

Now & Then



Issue 3 August 2018

Affiliated with Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc

Meeting Dates 2018

- September 1
- October 6
- November 3
- December 1

All meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of the month (except as shown above) at 1pm at the Old Lilydale Court House 61 Castella St., Lilydale. Guest speakers start at 2pm.

Two new Life Members



Before closing our Annual General Meeting Sue Thompson sprung a surprise on two unsuspecting members when she made them Life Members of our society and presented them with a framed certificate. Their names will also be added to our Honour Board.

Maree Phelan (left) and Jeanette Dodson above with president Sue Thompson after receiving their Life Memberships.

Maree Phelan has been a member of our society for 26 years and worked away quietly since that time. To help out, she took on the role of Assistant Secretary on October 7, 2006 and only retired from that role and our committee last year. Maree also launched us into the digital age setting up and managing our Facebook page for several years. Since moving to the court house Maree has put in countless hours week in week out to ensure we keep our doors open for the public.

Our other recipient was Jeanette Dodson who has spent many years researching the people and places of Montrose as a member of the Montrose Historical Society. With that society she served as president, secretary and committee member among other roles.

Continued on page 2.

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website: www.lilydalehistorical.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lilydaleandDistrictHistoricalSocietyIncl

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.



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Life Memberships

Continued from page 1.

When that society merged with Lilydale in 2013, Jeanette joined and has continued to develop our Montrose collection. In that year Jeanette joined the committee and became our vice president, a position she held until her retirement this year. Jeanette was always willing to help with any of our projects and led our team of researchers on the ANZAC project They Answered the Call - and has ensured our 400 plus service people who enlisted in World War I will never be forgotten.

Support our Sponsors

Our sponsors are local people who love their history and support us in every way. Their sponsorship contributes to our rent and court house costs. Without them we would not be able to remain in the Old Lilydale Court House. So please support those who support us.

Guest speakers

The society's Lorraine Smith has organised some great speakers for the rest of the year. All talks will begin at 2pm after our general meeting. The cost for non members is a gold coin donation. The speakers are:

Saturday, September 1:

Russ Haines from the Ringwood & District Historical Society will speak on "Fraternal groups in Lilydale". The groups include the Masonic Lodges, MUIOOF, ANA, etc.

Saturday, November 3:

Author James Nicholas will be giving a talk on his recent book *The Mystery of Fairyland, Kew*. It is a true story set mainly in Melbourne's post war suburbia.

The book has been positively reviewed by The Herald Sun, Senior, Progress Leader and 3AW's Nightline.

Lilydale Project

Society president Sue Thompson has been appointed as one of 12 community representatives to the Lilydale Project Reference Group.

"The group has had three meetings and I have attended the various community consultative meetings so I can gain an understanding of the work being done in the Lilydale area and learn about the future needs of Lilydale," Sue said.

"With the community and the shire working together I know we can work towards a Lilydale of the future our founding fathers would be proud of."

For more information go to <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Community/The-Lilydale-Project>



Christine Deschamps' painting.

New home for Deschamp painting

Following the death of his second wife, the executors of John (Jack) Deschamp contacted the society and asked if we would be interested in a painting of the old Deschamp's wine hall that stood on the north-west corner of Cave Hill Road and Albert Hill Road.

Jack's widow had expressed the desire to have the painting housed in Lilydale as that was where the Deschamp's family settled and lived for three generations.

Jack Deschamp was the great grandson of Victor Joseph Clement Deschamp (known as Joseph Clement) who arrived in Melbourne in 1854 and settled in Lilydale in 1860.

Jack's grandfather (Victor's son) was Jean Louis (known as Louis) who established the Olinda Vineyard in the 1860s and built the Olinda Wine Hall and his home in 1878.

The vineyard and wine hall was taken over by the next generation, John's father Louis John, a viticulturist and later a farmer and horse trainer, took over the Olinda Vineyard and wine hall from his father.

Louis John married Anne Slevin at Lilydale in 1904 and John, their third son was born in 1909. He married Phyllis and they had one child Peter born in 1952 but died aged 5 in 1957. Unlike previous generations, Jack left Lilydale and worked in the automotive parts industry for 53 years. He worked for A.G. Healing Ltd and became Box Hill branch manager and later manager of the company's new

branch at Dandenong which supplied automotive parts and accessories for GMH Nasco group. He remained with the group until it went into receivership in 1969 when he set up his own auto parts business in Carnegie called Jaydee Auto Parts which he operated until 1977. John died on May 9, 1989.

The artist Christine Deschamp was John's niece and was born in 1939, the daughter of Joseph and Ennis Deschamps. The painting was completed in 1987 and was based on a 1906 photo of the wine hall. The large painting now proudly hangs in the society's office.

