

MUNDARING



and Hills Historical Society Inc.



NEWSLETTER

MUNDARING AND HILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (INC)

PO BOX 334, MUNDARING 6073

Pres: BRIONY WATERHOUSE. Sec: VAL MARTIN.

Treas: MAUREEN TIE. Asst Sec: JUDY LOVE

Vice President: Andrew Pankhurst

INFORMATION ABOUT THE M.H.H.S.

- * A 6yr old Society with about 50 members, of whom approximately 15 are active. Many others are supportive, but are elderly and find regular meeting attendance difficult. All supporters are very welcome.
- * A properly incorporated, insured and regularly audited Society.
- * Affiliated with R.W.A. Historical Society and a member of the Number One Regional Historical Societies' Council.
- * At present our headquarters is the "Scullery and Hall' of Parkerville Children's Home, but we will eventually have joint tenancy with the Mundaring Tourism Assoc. in the two remaining schoolrooms of Old Mundaring School, on Great. Eastern Highway. The Mundaring. Shire plans to renovate and enlarge the schoolrooms for this purpose within the next eighteen months.
- * Participating in Shire events e.g. Australia Day Celebrations, festivals and school historical shows.
- * Providing speakers for community groups in the field of local history.

- * Responding to inquiries from the community of history. Regular weekly working sessions at our H.Q.. Members of the public are welcome to come and search through our records of photographs, maps, notes and historical books.
- * Organizing history walks and bus trips on weekends, in the Mundaring Shire, during suitable months of the year. Guest speakers are also regularly organised.

REGULAR MEETINGS ON
THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT 4.30 P.M.
AT THE PARKERVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME.

SHORT TERM PLANS

- (1) To work towards an enlarged membership and to increase public awareness of our Society.
- (2) To continue to acquire resources (artifacts, photos, stories, books and memorabilia) for eventual inclusion in to Mundaring's Museum.
- (3) To provide a worthwhile service for Mundaring Shire residents, especially students of local history

LONG TERM PLANS

To have a vital and interesting Museum functioning for Mundaring Township's Centenary in 1998.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES SO FAR IN '95

The good news is that our application for the tenancy of Glen Forrest's ex-station master's house has been successful - we will occupy it jointly with the Glen Forrest Ratepayers' Association.

Members have been active in all sorts of ways lately.

We have supported or initiated applications to the appropriate nomenclature committee for various local creeks and reserves to be named after historically important people.

On Australia Day our History Colouring Competition and the talk on Jane Byfield of Mahogany Inn (given by our President, Briony Waterhouse) were well received.

For the Arts Festival at Mundaring on April 8th our members provided an attractive tent display entitled "Pioneer Crafts"

It won first prize on the day for its quality as a display. Our thanks to all who helped set up and man it for the day.

The Mundaring Shopping Centre is definitely being built and the display we hope to have in the old Schoolrooms is being planned. The renovation of our red 1950 telephone box is expected to be central in this.

Our members continue to be part of the Heritage Committee formed by the Mundaring Shire, and the eventual documentation should be a valuable historical reference and a protection for important historical sites and buildings.

As well as having speakers address us, we are also asked to speak to other groups. President Briony Waterhouse addressed 4 different sessions of students at Greenmount Primary School in their (early) celebration of Anzac Day, speaking on her memories of World War 2 and showing them some memorabilia. In June, during WA Week, we have been asked to give some local history lessons at Glen Forrest Primary School and Judy and Briony will do this.

During May MHHS has been assisting Bruce and Shann Callow by providing, from our records and book collection, some of the data required to substantiate the selection of the most important heritage sites.

Judy Love

REPORT ON 1995 AUSTRALIA DAY COLOURING COMPETITION

Five different sketches of important scenes in local and Australian history were procured, one for each of the sections - preschool, 6-8 years, 8-10 years, 10 to 12 years and an open division. Students were asked to name the site or building and to colour it appropriately.

For pre-schoolers a sketch of Mundaring Weir in 1925 was used, for years 6-8 a sketch of the Mundaring Shire Administration Complex was used, for years 8-10 a sketch of Governor Phillip toasting the raising of the Union Jack in 1788 was used, for years 10 to 12 a sketch of the Parkerville Tavern was used and for the open division a sketch of Old Darlington Bakery (now Village Gardener) was used. Nobody was able to identify this (or else there was no interest in entering amongst

5.
older students).

