



# ST KILDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter No. 173

### May 2005

TO:

---

If undeliverable please return to: The Secretary, St Kilda Historical Society, P.O. Box 177 Balaclava 3183

---



## St Kilda Historical Society

### Free Public Talks 2005

**Members' General Meetings**  
at 2.30 pm.

**Public Speakers start**  
at 3pm approximately

**08 MAY 2005**

Sunday @ 2.30 p.m  
St Kilda Library  
community room

**19 JUNE 2005**

*(Queens birthday 13/6)*  
Sunday @ 2.30 p.m  
St Kilda Library  
community room

**10 JULY 2005**

Sunday @ 2.30 p.m  
St Kilda Library  
community room

Meetings held at St Kilda Library community room, 150 Carlisle Street, St Kilda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month unless otherwise stated.

Collection item of the month displayed.

SKHS Publications available for sale at meeting.

Non-members welcome. No cost. *Afternoon tea at (approx) 4.00 p.m.*

**SHUTE – THE MESSENGER**

*Carmel Shute* is a force of nature: St Kilda resident, raconteur, activist, history graduate, convenor of 'Sisters in Crime' and City of Port Phillip media officer. Join Carmel as she shares with us the huge range of heritage events and stories she has promoted in our fair city.

Don't miss our guest speaker, *Dr Mimi Colligan*, whose book 'Canvas Documentaries' records the fascinating story of the role of early painted cycloramas in Australia. She has also written on Harry Jacobs, the flamboyant presenter and orchestra leader at the Palais Theatre in the war years.

**ART DECO ST KILDA**

Over 60% of St Kilda's dwellings are apartments, many art deco in style as well as some of the earliest in Australia. *Robin Grow*, President of the Art Deco Society, offers fascinating insights into the origins and features of some of our most beautiful homes.



# St Kilda Historical Society

No. 173 MAY 2005 ABN:25 188 646 275

Patron: Sir Zelman Cowen

President: Ph: 9690 9584, 0408 894 724: Email: meyereidelson@yahoo.com  
Secretary: P.O. Box 177 Balaclava; 3183: Email: chaucer@bigpond.net.au  
Heritage Officer: prj@bigpond.net.au: Editor: Email: fbader@bigpond.net.au  
Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk Society: www.skhs.org.au (Publications)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last week I had the pleasure of guiding the first half of a Melbourne-by-Night tour with fifty –Year Six students from St Leonard’s College in Brighton. They toured Melbourne from 9p.m. to 8a.m., a great experience for teachers with insomnia.

At 10.00p.m. they were in the archives under the St Kilda library looking at our collection. They were particularly interested in a ballot box used for the referendum on conscription called by Billy Hughes in World War One.

By 10.30p.m. they were underground in excavated Dight’s Mill at Yarra Bend, at 11.30p.m. at the former Aboriginal mission school. At 12.30a.m. they were at the Old St James Church, 1842 and from there they walked to the graveyard of Melbourne’s earliest burials on Flagstaff Hill.

At 1.00a.m. they were warming themselves at the eternal fame at the Shrine of remembrance. Most of these fifty-six students had a tale to tell of past family involvement in military conflicts: New Guinea, Korea, Vietnam, Anzac Cove, France 1918, Palestine, the Gulf. A young teacher also spoke emotionally of having recently walked the Kokoda Trail.

It is great to see that affluence and security have not reduced these young peoples awareness that a privileged life in Australia is not something to take for granted and in many ways can be attributed to the efforts of others. Nor their appetite for history and for understanding of the difficulties of those that have gone before them.

At 2.00a.m. I left for home while they went on to McDonalds. Fifteen year olds have other important appetites as well.

*Meyer*

## NYET NYETS PICNIC IS COMING!

6.30pm Friday 20-22 MAY 2005: In the lead up to Reconciliation Week, Indigenous Artists and Snuff Puppets present **Nyet Nyet Picnic**, a performance based on Indigenous Bunyip stories.