Note: The family name was Deschamp but various members added an 's' to their names and became Deschamps.

References: Shire of Lillydale Rate Books and Deschamp family history by John Deschamps 1978 in LDHS archive.



Deschamp's Wine Hall 1906.

Lilydale Express Now on Trove

Thanks to the generosity of the Executor of Jim Sawyer's Estate, the society's plan of financing the digitisation of the Lilydale Express by the National Library of Australia is now a step closer. The society set aside \$5,000 of Jim's bequest to start digitising the Express. To date the years 1886 to 1888 are now up on Trove and are fully searchable. We expect the funds will complete all the editions up to 1895.

The National Library estimates it will cost about \$35,000 to do all the newspapers up to 1954, so it will be some time before we reach that goal.

Each year we will look at allocating some funds towards this project. If you would like to help with the project a donation of \$500 will enable us to finance two more years. To see a page in Trove go to:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/249373998>

The society acknowledges the wonderful financial contribution made by the Estate of the Late James Sawyer to the development and promotion of our local heritage.

&

Sharyn Manning
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Property Consultant
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Welcome



Mystery Solved

Thanks to member Ray Oliver we have now placed the above photo and dated it pretty well. The Lilydale Fire Brigade's training tower above was on the south-west side of Olinda Creek on the service road which in those days was by Poon Kee's market gardens. We were able to date it to the around February 1960 which was when the building just visible in the background was erected as Jubber's furniture shop. Thanks Ray.

Your committee

At the society's AGM on Saturday, August 4, the following were elected to the committee:

President: Sue Thompson

Vice President: Florence Shaw

Secretary and Public Officer: Joy Gothe

Treasurer: Philip Burton

Committee: Robin Childs, Jo Pritchard, Margaret Tull and Lorraine Smith.

After several years on the committee and as Vice President, Jeanette Dodson felt it was time to step down.

Dates for the Diary

Saturday, August 18 10am to 3pm:

Connect Lilydale Inspiration & Ideas Day

Help create a vision and contribute to community project ideas for Lilydale's future.

Join with your neighbours, friends and associates to help build on community planning that has been happening in Lilydale over the last few months.

The day will include time to get to know each other, inspirational and informative presenters, developing and planning community projects for Lilydale and good food!

Please RSVP by 15 August for catering purposes.

Everyone is welcome!

To book go to: <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Community/The-Lilydale-Project/The-Lilydale-Project-Events>

Inquiries: Santha Press, Community Development Officer 9294 6836, s.press@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

Saturday, August 25 at 10am:

Behind The Bar Cemetery Walk.

As its contribution to Family History Month, join tour guide Lorraine Smith and walk around Lilydale Cemetery visiting the graves of some of Lilydale's publicans – men and women. Hear the stories of the people and events held at the town's four hotels and the characters both behind and in front of the hotel's bar.

Cost is \$10 per person and includes a cemetery booklet. Bookings are essential. Call Lorraine Smith on 9735 1104 to book. Website: www.lilydalehistorical.com.au and click on news.

Sunday, October 14 at 1pm:

Entrepreneur David Mitchell

As part of the 2018 History Week, the society is hosting a special talk on Victorian industrialist, builder and farmer David Mitchell. Speaker Sue Thompson has spent many years researching the life and business activities of David Mitchell who also operated Cave Hill Quarry and Farm. He was a stonemason, builder, farmer, miner, wine grower and family man. The talk will be held at the Old Lilydale Court House, 61 Castella Street, Lilydale from 1pm and will be followed by afternoon tea.

Bring along your stories and photos of Cave Hill. Cost is \$5.00 and for bookings call Lorraine Smith 9735 1104 or email info@lilydalehistorical.com.au

Website: www.lilydalehistorical.com.au and go to news.

Wednesday, October 17 at 10am

Behind the Bar

As its contribution to the Shire of Yarra Ranges Seniors Festival, the Lilydale & District Historical Society is holding a special *Behind The Bar* walk of Lilydale township. Learn about the stories behind the town's hotels – the publicans, the people and events that are part of the fabric of our town's four hotels – The Lilydale, Temperance, Crown and Olinda hotels.

The walk will be held on Wednesday, October 17 and start at the Old Lilydale Court House, 61 Castella Street, Lilydale at 10am. Welcoming morning tea proceeding the hour long walk.

The cost is \$5.00. For bookings phone Lorraine on 9735 1104 or email info@lilydalehistorical.com.au

For more information about our activities, visit our website: www.lilydalehistorical.com.au and click on news.

Highlighting Lilydale's heritage

As its contribution to the Connect Lilydale project, the society joined forces with Yarra Ranges Council to run two township walks.

