



# St Kilda Times



SKHS Patron  
Sir Zelman Cowen

## HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY to SIR ZELMAN COWAN

The following report of Sir Zelman's birthday celebrations and images are down-loaded with kind permission of Henry Benjamin, editor, J-Wire (Jewish Online News from Aust & NZ, 26 October) and kindness of Amy Grossbard, Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Jewish Museum of Australia.

Around six hundred people, including several SKHS members, celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sir Zelman Cowen, our Patron since 1978, along with the Charnwood Crescent Hebrew Congregation.

His birthday celebrations took place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October and SKHS members were very pleased to see Sir Zelman in good form and that his battle with Parkinson's disease hasn't dampened his spirit.

Sir Zelman, at the forefront of Australian public life for more than sixty years, was born in St Kilda in 1919, the son of Russian settlers. He attended St Kilda Park Primary School and Scotch College before studying Arts-Law at Melbourne University.

After serving in WW11 he was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. Afterwards he returned home to become one of Australia's most distinguished and honored jurists as well as Governor General, 1977–1982, following Sir John Kerr's resignation. (ctd p4)



Sir Zelman and Lady Cowen



Sir Zelman, G.G. Bryce, H. Light, J Searle

### FRIENDS OF THE ASTOR

Long-time St Kilda Historical Society member, George Florence, proprietor of the *Astor Theatre*, invites all SKHS members, families and friends, colleagues & associates to join "Friends of the Astor" (FOTA) and help guide it into the future.

*The Astor* specialises in 70mm presentations on a giant screen with up to the minute sound and when you step into the cinema, you enter into a film-going experience that is second to none.

**Ring 9510 1414 to register your name as a FOTA member or pay a visit to *The Astor*.**

### ST KILDA CHARMER

When George Florence took over the leasehold of *The Astor* and its operation in 1982, he began a labor of love that transformed *The Astor* into the vibrant St Kilda movie theatre that many of us treasure.

Today, *The Astor* retains all its *Art Deco* charm and is regarded as one of the finest *Jazz Moderne* cinemas in Melbourne. It is also listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, classified by the National Trust and renowned both at home and overseas.

In fact, for many international visitors and tourists, interstate travellers and locals alike, *The Astor* rates among the top must-see gems of Port Phillip City and indeed, Melbourne.

### LATEST CALENDAR

Jump on to *The Astor's* website for the complete movie listing along with poster-images and mini-reviews. A paper calendar is also available at the theatre and at local shops and cafes or you can read in the entertainment pages of the *Sun Herald* and *The Age*.

Main Sources: *The Astor* Website; *St Kilda Times*, No 189.

# SKHS CONTACTS

## Inquiries & Appointments

info@skhs.org.au

Secretary: 9537 1967

Email: info@skhs.org.au

Mail: PO Box 177, 3183

Office: St Kilda Library

150 Carlisle St, Balaclava 3183

Heritage Advice: heritage@skhs.org.au

Phone: 03 9525 3696

PO Box 1154, St Kilda South,

Vic. 3182

Newsletter: *St Kilda Times*

info @SKHS.org.au

[www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk) click 'news'

Publications: www.skhs.org.au

Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk

## COMMITTEE: 2009—2010

**President:** Peter Johnson

**Vice President:** John Hulskamp

**Secretary:** Dorothy Lobert

**Treasurer:** Vacant

**Ordinary Members:**

Frances Bader

Carol Stals

## OPERATIONS

**Administration:**

Dorothy Lobert

**Archives:**

Frances Bader

Kitty Barclay

John Kissane

Dorothy Lobert

Maureen Walker

**Foyer Displays:**

Carol Stals

**Heritage Queries:**

Peter Johnson

**Hospitality & Welfare:**

Joan Charlton

**Library:**

Dorothy Lobert

**Membership:**

Dorothy Lobert

**Newsletter: *St Kilda Times***

Frances Bader

Dorothy Lobert

SKHS Committee

**Webmaster:**

John Hulskamp

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

6–8pm 1st Tuesday each month

SKHS Office, St Kilda Library.

