

## Supplement to Newsletter 3

### **Bishop's Service Station: more information**

Many thanks to Jean Edwards for the following. The 'shop' at Bishop's is believed to have started life as Low's fruit store – the first in Mt Evelyn. Jean recalls seeing a photo of Low's shop, which looked identical with the shop as the Bishops had it. The Mt Evelyn Primary School history mentions a Mr Low, a market agent, who 'started the first greengrocers, at the corner of York and Silvan Roads' (p.27). Mr Low had moved from Silvan to the corner of Louisa and Irvine Streets and his children attended MEPS.

That would date Bishop's shop to the twenties, slightly earlier than we thought. It would also mean that the shop had the dual distinction of having been Mt Evelyn's first greengrocer as well as (we believe) its first service station. It is likely that Low's house still stands, as there are two old houses at the Louisa/Irvine intersection.

The Andronicus brothers, who own the present service station, recently bought Bishop's. They intend to build shops on the site.

### **Tot Falkingham (from Donna Donovan)**

'Our Auntie Tot (Elizabeth) Falkingham passed away in November. She had been unwell since having a bit of a fall. She absolutely loved Mt Evelyn and always spoke of the time she spoke up at the Community Link to everyone (I think it was to do with the Railway?)

It only leaves Reg Falkingham in the original family now.

Tot had a couple of editions of *Tracks to Trails* and my mum, Lorraine Fairweather, has given me her copies to keep for my kids.'

The occasion Donna refers to was the launch of the second edition of *Tracks to Trails* in 2001, which was also the Railway centenary. Tot spoke entertainingly of her earliest recollections of Mt Evelyn and the station as it was then. We are glad she had happy memories of the day.

The Falinghams have always been generous in sharing their memories and photos with the History Group and the community. The family moved to Mt Evelyn in 1918 and lived in their grandfather's house, 'Bark Rest', above Quinn Reserve. Tot was the lively middle one of nine children. She told how she once knocked herself out by dashing full tilt at the station bollards. On another occasion she climbed into the stationary Cave Hill tram, which started to move. One of her brothers shoved a branch under the wheels, derailing the tram and Tot into the blackberries.

Our sympathy to Donna and all the family on the loss of 'Auntie Tot'.

### **Scouting anniversary**

2008 marks 100 Years of Scouting in Australia and 80 Years in Mt Evelyn. Scout stamps will be released from the Post Office and soon there will be a commemorative coin for circulation. The year will be full of activities for youth members and families.

Scouting was started in Mt Evelyn by Wal Kenny, the first Scout Master, in 1928. The group went into recess in 1932 but re-formed in the late 1940s. The original Scout Hall, now the Venturers' Den, was transported from the Upper Yarra Dam construction site in 1952. The present hall opened in 1983. Like most Scout groups, Mt Evelyn has waxed and waned over the years but is at present one of the strongest groups in the district. It has a Joey mob, two Cub packs, a Scout troop and Venturer unit.