The walks were designed to explain the town's history and how important it is to include and acknowledge it in any developments which may take place. Council's Nigel Smith from the Lilydale Project Reference Group and Santha Press from Connect Lilydale spoke about the various ideas and projects the community had suggested for the township.

With the building of 3800 homes on the cave Hill site in the next 20 years, the removal of the Main Street level crossing and possibly the by pass of Lilydale, the community has plenty of opportunities to transform the town and set the future development projects in the Lilydale Place Plan.



Above: Connect Lilydale Walk at the Athenaem Theatre with tour guides Philip Burton and Joy Gothe.

Left: the group discussing the importance of the Olinda Creek to Lilydale.



Can you help?

As part of a new project, the society is looking for any photos people may have of the Main Street in the 1940s to 1970s. From the 1980s, Sandy Ross walked up and down Main Street photographing each business, we now want to fill in the gaps from earlier years. All contributions will be acknowledged in our Main Street Project.

You may have a happy snap at the band rotunda, war memorial, standing outside a shop or fishing the Olinda Creek.

If you have any photos and are willing to share them, please contact Sue Thompson (0475 219 884) who will arrange a time for you to bring your images in so we can scan them and add them to our collection. Your photos won't be damaged and will be scanned on the spot.

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 or
www.nelliemelbamuseum.com.au

100 years ago

ARBOR DAY AT LILYDALE.

On Saturday last, Arbor Day was celebrated at Lilydale, this being the twenty-third occasion on which the day has been observed, Mr. E. A. Janson having been at the head of the movement since its inception. Another very old worker is Mr. C. Cook, who is noted as always being the first man on the job. No trees were planted this year, the work decided on by the committee being to dig round and prune the trees between Anderson street and Warburton bridge. The workers were not as numerous as they might have been, but what was lacking in quantity was made up in quality, for really good work was done by those present. An old and dangerous tree was removed from opposite Dr. A. E. Syme's residence. The trees along this portion of Main street now bear a neat appearance. Afternoon tea was provided at Mrs. W. J. Wilson's residence by the ladies' committee, and was served to the workers. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson also have been connected with the Arbor Day movement for many years. Proceedings were enlivened by selections rendered during the afternoon by the Lilydale Brass Band.

President's 46th Annual Report 2017 -2018

This is a condensed version of my report. To download my complete report please go to the new tab on our webiste.

It has again been a most successful and rewarding year for our society as after many years of planning we are now able to truly provide a valuable and valued service to the community in many forms listed below.

Our collection

The backbone and reason to be, is our collection. It is just not what is in the collection but how it can accessed and utilised by ourselves for the community. We have several elements to our collection: our photographs, Sandy's negative collection; our archive, our objects, library and increasingly our born digital collection. Thanks to our committee, treasurer Philip Burton has developed a series of databases covering all of these collections. Although the cataloguing work is and will be on-going, Philip and secretary Joy Gothe have now set up directories which volunteers can readily access.

If someone walks in wanting information on a family, place or event, those on duty go to the one directory and do a search of the databases to find what we have and where it is located – all in a matter of a couple of minutes. We are now harnessing the full potential of our valuable collections and applying it to the benefit of the community. Also any volunteer can now find it on shelf location of any item.

Cataloguing is an on-going project and our members love it because they are learning more and more about not only our collection but also about the local stories surrounding each item. Also, Judy Macdonald has a team quietly working away at indexing those library books without an index. This means her database of several thousand listings can find every book a name, place or event is mentioned. Very impressive work.

Our activities

Some activities were talks at the court house, many external and we held walks to both the cemetery and around Lilydale. All of these activities are vital as they enable us to promote ourselves and talk with a wide audience outside and within the Shire of Yarra Ranges. A by-product of these activities has been the donation to our collection of several valuable items and images.

Finances

I want to highlight the wonderful \$10,000 donation received from the executor of the Estate of former Life Member Jim Sawyer. This donation has enabled us to replace our 10 filing cabinets with Australian-made heavy-duty cabinets. We also purchased two cameras – one high end camera to photograph our collection objects and the other to use to photograph our society

activities and other events. We also purchased a special table used to photograph our objects. With the remaining \$5000 we have now entered into an agreement with the National Library of Australia to pay for the digitisation of the Lilydale Express from the first edition in 1886 until about 1895. The first of those years are now up on Trove and are fully searchable.

Digital Age

Today, historical societies must fully embrace the digital age to stay in touch with the communities they serve as the community expects instant responses and information at the touch of a button. We ignore them at our peril. At Lilydale we have been fortunate to have the support of the not-for-profit company Paragim4 and Paul Favolic since the mid 1990s. With their support we have expanded our on-line presence with the LDHS website and Nellie Melba Museum. These two websites give us access to not just our community but the national and international communities. Our reach is such that we have attracted offers of donations from the UK, America and Europe throughout the years. Those donations that did not fit our own Collection Policy have been referred to the Yarra Ranges Museum which has snapped them up with glee.