Financial Members welcome.

## NEWSLETTERS

*St Kilda Times* welcomes short items, articles, features, profiles, notices, other. Deadline: last Wed of month prior to publication.

## COMMITTEE

Anyone willing to nominate as treasurer or ordinary member do contact the secretary.

## CATALOGUE

Members willing to catalogue photographs or 2-D items on Thursdays from 10-12, please contact us.

**PROOF-READER** A member willing to proofread or help produce the newsletter, do let us know.

# GENERAL BUSINESS

SKHS warmly welcomes the following new members.

**MARGARET ABBOTT**

**DENISE BAKER**

## DONATION

SKHS is grateful to Lesley Greagg for donating the following title to our book collection:-

Sebastian, J., *Cabbage Patch and Apron Strings, Childhood Memories of Elwood 1930-1945*, Wilma Jade Gollmick, 2003.

## ARCHIVES

Volunteers, John Kissane has almost completed hand-illustrating the 3-D objects; Maureen Walker and Kitty Barclay have practically finished cataloguing and photographing the 2-D memorabilia, and Dorothy Lobert has made a start on the photographic images.

Do let us know if you have a few hours to help out with the cataloguing on a Thursday morning. Also if you hold any original images, documents, charts, family history transcripts, or other unpublished records relating to St Kilda and surrounds, SKHS volunteers would like to photograph/photocopy your possession(s), document them and if required, return them to you.

## HERITAGE INQUIRIES

So far this financial year, Heritage Officer, Peter Johnson received and dealt with thirty six (36) local heritage enquiries.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

After suggestions from members and consultation with and approval from the City of Port Phillip, your 2009-2010 committee of management agreed to implement the following benefits for **FINANCIAL** members:-

### 1. Organise a minimum of 8 free meetings/events per year.

Depending on presenters, meetings may include: floor-talks, presentation of local research, reunions, performances, viewings of noteworthy local buildings and, when possible, other events or activities as suggested by members.

Do contact us if you know any interesting speakers, or you have a special interest you would like to share with other SKHS members.

### 2. Charge non-members \$5 entry to floor-talks/events with option to join [or rejoin] the society (Annual subscription only \$18.00).

### 3. Trial some different meeting times and venues for events

Following requests from members, SKHS committee agreed to trial some different meeting times and venues during 2010 as well as conduct a parallel survey of attendances.

DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF PRESENTERS AND VENUES, FROM MARCH 2010, TRIAL MEETING TIMES ARE:-

4 meetings 3.00–4.30pm pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of selected months

4 meetings 6.00–7.30pm on selected Thursdays or selected

Saturday afternoons for any organized tours of local buildings.

ST KILDA TIMES WILL ADVISE FINANCIAL MEMBERS OF ALL DATES AND VENUES WELL IN ADVANCE.

### 4. Provide limited supervised access to SKHS collection free-of-charge to members with any photocopying or scanning at cost. Non-members charged graded fees (with option to join the society).

### 5. Produce 4 free hardcopy newsletters per year on a seasonal basis:

1st week of Mar, Jun, Sept, Dec. All items or notices to info@skhs.org.au by last Wednesday of month prior. Newsletters will be mailed or emailed to members and published on our website [www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk), click "news".

### 6. Mount 3 heritage displays per year in the foyer showcase, St Kilda Library. Displays will promote SKHS to library-users by focusing on various aspects of St Kilda's heritage. Please note that SKHS displays for 2010 are scheduled for April, August and November.

# SKATING GIRL

Members will be pleased to hear that after several delays, SKHS committee have finally found two registered contractors who gave us reasonable quotes for the necessary work required to upgrade the Skating Girl to Australian Safety Standards.

A protective box was required to shield SKHS members and public viewers from Wendy Lee's high voltage, plus her rear wiring and transformer needed upgrading to Australian Safety Standards!

## QUOTES

SKHS Committee agreed to accept the quotes tendered by [rzelectrics@hotmail.com](mailto:rzelectrics@hotmail.com) located in Caulfield South and [simon@cowdery.com.au](mailto:simon@cowdery.com.au) a qualified Building Practitioner operating his own Building Services firm from Windsor.

