

# Now & Then

Issue 3, August 2010

Affiliated with Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc

Patron: Pamela, Lady Vestey

2010

## Meeting Dates

August 7  
September 4  
October 2  
October 30

All meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of the month (except January) commencing at 1 pm at the Athenaeum Theatre Castella St., Lilydale.



*Charles Nettleton photo of Lilydale with the Dandenong forest in the distance, Victoria, ca. 1877. (National Library of Australia nla.pic-vn3916415-s43 PIC/11202/43 LOC Album 1114).*

## Sites gazetted 150 years ago

On September 14, 1860 the Victorian Government gazetted three sites in Lilydale for public buildings. The sites were for the Lilydale State School, the courthouse and police station. The above photograph is looking down Castella Street. The Lilydale Courthouse is on the right and the Rechabite hall on the left. Sadly, the primary school was not included in the photo.

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### Next Issue:

*Festival of Melba*  
150th celebrations  
unveiled

*Lilydale & District Historical Society*  
P.O Box 834,  
Lilydale Vic 3140  
email:  
aross35@bigpond.com  
or  
suethompson50@ozemail.com.au

website: [www.lilydalehistorical.com.au](http://www.lilydalehistorical.com.au)

### Contacts:

President: 9735 1661  
Secretary: 9761 9192

## Courthouse negotiations continue

Negotiations between the society and the council staff over our occupancy of the courthouse are continuing.

The executive committee has spent many hours working through the draft licence agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (with the Lilydale Primary School and U3A).

They have also sought advice from members and various sources to ensure they do not commit the society and future

members to something it cannot afford to maintain and develop while also providing a valuable service to the community.

The society will be paying peppercorn rental but will have to pay for all the utility costs on a pro rata basis with the U3A of about \$2000 a year.

Negotiations are continuing on the cost of the maintenance of the building and fittings and who will be meeting those costs.  
*Sandy Ross*

## Grant success

The society has just been advised it has received a grant to purchase a computer, software and printer.

This means members and the wider community can do their research using our microfilm and CD copies of the *Lilydale Express* and have access to our many other digital resources.

The grant is from the Federal Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Volunteer Grants 2010.

If you know any business who may be interested in providing us with a quote, please contact Sue Thompson on 9761 9192 for details and specifications.

While this grant is fantastic, the society will still have to outlay quite a few dollars for other equipment such as desks, desk chairs, filing cabinets, steel cabinets, shelving, bookcases, a refrigerator, kettle etc. to set up its research facilities and archive in the courthouse.

## Society Information

## Vale Daisy Chapman

### Research

Due to the increasing demand for research and the failure of some people to pay for the information provided, the society's executive has now introduced a new system to ensure any inquiries are handled quickly and efficiently and payment is received.

All inquiries must be in writing and go to our archivist Sandy Ross at [aross35@bigpond.com](mailto:aross35@bigpond.com) Sandy will contact the people involved and provide a written quotation. No research will be done until the quotation is paid.

Our charges are \$20 per hour.

Anyone with any queries can contact Sandy direct on 9735 1661.

### Talks, tours and walks

Anyone looking for a speaker or a different place to go should contact Lorraine Smith as the society has several members willing to give talks about their area of special interest.

These include Melba, aspects of Lilydale township and its history, Lilydale Cemetery, the Lilydale Express newspaper and Lilydale's military history.

Contact Lorraine Smith on 9735 1104.

### Speakers program

Lorraine Smith is presently compiling a list of people to approach as guest speakers at the society meetings or special evenings next year. If you have heard someone - not necessarily related to heritage - who you found interesting and entertaining, please call Lorraine on 9735 1104.

