



# St Kilda Times

Patron: Sir Zelman Cowan

St Kilda Historical Society Newsletter, PO Box 177, Balaclava 3183

Newsletter Issue No.192

August – September 2008

## Art of Suff-Rage

SKHS Members are invited to view the 'Art of Suff-Rage' and meet the artists

Where: Steps St Kilda City Hall

When: Friday 15th August Just turn up

Time: 11am – 1pm RSVP Not Required  
Light Refreshments provided

### Came and share in herstory

Talented artists Ursula Dutkiewicz and Fern Smith have created a Multi-Media Travelling Art Installation to mark the centenary year of women's enfranchisement in Victoria and commemorate the work of the suffragists.

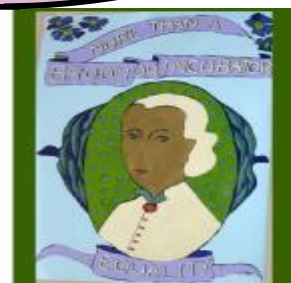
The 2007–2008 Mayor of Port Phillip City, Ms Janet Cribbes will officially open the temporary installation of 10 Suffrage Banners and 100 Ceramic Sculptures.

Presenter Wilma Farrow will portray suffragist Vida Goldstein.

Some SKHS members will be 'soapbox' extras



Illustration by Fern Smith



© Ursula Dutkiewicz



Vida ceramic sculpture by Ursula Dutkiewicz



Suffragist ceramic sculpture by Ursula Dutkiewicz

Images: Banners (upper) – courtesy of Fern Smith ©  
Ceramic (groups) – courtesy of Ursula Dutkiewicz ©

### Wilma Farrow

During the upcoming 'Art of Suff-Rage' (above) Wilma Farrow will present aspects of a vibrant program she has professionally crafted to celebrate the anniversary of Victorian women's suffrage.

For those fortunate enough to have attended the recent suffrage event at St Kilda Library on July 29, Farrow mesmerised the audience with her presentation of our most famous suffragist, Vida Goldstein – who ran a school in St Kilda during the 1890s.

People commented afterwards that she had brought the suffragist vividly to life and I personally thought Farrow's performance to be that rare combination: entertaining, informative and inspirational. (F. Bader)



Wilma Farrow portraying suffragist Vida Goldstein  
Image courtesy of Aaron Wilson, Meantime Films

### Ursula Dutkiewicz

Ursula Dutkiewicz is a ceramic artist based in Gasworks, Albert Park. She creates a diverse array of works that include ceramic paintings, sculpture, functional wares and murals. She undertakes commissions, community projects, residencies and runs specifically designed workshops for people of all ages and abilities.

Although she states in her website that her work is often abstract, her involvement with so many varied and interesting projects constantly informs her work and leads her in new and exciting directions.

### Fern Smith

Fern Smith is an established and accomplished artist who utilizes many mediums to convey fragility and respect for the individual, the content informed by extensive research. Smith's works are held in private collections around the world.

Note: Over the course of her varied career Wilma has played a number of diverse roles in theatre and television ranging from 'Emilia' in Shakespeare's Othello to 'Mum' in 'A Bunch of Ratbags' and also established 'Historical Rambles' walking and coach tours in Melbourne and rural Victoria.

## SKHS

## President's Letter

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Pearl Donald

Carol Stals

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Dorothy Lobert

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John Hulskamp

**Greetings** and its great to have passed the equinox and theoretically be heading for warmer weather.

Well, it was also great to celebrate Children's Heritage Day two weeks ago with 120 wide-eyed students from St Columba's Primary School, Elwood, sitting cross-legged on the floor of St Kilda Library. As a promoter of the city's walk program, they really made my day by walking all the way from Elwood and back again. Not to mention the fact that they were also madly enthusiastic.

The Mayor, Janet Cribbes launched the day which was appropriate since she is a parent at the school and has links to Elwood going back several generations. She announced our Don Taggart SKHS Creative Arts Awards for 2008 which this year will be short stories about Elwood. Well known children's author Michael Wagner was there to give the children a few tips thanks to librarian Linda Todd.

Granny aka Pearl Donald was present with 120 halfpennies to give the children and a copy of the *Granny* book. Linda Todd gave the children an opportunity to judge the art on the library walls from last years Creative Arts Awards (she also gave them a *freddo frog* each proving you CAN buy popularity). Thanks also to Carol Stals for her ongoing work with the school and for Dorothy Lobert who makes all the gremlins go away. I am sure Don Taggart would have approved of this event in his memory.