The Historical Society had a display of entries on Australia Day and also added some sheets of information on the historical background of all five. Lorna Noonan, Briony Waterhouse and Judy Love wrote these up. We are building up some display material in readiness for our contribution to the Old Schoolrooms Museum and perhaps for our own museum in the Old Stationmaster's House in Glen Forrest - see elsewhere in the newsletter for information about this.

To return to the Australia Day Competition.

Cherry Stevenson, Secretary to Kim Hastie of Mundaring Shire council, did a great job in typing and beautifying the entry forms; Kim did the enormous job of photocopying an entry form for each child in the Shire (that is over 3,000 entry forms) and the Shire Rangers under Gary Hill helped the Historical Society members out by delivering and picking up entry forms from the four most distant schools. This was done early in December, and though actual numbers of completed entry forms was a bit disappointing in the light of our delivering and picking up the forms from school (as well as having parents deliver to the Shire office if they wanted) we are still satisfied with the interest shown.

Entry forms were also available at Supavalu in Mundaring for a few days. Entries closed Dec 12 in schools, Dec 20 at Shire.

For interest's sake, here are the numbers forms given out, compared with the numbers of entries received:
Pre-school 500 (7), 6-8 years 1074 (22), 8-10 years 1600 (153), 10-12 years 1200 (54), Open (about 50) -

no entries received. Popularity has a great deal to do with the recognisability of the sketches, co-operation of teachers or librarians and the busy time of year in which the entries need to be done. We do know that putting the forms in the schools is at least equally fair for all the far-spread children.

In 1994 when there was no organised pick-up of the completed forms, only 73 in total were received, in 1995 there were three times as many (236). We have to consider whether even earlier placing of entries in schools, and perhaps some earlier visits to schools to urge teachers to have students take part would be worthwhile.

For the future, another thought is to have a single entry form and make it a family competition. This would mean having small sketches of some 20 or so well-known (and a few not-so-well-known) sites and buildings in the Shire scattered around the form and giving a bit of help in the form of a list of names of buildings or sites to choose from. Competing families could then simply match the names and the sketches - and perhaps we would leave a few harder ones unnamed so some sleuthing was needed. It was interesting that invariably the young winners of our competition told me that they had persuaded their parents to drive them out to the site/building to observe it and get the correct colours! I wondered, if we were to change the format of the competition, could we then give out the entry forms in shopping centres and the like (as well as sending some to schools) - and could perhaps arrange to get small donations or prizes and put them all together in perhaps a wheelbarrow to display them when we give out entry forms? We could fundraise, charging 10 cents for (stamped) entry forms.

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Please think about this. it would put the Society before the public eye more and arouse lots more interest in our historic past. We would however need more members to provide us with sketches of historic places in the Shire - and to give out forms and to hunt up small prizes. I found that businesses and people were more likely to give a small item. Mundaring Business Association offered help too late in 1994, but will help readily for the '96 Competition.

We've found it quite a lot of work at the particular time of the year (Nov-Dec to get out the entry forms, January to judge and award prizes and organize a display and January 26 to work all day at the display and awarding the prizes). Yet it is a worthwhile thing for the Society.

The following are the details of prize winners

4-6 Years - Winner Ashleigh Rhodes (5 yrs)
Prize: Ceramic Koala Money Box
Donor - J & A Braun, Eastern Hills Showcase

6-8 Years - Winner: Jaime Cornish
Prize: "I Wonder Why Book -
Questions About Long Ago"
Donor - J Van de Klashorst, M.L.A.

8-10 Years

Winner: Andrew Brown
Prize: Book - "Incredible Cross-Sections"
Donor - Carson Jamison - Parkerville Tavern

Second Prize: Aaron Hearne
Prize: Book of tickets to Bilgoman Pool
Donor - Mundaring Shire Council

10-12 Years

Winner : Jessamine Harris
Prize: Copy of Official Shire History
Donor - Mundaring Shire Council

We have been giving thought to our programme of walks and visits for the cooler months. We all enjoy these, and of course, with the leader's research, gain valuable documentation for M.H.H.S.

