

Things Past

Newsletter 68

October 2013

Mount Evelyn History Group Inc

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Dates for your diary

History Group display 'Researching Your House', Mt Evelyn Exhibition Space, October.
Mt Evelyn Street Party & History Group stall, Saturday 26 October, Wray Crescent.

RSL Remembrance Day service, Monday 11 November, 11am Mt Evelyn War Memorial Garden. Guest speaker Amat Binnore, Vice-President of the Outer East Vietnam Veterans Association, who enlisted from Mt Evelyn. Afternoon tea at the RSL Hall. A WWII veteran and a Vietnam veteran will unveil their names on the Honour Board.

Walk to the Cascades (head of the Water Race), Saturday 23 November, 1:30 pm. Meet outside the Fruit Marketing Co-op, corner Monbulk & Hunter Roads, Melway 120 G6.

Miss Kemp of 'Longmoor Lodge'

Researching the history of our property in Hereford Road, I also researched the first owner, Miss Alice Emily Kemp (1858-1939).

Alice Kemp's parents, Phillip Kemp and Charlotte (Middleton), with their children Charlotte, Joseph and William, migrated as members of the Caroline Chisholm Family Colonisation Loan Society. The family sailed from Gravesend aboard the *Athenian*, reaching Victoria 26 February 1852. They lived at first in Geelong, where Phillip worked at his trade of stonemason. Two more daughters were born, Ellen in 1853 and Alice Emily on 18 July 1858 at Ashby (Geelong West). The family moved to Melbourne in 1866, living at first in Carlton and then in Fitzroy.



Above, Mt Evelyn Presbyterian Sunday School, mid-1930s. Miss Kemp, here aged about 75, is standing beside the minister.



Miss Kemp's house 'Longmoor Lodge' in 1989. The porch has been enclosed, the iron roof covered with tin tiles and the boards painted.

The family history does not mention Alice Kemp having ever worked for her living. Like most unmarried women of the time, Alice lived with her parents and then with her widowed mother. She seems to have been close to her brother Joseph and his family. When they moved temporarily to Brisbane in 1884, she travelled with them. She visited again in 1888 to look after the children, so that her sister in law could take a holiday. Her niece Margery remembered Aunt Alice as rather strict and particularly concerned about the children's religious instruction.

Alice's father died in 1901 and her mother in 1913. Now on her own, Alice lived in Burke Road Malvern, close to Joseph's home 'Longmoor' in Wattletree Road. She purchased

Continued p.2

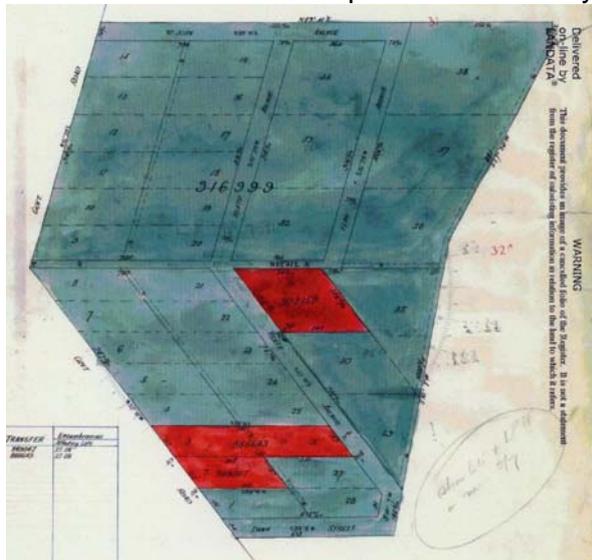
From p.1

Lot 5 Mountain View Estate, Hereford Road Mt Evelyn on 16 November 1920.