### On the airwaves

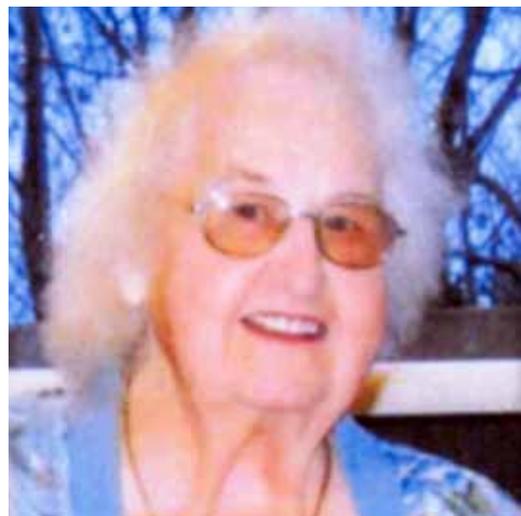
Listen to the Radio Station 98.1 FM. The society is on the airwaves on the second Tuesday in the month from 9,30 am to 10am. The other societies on other Tuesdays are Ringwood, Knox and Croydon

### Keep up to date

If you want to find out more information about the society, our local history, its people and places or about Dame Nellie Melba go to:

[www.lilydalehistorical.com.au](http://www.lilydalehistorical.com.au) or

[www.nelliemelbamuseum.com.au](http://www.nelliemelbamuseum.com.au)



(November 9, 1926 - July 16, 2010)

All society members were saddened to learn of the passing of Life Member Daisy Chapman.

No matter what was happening or what function was planned, Daisy was involved. She relished her job of sitting behind the counter in the museum and welcoming all the guests. Never one to miss an opportunity to raise money, Daisy would remind people of the books and merchandise available for sale and quietly suggest guests buy something as all proceeds would go to the museum and/or society.

Catering and organising were Daisy's specialities. Armed with a sheet of paper she would ask people what they would be bringing so she was sure we had a good mix of sandwiches and cakes or desserts. She made sure even our afternoon teas were a small banquet.

And when Daisy suggested we take on manning the lost children's ten at the Lilydale Show - you guessed it - she happily took on the job of doing the roster and making sure everyone was there at the right time on the right day. Daisy also organised our annual Christmas party and always negotiated a good deal and a good dinner.

Like so many other people, I would visit Daisy at her home, and after a cup of tea and a biscuit we'd chat about what was happening at her beloved society. A half hour or so later, it was time to go and in my case, leave Daisy to fold and post the society's newsletter.

Being a member of a local family was a huge plus for the society as Daisy seemed to know everyone and kept many of us on the straight and narrow with verbal family trees - who they married, what they did, their parents' names etc. She was a valuable member of our research team and, while it was rare, if there was someone she didn't know a few phone calls later she would have found a family member, had called them and found out all the information needed.

In 2001 the Shire of Yarra Ranges recognised Daisy's valuable contribution when she was awarded a Year of the Volunteers certificate.

*Sue Thompson*



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# Wallace Gardens Gala Day - November 6

The society is appreciative of its many supporters who over the years have helped us promote our heritage by raising money for special projects.

When the society moves into the courthouse a range of office equipment will need to be purchased.

To help us Colin and Christine Wallace have offered to open their home and garden to the society members and their friends.

The gardens on their family farm cover more than a hectare and every square metre has been lovingly developed by Christine. Purchased in 1984 the property is regularly open as part of the Australian Garden Scheme.

The Wallace Gardens Gala Day will be held from 1 to 5pm on Saturday, November 6, the weekend after the Melbourne Cup.

Guests can wander the gardens between 1 and 5pm and enjoy delicious pizza and desserts created by Christine and her sister Kathleen.

Simply pick up a pizza base and create your own special pizza by adding your own toppings from the selection of fresh ingredients that Christine and Kathleen will provide.

Then it is into the Wallace's own outdoor wood-fired oven for cooking.

No mouth-watering pizza would be complete without a glass of wine.

Society patron Pamela Lady Vestey has generously donated a selection of wine from her Coombe Farm vineyard.