Our programme of outings and guest speakers so far has been an inspection of Stan Penn's collection of Australiana at Wooroloo, a tour of the old Parkerville quarry (cnr Kintore & Riley Roads) plus listing noxious weeds and exotic plants currently choking Bugle Tree Creek

Later in the year an expedition to Mount Gorrie and ruins of Malmalling farm (and the chance to see a big mound spring and an island in the Helena River) is planned Anyone interested is welcome to these (\$1 members, \$2 non-members) and information is available on 299 6989.or 2951601 or 2989058

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The outings & speakers are usually on Saturday afternoons.

A recent walk into the Wiseman's Well and former Perth Firewood Company's timber tramline area between Sawyers Valley and the old No 2 Pumping Station site, aided by a valuable mud map given to us by Jack Young (a Parkerville identity) was a useful one, and was a combined activity with three railway historical enthusiasts. Again the research will continue and we will gain more documentation.

Photos of Wooroloo Sanitarium, the Pittersens of Smiths Mill (Glen Forrest) and maps of Perth Firewood Company's land have been added to our collection recently.

Judy Love

JANE BYFIELD - A PIONEER BUSINESS WOMAN

This is a reprint of an address to people at the Business and Professional Women's Association breakfast, held on Australia Day 1995 at the Civic Reception area of the Mundaring Shire.

This talk was written and given by Briony Waterhouse and researched by Maureen Tie.

The subject of this talk was JANE BYFIELD, A PIONEER BUSINESS WOMAN. For many years Jane ran "The Prince of Wales Inn", now known as "The Mahogany Inn".

Most of the research for this talk was done by Maureen Tie in preparation for a Byfield reunion last year. Her information came from published sources, family records and letters and oral history passed down through the family.

We chose Jane Byfield as worthy of remembrance on Australia Day because she is typical of the many women who, in the early days of this state, worked hard and long, often in the face of great adversity, for very little recognition.

As Jesse Hammond, another early pioneer, wrote: "HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE WORK AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE WOMEN, MANY OF THE PIONEERS MIGHT HAVE LOST HEART TO KEEP UP THE STRUGGLE....FOR EVERY MAN WHO PUT ONE STONE UPON ANOTHER IN BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE COLONY, THERE WAS A WOMAN TO PUT THE MORTAR BETWEEN THE STONES TO KEEP THEM TOGETHER".

Jane Byfield was such a woman!

She was born Jane Eliza Coates in England in 1821. Nothing is known of her mother, but family oral history says that her father was a seaman who drowned. All we know of her early days is that at 13, she and her 10 year old brother William came out on the ship "James Pattison" under the care of Governor Stirling. Stirling was returning to the Swan River Colony after a visit to England to plead for financial support for the colony. Jane and William were part of a group of 18, children sent out by the "Society for Promoting Juvenile Emigration". I've also seen this Society referred to as the "Children's Friend Society".

11. A family story says that when the "James Pattison" called in at Capetown, a couple there wished to adopt the Coates children, but Stirling refused. Obviously they were an attractive and personable pair. Jane was described as a fine looking girl.

The "James Pattison" arrived in June 1834. Most of the youngsters remained in Albany to boost the almost non-existent labour force there. Jane and William, however, continued on to Fremantle with the Stirlings. Both were employed at Government House - Jane as nursemaid, William as a goatherd. It seems that William learned to read and write while in the Stirlings' employ - we are not sure if Jane did also, as some of her letters in later years are written in different hands.,

Edward John Harold Byfield, her future husband, arrived in the colony on the "Westmoreland" in 1840, some 6 years after Jane. He was then aged 28 and was described as literate and Methodist. (Jane was described as illiterate and C of E on her arrival).

Fourteen months later Edward was announcing his intention of leaving the colony, but while waiting for his ship, changed his mind. It is surmised that this is when he met Jane - at the time he was working as a butler at Government House and it seems logical that this is where he met her. They were married by the Reverend Wittenoorn in June 1841 - Jane would have been 20 and Edward almost 30.

Obviously they were a hard-working couple - by the following year Edward was working a 12-month lease to fell and remove timber on 640 acres of land west of Mahogany Creek (between Hardey Road and Darlington Road). The lease stipulated occupying the property, and it is assumed that Jane went with him as their first child,

Edward George, was born at Mahogany Creek in 1843. After the lease expired they moved back to Perth where Edward worked as a porter for a time. About this same time Edward received a transfer of land from a Henry Rice Bond in payment of a debt. It is not known where the land was - Bond owned blocks in both Perth and Fremantle. This must certainly have been a boon to the young couple and perhaps helped set them up in their next venture.

