honour at the Lake Reserve have been lost and there are only 55 elms and 22 plane trees and some Monterey pines remaining. All the named plaques that were placed around the trees have been lost and Council does not have any photos of them and is seeking any that still exist. Council would like to replant the 110 lost trees but a decision has to be made about the species. Eucalyptus trees have been suggested. A decision also has to be made about the possibility of re-plaquing the trees. The feeling of the meeting was that any names of Coburg fallen revealed by any current research should be added to the plaque on the memorial stone installed by the Council at the reserve in April 1980. Other improvements to the Lake Reserve being considered by Council were the reintroduction of the many original garden beds, the reopening of a kiosk probably at the Harry Atkins Centre and the removal of the brick changing rooms building next to the Sound Bowl to provide better views of the lake. The talk ended with an exchange of information and generated a lot of discussion.

June 2012: Michael Howes spoke on the "Victorian Readers". He spoke of the history of the books and members at the meeting were reminded of the stories and poems they contained. Many were able to recall parts of the stories and lines from the poems. Michael was thanked for giving up his time to speak to the Society.

June 2012: Search newsletter no. 91: Contents include: Remembering Coburg's high schools [Coburg High School; Newlands High School] / Cheryl Griffin p1. Remembering the working lives of teachers at Coburg High School [Rae Baker; Marie Bernadou; Manuel Gelman; Doris McRae; Catherine Warren] / Cheryl Griffin p3. Coburg becomes a city 1922 / Laurie Burchell p5. The Blessed Oliver Plunket's since 1975, Saint [St] Oliver's [Pascoe Vale] / Ivan Cindric p7.

May 2012 meeting report A members night where people shared their items, memories and knowledge of history. Some examples were: a badge collection brought along by Ken, one member had a 75 year old doll with her, Malcolm brought photos taken by his father during World War Two in the Pacific Islands.

21st April 2012 - Launch of Coburg Cemetery heritage walk: The morning began cold and foggy but lifted to reveal a glorious sunny day for the launch of the Coburg Cemetery heritage walk on Saturday 21st April 2012 at 11 am. Wendy Todd, Community Engagement Manager, Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, put in a huge amount of work to prepare for the day and she is to be congratulated on a great success. Also to be congratulated are the members of the Friends of the Coburg Cemetery Inc. who worked tirelessly to make the day a success, including researching the thirty people who have commemorative plaques placed beside their graves. The cemetery looked great with the lawns mowed, the refurbished gate, the horse-drawn hearse from John Allison / Monkhouse on display, and the trees in their autumn beauty. The self-guided tour is easy to follow with a professionally produced brochure available at the cemetery, so why not take the opportunity on the next fine day to go to the Coburg Cemetery, get some exercise and learn some of the history of Coburg. The people researched by the Friends of the Coburg Cemetery and that have plaques placed beside their graves are as follows:

1 David Edward McGrath, murdered police constable. 2 Captain William Ambrose Cull, ANZAC and author. 3 Sir Alexander George Wales, politician and Lord Mayor of Melbourne. 4 Chinese heritage. 5 Said Ahmed Shah, hawker and religious leader. 6 Montague Dare, businessman and developer. 7 Casamento family, fruiterers. 8 Charles Web Gilbert, sculptor. 9 Anketell family, William Anketell, farmer and magistrate. 10 Joseph Hannan, political leader. 11 Anne Teresa Brennan, lawyer and equal rights advocate. 12 James Smith, Pentridge Prison warder. 13 The Spry family, carriers. 14 William Murray, victim of SS Dandenong steamer disaster. 15 Maggie and Annie Tucker, victims of Sunshine rail disaster. 16 George Arthur Keartland, naturalist and ornithologist. 17 Laurence Cohen, political leader. 18 Albert 'Nuts' Renny, jockey. 19 Archibald Stewart, political leader. 20 Walter Henry 'Dick' Lee, Collingwood footballer. 21 William Guthrie Spence, lay preacher and politician. 22 John Daniel 'Snowy' Cutmore, criminal and gangland enforcer. 23 John and Catherine Curtin, parents of Prime Minister John Curtin. 24 John Paul Sennitt, ice and ice cream manufacturer (Sennitt's Ice-Cream). 25 James Francis 'Jock' McHale, Collingwood footballer and coach. 26 Isaac Mattson, Eureka Stockade rebel. 27 Friend Holness, Metropolitan Fire Brigade firefighter. 28 James Robert Jewell, butcher and politician. 29 Abel Greenwood, businessman and Shire President. 30 Frederick William Buzaglo, municipal administrator.