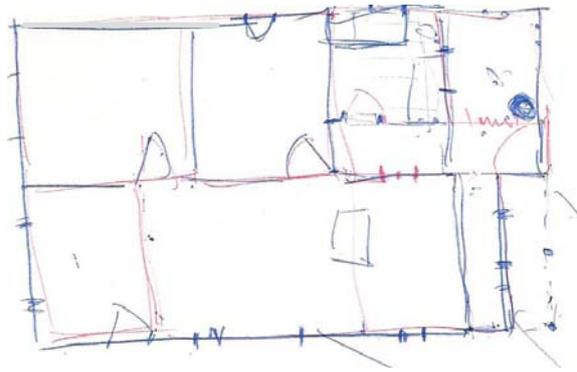
The estate had been subdivided by Daniel Morrison in 1919 and marketed by agent J.G. Chew with ads like this one from *The Argus*:
EVELYN, Highest Point on Warburton Line, 27 Miles City, Cheap Train Fares.- MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTATE, 38 nicely timbered blocks, ½ acre to 2 acres, on main road, close station; magnificent view Warburton Ranges and Mt Dandenong; price £20 to £35; terms 30/- month, no interest; selling fast. Motor inspection arranged. Plans, 'phone J.G. CHEW, Estate Agent, 142 Bell street, Coburg; or D. Scott, Evelyn.

Relocating from the middle suburbs must have meant a significant lifestyle change for a woman in her sixties. The house Miss Kemp built at Mt Evelyn was oiled weatherboard with a corrugated iron roof. Some of the bracings were gum saplings, probably cut on site. The house had a front porch, living room, bedroom, kitchen, a dining room or second bedroom opening onto a back verandah and a ramp from the verandah to ground level. Part of the corrugated iron shed may have been used as a bathroom or laundry. 'Longmoor Lodge', as she named the house, was to be Miss Kemp's home for the rest of her life.

Miss Kemp was a strong supporter of Mt Evelyn Presbyterian Church. A Bible she presented to Harold Morrison 'as a mark of appreciation of his helpfulness with the newly-formed Sunday School' is still in the possession of Morrisons. Mrs Marian Adair remembered Miss Kemp as her Sunday



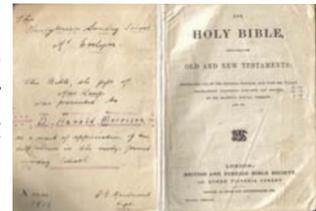
'Mountain View Estate', 1919 subdivision.



Above, Kevin Phillips' sketch plan of 'Longmoor Lodge' with the back verandah and front porch now enclosed. Below, inscription in the Bible, 'the gift of Miss Kemp', presented to Harold Morrison by the Sunday School.

School teacher. Miss Kemp appears in the church photo as a tall, severe looking but well preserved woman in her seventies.

Alice Kemp remained at Mt Evelyn until two months before her death. She died at Ericstane Private Hospital, Surrey Hills,



on 6 October 1939, aged 81, and was buried in Box Hill Cemetery. Two tributes appeared under 'Family Notices' in *The Argus*.

KEMP.- On the 6th October, at Surrey Hills, Alice Emily Kemp, of Mount Evelyn, loved daughter of the late Phillip and Charlotte Kemp, loving sister of Ellen (Mrs. Stalker), also Charlotte (Mrs. Barrows), and Joseph (deceased). -Resting.

KEMP. —A loving tribute to the memory of Miss. A.E. Kemp (of Mt Evelyn), who passed away 6th October, 1939. (Deeply and deservedly regretted by the Mt. Evelyn Presbyterian Church and Ladies Guild.)

Alice's deceased brother William was omitted from the family tribute. William had been dismissed from his position as a clerk in the Treasury in 1894. He fled to South Africa, was brought back to face charges of misappropriating public funds and served four years in gaol. Whatever distress his conviction caused his family, they did not disown him. He had been residing with his mother and his sister Alice up to his death in 1904.

In 1976 Fern Avenue was renamed 'Kemp Avenue' in Miss Alice Kemp's honour. Kevin Phillips, who bought the property in 1978, demolished 'Longmoor Lodge' in 1992.

See p.5 for list of sources. **Karen Phillips**

Dallying with *Diprotodon* in South Australia

We took a much needed holiday in South Australia in September. Navigating from a 1978 Road Atlas, we often had only the vaguest idea where we were but we did manage to get ourselves as far as Burra.

Copper was discovered near the Burra Burra Creek in 1845. The heritage listed site has a remarkable assemblage of stone buildings and mining infrastructure from the 'Monster Mine', the largest in Australia. Copper production ceased in 1877. 'Burra' is a collective name adopted in 1940 for a number of local townships founded between 1846 and 1875, while the mine was in operation. The area gave its name to the 1979 Burra Charter, which defines the principles and procedures for the conservation of Australian heritage places.