In late 1843, the Habgood Bros of Mahogany Creek advertised for lease their roadside house and the surrounding 320 acres, probably because William Habgood was dying of consumption. This property incorporated what had been the old Military Barracks - today it is known as Mahogany Inn.

Edward successfully applied for the lease in 1844 and he, Jane and the baby moved in. Edward was a competent tradesman who could turn his hand to many things - he made many improvements to the inn and added the two attic rooms. He applied for a publican's licence and named his establishment "The Prince of Wales Inn". Eventually he was able to buy the property.

Edward and Jane had 8 more children in the ensuing years. Edward was away a great deal of the time earning extra money to support his large family; at various times he was a pit-sawyer, a wheelwright, he carried out maintenance on the York Road and carted sandalwood. This of course meant Jane was virtually running the Inn alone, no mean feat considering her constant pregnancies and large young family. Can you imagine coping with the type of weather we've had this summer in the heavy clothing of the day and being pregnant to boot? It doesn't bear thinking about.

The Inn boasted a fine, productive garden across York Road and opposite the house. The Inn itself was described by travellers as a comfortable wayside house, with good accommodation and fine food. It was a very popular stopping place. This excellent reputation would, of course, have been due to Jane's hard work and good management, but there must have been times when she was totally exhausted. Although Edward officially collected the tolls for the nearby toll gate presumably Jane also had to add this to her tasks whenever he was away.

Edward died, aged 52, in 1863, leaving Jane with 9 children between the ages of 2 and 20. He left equal shares in the Inn to his 8 sons but gave Jane life-long tenancy.

With such a large family to support Jane must have felt very insecure and alone. She was ineligible to renew the Wayside licence in her own name and none of her sons was old enough to do so either. So Jane applied for, and was granted, half an acre of adjoining reserve land which had been set aside as a resting place for travellers, where they could water their horses at the well. She proposed to build stables here and we can only surmise that she intended these to provide her future livelihood. It is not known if the stables were ever built because shortly afterwards, in 1864, she married James Dorman Gregory and he was able to apply for the needed licence.

Jane's sons and brother were very much against the marriage as although Gregory had a fine naval record he was a heavy drinker and inclined to be both unpredictable and violent. It is the family's belief that Jane married him to keep a roof over her children's heads.

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Jane had two more children by her second husband, a boy and a girl. In all she had borne 9 sons and 2 daughters, all the time managing both the Inn and her large family with great efficiency. But tragedy struck when 18-month old Mary Eliza Gregory died in 1867 and her 6-year-old half-sister Fanny Jane Byfield died the following year. In that male-dominated household Jane must have been so looking forward to their company as they grew older - now both her daughters were gone. Both girls were buried at the rear of the Inn, where Jane could look out of her kitchen window at their graves.

The Inn continued to prosper, almost entirely due to Jane's efforts as Gregory certainly wasn't the dedicated worker that Edward had been and her older sons were often away working. Governor Weld, visiting the Inn in 1869, describes it as "neat" and goes on to describe in detail Gregory's welcome to him. Jane he mentions only in passing as "a nice-looking woman." He does note that Gregory showed him an apricot tree from which Jane had sold ten pounds worth of fruit in one year. More evidence of her industry!

It is little wonder that Jane herself died only a few years later, in 1871, aged 51 years. She was buried in the old East Guildford Cemetery but her remains were moved in the 1950's, when the Cemetery closed, to a small graveyard just behind Guildford Grammar church.

No headstone marks her burial place. The early deaths of both Edward and Jane can probably be attributed in part to the years of hard work they both endured. For Jane the added pain of the deaths of her first husband and daughters and her unhappy second marriage would also have been factors. And yet, through all those years, she ran the Inn efficiently and profitably, no small task when

you consider the obstacles and set-backs she suffered.

After her death her older sons evicted Gregory from the Inn but as they were not interested in running it themselves, Jane's brother William Coates took it over on behalf of his nephews. He and his wife also took Gregory's remaining child, 6-year-old Harry, into their care. Many years later Harry married their daughter, his first cousin Mary Jane Coates. When the William Coates family left the Inn in 1874 it passed out of the family's hands after being leased for many years, then sold.