## NEWS FLASH

**On Thursday, November 26, Simon Cowdery fabricated the skating girl's protective box.**

**Earlier in 2009, local residents, Craig Andrade and Leigh Johns very kindly contributed the bulk of the cost of the box.**

**Her electrical upgrade was completed Monday 7 December. "Wendy Lee" may now be viewed by appointment.**

## WENDY LEE

As suggested by SKHS member and ex-St Moritz skater, **Joan Charlton**, a majority of SKHS members favored the name "Wendy Lee" for our neon skating girl, donated to SKHS by Novotel St Kilda in 2005.

The name recalls prominent St Moritz ice-skater, Wendy Lee Selover nee Jacobs, daughter of legendary Palais bandleader, Harry Jacobs and his wife, ballerina, Madame Lucie Saranova.

With assistance from historian Beryl Black, another former skater, as well as Croquet Victoria, *St Kilda Times* managed to contact the real Wendy Lee and she graciously consented to SKHS using her name for our neon girl.

# ANNIVERSARIES 2010

- St Kilda Historical Society turns 40
- St Kilda Festival turns 30
- TheatreWorks marks 25 years in St Kilda (30<sup>th</sup> since inception)
- St Kilda Botanical Gdns continue celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup>
- The horse-racing fraternity and sorority are planning their 150th anniversary at Flemington Racecourse. Incidentally, *Flying Colours*, owned by St Kilda resident, George John Watson (Kirk's Bazaar and Cobb & Co) won the Derby in 1860 and the Oaks in 1861 with *Palestine*.
- The Royal Society of Victoria (RSV) marks their 150th Anniversary by mounting an Environmental Expedition to retrace the Victorian Exploring Expedition (VEE) to the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1860-61. The VEE set out from Melbourne on 20 August 1860 to cross the continent from south to north in a successful attempt to be the first Australian colony to reach the Gulf.

## ST KILDA LINKS WITH THE 1860 VEE

Back in 1860 a number of St Kilda residents were among RSV members or subscribers. Among them:- Alfred Agg, Benjamin Cowdery, Archibald Michie, Geo John Watson, Edward Bradhaw (Town Clerk), Samuel Walker McGowan, the pioneer telegraph\* entrepreneur, and others.

St Kilda has some more connections with the expedition:-

- In 1857, local resident, Ambrose Keyte played a financial part in getting the RSV expedition off the ground by donating £1,000.
- While C. R. Nash, Captain of the First St. Kilda Rifle Corps, resided in Carlisle Street, he was head storekeeper in charge of the Government Stores which fitted out the expedition. Afterwards, he took possession of Burke's gun, thereby creating some controversy.
- After John King, the sole expedition survivor, was rescued in September 1861 he came to live in Odessa St, St Kilda with his sister but never recovered from his outback ordeal.

## RSV ENVIRONMENTAL EXPEDITION 2010

The Environmental Expedition will report on and recommend remedies for changes and damage inflicted along the route over the past 150 years. Working with indigenous rangers, environmentalists and volunteers, the expedition will investigate and highlight over-grazing, salination, erosion, exhausted and/or contaminated water sources, feral weeds and camels, cane toads, etc.

Expedition 2010, under the patronage of actor, Jack Thompson who played Burke in the 1985 film *Burke & Wills*, will be led by historian, Dr Jonathan King who organized the First Fleet Re-enactment in 1988.

The expedition — expected to set off on August 20, 2010 — will be performed in a series of relays and will be open to the public to join. It will also coincide with community events along the way. Heritage groups and community museums are encouraged to mount exhibitions of any artefacts and objects related to B & W as part of the program.