Snuff Puppets have worked with playwright John Harding and choreographer Earl Rosas and other Indigenous artists for this project: - Birrarung Marr, behind federation Square, Melbourne. Bring a blanket/cushion. \*Free for all - Run if Scared!

web site: [www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk)

## WALKING ST KILDA 2005

(Walks are free to the public)

Bookings: Kryas Galas Ph: 9209 6229

### Hotels of St Kilda

**Sunday 15 May, 4.00 pm**

Take an historic pub crawl of St Kilda’s hotels from settlement until today which played host to morgues, public meetings, inns, bushrangers, music bands, film sets, stables, gangland feuds and other events.

### The Dark Side of St Kilda

**Tuesday 19 July, 7pm**

Carnival St Kilda was known for its ‘colourful sleaze’ from bushrangers to bohemians, murderers to mob wars, banned substances to brothels, GIs to G-strings, drugs to deviants, variety venues to the vice squad. Experience the dark side of St Kilda in the dark of a winter’s night!

### Explore Elwood Village

**Sunday 14 August, 10 am**

Explore the Elwood village, meet traders and residents and discover the past and present history of buildings, places and significant people.

### The Fall of Sebastopol

**Sunday 11 September, 10am**

The fall of Fort Sebastopol 150 years ago on 09 September 1855 marked the end of Crimean War hostilities. Relive the Crimean war in our part-two walk by exploring streets such as Sebastopol, Jervois, Cardigan, Raglan, Malakoff, Alma, Inkerman and others.

### The Grand Boulevarde of St Kilda Road

**Sunday 20 November, 10am**

Bring your tram fare to explore the history of Melbourne’s greatest boulevard along which early Melbourne travelled south from the city to St Kilda and beyond braving potholes, cattle and bushrangers.

## ROYAL HISTORIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

239 A’Beckett St, City. Entry: William St. Ph: 9326 9288

Public Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues ea mth; 5.45PM; Members Free  
Non-members \$5.50; Coffee/tea available from 5.15PM

Tuesday 10 May: **Laura Mecca**: *Italians in Melbourne*

Sunday 15 May: 10.00.- 4.00 Mammoth Book Sale

Tuesday 14 June: **Max Waugh**: *A Beautiful Site for a Town – Governor Bourke.*

[WWW.SKHS.ORG.AU](http://WWW.SKHS.ORG.AU)

May 2005 (#173)

# A Place to Amble – St Kilda Botanic Gardens: an early history

Patricia Convery

## “botanic garden”

The St Kilda Botanic Gardens were established on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1859, two years after the first municipal council election for the newly formed city. These beautiful Victorian gardens are among the earliest civic projects in the city (along with the Town Hall, established in the same year) and thereby retain an association with the earliest history of the suburb. Established in an effort to beautify the developing township, the Gardens were not just a repository for botanical specimens, but a pleasure garden, to be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

Mr Tilman W Gloystein won the Council's Garden Design contest and was duly awarded the ten pound prize. Although no drawings of Mr Gloystein's original plan survive, there are sufficient elements of the original and later nineteenth century layout, to demonstrate the first phase of its history, eg North-South axis (the original entrances) and the central circular features, date from the garden's beginnings and are therefore of historical interest.

The trees on these entrances were planted from 1869 onwards when a major tree planting operation was undertaken, largely thanks to the generosity of the ratepayers who contributed between 50-60 pounds towards this project. A six foot high picket fence enclosed the 6.5 hectares comprising the Gardens, replaced later by a cypress hedge. A remnant of the cypress could still be seen on the Herbert Street side as late as the 1960s. The current chain-mesh fence dates from 1967. The beautiful wrought-iron gates at the Blessington Street entrance were erected in 1918. As the gardens were being laid out, red gravel was discovered in the south-east corner and used on local roads. When exhausted, the excavation was filled with municipal rubbish, the pit not filled in until 1900. This section of the gardens lay undeveloped until the 1920s.

Baron von Mueller, as Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens contributed several hundred plants, trees and shrubs to the Gardens, some surviving to this day, eg Moreton Bay figs and conifers. The famous nurseryman, George Brunning, the first curator of the Gardens, supplied plants and seeds, as did local residents and gardening enthusiasts. He introduced pepper trees from South America. These were removed in the 1980s when the south-west area was redesigned.

A nursery was established within the gardens in the 1860s and played an important role in supplying plants to parks and reserves. In May 1869 it was reported that 4,300 trees and plants would be required for these areas and that these would be obtained from the Garden Nursery. (The nursery was active until the 1990s and is to some extent reflected in the cultivation activities of the Friends of the St Kilda Botanic Gardens who today use the old council depot site to grow pot-plants for sale to assist the gardens).