A site with a different kind of mining connection is 'Chinaman's Well' in the Coorong. The round stone well was built to supply Chinese gold seekers travelling overland from South Australian ports to the Victorian goldfields in the 1850s. Stone 'quarry' sites can still be seen nearby.



Another highlight was the Naracoorte Caves

World Heritage site. Fossil remains in the caves provide an extensive record of the megafauna (extinct giant marsupials, birds and reptiles). A five metre python, *Wonambi naracoortensis*, was described from a specimen found in the caves. *Wonambi* was the Pitjantjatjara name for the Rainbow Serpent.

The dominant eucalypt species over much of the southeast of SA is the majestic Redgum *E. camaldulensis*. Many grand old trees show signs of Aboriginal use, either from canoe scars or

burning. Huge gums were hollowed out by fire to create shelters on the side away from the prevailing winds. Some are thought to be at least 800 years old.

Karen Phillips. Photos Kevin Phillips.



Photos, clockwise from top right: copper mining relics at Burra; canoe tree at Currency Creek in Ngarrindjeri country; reconstructed skeleton of marsupial lion *Thylacoleo carnifex*, Naracoorte Caves; statue of the giant marsupial *Diprotodon optatum*; Chinaman's Well, Coorong National Park; well capping stone left in quarry site because it cracked.

Sources of language

Indigenous languages

Some of the earliest word lists of Australian Indigenous languages have been discovered in the basement of the Library of NSW. Dating back to the early 1800s, the lists were recorded by explorers and settlers making first contact with the Aborigines in their respective districts.

The documents include information on the Eora language of Sydney, Nungar of the Perth area and languages from Arnhem Land, Central Australia and the Peel River, NSW. Linguists hope that the finds will aid in the preservation of spoken Aboriginal languages.

ABC, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-08-26/early-indigenous-language-documents-uneearthed-at-nsw-library/4912960>

Words 15,000 years old

A group of linguists from the University of Reading's School of Biological Sciences has discovered a core group of 23 words that may be as much as 15,000 years old.

They believe the words belonged to an ancestral proto-Eurasian language that gave rise to most European and Asian languages.

The 23 ancient words are: thou, I, not, that, we, to give, who, this, what, man/male, ye, old, mother, to hear, hand, fire, to pull, black, to flow, bark, ashes, to spit, worm. Similar words are common to seven modern language groups spread across Europe and Asia.

The Age, <http://www.theage.com.au/technology/sci-tech/linguists-identify-words-that-have-changed-little-in-15000-years-20130507-2j506.html>

See also: <http://phys.org/news/2013-05-linguist-core-group-words-survived.html#jCp>

Dr Johnson's dictionary

Dr Samuel Johnson's monumental work *A Dictionary of the English Language* (1755) is now online: <http://johnsonsdictionaryonline.com/>

'So far have I been from any care to grace my pages with modern decorations, that I have studiously endeavoured to collect examples and authorities from the writers before the restoration,* whose works I regard as *the wells of English undefiled*, as the pure sources of genuine diction.' * restoration of the monarchy, 1660.

Lexicographer – a writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words.

Samuel Johnson, *A Dictionary of the English Language*

Insightful anagrams

Our 1875 book of household hints, *Enquire Within*, lists various word games as 'Evening Pastimes'. Under 'Anagrams' it gives the following examples:

Astronomers	No more stars
Catalogue	Got as a clue
Elegant	Neat leg
Immediately	I met my Delia
Masquerade	Queen as mad
Matrimony	Into my arms
Melodrama	Made moral
Midshipman	Mind his map
Old England	Golden land
Parishioners	I hire parsons
Parliament	Partial men
Penitentiary	Nay I repent
Radical reform	Rare mad frolic
Revolution	To love ruin
Sweetheart	There we sat
Telegraphs	Great helps

Enquire Within MDCCCLXXV, No. 48

Cave Hill

Jean Edwards has been appointed to the Cave Hill Consultative Committee and attended its first meeting on 25 September. Council has insisted on a Structure Plan for the entire site with net benefit to the Lilydale and Yarra Ranges community before any development can go ahead. Sibelco has put out a 'Plan Cave Hill' Phase 1, summarising input from the community. Under 'next steps' it states,

Sibelco Australia will engage with the Lilydale and District Historical Society and the Mt Evelyn History Group to identify uses for heritage buildings within the quarry site In developing the plan, Sibelco Australia will work closely with the historical groups throughout the planning and development process to develop interpretive materials to share the history of the quarry.