Thank you to John Brown for the work he has done with Paula Favolic during the last 12 months. This is now giving us a strong and valued on-line presence.

Research

Research is a vital part of our society. We are averaging one inquiry per week. Some big, some small and some who want the information for nothing. We are fortunate to have several skilled researchers who ensure we provide timely and accurate information to our clients. Our information is valuable and those seeking information are more than happy to pay for the services we offer.

Some major projects completed this year were Public Places for the Shire of Yarra Ranges; Cave Hill World War II Memorial Gates names and Main Street shop history. In each several members worked tirelessly gathering the necessary information.

Displays and Book Launch

I would like to end with a highlight of the year which was the launch of Val Sheehan's fourth and final *As It Happened* book. Sadly, Val wasn't able to see it launched but made sure all the information was with me so I could finish it for her. The attendance of some many people including her family and granddaughter Eloise from Canada shows how important the book is to the community and to Val Sheehan.

Sue Thompson, President

LDHS Financial Report

	30th June 2018	30th June 2017
Cash at Bank Australia	\$9,227.80	\$2,001.99
Term Deposit Bank Australia	\$5,412.16	\$10,254.96
Membership	\$1,586.08	\$1,429.62
Books and merchandise	\$3,995.78	\$2,106.05
Other income ¹	\$16,223.34	\$5,945.59
Total income	\$21,805.20	\$9,481.26
Cost of sales	\$2,431.30	\$1,202.67
Gross profit	\$19,373.90	\$8,278.59
Expenses	\$9,367.53	\$8,922.40
Net Profit	\$10,006.37	\$643.81
Total Equity	# \$46,928.81	\$36,922.44

¹ Includes Jim Sawyer's \$10,000 bequest.

includes merchandise

LDHS Annual Court House Report 1st July 2017 – 30th June 2018

Event	No.	Hours People	
Volunteers on duty at the court house		1819	
Visitors to the court house			279
Town walks	1	7	10
Cemetery tours	2	5	45
Talks at Court house & other venues	8	25	254
Christmas party	1		32
ANZAC Day display at Athenaeum			
Theatre	1	29	50
Thank you volunteers lunch	1		16
As It Happened Vol 4 Launch	1		60
Lilydale Show display (75 showbags)	1	16	
Family History Talk	1	4	8
RHSV History Seminar	1	40	50
Vol.4 as It Happened research		99	
Research, Lilydale Project, family history		193	
Library indexing, master & newspapers		214	
Cataloguing , scanning collection & photos		525	
Meetings, displays & newsletter		240	
Face book, computer & admin		87	
Files, indexing, sorting numbering & data entry		620	
Cleaning & garden		30	
Totals	18	3953	804

Meeting speakers: Howard Wallace-History of Landscape Art in Australia.
Beverly Blenner Hasset-Titanic. Jenny Cassidy-app for researching WW1.
Topics: Photo of when you were small & where you were born. Home cures
& old wife's tales that work. Photo of when you were a teenager & your
interests. Average attendance at meetings is 16.

Thank you to all the volunteers who are happy, dedicated, reliable and rise
to the challenges.

Lorraine Smith (Court House Manager)

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 and I will email a copy to you. Back copies are also available electronically.

Lilydale & District Historical Society Inc
P.O. Box 834,
Lilydale Vic 3140
email:
info@lilydalehistorical.com.au
website:
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Please help us

A vital source of income for the society is its membership subscriptions. If you are yet to pay your membership renewal for the 2017-2018 which was due of July 1, Please renew by using the form below or by emailing our treasurer Philip Burton who will provide you with banking details for your renewal. We value your support and your membership by offering a range of services and discounts as listed below.

Philip's email is: philip.burton@rbia.com.au

Your Membership

Members are the life blood of any organisation and that includes your society.

As a member you receive many benefits:

- Free access to our extensive archive of families, places and events in our community;
- Free access to our digital archives such as the Lillydale Express and rate books;
- Four issues each year of our newsletter

Now & Then by either mail or email

- Invitations to all our special events, talks and tours;
- Discounts on all our publications; and
- Opportunity to learn more about our local history.

Renew your membership or invite a friend to join our society today by filling out the form below.

Membership Subscription 2018-2019 now due

Membership Subscriptions 2017-2018 was due on the 1st July 2018. (If you are not sure if you are financial, please ring Lorraine on 9735 1104 to check.)

Name of Member: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Family Membership	\$25.00
Single membership	\$20.00
Pensioners	\$15.00
Students (under 16 years)	\$5.00
Amount enclosed: \$	
Donation enclosed: \$.....	

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Lilydale & District
Historical Society
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