The reserve where Jane purchased her half acre in that distressing time after Edward's death is still a reserve. It is Reserve 880, situated on the corner of Homestead Road and Great Eastern Highway. At the suggestion of Maureen Tie the reserve has been named in Jane's honour - Maureen was notified this week that the Minister for Lands approved the name "Jane Byfield Reserve" on 16 December 1994. Maureen also believes there should be a memorial to Jane and her daughters on this site, as all their original grave sites have now disappeared. It would indeed be a fitting tribute to one who was almost certainly Mundaring's first business woman.

Briony Waterhouse

GORRIE FARM "MALMALLING"

The earliest record of ownership for the land now referred to as the Gorrie Farm was PPR 7 when John Morton Craig, a civil servant of Perth, took up 3693 acres in 1899. The lease was converted to Avon Location 3444 when John Craig, by now the Chief Stock Inspector of Perth became the sole freehold proprietor on 12 June 1900. The property had several owners until on 30 September 1913 Alexander Robert (Bert) Gorrie and Henry Dilks Gorrie took possession. On 27 November 1915 Bert Gorrie became the sole owner of Malmalling.

Between 1900-1904 John Craig built two dwellings. One was a wooded two-roomed cottage near the junction of the Helena River and Hancock Brook. The cottage stood beside a small paddock enclosed by a slatted-wood fence. Sections of the fence can still be seen. Nearby remains a neatly preserved stone-lined well. During the wetter winters the area was prone to flooding.

The other dwelling was a substantial Pise house, built further up the hill, with walls almost 2 feet thick. The walls were constructed using formwork to produce continuous smooth walls. When dried, the rammed earth-mud was whitewashed. This house had a galvanized iron roof.

It is understood, that in 1907 Edward Whatley (the uncle of brothers Bert and Henry Gorrie) dismantled the cottage and re-built it some 5-6 feet (2 metres) behind the Pise house, connecting the two with a porch.

In 1933-34 Bert Gorrie and his farm labourers used the wooden cottage as form work around which the existing

stone cottage was built. The stones came from a rock face quarry near the blacksmith shop. Mud came from a soak approximately 20 metres north of the house spring. The soak has since been enlarged to form a waterhole. When the stone cottage was finished, the internal form work, of the wooden cottage was stripped away. A weatherboard section was added across the back providing a bedroom for Bert and his wife Mona, a pantry and a laundry.

A mud-brick house of sun-dried bricks was built on the north side of the Pise house in 1942 for Edith Whatley (Aunt Dee). The concrete flooring is all that remains.

Some 15-18 months after the departure of the Chambers family in February 1968, the Pise house was destroyed by vandals who smashed the walls to such an extent that the roof could not be supported and caved in.

Bert Gorrie grubbed 2,090 acres of York Road Poison and zamia palms. The zamia palms had to be destroyed for they caused rickets in cattle. A hole was dug deep into the base of the plant using a crowbar, then the hole filled with kerosene.

Between 1907 and 1928 some 11 miles of fencing was erected. Extra measures had to be taken to make the fence dingo-proof, by increasing the height and reinforcing the mid-section with chicken-mesh. By 1956 the WAWA Catchment inventory itemised 20 miles of fencing had been completed.

Malmalling was sold to Marjory Penny on 4 December 1928 at the outbreak of the Depression. This proved to be a major financial setback for the Gorries. Not much is known of the Pennys., Not only were mortgage

payments not maintained, but it is believed that many fixed assets on the property, such as equipment and machinery were being liquidated. This forced Bert Gorrie to hurriedly return from Baandee to reclaim the property and salvage what he could.

During the last stages of the Depression it was clear that the farm was not a viable or sustainable proposition. The urging of friends who had benefited from holidays at the farm, to take in paying guests, became the catalyst for farm holidays. This proved to be the financial salvation of Malmalling. the enterprise started in 1934-35 and continued for approximately 15 years. Accommodation was booked out for school holidays one year in advance. Usually during school holidays there would be an intake of approximately 14 children and 6 adults.