Dessert has not been forgotten as guests will be able to choose one from a selection of home made desserts created by Christine and Kathleen.

After eating and wandering the garden, guests can look at the display of classic English vehicles courtesy of



*Hedges and the dry creek bed (below) are key features of the one-hectare Wallace Garden.*



local car clubs.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and are \$30 per person. All proceeds will go to the society. To buy your ticket, call Sue Thompson on 9761 9192.

The garden is at 7 Maddens Lane, Coldstream Melway Ref 277 A11.

## The Gardens

The unusual standard rugosa roses surrounded by clipped hedges are a feature of the garden. Garden enthusiasts will love the birch groves, lilacs, specimen trees and standard wisterias that frame extensive beds of shrubs, roses, irises, perennials and poppies.

The cottage garden features herbs and seasonal vegetables while Christine's favourite spot is the dry creek bed with native plants watered by the overflow from a neighbour's dam.

## Lilydale Travel Centre

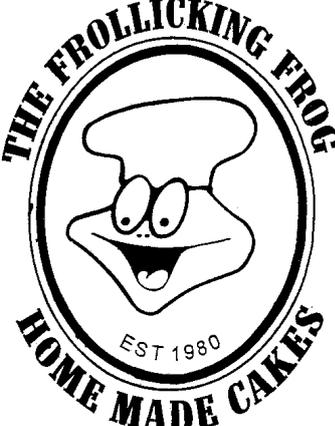
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**Ian Garbett**  
Managing Director

219 Main Street Lilydale Vic 3140  
Email: lilydaletravel@bigpond.com

Tel: 03 9735 1144  
Fax: 03 9735 3201



144 Main Street Lilydale 3140  
**Telephone 9735 4365**  
*"Purveyors of High Quality  
Cakes and Pastries"*

If undeliverable return to:  
Lilydale & District Historical Society  
P.O. Box 834, Lilydale Vic 3140

**Now & Then by email**

With the rising costs of paper and postage, the society is inviting members who are happy to receive their newsletter by email to contact Sue Thompson at [suethompson50@ozemail.com.au](mailto:suethompson50@ozemail.com.au) and I will email a copy to you. Back copies are also available electronically.

**See us at the Lilydale Library**

Lilydale & District Historical Society members are now on duty at the Lilydale Library to help anyone with a research query.

The times are:

First Saturday (meeting day): 10am – 12.30pm

Fourth Saturday: 1.15pm – 3.45pm

Second, third and fifth Saturdays: 1pm – 4pm

All Sundays: 1pm – 4pm.

**Society books for sale**

- 30 years of History (1971-2001) compiled by Sandy Ross \$ 3.00
- Reminiscences of Life Notes and memories of Lilydale residents, edited by Sue Thompson & Myrna McBain. \$14.50
- Prosperity & Progress (1889-1989) The History of the former Shire of Lillydale Offices by Sue Thompson. \$5.00
- Lilydale Primary School Pupil Register \$15.00

**Also available**

- Yarra Valley Historical  
A brief look at early life in the Valley during mid 1800s to 1900s  
Vol 1. Issue 7. Special 36 page Lilydale Edition.
- The Early History of Lillydale/Lilydale \$5.00

Please ring Sandy on 97351661 to purchase these books or any historical society publications.

**Membership Subscription 2010-2011 are now due**

**Membership Subscription 2009-2010 were due on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.** (If you are not sure if you are financial, please ring Lorraine on 9735 1104 to check.)

Name of Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Family Membership ..... \$20.00
- Single membership ..... \$15.00
- Pensioners ..... \$10.00
- Students (under 16 years) ..... \$5.00

Amount enclosed: \$ .....

**SEND TO:**  
The Treasurer  
Lilydale & District  
Historical Society  
P.O. Box 834,  
LILYDALE 3140

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Historical Society Inc  
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Lilydale Vic 3140  
email: [aross35@bigpond.com](mailto:aross35@bigpond.com)  
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