Things Past archived online

Webmaster Joy Carrick has archived *Things Past* numbers 1-65 online at: <http://www.mt-evelyn.net/thingspast> The back issues can also be accessed from a link under the recent *Things Past* links on the History Group page. There is no search facility on the website but there will be a list of topics to browse. Otherwise, googling your topic + "Things Past" should bring up the references. Thanks to Joy for setting up the archive and running the website for us.

Matlock Police in Mt Evelyn

Many thanks to 'Chris', who passed on a copy of 'The Wheeler Dealer' to the History Group. This is an episode of the television series *Matlock Police* (Crawford Productions), shot in part in the main street of Mt Evelyn in 1972. The episode opens in Wray Crescent (then Railway Crescent) looking towards York Road from the approximate site of the Station House car park. Buildings such as the old Melba Op-Shop on the corner of Station Street and Wray Crescent, and the National Bank (now the Mt Evelyn Charcoal Chicken) are immediately identifiable. A later shot of the same scene shows Top of the Town at the extreme end of the shot.

The next scene is shot from just east of the Illawarra Flame Tree (clearly visible above a paling fence, whether real or a prop I can't tell) and looks towards the old toilet block and the St John building, scanning down past the Station Master's house, which is a private residence with fence. This area, with the car parking along that side of the road and the Avenue of Honour, form the background for several of the town shots. Locals can be seen lined up enjoying the filming.

The episode is wonderful to watch for the clothes, cars and language, but especially for the Mt Evelyn main street scenes! The cover note says, 'Surviving examples are difficult to find and these rare episodes are from private collections. Due to the rarity and age, picture quality is less than perfect.' **Paula Herlihy** <http://www.tv.com/shows/matlock-police/http://> & www.classicaustraliantv.com/mpeps51-100.htm

On location in Mt Evelyn

Apart from the *Matlock Police* episode, two other shows had scenes shot in Mt Evelyn.

Part of the 2005 film *The Sticks* was shot at the Blue Wren Service Station in Hereford Road (now demolished). Paula and Tim Herlihy and Fabienne Smith appeared in minor roles. Mt Evelyn's Marcus Schutenko was producer, writer and director.

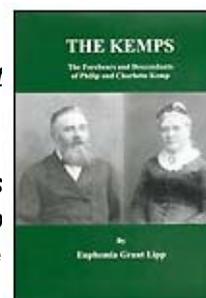
Scenes from the 2008 telemovie *Valentine's Day* were filmed at the Mt Evelyn Reserve oval and beside Lillydale Lake, with locals acting as extras.

Paula also appeared in a 2009 episode of the genealogy series *Who do you think you are?* featuring musician John Butler.

Miss Kemp: sources

The Argus
Herlihy, Paula 1996, *Street Names of Mt Evelyn*.
Lipp, Euphemia Grant 2003, *The Kemps: The Forebears and Descendants of Philip and Charlotte Kemp*, The Author, Canberra.

Land title deeds researched by Sue Thompson
Shire of Lillydale Rate Books
Personal recollections: Marian Adair, Alf Knowles, Kevin Phillips.



Reaburn sells up

The following sale advertisement for James Reaburn's farm equipment was forwarded to us by Marilyn Watson, who received it from Sue Thompson.

THURSDAY, JULY 12.

MOOROOLBARK, near Lilydale.

Clearing sale of Cattle, Horses, Drays,
Farming Implements, Household
Furniture and Sundries.