Farm holiday guests were picked up from the Chidlows' Well Railway station. Depending on the number of arrivals, either the spring trap or three-horse lorry would be used.,

On 5 November 1944, a Voltec Vengeance dive bomber, through engine failure came down approximately 100m west of the house spring, crashed through a fence and slithered to a stop beside a river gum, 50m from the back of the cottage. Neither the pilot Flight Sergeant Lowe nor navigator, Flight Sergeant Bannister was hurt. The plane and property was immediately placed under RAAF guard. The plan was gradually stripped down and trucked to RAAF Base Pearce.

On 10 September 1953, Malmalling changed ownership to Bert Gorrie's son-in-law, Charles Chambers, a dental surgeon of Claremont. Eric Chambers managed the farm on a day to day basis by trucking from their property in

Parkerville, for his brother Terrence, who continued his dental practice.

Malmalling was vested in the Crown on 8 July 1971 when it became part of the Helena River Catchment Area to protect the waterways leading into the Helena Reservoir (Mundaring Weir).

Bert Gorrie was born in 1889, Mona Cherry in 1898 and they were married in 1919. There were 4 children, Margaret (b1920), Jean (1924), Alexander (1926) and Silvia (1930). From 1953-58 Bert and Mona lived in Victoria where Bert had a gardening job near Ferntree Gully in the Dandenong Ranges. They returned in 1958 to live permanently in Kalamunda. Mona passed away in 1975, and Bert lived to just eight weeks short of his 96th birthday.

Information researched and permission to publish by Gary Aitken.

Written by Jeff Murray.

MEMBERS' PROFILES

Our stalwart member, Ron Hancock has earned the name "Hawkeye" for his ability to spot the most insignificant traces of our historic past on our various bush rambles. Ron's sharp eyes have located old bricks, various old tools, railway hardware, disused and overgrown wells and mill sites and the routes of old railway tram tracks, to name but a few.

On a recent trip to Parkerville Quarry, Ron pounced with great glee on some old rusted metal. Holding it aloft, he promptly challenged Briony with, "What do you think this is?".

Briony, being hopeless at such things, didn't have a clue. "It's part of a landalet", he announced. "And how do you spell it?".

Briony didn't know that either. However, she has since looked it up. She has learned that it is a type of closed sedan having a back seat with a collapsible top, and named after the Bavarian town of LANDAU, where the first one was made.

What makes Ron's discoveries even more remarkable, is that they are done on the run. While the rest of us plod along, Ron is loping along, now in front, now veering left, now veering right and always coming up with something we lesser mortals would have missed.

Ron also keeps us on our toes at meetings, with his "trivia" segments, which have become an integral part of our agenda.

No moss will grow while Ron's around!

LOG CABIN TEAM ROOMS. GREENMOUNT

The Log Cabin Tea rooms, an authentic log cabin, was built in the 1920's, with a magnificent view over the coastal plains, as a stopping place, serving teas, lunches and light meals and catering for parties.

It was situated just up from Chippers Leap, opposite Bona Vista Road, and had a level piece of ground in the front of it suitable for parking.

Because of its views, it was a very popular place for visitors. Night time parties were often held there. Flappers in their fringed dresses and their beaux, thought it a very popular place to be.

The building of the new road was a disaster for the Log Cabin. A back entrance was built, but as this required stopping on the main road, walking up a steeply sloping path, and climbing a flight of steps, it was only for the fit and active.

Trade declined, and it ceased to function as a roadhouse tea-rooms, and in the early days of the Second World War, it was converted to flats. Some years later it was burnt down and Greenmount lost another well known and well loved landmark.

The ruins and remains could be seen for some years, and later a modern house was built on the site.

Written by Valma Martin

BOYA QUARRY

Now an entertainment area for bush walking and B.B.Q.'s. Mr George Spencer-Compton, would take Geology students there for their lessons. The excursions were held on a Saturday, as the quarry did not work at the weekends. The students had access to the plant and the workings were explained to them.

In a large open sided shed beside the quarry, the small stones were graded. This was done by means of a large rotating cylinder of metal, along the length of which were holes graduating from small to large. The cylinder had a slight downward incline, and the stones, fed into the top end gravitated downwards and fell through the graduated holes into the bins below. Larger stones were carried on a small railway to another part of the works some distance away, where they were shaped into blocks suitable for building. The office and other buildings were here.

The students were walked along this railway track and shown how to use a Surveyor's chain measure, while measuring distances and mapping it.