April 2012: Special edition of Search: A special edition has been brought out so that members can have a copy of the memories of the employees of Lincoln Mills. This follows on from the hugely successful combined meeting of Moreland historical societies, held in conjunction with the Moreland Libraries 'Talks on Moreland' program, on the topic of Lincoln Mills. The interest in this topic saw more than eighty people squeeze into the Coburg Library meeting room to hear memories of working and social life at the mills, read out by members of the Coburg Historical Society.

Newsletter No. 90: Contents include: Memories of former Lincoln Mills workers. Blizzard

family p2. Contento family p4. Mavis Delaney (nee Elliott) p4. Molly Faulkner (nee Green) p5. Flo Howlett p5. Nanette McCormack p6. Barbara Rathbone (nee Watkinson) p6. Jack Ruddock p6. Fred Spalding p7. Patricia Waldron (nee Parmiter) p8. Joyce Whelan (nee Grieves) p9. Preserving the architectural heritage of the Lincoln Mills p10.

April 2012: Cheryl Griffin gave an entertaining talk at our April 2012 meeting, on 'Growing up in Coburg in the 1960s'. Cheryl is the daughter of a Methodist Minister and they lived for seven years in the parsonage next to the Methodist Church in Sydney Road (now Kildonan). Cheryl talked about her life in the parsonage and showed pictures of her family and historic photos of the buildings associated with the church and her childhood.

Previous newsletters:

No. 89 DECEMBER 2011: Coburg Cricket Club p2. Malcolm McIlvena p8.

No. 88 SEPTEMBER 2011: Where did you get that hat?: the story of Sneddon's Millinery, Sydney Road, Coburg / Marilyn Blizzard Moore p1. Australia's cycling greats [Coburg cyclists] p7. Letter from Gladys Phillips (nee Stubbs) [reminiscences] p9.

No. 87 JUNE 2011: Community in time [storyboards along Glenroy Road] / Ivan Cindric p1. Combined history group meeting 19-2-2011: the 1923 Melbourne Police Strike / Ralph Stavely, summary by Marilyn Moore p3. The Australian International Academy: formerly King Khalid Islamic College of Victoria / Ivan Cindric p5.

No. 86 MARCH 2011: (Moreland history news no.7) Origin of Moreland History News / Laurie Burchell and John Ness p2. Brunswick / F.G. Miles 1907 p3. Coburg p5. History of Moreland fact sheet 4: Fawkner p7. History of Moreland fact sheet 5: Glenroy p9. Greek communities in Australia p11.

DECEMBER 2010 Bulletin No. 18: From 'ten pound Pom' to Mayor of Coburg: Pauline Cecilia Taylor / Marilyn Blizzard-Moore.

No. 85 SEPTEMBER 2010: Coburg, Germany p1. Walker's Store and family p1. William Poole p3. Coburg: farthest north (article from The Argus 1909) / Richard Hain p4. Villa Italia, 610 Sydney Road, Coburg p7. Book review: Without warning: one woman's story of surviving Black Saturday by Jane O'Connor / Marilyn Blizzard-Moore p8.

JUNE 2010 Bulletin No. 17: Review: The suffragist and the squatter / Norman C. Hutchinson.

No. 84 MARCH 2010: (Moreland history news no.6) Tullamarine / Elaine Whatman p2. Disaster at our doorstep [Black Saturday bushfires and their effect on the people of Moreland] / Marilyn Blizzard-Moore p3-8. Scouting in Merlynston / Keith Joyce p9. Lance-Corporal Louis Clark (poet) p10. Speech by Francesca Folk Scolaro on accepting the award of Citizen of the Year for Moreland p11.

DECEMBER 2009 Bulletin No. 16: Beryl Jean Plumridge 1924-2009: a Coburg Mayor's partner and much more... / Marilyn Blizzard-Moore.

No. 83 SEPTEMBER 2009: Report on Moreland Volunteers Expo p1. Australian national flag p3. Vale: Beryl Jean Plumridge p8.

JULY 2009 Bulletin no. 15: The 'Souter' table: Reverend William Souter 1834-1924.

No. 82 MARCH 2009: (Moreland history news no.5) Flying the flags proudly / Elayne Whatman p2. Personal nostalgia: the war [World War Two, home front] p3; The smells of Brunswick p4; walking to school p7; / Don Hunt. A life of community service: Alice Melba O'Brien 1911-2008 p9.

