



Things Past

Newsletter 134

August 2024

Wurundjeri Country

PO Box 289 Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Incorporation Number A0051327F

Dates for Your Diary

AGM and General Business Meeting, Monday 19 August, 7:30 pm, at Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Road, Mt Evelyn.

Activity, Saturday 21 September, 1:00 pm, at Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Road, Mt Evelyn. Janice Newton will speak on the history of the Recreation Camp at the Rec Reserve.

Meetings are 3rd Mondays of even months, 7:30 pm at Hardy House for General Business Meetings, and speaker and activity times are on alternate months at times by arrangement - please check your email inbox.

Local Bricks

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A Glen Iris brick photographed at the Maroondah Golf Park mini golf in Chirnside Park. Photo by Paula Herlihy

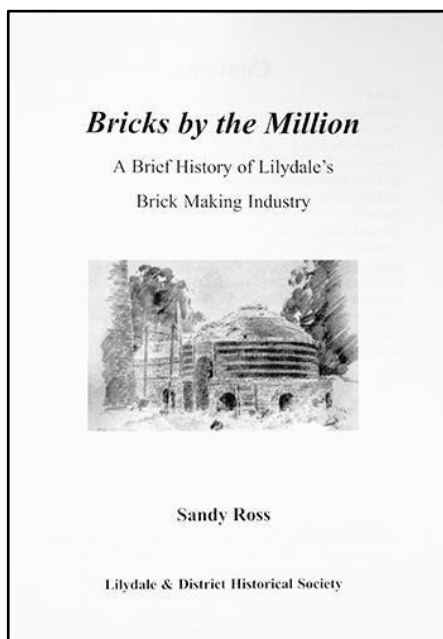
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Local Bricks

The Glen Iris brick shown on page one, instead of being cemented face down, has been laid to show the Olympic rings and the date (1956).¹

Montrose Town Centre has an interesting display from the brickworks of Montrose in a case at reception. Montrose also boasts the Montrose Brickworks Flora Reserve at 320 Cambridge Road. The Lilydale & District Historical Society (L&DHS) publishes *Bricks by the Million: A Brief History of Lilydale's Brick Making Industry*, by past president

Sandy Ross, 1995, ISBN 0 947261 10 9. Their website says: 'Lilydale boasted several clay pits which produced bricks and pipes for local and Melbourne buildings and projects.'



The *Mooroolbark and Lilydale – Heritage and Local History Fact Sheet* from the Big Build information page² notes that final designs for the new Lilydale train station were amended to acknowledge Lilydale's link to red bricks.

Following input from the Lilydale Stakeholder Liaison Group members, which included L&DHS's then president Sue Thompson, 'some of the distinctive red bricks from the John Street bridge will be used to create seating near the existing Lilydale Station building.'

Paula Herlihy

You Know You're Part of History When ... no-one else remembers the hot water bottle routines

As a child in the early 1950s, I often stayed with my grandmother (Nana) and aunt Ruth (Aroo) in West Preston, at a time when they did not have a hot water service. The open fire in the dining room at West Preston was always alight during cold weather, with many hot water kettles on the hob. Part of the nightly ritual was to fill the hot water bottles to warm up the beds. There could be three bottles or more per bed if there was enough water. Each bottle had several covers, some knitted or crocheted specially for the purpose, and others made out of old jumpers and other woollen material sewn together roughly. Old knitted jumpers would be unpulled and the wool reused for projects such as hot water bottle covers. The new covers were just put on over the top of the old ones. I can remember counting around five to seven covers on each bottle. Many were in tatters. There was always an inspection to check for leaks, so a perished bottle could be replaced, and tattered covers were discarded with their bottles. The goal was to keep the bottles warm until you woke in the morning when the hot water from the bottles was used to 'top and tail', ie wash your face and rear end. There was no bath and no shower.

The water smelt strongly of rubber and I hated it used on my face. I missed the hot tap water from home. Nana and Aroo had lived for many years on a farm with no electricity, and took this self sufficiency for granted. They grew fruits and vegetables and preserved their fruit in beautifully arranged Fowlers jars. They bought in bulk, and kept a large crock of sugar on the floor of the pantry.