Such events or exhibitions may be advertised on the Royal Society of Victoria's dedicated website [www.burkeandwills150.info](http://www.burkeandwills150.info). For further information contact David Dodd at 03 9663 5259 [bandw@sciencevictoria.org.au](mailto:bandw@sciencevictoria.org.au) (Source: RHSV Website)

## SHOULD MEMBERS HAVE ANY INFORMATION, IMAGES OR ARTEFACTS FROM THE 1860 EXPEDITION, DO CONTACT US.

\* Speculation about possible routes for the connection of Australia to the new telegraph cable [the mobile network of its day] about to reach Java from Europe was intense from the mid 1850s, and competition between the Australian colonies for the routes was fierce. McGowan's only memorial appears to be a stained glass window in Holy Trinity Church, Balaclava. (ADB)

## MEMORIAL SERVICES City of Port Phillip: SUN. JANUARY 17, 11AM & 2PM

Be at St Kilda City Hall at 11am to remember Swedish diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg who was instrumental in saving thousands of Hebrew-Hungarians during WWII.

At 2pm in St Kilda Cemetery you may attend the memorial service for WWI hero Albert Jacka, followed by refreshments in St Kilda City Hall. RSVP CoPP.

## Sir Zelman Cowen

[continued from p1]

'Sir Zelman Cowen is the second member of Australia's Jewish community to have acquired the position of the Crown's representative in Australia.

The birthday celebration followed a tour of the adjacent Australian Jewish Museum by the current Governor-General, Quentin Bryce — where special focus was made on the Zelman Cowen Gallery of Australian Jewish History which is about to undergo a full refurbishment.

Sir Zelman has been patron of the Jewish Museum since it opened in 1982 — with the aim of exploring and sharing the Jewish experience in Australia.

Sir Zelman did not address the gathering but his son Shimon, an orthodox rabbi, spoke on behalf of the family.

... Governor-General Quentin Bryce recalled fond memories of her days at the University of Queensland where she worked with Sir Zelman who was Dean of the College of Law at the time.

President of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria, John Searle, said: "I would be here all day if I was to recount Sir Zelman's many achievements in his professional and public life.

"We all recognise and acknowledge Sir Zelman and a great Australian and a proud Jew."

Searle quoted from Sir Zelman Cowen's memoirs 'A Public Life' recounting the story of a Chinese immigrant who named their son after the former Governor-General.

He [Searle] added that elements of prejudice and discrimination which may still exist in Australia today cannot prevent "men and women of talent such as Sir Zelman, from attaining the highest position in the land."

Main Source: J-Wire, 26Oct 2009

## SUGGESTIONS (ctd)

Further to the 2009-2010 Committee's request for members' suggestions in OCT—NOV *St Kilda Times* to mark SKHS 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year, we received the following:

**Suggestion 1:** *that members consider altering our corporate name and logo from the "St Kilda Historical Society" to (a) St Kilda Heritage Society or (b) St Kilda Heritage Group*

### "HERITAGE"

The word "Heritage" indicates-

- communicating information about the achievements, aesthetics, values, culture, traditions and collective memories of a community and transmitting them from one generation to another.
- raising awareness of the natural and built environment as well as the significance of particular places, sites, buildings and gardens and conveying their merit and significance to future generations

### "HISTORICAL"

The word "Historical" suggests and signifies the past.

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### RATIONALE FOR CHANGE of NAME to "HERITAGE"

- **heritage** more accurately describes the work of our society.
- **heritage** indicates the present and future not just the past.
- **heritage** presents us in a more contemporary light.
- **heritage** may encourage more participation in the study, research, identification and protection of our community treasures for the future as well as their conservation and preservation.
- **heritage** would reflect our society as a forward-looking organization — not as is often suggested, a historical entity frozen in time, or a repository for "hystericals" as is sometimes inferred.
- **heritage** is a less cumbersome word than historical

### PRECEDENT for SUGGESTED NAME CHANGE

- The name "Historical Society of St Kilda" (HSOSK) was changed in 2001 to the "St Kilda Historical Society" (SKHS).

### YOUR COMMENTS INVITED

Members are invited to comment on the above suggestion. Contact SKHS Secretary on 9537 1967 Email [info@skhs.org.au](mailto:info@skhs.org.au) or Mail to PO Box 177 Balaclava 3183.

