



UPPER YARRA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2023



MUSEUM REPORT

A Merry Christmas To You.

It has been a quiet time these past few months, but the gardening boys (Barry, Russell, Andy and David) have been keeping the place looking presentable, while Lyle serves up a cuppa tea and biscuit.

Outdoor activity is grass cutting and weeding, however the area outside the fence at the East end of the platform has been tidied up. (lot's of Rocks).

Indoors we have been assisted by a new member, Lina (with an "i") who is new to the district and stopped in one day for a look and decided that her services are needed. Lina is very keen on dusting and also likes a good yarn about history.

Archiving is on the go again. Ross has been digitising the catalogue worksheets and is about halfway through. John Bramley has gratefully offered his time to assist and is very good on the scanner, Thank you John

Visitor attendance has been steady and unpredictable as usual, but group tours in the past few months have been keeping some of us busy.

A large group (71 persons) visited on a Friday, A group of 25 elderly people emptied their loose change to us (5 cent pieces still do exist), and the Steiner School had their end of year party on the platform.

Caulfield Grammar School visited several times as part of their school curriculum. They conduct a camping holiday for their senior students at Britannia Creek campus which includes a walk into the forest and sawmills sites. A visit to the museum is part of their experience where we enlighten the students to what the history of the district is, and the historic sites they will see.

And finally, Thanks to Lee, Kate, Ross, Aven, Dale, Frank, and Barry T, for all their time and effort for the year.

UPPER YARRA MUSEUM

presents

CRANK UP

-2024-

Heritage & Community Festival

April 6-7, 2024: 10am till 4pm

Upper Yarra Museum @ the Old Yarra Junction Railway Station

NOW TAKING EXHIBITOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

- FOOD TRUCKS - HERITAGE TRADES - CRAFTS PEOPLE -
- ARTISANS - DEMONSTRATORS - LOCAL CLUBS -
- COMMUNITY GROUPS - STEAM, OIL, & KEROSENE - CAR CLUBS -
- KIDS ENTERTAINMENT - RIDES -



Email us to apply : uyvhs.info@gmail.com

A Point of Interest.

The Internet - Don't Believe All you Read

Having recently updated to phone with internet, I have been surfing many web and facebook pages, and found that most of the content is total rubbish with no substance or integrity.

As a person with a keen interest in history I find it very difficult to comprehend why people publish information on these pages without verifying the facts first.

I have in the past clarified the naming of Launching Place, and the Photograph of the Elephants in Main Street Warburton. This time it is how Yarra Junction got its name.

(Little Yarra Junction) Yarra Junction

When Robert Hoddle travelled through here in the 1840s he crossed the Little Yarra River, (east of today's township) by a bridge in which he constructed. Later when the goldminers travelled through to Reefton and beyond they used this crossing. The early Bridle Track from the Warrandyte diggings passed through Coldstream and Killara to Launching Place and Old Warburton crossing the Little Yarra River. Back in these days to get to Gippsland and Walhalla via Warragul was impossible in Winter time due to the Koo Wee Rup Swamp. A Mrs Bowman payed to have a Bridle Track cut from her Beaconsfield Hotel through to the Warburton Diggings. This track went through Beenak and "junctioned" with the track from Warrandyte at the "the Little Yarra "river, hence the early name of "the Little Yarra, Junction". "The town that sprung up at this location became known as "Little Yarra Junction". When the railway came in 1901 the "Little " was dropped from the name.

The theory of the two valleys meeting fits in but not correct, and the one about the railway and tramway is just so wrong by date.

Further details of this small piece of history can be found at the Upper Yarra Museum.

Ross Polkinghorne, UYVHS Archives Team

It happened 100 years ago.... 1923

NOTICE.

On behalf of Mr. Edward Alfred Bromley, a past inmate of the Melbourne Hospital, now an invalid, I beg to convey to the public of Millgrove my heartfelt thanks for the generous gift to him of an invalid chair, and to state that as soon as he becomes convalescent and able to dispense with same, it is his wish for it be handed over to the public and kept in a central place in the township for the use of some unfortunate who may require it. Mrs. Bromley also wishes to thank the public of Millgrove and district for their kind sympathy shown during her sad trouble and misfortune.