Blasting was done at 12 o'clock and 4 o'clock each weekday, and local residents would set their clocks by the blast. Most of the houses built in the near vicinity of the quarries were on stumps, rather than being the traditional double brick, because of the blasting.

Daily an engine and rake of empty open topped trucks would come up from Midland to cart the loose stone away. Later on in the early 1960's the railways ceased their operations and trucks took over the carting of the stone. Eventually in the 1960's the quarry ceased to function at all.

Written by Valma Martin

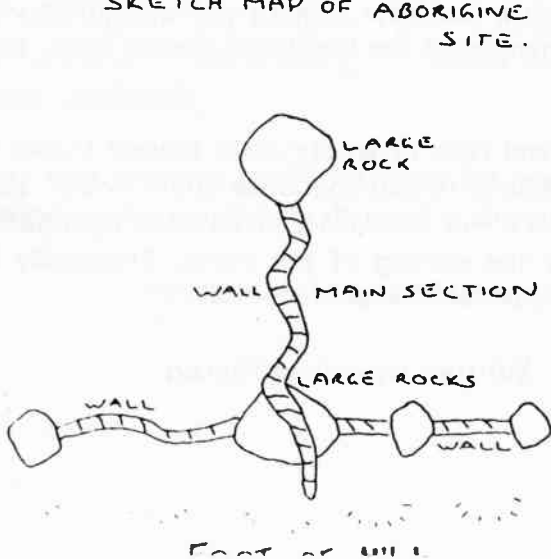
It is suggested in Edward Quicke's book, Pioneers of the Helena that there is evidence of an Aboriginal site in the Mundaring Shire which is believed by the W.,A. Museum to be about 200, years old. Historians consider that this site was used by the Aborigines for initiation purposes. It is found within half a kilometre of the river and about three kilometres downstream from the Mundaring Weir. The site is located in dense scrub at the base of a very steep, rocky hill on private property.

'The main section is a wall of stone about a metre high and about 20 metres long, built in the form of a snake and orientated north-south directly up the face of the hill. Crossing this wall near its base is another wall running east-west about 20 metres either side of the first wall. About 50 metres or 60 metres further up the hillside and in line north of the first mentioned wall is another short wall, also in the snake form. All of these walls join up with large granite rocks from two to four metres high.' (Quicke, p.13)

(See diagram below)

SKETCH MAP OF ABORIGINE SITE.

NORTH



"Charlotte Creek"

Charlotte was the name of the wife of Phillip Chauncy, Surveyor (York Road). He learned of his wife's death while camped near the site of this creek.

Written by Maureen Tie.



Extract from the Hills Gazette dated 26 February 1995.

Well Named

A well near Mundaring Weir Road in the Shire of Kalamunda will be named "Pattersons Well", after its association with Pattersons Mill.

Pattersons Mill was a sawmill that operated in the area prior to the First World War.

It was run by Jack Patterson and his two sons, Harvey and Frank, and employed about six men.

The timber-lined well was reported to be in good condition and full of good quality water, after a recent visit by members of the Mundaring and Hills Historical Society, the Kalamunda Historical Society and CALM.

Kalamunda Council resolved to endorse Ian Elliot's proposal to name the well, situated near Farrells Creek.

For those wondering about our lack of apostrophes for place names, DOLA adheres to the world wide policy of omitting apostrophes denoting ownership in geographic names.

OUR HOUSE

Why we want our home put on the Heritage List.

As our little weatherboard house was built c. 1910 by J. Watson, we consider it to be a precious part of Mundaring's history. As members of the M.H.H.S. we are very interested in seeing as much as possible of the historical features of the hills preserved for posterity. Therefore because of the property's historical value to Mundaring we thought it appropriate to get it put on the heritage list.

We have delved into the history of the house and property and found it a fascinating pastime.

Sadly in the future we will be selling the property and new owners may destroy the old house to build a new one or completely alter its original features, destroying its historical value. So we hope that if it is placed on the Heritage list, it will be well protected in the future.

Written by Robin Giles
17 Hartung Street, Mundaring 6073

A family in the U.S.A. wanted the family history written, but were worried because the black sheep of the family, Uncle Willie, had died in the electric chair.

When commissioning the history to be written, the head of the family told the writer of Uncle Willie's death in the State Penitentiary and asked that the information be played down.

When the book was finally written, the family read the following:

"Uncle Willie occupied a chair of applied electricity in one of our leading Government Institutions, he was held to the post by the closest ties, and his death came as a real shock".