**Suggestion 2:** *that members research any of the below to document for future generations*

- a) your St Kilda family history or the people who live in, or once lived in your house, unit, block of flats; or any present or past character(s) in your street or neighbourhood.
- b) research the origin/derivation of your street name and write it up for SKHS.

**Example:** Blessington St is one of the few streets in early St Kilda named after a woman, and quite an unconventional woman at that. When Margaret Power was fifteen or so, her dissolute father "sold" her into marriage with a much older man. She went on to flout the moral conventions of her time. Her second marriage was to an Irelandic earl whose inheritance she helped dissipate while carving a name for herself as a society hostess. After his demise, she succeeded in making a career for herself as a writer... more?

**Suggestion 3:** *that members initiate special interest groups within the society e.g. a local history study group; local photography group, movie group; book club, poetry or drama reading circle; social; others? Expressions of interest will be published by St Kilda Times.*

**Members are invited to make other suggestions or contribute ideas for future development.**

**If SKHS Committee doesn't hear from you re any of the above before our next committee meeting, 1st Tuesday of February, we will assume that you concur with any majority consensus that emerges and keep you informed.**

# Free Walk & Talks Program 2010

Organised & Sponsored by Port Phillip City Council

## LIVING OFF THE LAND

**JANUARY 30, SATURDAY 5.00PM – 7.00PM**

*Is it possible to live for free from our streets and urban spaces in 2010? Learn the ways that people have harvested free resources before and after settlement until today. Share your own ideas and your childhood scavenging memories.*

**Neighbourhood:** Elwood **Leader:** Meyer Eidelson

## PROTESTING IN PORT

**FEBRUARY 21, SUNDAY 10AM - MIDDAY**

*Visit sites of historic protests in Port Melbourne. They include campaigns by the temperance societies, the waterside strikes, opposition to the Webb Dock rail connection, the destruction of Centenary Bridge, demolition of the Mission to Seamen and the anti-amalgamation campaign.*

**Neighbourhood:** Pt Melbourne **Leader:** Janet Bolitho

## NOTABLE PERSONS OF ST VINCENTS PLACE

**MARCH 14, SUNDAY 10AM - MIDDAY**

*St Vincent's Gardens is within one of Australia's most historic streetscapes. Discover the lives of famous and notable residents from councillors, factory inspectors, estate agents, plumbers, politicians and biscuit makers.*

**Neighbourhood:** Albert Park **Leader:** Kay Rowan

## THE NAVY IN PORT

**APRIL SUNDAY 18, 10AM - MIDDAY**

*Port Melbourne is anticipating the installation of 'Answering the Call', a statue commemorating the history of the Australian Navy. Explore Port Melbourne's 150 year old connection with the navy including former HMAS Lonsdale, the naval drill hall and training sheds and more.*

**Neighbourhood:** Port Melbourne **Leader:** Janet Bolitho

## ART DECO BY THE SEA

**MAY 8, SATURDAY 2.00PM – 4.00PM**

*Discover the magnificent art deco buildings of St Kilda's foreshore including the Esplanade, Robe Street, Fitzroy Street, the Eildon estate, Acland Street and O'Donnell Garden.*

**Neighbourhood:** St Kilda **Leader:** Patricia Convery

## OPEN HOUSES IN PORT PHILLIP

**JUNE 20, TOUR ONE SUNDAY 10.0AM - 12.30PM**

**TOUR TWO SUNDAY 1.30PM - 3.30PM**

*Explore inside nine extraordinary buildings in the City of Port Phillip, opened up especially for this occasion. To see it all we will be travelling by community bus, so book early for limited places!*

**Neighbourhoods:** St Kilda, Port Melbourne and South Melbourne

**Leaders:** Janet Bolitho, Meyer Eidelson, Kay Rowan

## Bookings Essential

[walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au) Phone 9209 6522

## 150 YEARS OF PORT

**JULY SUNDAY 18, 10.00AM - MIDDAY**

*Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Port Melbourne with a visit to some distinctive Port Melbourne icons including the Trugo Club, Lagoon Pier and the (former) Swallow and Ariel biscuit factory. View the special 150<sup>th</sup> Exhibition in Port Melbourne Town Hall.*