NOVEMBER 2008 Bulletin no.14: Shirley Myra Robertson: a significant woman of Coburg / Marilyn Blizzard-Moore.

No. 81 SEPTEMBER 2008: Caffe Delle Rose [at former Pentridge Prison] p1. A biography of Robert Irvine: a mayor and a builder of Coburg / Bob Auld p3. Vale: Alice O'Brien p11.

JUNE 2008 Bulletin no.13: Harry Malcolmson Rogers p1.

MARCH 2008: Supplement to Search no. 80: A review of 'Southern invasion, northern conquest' by Rex Harcourt, reviewed by Ivan Cindric.

No. 80 MARCH 2008: (Moreland history news no.4) Sisters of Mercy p2. Batman's exploration June 1835 [John Batman] p8.

NOVEMBER 2007 Bulletin no.12: Lincoln Knitting and Spinning Mills 1922.

No. 79 SEPTEMBER 2007: Coburg High School building p1. From 'The public life of Charles Mutton' p3. Coburg West Primary School p7.

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No. 78 MARCH 2007: (Moreland history news no.3) Moreland and local history p2. Local history: why bother? p5. Judge Stretton: reminiscences p8.

NOVEMBER 2006 Bulletin no.10: Robert Larocca. Les McLean. Bell Street east looking towards Preston 1916 (photo).

No. 77 SEPTEMBER 2006: Malcolm McIlvena p1. George Sweeney p308. 127-9 Sydney Road [sometime French's Dental Surgery] p312. Vic French and Ron French p314.

JUNE 2006 Bulletin no.9: Tenth year celebrations. Corner of Nicholson Street and Rennie Street 1948 (photo with tram).

No. 76 MARCH 2006: (Moreland history news no.2) Moreland celebrates 10 years of the restoration of democracy p1. John Fawkner Hospital [Sacred Heart Hospital], Moreland Rd, Coburg p298.

NOVEMBER 2005 Bulletin no.8: Iddo (Snowy) Munro (photo). 22 Harding Street (photo).

No. 75 SEPTEMBER 2005: History of the Coburg Historical Society p284. A short biography of the late Gordon Adrian Perlstein: supplement and p290. Remembering the Rawleighs man [Rawleigh Company] p288.

No. 74 MARCH 2005: (Moreland history news no.1) Recollections of Molly Mullins p2. Barry family p4.

JUNE 2005 Bulletin no.7: Vale: John Cunningham. Death: James Murray Gavin 1920-2005.

NOVEMBER 2004 Bulletin no.6.

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JUNE 2004 Bulletin no.5: Chains and links as measurement.

No. 72 MARCH 2004: John Batman and Coburg p254. A truly Australian garden 1935 p256. Fire at the Pentridge Stockade 1872 p259.

NOVEMBER 2003 Bulletin no.4: water damage in our annexe. No. 95 Bell Street (house before demolition in 1970) (photo).

No. 71 SEPTEMBER 2003: Coburg Drive-in p244. Public library p247. Cr Eli Williams 1861-1910 p247.

JUNE 2003 bulletin no.3: Proposed tower development for former Pentridge Prison site.

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- No. 56 MARCH 1999: George Walter Harman p2. Coburg 1853 p5. Coburg 1859 p7.
- No. 55 NOVEMBER 1998: Theo Bugg: his 1912 Pathfinder [car] / Theodore Bugg 1968 p90. An unfinished history of Coburg / Walter Mitchell, Town Clerk 1916-1948 p93.
- No. 54 SEPTEMBER 1998: Mervyn Harris memorial p1. Robert Bugg: Moreland ropemaker / Lois Armstrong (nee Bugg) p82. Pascoe Vale school days [Pascoe Vale State School; more on Grade 4 photo 1932, also Grades 5 and 6, 1933] / Wally Stubbs p84.
- No. 53 JUNE 1998: Prison's fate in balance [Pentridge] p1. Alienation of Bridges Reserve p1. Death of Bill Barnes p1. A flawed Shire Secretary? [William James Eckersall] / Ken Eckersall and Laurie Burchell p74. Our buildings speak: past and present p78. Coburg East Primary School p80.
- No. 52 MARCH 1998: The making of a street: Sage Street, Pascoe Vale: an eye-witness account / John Cunningham p66. More on Moreland Hall / Laurie Burchell p71. Old Pascoe Vale Post Office building at the rear of 123 Essex Street, Pascoe Vale (photo) p72.
- No. 51 NOVEMBER 1997: Death: Gerald Walle p1. Female prisoners 1836-1996 part 5: the