A “Floral and Musical Grand Fete” formally opened the Gardens in November 1861. The band of the East Collingwood Rifles played as people tried their hand at archery, or wandered among the floral displays, carvings and produce, or paused to hear Baron von Mueller extol on and exhibit the Nardoo plant (used by Bourke and Wills). There was even a tasting of Sauterne wine, from grapes cultivated in St. Kilda.

## “pleasure garden”

The *Floral and Musical Grand Fete* of 1861 was the precursor to the many Garden and Multicultural festivals held in the Gardens in recent years.

The Gardens have been variously known as The St Kilda Botanical Gardens; The St Kilda City Gardens (1920-30s); The Blessington Street Gardens (until 1985) and then formally designated The St Kilda Botanic Gardens. A plaque, dated 1985 commemorating this is on the ornamental gates.

In keeping with the emphasis being on that of a “pleasure garden” a number of structures and features have come and gone in the Gardens.

About 1910 a Lily pond was established along the southern path. It was disestablished in 1930 a result, it was said, of a young child drowning and finally demolished in 1945. All that remains is the disconnected rubble water-fountain.

An Aviary, to the north of the Levi Pavillion (1928-29) was built in the 1930s. Close by a birdbath was erected, the pedestal still standing today.

A bust of Edith Cavell, the English Red Cross nurse, executed by the Germans in 1915 for assisting British airmen escape from occupied Belgium (and for whom Cavell Avenue in St Kilda is named) was erected in 1920 and located at the top of the Ash Tree walk, near to the pond. The vandalized statue was removed in later years and never restored.

In the 1920s the decorative gates, on the corner of Tennyson and Blessington Streets, with “St Kilda City Gardens”, emblazoned across the top, were erected. However the path to them was not cut until the 1930s.

Another picturesque structure was a large three-tiered fountain (circa 1900) on a raised bank and surrounded by a rosebed.

The path, housing the fountain, was in the north-east corner of the Gardens and was removed in 1985 and covered by the broad expanse of lawn that is to the right as one walks down the path from the Blessington/Tennyson street entrance. A steel archway was also to be found on this pathway. A triangular bed of roses was at the path junction and this too was incorporated into the lawn.

In 1948 the Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden was created. This was rebuilt in 1985 as a sunken garden and is now the largest garden in Australia to pay tribute to this man who bred roses and daffodils for Australian conditions.

Two major redevelopments in the Gardens were carried out, one in 1985 and another in 2003 and resulted in redesigned areas and the addition of features which reflect contemporary demands.

But these beautiful gardens, registered with Heritage Victoria, still essentially retain their nineteenth century feel and layout.

## Sources:

**Blessington St Gardens Redevelopment Study**, Sept, 1983: City of St Kilda.

**Cooper, J.B.** *The History of St Kilda*, 1931

**St Kilda Botanical Gardens: Blessington Street St Kilda: Conservation Management Plan.** Prepared for the City of Port Phillip/Allom Lovell and Associates in association with John Patrick P/L April, 1996.

## Big Mouth Building

(refer SKHS Newsletter, March 2005)

I've just received my SKHS newsletter which frustrates me no end as there's no way I can get to any of your functions. But I'm planning to do a tram trip one day when I come to Melbourne to see the streets I remember best, Acland, Mitford and Dickens.

Although I've never heard it called that name, I remember the Big Mouth building well. It was always there in my lifetime which pinpoints our move to St Kilda at the end of 1938 or early 1939. We left there in 1951 much to my disappointment – from which I've never recovered.

There was a quality dress shop right at the corner where my mother was a good customer for many years. Next door in Acland St was the milliner Herta Maria, whose delicious hats held me spellbound in their elegant display until I was grown up enough to buy them. These were the days when office girls were expected to wear hats, gloves and stockings to work in the city each day and my hats always drew compliments from my colleagues. I'd get off the tram at the terminus at the end of the and check out the display so that I could tell my mother what was new in Herta's window.