**Neighbourhood:** Port Melbourne **Leaders:** K Rowan, J Bolitho

## MARVELLOUS MIDDLE PARK

**AUGUST 14, SATURDAY 2.00PM – 4.00PM**

*Discover the history of key buildings, personalities, shops, theatres, shoemakers, factories and bakeries in Middle Park with residents from the Middle Park History Group.*

**Neighbourhood:** Middle Park **Leaders:** K Rowan, M Eidelson

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGTON GARDENS

**SEPTEMBER 4, SATURDAY 2.00 – 4.00 PM**

*Celebrate 150 years of our stunning St Kilda Botanical Gardens. Our tour looks at how the historic plantings, built features and layout have evolved since the garden's earliest uses as a cattle pound, nightsoil depot and gravel pit!*

**Neighbourhood:** St Kilda **Leader:** Patricia Convey

## PIERS OF PORT

**OCTOBER 16, SATURDAY 3.00PM – 5.00PM**

*Port Melbourne's past and present piers have been entry points for millions of people not only to Sandridge but to the colony of Victoria. Piers such as Station, Princes, Lagoon and Town Pier tell important stories of migration, war, railways, trade, fishing, coal, waterside workers and modern leisure.*

**Neighbourhood:** Port Melbourne **Leader:** Janet Bolitho

## MONTAGUE – THE LOST COMMUNITY

**NOVEMBER 14, SUNDAY 2.00pm - 4.00 pm**

*The former working class village of Montague has all but disappeared to be replaced with an industrial landscape of lanes and back streets. Walk the streets and resurrect a lost community of houses, schools, shops and personalities.*

**Neighbourhood:** Montague **Leader:** Kay Rowan

## ROCK AND ROLL ST KILDA

**DECEMBER 4 SATURDAY, 5.00PM – 7.00PM**

*Discover the hotels, theatres and venues on The Esplanade and Fitzroy Streets which have inspired and fostered the music of many of Australia's greatest bands and performers.*

**Neighbourhood:** St Kilda **Leader:** Meyer Eidelson

## Bookings Essential:

[walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au) Phone 9209 6522

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## LETTER TO SKHS

*It's with sadness that I understand Meyer Eidelson has vacated the presidency of the St Kilda Historical Society.*

*When he took the post all those years ago [2001] the society was in poor condition: the members were divided, there was a leadership vacuum after Don Taggart's resignation and the future was not looking good.*

*Enter Meyer and eight years later the group and its achievements have become an exemplar of an historical society. The transformation over this time has been astounding.*

*Bravo Meyer, bravo! And thank you. (And good luck to Peter Johnson).*

**Gill Upton**, SKHS member

G. Upton, author: *Splash; St Kilda beach and baths*, City of Port Phillip, Art and Heritage Unit, 2001.

*The George: St Kilda Life and Times*, Venus Bay Books, Richmond, 2001.

# SKHS SEASONAL DIARY

SKHS is grateful to the Hon Michael Danby and his staff for photocopying this issue of the St Kilda Times  
Please note that the next issue of St Kilda Times is scheduled for first week of **MARCH 2010**

