

Autumn 2001 Newsletter

PO Box 334 Mundaring WA 6073



Historical Society (Inc)

Phone: 9298 8944

ABN 25028478748

MHHS WINS SHIRE 'COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR' AWARD

On Friday 26th January the Australia Day Ceremony took place at the Amphitheatre in Mundaring Sculpture Park.

The invited guests included Shire staff and Councillors, new citizens and nominees for the awards. They were entertained by the Kalamunda Minstrels before and after the Ceremony.

Mrs Joanna Seabrook was the Guest of Honour. She spoke of her love of Australia and its fragile environment and said that she hoped the new Australians who become citizens on that day would also come to love and protect the environment in which they now lived and belonged.

MHHS received the Shire 'Community Event of the Year' award for the launch of the 'Their Story' Exhibition and the publication of the book "Patchwork of Memories".

More than 50 MHHS members and friends attended the launch. They celebrated the culmination of nine months of work undertaken by over 70 volunteers who brought to

life the stories of women who "made a difference" in the hills.

As a bonus, one of our members, Mrs Judy Love, was nominated for Citizen of the Year, recognising her work in a number of community areas, including her contribution to the above project.

COMING EVENTS

7 March at 7.30 p.m.

Monthly Meeting & Show and Tell

Old Station Masters House, Glen Forrest

4 April at 7.30 p.m.

Monthly Meeting & Guest Speakers

Elissa Livingstone and Georgie Boddington will discuss the life and works of the highly respected artist Betsey Linton. Betsy led a fascinating life in the Mundaring District for many years. Her husband James was also a prominent artist and artisan at both state and national levels.

Old Station Masters House, Glen Forrest

2 May at 7.30 p.m.

Monthly Meeting

Old Station Masters House, Glen Forrest

Autumn 2001 Newsletter

TIMES PAST

If you live in the Shire of Mundaring you may have noticed the articles in the Hills Gazette requesting more information about photographs of local people at special events or places.

MHHS welcomes any information from newsletter readers regarding these photographs, or suggestions of other photographs that may be suitable for the Gazette series.

MUNDARING PIONEER PARK

On Saturday 24th February a plaque was unveiled by Shire of Mundaring CEO, Max Williams, to commemorate the work of the early pioneers of the District.

Society President, Shelley Bertola, then gave a short address on this topic.

The development of the Pioneer Park on the corner of Stoneville Rd and Hartung Streets has been an outstanding effort by the Lions Club and its supporters.

MUNDARING WEIR PRECINCT WALK TRAILS

Society Vice-President, Maureen Tie recently attended a meeting at the invitation of the National Trust.

The Trust is developing both short and longer walk trails in the Mundaring Weir Precinct. It is seeking advice on issues such as the naming of trails and the types of amenities that would most benefit users of the trails.

Several other regional organisations, as well as local businesses were also represented.

CENTENARY OF MUNDARING SHIRE AREA

2003 is the year for celebrating the Centenary of this local government area.

Approximately 50 representatives of community, business and school organisations (including MHHS) attended a recent meeting of the Shire of Mundaring Centennial Committee. The Committee encouraged these groups to plan ways of celebrating this significant milestone. Limited funding may be available to support some of the proposed projects.

Several MHHS members have already made some interesting suggestions and these are currently being investigated. More on these in future newsletters!

OBITUARY

Grace Helena Quicke (nee Hunter)

On February 10th 2001, we lost one of our original members. Grace and her late husband Ted are sadly missed by our Society.

Grace and Ted had been there for us in our early days. Members of the society were always made welcome at Grace's home when we called socially or in the name of history looking for answers to our early Mundaring Weir area history.

Grace was born 91 years ago at the "Weir" on the Helena River. Her father, Bill Hunter Snr, worked at No. 1 Pumping station. Grace had four brothers, all born at the Weir.

The Hunter children were all educated at the Weir school. The knowledge that Grace was able to pass on to us will be valued for generations to come.

Autumn 2001 Newsletter

LOOKING FORWARD →←LOOKING BACK



The Old Station Master's House Mundaring, c.1899

This red brick and iron house was built in 1898, soon after the Mundaring railway station site was chosen as an ideal location to take a spur line off the Eastern Railway to the Helena River Dam construction site. The Mundaring town-site was gazetted in the same year.

The building was home to various Station- masters until the railway was closed in 1954. It then became a private residence until 1999. It has recently been transferred to the Shire of Mundaring.

MHHS has proposed a lease of the building for its office, administration, and research centre when it is fully restored. Objects in the Society's collection would also be stored and conserved there. Its closeness to the exhibition site at Mundaring District Museum (The Old School)

would make it ideal for these purposes.

The Society would, however, take some measures to ensure that the site can be viewed and enjoyed by the public. It is historically significant as one of the few remaining railway residences in the Shire.

A heritage conservation plan is presently being prepared for the building in order to attract funding for restoration work. MHHS obtained a \$5,500 grant from the Heritage Council of WA last year to assist the Shire in meeting the cost of the plan.

A new picket fence has already been erected and some of the more urgently needed work should proceed this year. It is also hoped that the building will be National Trust listed within the next 12 months.

Autumn 2001 Newsletter

PRESENTATION OF LOTTERIES COMMISSION GRANT TO MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA.



On 10th January MHHS hosted a morning tea for 31 invited guests at Mundaring District Museum.

A \$10,000 Lotteries Commission cheque was presented to MA Vice-President, Anne Brake, by June Van de Klashorst, [Minister for Family and Children's Services at the time).

The money will be used to identify training needs and opportunities for volunteer museum workers around the State.

She also presented a plaque to MHHS President Shelley Bertola (above), in recognition of previous support provided to the Society by the Commission.

Welcome To New Members:

*Trish McCourt, John McFadden,
and Sheila and Derek Seal*

To our existing members - Thanks
for your continuing support!

'MEMORY REWIND PLAY'

MHHS member, Brian Marshall, and Juliet Ludbrook (formerly Education Officer with the Museum of Childhood) are undertaking the above project, which is funded by the 'Community Histories Grants Program'.

The Mundaring Arts Centre and MHHS worked together to develop the project, which will focus on the experience of people who migrated to the Shire in the aftermath of the Second World War.

They are presently seeking suggestions of persons who may have an interesting story to tell.

Those that are selected will be interviewed over several sessions. All the stories will be recorded on digital video and the product will then be distributed to schools throughout the Shire as an educational resource.

Heart of the Hills Festival 7-8 April

MHHS is supporting this annual event.

Guided heritage trail walks will be available to the public on *Sunday, 8th April*. Two tours will be conducted in Mundaring and Parkerville, leaving at *1 p.m. and 3 p.m.* and lasting around $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 hour each.

Mundaring Town-site Heritage Walk

Meet outside Lesser Hall, corner Nicol and Jacoby Streets

Old Parkerville Village Walk

Meet outside Old Parkerville School, corner Riley and Dura Rds.