CAMPBELL and SONS (late Campbell, Pratt and Co.) are instructed by Mr. James Raeburn, Mooroolbark, to sell by auction at his farm, situate at corner of the Three-Chain and South Wandin roads, on Thursday, 12th July, at 12 o'clock,

The whole of his Cattle, Horses, Farming Implements, Household Furniture, &c.,

Comprising –

11 head 1, 2, and 3-year-old heifers, 5 medium draught horses, thoroughly staunch, 2 wood drays, 1 spring cart, 3 sets dray harness, 2 sets leading harness, 1 set spring cart harness, saddles, bridles, ploughs, scarifiers, grubbing machine, grindstone, about 8 tons hay, 2 bags grass seed, 2 tons potatoes,

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

And a quantity of sundries.

The whole for Positive Sale on account of Mr. Reaburn having sold his property.

Lilydale Express 4 July 1888, p.3

Daniel Morrison subdivided Lot 9 of Reaburn's land. Miss Kemp bought Lot 5 of Morrison's subdivision, so her house 'Longmore Lodge' belongs in the Reaburn 'family tree' of houses. See our display on Researching Your House. For interesting articles on objects hidden in old houses, see: <http://www.apotropaios.co.uk/> especially June Swann's article 'Concealed shoes in buildings'; <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-16801512> and *Trust News*, Aug 2009 & Aug 2013.

Avenues of Honour

Anthony McAleer gave us a fascinating insight into the Avenues of Honour in the former Shire of Lillydale at his recent talk.

Avenues in honour of World War I servicemen were especially popular in Victoria. Ballarat's magnificent Avenue of 4,000 trees (begun 1917) inspired others. These 'living memorials' also served as recruiting tools. In Lillydale Shire there was already a tradition of public tree planting on Arbor Day. Avenues were planted in Mt Evelyn, Coldstream, Wandin, Seville and Monbulk. Local schools also planted trees in memory of pupils who served. Mt Evelyn's Avenue of Honour was the first in the Shire, begun in 1918 before the war was over. Two rows of eucalypts were planted along what is now Wray Crescent. There were 37 trees in all, honouring 19 men from Mt Evelyn and 18 from Silvan. Tree guards and individual plaques were attached later. Only two of the plaques are known to have survived when the Avenue was cut down in the 1980s. Anthony is following up rumours of a third.

There had been complaints of the trees dropping banches onto cars. The Chamber of Commerce was eyeing the service road for parking. The Shire and RSL agreed that the trees should go. Lack of public consultation, and the sneaky way the destruction was carried out, angered many residents. A plaque placed by the Shire on the Avenue site has now been relocated to the Memorial Garden.

Of the 132 Avenues of Honour planted in Victoria, only 56 survived by the 1980s. There are even fewer today, none in original condition. To mark the Centenary of WWI, the RSL and the History Group plan to recreate or commemorate the Avenue of Honour. There will be a plaque describing the original Avenue and listing the names, as well as individual plaques.* One plan is for the plaques to be attached to the existing eucalypts around the Memorial Garden. Other ideas are to plant new trees or to attach the plaques to bollards.

One suggestion from a recent METIC meeting was to plant fruit trees. *Things Past* would like to suggest a grove of olive trees. They can live to a great age but wouldn't grow too big for the site. The olive branch is a symbol of peace. Further suggestions welcome.

* All the names have now been identified. Joan Vanderhorn has traced the last ones through some inspired research.

From Kev's rain gauge

This monster mushroom, below, was found growing at our place in Hereford Road on 4 October, following a month of above average rainfall. We identified it as *Phlebopus marginatus* (Salmon gum mushroom, formerly called *Phaeogyroporus portentosus*). The cap measured 30cm. They can grow much bigger, to more than a metre in diameter.



They look like giant Slippery Jacks (*Suillus granulatus*, a northern hemisphere fungus) but are native to Australia. *Phlebopus marginatus* has been called a 'Gondwanan fungus' because its distribution reflects the ancient southern continent. The fungus is found in New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka as well as Australia. Related species are native to South America. See: http://www.blueswami.com/phlebopus_marginatus.html

Rainfall for September 2013 for Mt Evelyn, McKillop, Melbourne and Melbourne average.*

Mt Ev	McK	Melb	Melb Av
81.5mm	105.75mm	83.6mm	58.0mm

* Mt Evelyn figure estimated. McKillop reading courtesy Jean Edwards. Melbourne figures Bureau of Meteorology.

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Kevin Phillips