Hatcher's Dry Cleaning and Laundry occupied the next shop and then there was Coles with late night Friday shopping when my father introduced me to stamp collecting buying enormous bags of stamps for 5/-. Late shopping probably didn't last too long because St Kilda was blacked out during the war. Our windows were taped up with tarpaper and Air Raid Wardens walked the streets looking for a tell-tale chink of light which would bring a knock to the door. In retrospect I wonder about this because I also remember the searchlights across the bay from Williamstown.

I had no idea there had been a skating rink or a theatre there but I often wondered about the sloping concrete floor in the market which went through from Acland to Barkly Street. I'm not too sure about the Barkly St shops but I think there were a menswear store and a bicycle shop.

The study of Elwood interests me too. My mother's family (her aunt) owned 61 Dickens Street, Elwood, between Marine Parade and Barkly Street, where I spent much of my life. It was a wonderful Edwardian house and I still think of it with affection. Is it still there?

### Shirley Westaway

Research Officer

Foster & District Historical Society

*While I'm at it, can anyone please tell me how the Peanut Farm earned its name?*

*As a child I always thought it was just a local label but now I notice it's official.*

## Seeking: *Edna Frances Isaacs*

also known as

### *Edna "Phar-lap" Davis*

I wonder whether I might put out a call through the SKHS Newsletter for help with research I am doing for a book on Australia's Vexatious Litigants? Such a declaration bars the litigant from issuing legal proceedings without the prior leave of the court. There have been 13 such orders in Victoria since 1930.

In particular I am looking for people who knew or know about **Edna Frances Isaacs (1921-1989)**. She was declared a Vexatious Litigant by the Victorian Supreme Court in 1941 following a series of spectacular and unsuccessful court cases involving her then brother-in-law Sir Isaac Isaacs and other Melbourne luminaries.

Edna also went under the name of Elsa Davis and in the 1960's married Geza Laszloffy. He was declared vexatious in 1963. I believe they are the only husband and wife team to be so declared in Australia. Edna lived for many years at Vale Street, St Kilda and in Hartbury Street, Elwood.

She was a well known pianist (Edna "Phar lap" Davis) and entertainer accompanied by her singing dog, *Napoleon Bonaparte*. She was known for her poems and songs including such works as "the West Gate Bridge march", the "Royal Lullaby to Prince William" and an "Underneath the satellite with you, ode to Yuri Gagarin in the Sputnik". President Krushchev of the USSR apparently responded to her letter forwarding the last composition. She was also a long time correspondent with Pope John Paul and the Queen.

In 1984 she unsuccessfully sued *The Age* for defamation after their music critic described her as a "well known eccentric". She took umbrage at the description. The week long case was a sensation.

I am looking to interview people who knew her or who might have any clippings or photos.

*Simon Z. Smith*

*If SKHS Members have any information regarding the above, would you either contact SKHS Newsletter fbader@bigpond.net.au or bring it to meetings.*

*Alternatively, send to SKHS Secretary: P.O Box 177, Balaclava 3183 or email prj@bigpond.net.au*

## "Title" for SKHS Newsletter

Members, Non-members, and/or Anonymous are asked to put on their thinking caps and come up with a suggestion(s) for the "title" for our bi-monthly newsletter.

The person who comes up with the most evocative and/or provocative "name" will be presented with a SKHS Publication. Do bring written suggestions to meetings or mail to The Secretary, PO Box 177, Balaclava 3183; Email: chaucer@bigpond.net.au.

## SKHS Inquiry of the Month

For Heritage Inquiries contact:

Peter Johnson; [prj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:prj@bigpond.net.au)

### Poets' Corner Query?

I have been a resident of Elwood for approx 25 years and have recently moved from Tiuna Grove to Daley Street.

I have distinct memories of Elwood when I lived in Carlton as a young boy because my Aunt lived in Shelley Street and we used to visit what we regarded as a seaside resort regularly and I remember mention of the Village Belle and Poets' Corner et al!

Well, here we are off Tennyson Street now, and I do my constitutional up to where the Poets meet; Byron, Milton, Dickens –

#### BUT IS THAT 'POETS CORNER'?

If so, why isn't there something significant there to commemorate the fact, such as a public sited sculpture instead of a pretty ordinary nondescript roundabout.

Both my son and daughter are sculptors and would welcome a commission to submit some designs that would be appropriate!