(Sgd.) Edward Albert Bromley,
Adeline Bromley,
A. W. Bromley.
(parents and son)

Millgrove.

POWELLTOWN.

BUSH NURSING HOSPITAL.

A meeting was held in the Powelltown Hall on Friday, 18th inst., to consider a proposal to build a hospital in Powelltown. There was a fair attendance. Mr. Gribble, who has taken a great interest in trying to have the hospital established here, introduced Mr. Hansford, treasurer of the Bush Nursing Association, Melbourne. In an interesting speech Mr. Hansford said that his association would give a grant of £250 towards the hospital and dispensary, under the following conditions: The hospital to be built on a site of not less than one acre, and to be well away from noise and smoke of mills; to be lit by electric light; to have a septic tank installed; head nurse to be paid £208 per annum, also two local assistants to be kept; there must be at least ten local guarantors for the nurses' salaries; It is estimated that the cost would be about £500 per annum. Mr. Gribble is to canvass the district to see what support is likely to be obtained.

Mr. J. Ingram (who occupied the chair) moved a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Hansford and Gannon, who had motored from Melbourne to attend the meeting. A meeting is to be held at a later date to receive Mr. Gribble's report as to what support has been promised.

REPORT ON ITS MERITS.

A POOR FAMILY.

One would hardly believe that in a rich, prosperous district like that of Woori Yallock there are people so poor that they are compelled to live in hovels. Yet such is the case, it one is to judge from a report furnished to the council by the secretary. The report stated, inter alia, that a man and his family were so residing at Woori Yallock, which was most undesirable from a health point of view. Mr. Burgoyne, the inspector, was instructed to inquire and report to the council.

OPENING OF THE WARBURTON CHESS CLUB.

The Warburton Chess Club was auspiciously opened on Thursday night at the Mechanics' Institute. One of the many interesting events was the simultaneous playing against three of the leading Warburton players by Mr. Cockrill, a visitor from the Melbourne Chess Club. He maintained the honor of the parent club, as one after another of the local players succumbed to his superior skill. Mr. Cockrill merely paced up and down the floor, and after a moment's glance at the various boards abruptly moved his piece and walked quickly to his next opponent. He subsequently acknowledged that he was more physically than mentally tired. Mr. Cockrill's genial disposition and interesting little lessons on chess were much appreciated by those present, and he helped to clear away some misunderstandings regarding "castleing" and "en passant" moves entertained by one of the local students of the game.

Bits and Pieces

This was in the last edition but we had no feedback and still do not know the answer.



What Am I?

Help us out on this one.

We have this unusual brush that is split in the middle.

Does anybody know what it would be used for.

(Painting Rainbows is not an answer.)

If I was given some options on what it may be I could have eliminated some of the less logical answers and gone 50/50. As it is, it comes down to phone a friend. Mine have no idea, so it is once again up to you readers to let us know.

(PS. Even a few polite cranky answers will suffice.)



This one we know, but do you.

Clue:-Was used in a local hotel.

Answer: Home-made Cork remover, Used at Paul's Wine Hall, Yarra junction, early to mid 1900s.

CRANK-UP and WOODCHOP

6TH AND 7TH APRIL 2024 NOW CONFIRMED!

Crank-up may seem a long way off, but it does take a lot of preplanning.

So far there has been several first timers who have expressed interest in participating.

The regulars are being notified of the dates.

The machinery guys should be there as usual, and the Draught Horses.

Just like every year there is **LOTS** to plan and organize and we need your help again.

Invitations will be sent out to Stall and Display holders shortly

HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH PREPARATIONS

We need the following volunteers:

- On the day to help with set up and guidance for the stall and display holders.
- From January to February, working with others, to approach businesses in the Upper Yarra Valley for support and raffle donations.
- Working Bee to be held in early March to make the museum look perfect.
- People to collect admission fees on the 2 days.
- People to help with clean up after the event.

Please contact [Lee # 0448 706 714](tel:0448706714) or [Kate # 0402 462 167](tel:0402462167) to offer your help.

UPCOMING EVENT

Will be

Crank Up

**Keep a lookout on Facebook
for further developments.**

Happy New Year to you all.