But now when I fill a hot water bottle and smell the rubber, I am carried back to the happy days visiting Nana 'n Aroo as a child. It is very comforting to have such memories.

My father put an electric hot water service in for them after a while!

Paula Herlihy.

¹ Hole 9 on the inside 'Lodge' course.

² <https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/library/level-crossing-removal-project/lilydale/manchester->

[marroondah/fact-sheets/manchester-road-and-marroondah-highway-heritage-and-local-history-fact-sheet](https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/library/level-crossing-removal-project/lilydale/manchester-marroondah/fact-sheets/manchester-road-and-marroondah-highway-heritage-and-local-history-fact-sheet)

A Camp of Olympians

In 1956 families gathered outside the petrol station or Bin's Café or at a small number of private homes to watch the Olympic Games on the first televisions in Australia. The lounge room of Barbara and Peter Millard in Glenview Road was packed with people watching Olympic competitors on a small television screen at one end of the room. Some were also lucky enough to view John Landy run through Montrose with the Olympic torch.



John Landy autographed image Racing Past

We were unaware, two years later, that 'a camp of Olympians' was held at our own National

Fitness Camp, Tramway Road, Mt Evelyn (now the Mt Evelyn Discovery Camp).



The National Fitness Camp in 1958. Photo Cate Jaede

In 1958, the students from the Diploma of Physical Education course at Melbourne University attended a study camp, with their lecturers, led by Lorna McConchie (1914-2001). Lorna McConchie played and coached Netball for Australia and went on to take a leading role in netball and basketball

administration. Other lecturers included Eunice Gill (1918-1987, Australian Sport Hall of Fame) and Bert Willee (later Director of Physical Education, University of Melbourne).¹

The two-year Diploma at Melbourne University had been available since 1939 but facilities were grossly inadequate until former Olympic swimmer and business man, Mr Frank Beaurepaire, gifted £156,000 towards an extensive Beaurepaire Sports Centre, opened in 1956. The cinder athletics track was also renovated and an athletics coach employed in the Olympics year. The cohort of Physical Education students and their lecturers immediately after this Olympics were to change the course and status of Physical Education in the State.²



PE students contemplating a cold pool, 1958. Photo Cate Jaede

The 1958 group of students included a number of young people who had competed in the Games including Nick Redos (hammer thrower), Dave Wion and Jock Fellows (gymnastics), Bob Grant (1934-2007 javelin) Margaret Woodlock (shot put) and Dave Boykett (1934-2016 rowing).

Bob Grant was born in Shepparton and schooled at Ouyen, Geelong College then Scotch College, where he taught from 1960-1986. He ranked 16th of 25 competitors in 1956 with a throw of 65.7 metres, 25 cm short of the finalist throw. In 2014 he was added to the Notables Gallery at Geelong College.

² 'Physical Education', library.unimelb.edu.au/asc/collections/archives/resources/researchguides.

¹ Alison Ross, Telephone Interview 12 Aug 2023.



Bob Grant, Australian Athletics Championships 1957.
Heritage Guide to Geelong College,
<https://gnet.tgc.vic.edu.au/wiki/Print.aspx?Page=GRANT-Robert-Bob-James-1934-2007>

David Boykett was part of the Bronze medal-winning Olympic Team after winning the King's Cup, as 'stroke' with Victoria. He went on to compete in the Commonwealth Games (1962) and Tokyo Olympics (1964) and taught at his old school, Scotch College for 34 years from 1963. He also successfully coached the school and Victorian teams and umpired for over 40 years. In 2010 he was inducted into Rowing Victoria Hall of Fame and was awarded the Order of Australian Medal in 2014.³

Camp extrovert, Alison Ross (nee Gribble), willing to take a plunge in the freezing pool, went on to take a major role in sports education and administration, obtaining a Masters at Oregon University, working in Sports and Recreation as a speech writer and assistant to the Minister, Brian Dixon and lecturing at Phillip Institute of Technology and Victoria University.⁴

After Cate Jaede graduated as a teacher, she brought a group of girls from Presbyterian Ladies College to the Mt Evelyn camp in 1964 to expose them to more diverse sports, such as golf and archery. Although private boys' schools of the time had access to such camps and such alternative sports, it was lacking at the private girls' schools.