But my enquiry centres on the following questions

Is there such a place a Poets' Corner?  
Where is it actually sited? How and Why  
was its conceived? What is its background? Why isn't it appropriately signified?

Regards,  
S. E. (Elwood)

**If any SKHS member(s) has answers to the above, or would like to research the topic, please contact Peter Johnson: [prj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:prj@bigpond.net.au)**

### Seeking Saint Kilda

SKHS member, Fran Bader is currently exploring some of circumstances surrounding the *Naming of St Kilda* and the significant people involved way back in the early 1840s.

If SKHS members have any "insider information", original documents, news items, anecdotes, or images they are willing to share, please phone Fran: b/h 9525 5918  
email [fbader@bigpond.net.au](mailto:fbader@bigpond.net.au).

## NAUTICAL RULER OF *LADY OF ST KILDA*

news release dated 31.03.04 downloaded from  
City of Port Phillip webpage: [www.portphillip.vic.gov.au](http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au)

Enquiries:

Carmel Shute  
Media Officer  
Tel: 9209 6163  
Mobile: 0412 569 356

Darren Ray  
Mayor  
Ph: 9527 5364  
Mobile: 0413 334 523

Thanks to the chance discovery of a retired Swedish naval engineer and the miracles of the internet, some of the history of *Lady of St Kilda* – the ship which gave Melbourne's iconic seaside suburb its name – has now been uncovered.

In 2002, Axel Lundquist, who retired to the coastal town of Malmö, emailed the City of Port Phillip's local history librarian, Kay Rowan, to say that he had the nautical ruler used on the ship which probably foundered on its way to Tahiti in 1843. One side of the ruler has a number of trigonometric as well as logarithmic scales used to make calculations for terrestrial navigation.

Mr Lundquist, who visited Australia in 1945 as a young merchant sailor, revealed that he had found the navigational ruler by chance in the late sixties at a small auction house in Grebbestads Folkpark on the northern part of the Swedish west coast.

"As usual there was a box containing odd bits and pieces among the other objects, including an interesting ruler, about 60 cm long, made of darkish wood," he said. "A quick look told me that I held a kind of navigational aid in my hand. At the price of 17 kronor, I got the box.

"Back home and after having cleaned it, I found that it had once belonged to a vessel by the name of *Lady of St Kilda* and the year 1837. I could also decipher the initials TDA and 'Cary London'. During the years that followed I made a few half-hearted attempts at finding out more about the ruler. I took it to London and Lloyd's Register of Shipping who had a research department.

"They said they were too busy to deal with the matter within the next few years, so my next call was at an antiquity shop specialising in nautical objects. They made an offer for the ruler which was so high that I suspected they knew something about it that they weren't willing to disclose. I didn't take it. The years went by and not until 2003 in the spring I started looking for information on the net."

Mr Lundquist soon realised that 'TDA' stood for the initials of the owner, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, 1787-1871, 10th Baronet, philanthropist, MP, from Killerton, Broadclyst in Devon. He found from Anne Acland's family history, *Devon Family: The Story of the Aclands* (1981) that Sir Thomas apparently became interested in sailing in 1832 when a cholera epidemic threatened Exeter and bought a 71 foot schooner, built 1834 in Dartmouth by Robert Newman.

The ship's figurehead depicts a woman, most likely Sir Thomas's wife Lady Lydia. Mr Lundquist suggested that Sir Thomas also named the vessel after his wife, perhaps in memory of a trip they had made to the Scottish islands of St Kilda at the beginning of their marriage  
(ctd next page)

Alternatively, Mr Lundquist argues, the ship may have taken its name from a Lady Grange who, in the 1730s, had been banished to the main island, Hirta, by her husband for being "troublesome" (continued over page)

and threatening to report her husband for treason in connection with some religious disputes. She remained on Hirta for fifteen years and may have gone mad. James Boswell in his *Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides* mentions a conversation where a Dr Johnson claimed that "if he had such a place for naughty ladies he could soon become a very rich man".

Cary, London, Mr Lundquist discovered, was "a well-reputed manufacturer of navigational aids then residing in No. 181, Strand". The firm closed down or was bought by a Henry Gould in 1853.