The Barracks Arch in Perth is often proudly cited as an example of the defeat of 'big brother' by ordinary citizens. That campaign showed that organised and concerted effort by activists could save a part of Western Australia's built heritage from demolition despite the odds. Following that recognition, that the actions of concerned people could make the difference, came a number of incidents where hands were linked in front of bulldozer blades, last ditch efforts to rescue historic buildings from ever increasing development. Sadly, many of these campaigns were doomed.. By the time the bulldozers and jackhammers are on site, it is usually too costly, too emotive for rational discussion and often just too late. The answer lies in the promotion of awareness during the planning stages of development schemes. If both developers and local councils are aware in advance

that residents and rate payers wish to preserve a site for its heritage value, that can be taken into account from the start.

To achieve that goal, Section 45 of the Heritage Act of Western Australia 1990 requires all Local Government Authorities to prepare an inventory of buildings and places in their respective regions that are considered to be of cultural heritage significance. In other words, a list of sites that the community want to keep because of their architectural style, be it either humble or grand, because they have played an important role in our history, or because of their association with a particular person or family.

Guidelines set out by the Heritage Council (a State Government body that should not be confused with the National Trust) place the emphasis, when compiling the list, on public consultation coupled with expert evaluation and advice. The local council has the final say on what places are included in the inventory, but only after discussion with owners and the community at large. Although a copy of the inventory will be provided to the Heritage Council for public access and information, the document remains the property of the local council to be utilised as an integral part of its building regulations and town planning schemes.

The Shire of Mundaring has recently commenced the process of compiling a list of local heritage sites. Architect Bruce Callow of Boya has been engaged as consultant, with myself as a sub-consultant in relation to the history of the Shire. The MHHS is well represented on the local advisory committee which includes Ms I. Kelly, Ms M. Tie, Ms B. Waterhouse, Mr J. Herington, Mr J. Hobbs and Councillors P.J. Macey and J.H. Ellery.

This committee had its inaugural meeting on 31 January 1995 when Bruce Callow and myself presented a draft Thematic Framework for comment and preliminary lists of buildings and places to be considered were tabled by the Shire of Mundaring and the MHHS. The committee was addressed by Mr Gerry MacGill of the Heritage Council who, amongst other things, explained the basic differences between the Heritage Council's Register of Heritage Places, where development control is enforced, and the Municipal Inventories, which are not subject to those provisions of the Act.

A public meeting was conducted on the 20 March at the Octagonal Hall, Glen Forrest. If you were unable to attend you can write to the advisory committee care of the Shire.

Ian Elliot - 13 February 1995

RESTORATION OF PHONE BOX

Approximately eight months ago the Mundaring & Hills Historical Society was thrilled to receive a gift of a 1950's telephone box from Mrs Nellie Wells of Mundaring.

Over the past months the Historical Society has been working on getting the phone box restored back to its original condition.

We were very fortunate to receive a generous offer from Telecom to help pay for the restoration.

Restoration of the phone box has started and it will probably feature in our display at the Old Mundaring Schoolrooms.

Once the phone box is completed we hope to have it positioned at our Museum so people can see how the old phones used to be.

There is apparently a new system where old phones can be installed with a recording so that if a person dials a number, the phone will start a recorded message telling the person the history of an area in the hills.

We will keep you informed on the progress of the phone box as it is completed.

Written by Andrew Pankhurst

REMEMBER

The monthly meeting is on the first WEDNESDAY of each month at 4.30pm AT PARKERVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME.
Please come!

Recently we decided to raise some funds by picking up rubbish on a 2½ Kilometre stretch of Great Eastern Highway, between Margaret Street and Lionel Road.

Five tired members ended up picking up 133 bags of rubbish, which we think will yield \$133 from a 50 cent payout from each of Mundaring Shire and the Keep Australia Beautiful Council.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To Secretary
Mundaring & Hills Historical Society Inc
PO Box 334
MUNDARING WA 6073

Name

.....

Address

.....

.....P/Code.....

Telephone

.....Date.....

Membership

1 person	\$15.00
Couple	\$20.00
Pensioner Couple	\$ 8.00
Pensioner	\$ 6.00
Student	\$ 6.00
Institutional	
Shire/School	\$20.00