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No. 50 SEPTEMBER 1997: Confessions of an ex-SP bookmaker / edited transcript of an interview on 20th January 1997 with Gerald Walle conducted by Laurie Burchell and Con Haralambeas p50. William Swingler, policeman / Laurie Burchell p53. Populations of Coburg and Brunswick 1851-1994 / Laurie Burchell p54. Female prisoners 1836-1996 part 4: the return of female prisoners to the Melbourne Gaol / Jim Armstrong p55. Serendipity [more on the Flemington Bridge to Pascoe Vale Railway] / Laurie Burchell p56.

No. 49 JUNE 1997: Loss of a life member: Mervyn Harris p1. Pentridge Gaol p1. The railway line that never was [the Flemington Bridge to Pascoe Vale railway through West Brunswick and Coburg, never built] / Laurie Burchell p42. Female prisoners 1836-1996 part 3: the female division at Pentridge 1864-1871 / Jim Armstrong p46.

No. 48 MARCH 1997: Vale: Joe Laidman p1. Coonan of the road and the hill [Michael Coonan, Coonan's Hill, Coonans Road] / Laurie Burchell p34. Panoramic view of Pascoe Vale South c1904 [Edward Strange] p36. Female prisoners 1836-1996 part 2: female prisoners in the colony of Victoria 1851-1900 / Jim Armstrong p38.

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No. 46 SEPTEMBER 1996: More work at 20 Anketell Street p18. Coburg Football Club 1925 p19. Serving company and community without compromise [Harold Paynting, Gardner and Naylor firm] p20. Female prisoners 1836-1996 [Pentridge Prison, Fairlea Prison] p22.

No. 45 JUNE 1996: Coburg Football Club 1891-1924 p11. From farming fields to forging wheels [Strange family, coach builders, factory at 24 Clarendon Street, Coburg] p12. The Coburg Synagogue, 15 Elizabeth Street, East Coburg [Jews] p14.

No. 44 MARCH 1996: Landells of Coburg [Landells family] p3.

No. 43 NOVEMBER 1995: Life membership to Gwen Joyce p1. Book launch: Coburg: more of our history by Laurie Burchell p1. Last Elizabeth Street cable tram p2. The beginnings of our local history (continued) p3.

No. 42 SEPTEMBER 1995: Our President steps down [Keith Joyce] / Gordon Perlstein p1. A goat hunt [goats 1891] p2. A memorial fountain [at the Bell Street entrance to Bridges Reserve for Cr Harry Malcolmson Rogers] / Laurie Burchell p3. More about Harry Richards p4. The beginnings of our local history p5.

No. 41 JUNE 1995: Let there be (electric) light [electricity] / Laurie Burchell p2. The house that Alexander and William built [20 Anketell Street] / Matthew Johnson p7.

No. 40 MARCH 1995: Three publications launched [Street names of Coburg 3rd ed.; Coburg's historic markers; Coburg entries in Sands and McDougall directories 1933-1955] p1. Vale: Bill Jagger p1. Alexander Munro / Laurie Burchell and Joan Divola p2. William Anketell J.P. / Trish Bremner and Laurie Burchell p3. Empire Day 1907 / Laurie Burchell p7. Mary McKillop: the Coburg connection p8.

No. 39 NOVEMBER 1994: Demise of Coburg Croquet Club p1. Coburg by gaslight / Laurie Burchell p2. Our patriotic councillors [wars] / Laurie Burchell p4. Mystery of the missing war memorials solved (almost)! [Lake Reserve war memorial, avenue of honour] / Laurie Burchell p5.

No. 38 SEPTEMBER 1994: Richards Brothers, Grocers / Laurie Burchell.

No. 37 JUNE 1994: Bell Park Estate / Daniel De Leonardis p2. The perplexing case of the missing Bell [naming of Bell Street] / Laurie Burchell p7. More about our street names p8.

No. 36 MARCH 1994: Book launch: Street names of Coburg 2nd by Laurie Burchell p1. Closure of Merlynston Primary School p1. Vale: George Williams p1. Loads of old rubbish: from 50 years of council minutes 1859-1909 / Laurie Burchell p2. More about street names / Laurie Burchell p3.

No. 35 NOVEMBER 1993: Pascoe Vale's steel years [Steel Company of Australasia Ltd] / Laurie Burchell.