³David Boykett' Wikipedia, 30 Dec 2023.

⁴ Telephone Interview with Cate Jaede, 7 August 2023.



Third from right with hands in pocket, Dave Boykett, Teacher Lorna McConchie, Jock Fallow (looking up), woman on diving board, Alison Gribble. Photo Cate Jaede



Jean Woodfull, Judy Emmett, Marg Bradshaw and Pam Boyer with lecture notes at the pre-examination study camp for Phys. Ed. Diploma students from Melbourne University, 1958. Jean was a member of the Methodist Ladies College staff in 1965. She had achieved awards at MLC in 1956. Photo Cate Jaede, names Alison Ross.

Physical Education experts had at least one more camp at Mt Evelyn. In 1959 the Australian PE Association (Vic) wrote to the NFC thanking them for a happy and successful camp, in spite of the weather. 'Mr Blockley and his staff saw that we were extremely comfortable during our stay', we 'learnt a great deal' and obtained 'professional refreshment'.⁵

Janice Newton

⁵ DYSR, File 50/1/7, code 34509, Box H71, 32324 Aug 1950.7F051.7, 10 Nov 1959.

Memories of a Scoutmaster

In February 1991 a group of Mt Evelyn residents commenced publishing a community newsletter entitled Mt Evelyn Community Rag (M.E.C.R.). One of the ideas developed for articles was to obtain details of Mt Evelyn's early history by interviewing older residents. The Shire of Lilydale Youth Worker developed the idea further by negotiating with the Mt Evelyn Secondary College for students to undertake the project. The Lilydale Museum Curator became involved at an advisory level and in June 1991 students gathered a list of topics they wanted to explore. The students were trained in interviewing skills and various people in the local community agreed to participate. ... The tapes are the beginning of an oral history collection at the Museum.¹

On 2 December 1952, the Mt Evelyn Scout Committee met in the new 18 x 20 foot hall built almost single-handedly by Cub Master Ted Varty. Ted's wife made special 'pack' curtains for the hall (a Cub group was called a Pack). At this meeting, the President, Mr A Patterson, presented Mr Ron Hester with a clock as a mark of their appreciation 'for interest and help given to the Scout movement'. In about June 1948, according to the Lilydale Express, Ron had begun the Scout movement in Mt Evelyn, 'Church parade being a special feature'. There had in fact been an earlier 1st Mt Evelyn Scout Group formed around 1928 and run at times by Wal Kenney and Ted Crichton until 1933, when Wal and Ted moved away.²

Failing health 'due to war injuries ... forced [Ron] to relinquish his job.'³ Almost 40 years later in September 1991, four months before he died on 10 January 1992, Ron Hester recorded his memories for the Lilydale Museum.⁴ Ronald Victor Alfred Hester was born in Footscray in 1910. He began work at the railways and did an engineering course, then married Vera Glanville in 1931.⁵ During the Second World War he joined the air force.

Ron's first memory for the Mt Evelyn oral history project was a (tall?) story about the Nightman picking up two shillings out of pan number 006. Other early memories related to Scout camps at Mt Evelyn. When he was about 11 (1921) he travelled to Lilydale on the train with the 1st Yarraville Scouts, then they walked to the Recreation Reserve by following the Olinda Creek and the old David Mitchell tram track [along York Road]. At this time there was no football oval, just bush at the Reserve. The Scouts

used to go up to the Baker's alongside the Police Station. He used to bake his own bread and we used to go there to get our bread ... in our Scout caps We spent a lot of time up there, watching him bake the bread and poking a bit of wood into the oven ... it was beautiful bread too.⁶

Ron discovered a secret fishing spot.

One of my camps up here at Mt Evelyn ... I was going for a badge, Bushman's badge or something. I had to stay out overnight and I had to make my own camp on my own and I had to scrounge for myself, what I could. I didn't have very much to eat so I wandered off ... just behind where the first Melbourne water supply was ... I walked up through the bush [and found a] big puddle of clear water. Of course I had a big fishing line in my pocket, cooked a nice couple of fish, they were blackfish. ... I lived in great style. Next morning, I packed up and worked my way back to camp.