As explained in *The History of St Kilda 1840-1930* by J B Cooper, the captain of Lady of St Kilda was Lieutenant James Ross Lawrence and he stayed with the ship when it was sold in 1840 to Jonathan Cundy Pope. In February 1841, *Lady of St Kilda* set out for Port Phillip in Victoria, Australia. She underwent repairs of storm damage in Cape Town and on July 6 arrived in Australia where she was handed over the Were family of merchants.

Moored in Port Phillip Bay, the ship gave her name to the area till then known as Green Knoll. However, accounts of how this specifically happened vary, Mr Lundquist said. According to one version, the name 'St Kilda' was bestowed by Joseph La Trobe, then superintendent of the colony, at a picnic attended by Lieutenant Lawrence and members of the Were family. However, the name may have come into currency after water police arrested sailors from *Lady of St Kilda* in what the ship's log records a "very drunken and mutinous condition".

On December 7, 1841 Lieutenant Lawrence bought the first block of a block of Crown land in St Kilda and named one of the three roads bounding his block Acland Street. Summerland Mansions now stand on the block, at the corner of Acland and Fitzroy Streets. Lieutenant Lawrence left the ship in 1842 and, in 1845, sold his land in St Kilda. Mr Lundquist was unable to find out anything about his subsequent career though naval records note his death in 1862.

In July 1842, *Lady of St Kilda* set out for Canton and returned via Manila. The log book, now in the possession of the National Library of Australia, records that the vessel began to leak. When she returned to Australia, she was sold to a new owner and January 24, set sail for Auckland, NZ and is believed to have foundered en route to Tahiti. Mr Lundquist quotes one source which suggests that the French may have taken it over, manned it with troops and used the vessel to subdue the natives and to stop the smuggling of arms. The French authorities have provided no clues.

Mr Lundquist's findings about *Lady of St Kilda* were presented to Malmo Yacht Club last year. His friend, marine artist Peter Stromsnas, did a painting of *Lady of St Kilda*, based on a sketch of the ship held by the State Library. Unfortunately, the sketch can't be located at present.

Mr Lundquist died on October 8 last year, aged 77, without discovering how the ruler from the *Lady of St Kilda* ended up in Sweden. He speculated that one of its last crew members may have been Swedish. His daughter Brita, who was in Australia last week, has been continuing the research and met with Kay Rowan to thank for the assistance she'd given Mr Lundquist.

Kay Rowan was very saddened by Mr Lundquist's death. "We exchanged more than emails over the last three years. We'd developed a real rapport. We didn't just send each other historical information but jokes and little bits about our personal lives. He had very fond memories of Melbourne in 1945."

Identical sculptures of *Lady of St Kilda* are attached to both sides of the Balaclava Railway Station bridge in East St Kilda. Port Phillip mayor and local Alma Ward councillor, Darren Ray, said that the sculptures were often tagged by graffiti vandals. "We've had to remove graffiti from the *Lady of St Kilda* sculptures several times. It's a big deal as we have to have lengthy negotiations with Connex and VicTrack to stop the trains for a few hours every time the sculptures are cleaned. I am going to investigate whether there are more permanent ways to protect this important local icon," he said.

The ship's figurehead now resides at Killerton where the Aclands' former estate is administered by the National Trust.

Print quality copies of most of the photographs in Mr Lundquist's presentation are available on request

**SKHS note:**

*Ruvim & Alex Nemirovsky were the artist and designer of The Lady of St Kilda sculpture on the Carlisle St Bridge.*

## Local History Library Service

This is a reminder that in addition to the SKHS heritage collection – our City of Port Phillip Libraries also hold a wealth of Local History information that is accessible on site, on request, to Library Users as well as the wider community. Genealogical and biographical data as well as Council and historical documents and references are lodged in two City of Port Phillip Local and Family History Library collections. The South Melbourne and Port Melbourne collections are located in the Port Melbourne Town Hall. The St Kilda collection is in the St Kilda Library.

Rate Rolls; Voters' Rolls; Postal Directories; Registries of Births, Marriages, Deaths; Pioneers' Index; Local Newspapers, Photographs, Reports, Maps and more, as well as a microfilm reader-printer are but some of the resources available.

The Local History Librarian for the City of Port Phillip Library Service may be contacted for assistance on the following days:-Mon to Wed at the Port Melbourne Library, 9209 6644; Thurs to Friday at the St Kilda Library, 9209 6655.