No. 34 SEPTEMBER 1993: Bates Building: from stables to emporiums [Henry Weeks Bates] / Laurie Burchell p2. Prison officers in Coburg: going, going, nearly gone! / Jim Armstrong and Laurie Burchell p6.

No. 33 JUNE 1993: Ernie Milliken: a great Victorian cyclist / Ken Hanlon p2. Sister Ida [Grainge Biggs] and Vacluse Hospital / Laurie Burchell p6. Typhoid fever in Coburg p8.

No. 32 MARCH 1993: Where were all those old estates? / Laurie Burchell p3.

No. 31 NOVEMBER 1992: The family of Thomas Saunders / Arthur Hewitt p2. Thomas Saunders' neighbours [map and notes] p6.

No. 30 SEPTEMBER 1992: We were all wrong! [date of horse-drawn tram, Sydney Road] / Laurie Burchell p2. Melbourne's early gaols 1836-46 part 2: the administration of justice in the Port Phillip district / Jim Armstrong p4.

No. 29 JUNE 1992: The council's new insignia p3. Lalla Rookh Estate [Frank Manchester family] / Laurie Burchell p4. The Coburg Swimming Club / Laurie Burchell p9.

No. 28 MARCH 1992: Walham' [house] 86 Gordon Street [Robert Spurway family, 251 Reynard Street] / Laurie Burchell p3. Melbourne's early gaols 1836-46 part 2: the

administration of justice in the Port Phillip District / Jim Armstrong p6.

No. 27 NOVEMBER 1991: Unveiling of plaques and historic photographic panel [last blacksmith shop in Coburg] p2. Foley's Hotel [Commercial Hotel, James (Jim) Foley 1878-1941] p3. The Dunne family and 436-442 Sydney Road [Dunnes Building] / Laurie Burchell p5.

No. 26 SEPTEMBER 1991: Life membership: Keith Joyce p1. A bit of a strip [Sydney Road, west side between Victoria and Bell streets] / Laurie Burchell p3,7. The Strugnell family in Coburg / George John Strugnell p4. Melbourne's early gaols 1836-46 part 1: the convict taint / Jim Armstrong p9.

No. 25 JUNE 1991: Plaque at Coburg Primary School p1. Memories of Sydney Road, North Coburg / Rosemary Hayes p2. Victorian Municipal Directory: Coburg 1887 p5. Father Charles O'Hea and Ned Kelly p6.

No. 24 MARCH 1991: Rathmore', 781 Sydney Road [Coburg] / Rosemary Hayes p2. RHSV tour of Coburg and Craigieburn 28 Nov 1990 p5. Boundaries of Merlynston, Newlands / L. Burchell p6.

No. 23 NOVEMBER 1990: Fergusons Pastrycooks and Bakers [Ferguson family] p2. Browns Corner Hotel / L. Burchell p4. Woodcutters and the weighbridge p5. Licensees of the Corner Hotel, Coburg 1867-1974 p5. Boundaries of Moreland p6.

No. 22 SEPTEMBER 1990: More on W.E. Cash [27 The Grove] / L. Burchell p4. Excerpts from 'Health Inspectors Report Book' 14 Feb 1934 p5.

No. 21 JUNE 1990: Unveiling of memorial plaque at Lake Reserve [soldiers, World War One] p2. Coburg's early post offices [office] p2. Coburg's early police stations [station] / L. Burchell p4. W.E. Cash Plumbing and Hardware / L. Burchell p5.

No. 20 MARCH 1990: Unveiling of commemorative plaque at Lake Reserve [soldiers, World War One] p1. More plaques installed p2. 683-691 Sydney Road [Lake Hall Picture Theatre; Belworth Hosiery] p2. What happened to Belworth Hosiery? p4. 150th anniversary of the 1840 arrival of pioneers in Coburg [Mansergh family and Rolleston family] p4. McKay family p5.

No. 19 NOVEMBER 1989: Lake Reserve Avenue of Honour p1. A tribute to Joe White / Doug Gunn p1.

No. 18 SEPTEMBER 1989: Video on the history of Coburg: 'From settlement to city' p2. Passing of Wallace Landells p2. West Coburg Progress Theatre, Reynard Street p2. A visit to our mother town: Coburg, West Germany / Gordon Perstein p5.

No. 17 JUNE 1989: Coburg Lake Memorial Avenue [Lake Reserve Avenue of Honour] p2, 4. Formation of 'Friends of the Merri Creek' p2. School days at Coburg East State School no.