Recently we met with Ruth McLean of the City of Port Phillip to renew our service agreement. Our new annual grant will include funding for a laptop, projector and microphone to improve our monthly presentations. Many thanks also to John Hulskamp for upgrading our two flash computers called Vida and Don and to the St Kilda library for donating them to us.

President: *Meyer Eidelson*

## New Life Members

The Society warmly welcomes three new life members:

**John Bennetts**

**Jennifer Edge**

**Angie Scanlon**

We hope you will join us at our monthly Sunday meetings and enjoy reading our bi-monthly newsletters.

Secretary: *Dorothy Lobert*

## Spanning Time

The society welcomes members' assistance with the following:

Do renew your annual membership. Promote SKHS among friends, neighbours, work colleagues. Invite them along to our talks.

Refer news items of local interest to SKHS: e.g. significant residents, events, demolitions, constructions, births, marriages, deaths, other.

Contribute items to SKHS' 3-D and 2-D Collection: e.g. era fashions and historical artefacts, local activist records and documents, memorabilia, posters and the like.

Span the generations and share your St Kilda/Port Phillip City family history letters, photos, mementoes, scrapbooks, postcards, artworks, certificates, etc.

Catalogue the Collection of 3-D artefacts, 2-D photographs, images and articles.

Suggest/organise social activities, functions, events, guest speakers, readings, performances, re-enactments, tours, trips.

# GUIDED NEIGHBOURHOOD WALKS

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**Limited numbers. Bookings essential. Meeting place: You will be told where to meet when you book.**  
**Bookings: Email [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au) or phone the Walk Line 9209 6522**

## Lost Schools

Neighbourhood: St Kilda Hill: Sunday 10 August 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Meyer Eidelson**  
 Since the early days of St Kilda, over thirty schools catering to young ladies and gentlemen have open and disappeared. Visit the famous lost schools such as Madam Pfunds, Miss Ries Boarding College, Hofwyl Academy, Wattle House, Northampton Buildings, the Priory and Oberwyl where the granddaughters of Charles Dickens attended. BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

## Montague –The Lost Community

Neighbourhood: South Melbourne: Sunday 24 August 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Kay Rowan**  
 This walk takes us around Montague, once a thriving working class area containing over a thousand households but now almost totally given over to factories and warehouses. On this walk we use our imaginations supported by historic records to bring to life this old area.  
 BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

## Naval Gazing in Port Melbourne

Neighbourhood: Port Melbourne: Sunday 31 August 10.30am Leader: **Meyer Eidelson**  
 Take a tour of the important and former historical sites of both the early colonial Navy and the modern Royal Australian Navy which was based in Port Melbourne including the Navy drill hall (now Circus OZ), former HMAS Lonsdale training base, training sheds, the Great White (American) Fleet visit (1908) as well as viewing a current colourful Naval exhibition.  
 BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)  
 Meeting place: Pier Hotel, corner of Beach Road and Bay Street, Port Melbourne.

## Pubs in Port

Neighbourhood: Port Melbourne: Sunday 14 September 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Janet Bolitho**  
 Port Melbourne's first two pubs opened by the beach in 1840. The Gold Rush prompted another fifty-one more or so to supply a hard drinking wharf town. We explore some of the still remaining hotel buildings described in Pat Grainger's recent book 'Chartered Scoundrels'.  
 BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

## Baths, Butts and Battery: The History of Beaconsfield Parade

Neighbourhood: Middle Park/Albert Park: Sunday 12 October 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Kay Rowan**  
 This walk takes us along Beaconsfield Parade once known as the Military Road. We explore its early military origins as well as the early swimming culture of the area. We also visit the former Gasworks industrial site, now a park. BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

## Street Poetry in the Poetry Streets

Neighbourhood: Elwood. Sunday 9 November 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Meyer Eidelson**  
 Join our tour of the amazing 'Poets Corner' of Elwood. Group members can take turns to read the poetry of the thirty or so authors and poets whose names are borne aloft on street signs such as Dickens, Tennyson, Byron, Browning, Barrett and Gordon. BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