<b>SKHS EVENTS</b>	Members free. Non-members, \$5 (option to join SKHS at events, by mail or online). Unforeseen circumstances may cause some events to be altered at short notice. Inquiries and Membership: Email <a href="mailto:info@skhs.org.au">info@skhs.org.au</a> ; phone 9537 1967. Members meet half hour prior to help set-up and for any SKHS business.
<b>3PM SUNDAY DECEMBER 13</b> <b>Venue:</b> St Kilda Community Room, off Foyer St Kilda Library	<b>2009 HISTORY IDOLS</b> Come along and meet other St Kilda history tragics. If you have a party-piece:- a poem (limit three verses), limerick, secret family recipe; humorous tale (3mins), witty joke, trick, dance, song, other, do ring Dorothy 9537 1967. BYO froth or bubbles (beer or champers), a glass and <i>hors d'oeuvres</i> to share.
January & February 2010	SUMMER BREAK/HOLIDAYS
<b>3PM SUNDAY MARCH 14</b> <b>Venue:</b> St Kilda Community Room off Foyer St Kilda Library	<b>BEHIND THE LEGEND of COBB &amp; CO</b> Home grown (Port Melb) history detective, Sam Everingham, author of <i>Wild Ride – The Rise &amp; Fall of Cobb &amp; Co</i> , brings to life Freeman Cobb and the men who ran the coaching empire [incl. Geo John Watson, Burnett St, St Kilda]; the larger than life personalities and their private tragedies; the drivers who made the firm famous and the incredible hardships endured by passengers journeying into Australia's heartland.
<b>6.30PM THURSDAY APRIL 22</b> <b>Venue:</b> St Kilda Library	<b>ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE: THE HOME FRONT in ST KILDA</b> SKHS Archives volunteer, Maureen Walker, who is studying for her Masters in Public History at Monash University, talks about the WW1 Home Front in St Kilda (including activities and referenda controversies) — in conjunction with a display of photos, memorabilia and documents, some from SKHS Collection on show for the first time.
<b>2PM SATURDAY MAY 22</b> <b>Venue:</b> The Astor Theatre, 1—7 Chapel St	<b>TOUR THE ASTOR THEATRE</b> Proprietor George Florence takes us to <i>art-deco</i> heaven when he escorts SKHS members on a guided tour of the awesome <i>jazz moderne</i> theatre. Bookings definitely required as numbers are limited. Ring Dorothy 9537 1967 or email <a href="mailto:info@skhs.org.au">info@skhs.org.au</a> .

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

### **BALLET: CINDERELLA:- 7.30pm, 11 Dec and 12 Dec. MATINEE 2.30pm, 12 Dec and 13 Dec**

THE NATIONAL THEATRE BALLET SCHOOL Carlisle & Barkly Sts, St Kilda, brings to the stage a stunning new production by Artistic Director Beverly Jane Fry of the poignant rags to riches fairytale Cinderella. We all know the story — but this production as with all NTBS productions goes a step further — beautiful sets, dazzling costumes and that little surprise that no other Cinderella will give you. Bookings seriously advised: call National Theatre 9525 4611 or book online.

### **MOVIES: XMAS & NEW YEAR PUBLIC HOLIDAYS @ THE ASTOR THEATRE, 1 Chapel St, St Kilda**

**Dec 26, 7:30 PM:** *Life of Brian* (1979) a-n-d *Monty Python & the Holy Grail* (1975) plus live treat — **CAST MEMBERS OF 'SPAMALOT' LIVE ON STAGE performing THREE SONGS!**

**Dec 27, [MATINEE] 2 PM:** *Ben-Hur* (1959). See the epic film incl. the chariot race on the Astor's mega single screen. Reprinted from original MGM Camera 65 anamorphic format & released in 70mm with 6-track magnetic sound.

**Dec 31, NYE 8pm:** *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. NY Day **Jan 1, 8pm:** *Mao's Last Dancer*.

Entry: **Concession rates for SKHS members** (on presentation of current membership receipt) Concession \$12; Pensioners \$11; Children \$11.

### **BOOKS: SUMMER READ:- JANUARY 1 TO FRIDAY MARCH 26 2010**

Visit any branch of the Port Phillip Library Service or <http://library.portphillip.vic.gov.au> and choose from a list of ten great books set in Victoria or written by Victorian authors. Borrow your favourites or wait till **January 12** and let Maura, the Clairvoyant Librarian predict which books you will love to read. *Summer Read* is presented by Victorian Public Libraries and State Library of Victoria from Friday January 1 to Friday March 26 2010. **Share yr reads and you could be in the running to win a prize.** Visit [www.slv.gov.au/goto/summer-read](http://www.slv.gov.au/goto/summer-read)



## **SKHS COMMITTEE WISHES ALL MEMBERS A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR REMEMBER THAT SKHS PUBLICATIONS ARE GREAT READS and MAKE TERRIFIC GIFTS**

To order, contact Dorothy on 9537 1967 or order on-line plus postage and handling visit [www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk) and klik "publications".