4260 / Doug Gunn p2. Bundoora Park Historical Centre p3. Bronze historical markers p5. New fence at the Bluestone Cottage p5.

No. 16 MARCH 1989: Time capsule p2. Police Station p3. 'Old Lysander', the bell of the barque 'Lysander' [ship] p3. Cobourg, Canada p5.

No. 15 SEPTEMBER 1988: Bluestone cottage continued p2. Snippets from newspapers 1892: theft of silver toast rack from Dr Douglas Stewart; Mathew Taylor and Alfred Orchard arrested for playing 'pitch and toss'; East Brunswick Fire Brigade concert p4. Notes from research section: Edinburgh Castle Hotel; Alexander Cameron and Moreland Hall p5. Video: 'The history of Coburg' p6.

No. 14 JUNE – AUGUST 1988: The bluestone cottage, 82 Bell Street p1. Pascoe Vale Girls' High School homestead and Pardy family p3. News from 1890-1: Miss Grace Rowe; Thomas Fischer p4.

No. 13 JUNE 1988: Reg Kelly, boot and shoe repairer p3. Edward Bailey p3. New Methodist Church in Pascoe Vale 1959 p4. Coburg Crown portions p5. Coburg Football Ground p7.

No. 12 MARCH 1988: Pleasant Street Methodist Church p4. Coburg Cemetery p7. Coburg Drill Hall p8. Robinson Reserve and the Coburg Drill Hall in Reynard Street p9.

No. 11 OCTOBER 1987: Robinson Reserve p2. Episcopalian Church in Coburg p3. Coburg Mechanics' Institute p5. The telephone exchange p6.

No. 10 AUGUST 1987: Coburg's police stations p3. Primitive Methodist Church, Newlands Road p3. Bolingbroke estate and township continued p4.

No. 9 MAY 1987: Coburg's first police station p3. Bolingbroke township and estate p3.

OLD SERIES 1976-1980.

No. 11 FEBRUARY 1980: General store, Holt and Co. p1. Maurice Blackburn continued p1. Doris Blackburn 1889-1970 p2.

No. 10 NOVEMBER 1979: Charles E. Bowden [letter from his daughter Mrs M.E. Davies, Mr Bowden was manager of Coburg cemetery approx. 1890-1910] p1. Maurice McCrae Blackburn 1880-1944 p2.

No. 9 FEBRUARY 1979: K.W. Joyce and Fawkner Crematorium and Memorial Park [Cemetery] p1. The Corner Hotel [formerly Stockade Inn; Pentridge Hotel] p2. No. 9A SEPTEMBER 1979: Letter from Mr G.W. Harman concerning his great-grandfather Valentine Wortley (1827-1891) p2.

No. 8 JUNE? 1978: Glencairn [property, Moreland Estate] p3. The Commercial Hotel [formerly Volunteer Arms; Cricketers Arms, demolished 1978] p5. St Paul's Roman Catholic

Church, Coburg p7.

No. 7 MAY? 1978: The Post Office Hotel, Sydney Road, Coburg p4.

No. 6 APRIL 1978: Wentworth House [La Rose] p1. The background on Walker's Store / Brendan Walker p4. Reverend William Hill p7.

No. 5 SEPTEMBER 1977: Woodlands Hotel [formerly Nugget; Nugget and Woolpack] / Joseph White p3.

No. 4 APRIL 1977: Birmingham Mint Pty Ltd / William A. Stoyles p1. Congleton family of Coburg (conclusion) p2. Pavilion named after Alan Davis p3. Coburg police 120 years ago p4. The Golden Fleece Hotel [New Golden Fleece, Village Belle]p4.

No. 3 FEBRUARY 1977: Controversy over the naming of 'K.W. Joyce Reserve' [Blue Bell Dell Reserve] p1. Congleton family in Coburg [Congleton Brothers Ironmongers / Hardware] / T.R. Congleton p3. Reminiscences of R.Y. Mathew [Mathew?] (conclusion) p5.

No. 2 OCTOBER 1976: Wheatsheaf Racing Club p2. Volunteer Arms Hotel p2. Purchase of the Northern Tramway Company by the Shire of Coburg (aborted) p2. History of the Presbyterian Church in Coburg continued p3. The reminiscences of R.Y. Mathew [concerning The Grove and its residents 1920s] p4.

No. 1 JULY 1976: History of the Coburg Historical Society p1. The history of the Presbyterian Church in Coburg / K.P. McLeod p3.