## Made in Port

Neighbourhood: Port Melbourne. Sunday 7 December 2008, 10.00 – 12noon. Leader: **Janet Bolitho**  
 From marine engines to whiskey, it was made in Port. We visit former industrial sites where an amazing variety of goods were once manufactured by the wharves but have now succumbed to demolition or transformation into glamorous apartment blocks. BOOKINGS: 9209 6522 OR [walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au)



# St Kilda Historical Society

**Urgent Reminder**  
Do send/bring  
\$18 for your  
2008-2009  
membership

## Free Public Events 2008

Members meet 2.30pm. Speakers at 3pm Community Room St Kilda Library	Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at the St Kilda Community Room, St Kilda Library, 150 Carlisle Street St Kilda, 3183. Agenda is subject to change. SKHS Publications available to purchase. Afternoon tea provided. Visitors and Public are most welcome. Free Entry.
10 AUGUST 2008 Members meet 2.30pm Speaker at 3pm Community Room	<b>THE GREAT WHITE FLEET IN PORT PHILLIP</b> The Australian Naval Historical Society joins us to commemorate a major event in St Kilda's maritime history, the 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the American 'Great White Fleet' in August 1908.
14 SEPT 2008 Financial Members to meet 2.30pm Community Room Collection 3.30pm	<b>AGM and SKHS COLLECTION OPEN DAY</b> Financial members meet 2.30pm – 3.30pm for annual general meeting 2007-2008., Annual reports and election of 2008-2009 committee. Followed by tour of the diverse collection of the Society from 3.30pm(aprox.)
12 OCT 2008 Members meet 2.30pm Speaker at 3pm Community Room	<b>STUDENTS IN DISSENT</b> In 1968 a secondary school student was expelled from Melbourne High School for being a member of a movement printing underground protest newspapers. Forty years later, former underground students gather at SKHS meeting to recall the times.
9 NOV 2008 Members meet 2 30pm Speaker at 3pm Community Room	<b>SURVIVING THE YOM KIPPUR WAR</b> Elwood resident Aaron Eidelson migrated to an Israeli kibbutz as an idealistic teenager to find himself in the trenches on the Suez Canal during the assault on Israel by Egyptian and Syrian forces in 1973. On the 35 <sup>th</sup> anniversary, Aaron describes the traumatic events of the war.
14 DEC 2008 To be advised	<b>EnD-YeaR MiX-n-MiNGLe</b> We'll still be celebrating the centenary of obtaining women's suffrage through 'An Act to provide for Adult Suffrage' presented in the Victorian parliament (for the 19 <sup>th</sup> time since 1889). It passed through the State Legislative Assembly (Oct), the Legislative Council (November), was Reserved from December 1908 for Royal Assent and Proclamation in March 1909.

### Sisters in Crime

15th Annual Women's Crime & Mystery Short Story Competition

Open: to all women resident in Australia  
 Story Length: 5000 words  
 Categories: General Investigative Pulp (Funniest Crime)  
 Malice Domestic Innovation Young Writers  
 Awards: Scarlet Stiletto Trophy Cash Prizes Vouchers  
 Closing Date: August 31. Entry \$10 (Max. 2 Entries)  
 Presentations: November 21 Bell's Hotel Sth Melb

Further Info Entry Conditions Registration Forms:  
 (SAE) Sisters in Crime GPO Box 5319 Melbourne 3001  
 Website [www.vicnet.net.au/~sincoz](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~sincoz)  
 Phone Carmel 0412 569 356 a/hrs 95372781

### Melbourne Society of Women Painters & Sculptors

invite SKHS members to the opening by **Gus Mercurio**  
 of their **99th Annual Exhibition**

7pm Tuesday August 19

Municipal Gallery, Glen Eira Town Hall  
 Cnr Glen Eira and Hawthorn Rds (No 3 Tram)  
 RSVP Not required

Exhibition Dates: 20–31 August  
 Mon–Fri: 10–5 Sat–Sun: 1–5 (Closes 3pm 31 Aug)

Enquiries: email [mswps@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mswps@yahoo.com.au)

Website: <http://vicnet.net.au/~mswps>

MSWPS has a long and proud history as the oldest surviving women's art group in Australia. Former members include Ethel Carrick Fox, Clara Southern, Violet Teague and Ola Cohn. Refer also to Juliet Peers book, *More Than Just Gum Trees, A Personal, Social and Artistic History of the Melbourne Society of Women's Painters and Sculptors*, MSWPS in assoc with Dawn Revival Press, 1993.