Ron Hester moved permanently to Mt Evelyn in 1943, though he continued to work for the Air Force at the Camberwell base until 1945. He became involved with the Fire Brigade.

All we had were a few beaters, they're like a hessian sort of thing or canvas on the end of a pole. ... a few rakes, shovels and knapsacks ... you'd fill them up with water and carry them on

¹ Moya McFazdean. Interviewers included Ian Ross, Belinda Ford and Dana Rose.

² Wal Kenny interview 1991, Yarra Ranges Regional Museum.

³ *Lilydale Express* 19 Dec, 1952, 1. Wal Kenny interview 1991, Yarra Ranges Regional Museum.

⁴ Moya McFazdean transcribed a few parts of this recording and J. Newton listened to it in 1994-5. The

recording is still held by the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum and gives details about town identities and residents living along Birmingham Road.

⁵ <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/KWRP-QBB/ronald-victor-alfred-hester-1910-1992>.

⁶ The old bakery on York Road opposite the end of Wray Cres, Melway 120 B1.

your back ... with a pump on them to pump water to put the fires out.

Many of Ron's other memories related to waterways. There used to be a watercourse that took Olinda Creek water over to Cave Hill to give them a water supply.⁷

The line for the pipeline was on the north side of York Road and the top of the Mooroolbark side of Swansea Road. The old Channel or Aqueduct was piped underground down the hill then up again to the Olinda Reservoir on Edinburgh Road.⁸ There was a concrete part of the creek 20-30 yards long which was a swimming place. Ron would sit there fishing in the night – the barrel (pipeline?) would lift and a great barrelful of water would shoot out.⁹

Down the Falls Road track there was a two to three foot waterfall and a swimming hole called 'The Falls'. The kids used to go down there and swim in the creek. I think that is how Falls Road got its name.¹⁰

Before town supply water was connected in the 1960s most people used tanks. Those above the level of the Channel had to use tanks. Those along North Avenue ... below the Channel could get water through the syphon system from the Channel. Then the ... pipeline went in and the Channel ceased to flow. The first water supply was at the corner of Dawn Court and Hereford Road. There was a tank there on a stand and it was there a long, long, time until it got beyond the tank to supply the town with water. Then they went out on Old Gippsland and Old Hereford Roads on the corner there and put a great big steel thing ... the main water supply for Mt Evelyn.¹¹

Birmingham Road used to go right through Swansea Road and up the hill, with bridges to cross the creek.¹²

It was only a track cut through the bush and of course, those hills being so steep in those days, the horse and cart took the easy way and zigzagged

up the hill. ... It was a lot further but a lot easier to get to the top. It was a place a lot of people came to look at. In the fifties they built the road straight down.¹³

In 1949 Ron ran a social dance at the Mechanics Hall Mt Evelyn. In the 1950s he remained a keen and prizewinning fisherman with the Lilydale Anglers, catching the biggest fish or bag of fish (and sometimes rabbits and ducks) at spots such as Jerusalem Creek, Lake Eildon and the Murray River. At the Annual Smoke-night for the Anglers he sang with Chas. Driver to provide the entertainment.¹⁴

Janice Newton

Letter to the Editor

Doug Seymour and his wife were welcome visitors to the Woodlanders book launch. Doug was a school friend of Paula Herlihy and Janice Newton at Lilydale High School back in the 1960s. Doug writes:

'You might be interested in a [further] connection to Walden. In an era when families often named their home our parents named their Mooroolbark/Montrose property ... "Walden Wold". Walden of course is a nod to Dad's lifelong interest in Thoreau while Wold is the anglicised version of Wald or forest. The family plot was forested. (Wold had different meanings in historical Britain, used to describe elevated hill country.) My own family visited Walden Pond while catching up with American cousins in Connecticut.'

Doug's parents, Maurie and Patricia Seymour, built their home "Walden Wold" after the War on what was originally a 30 acre property located at 202 Cardigan Rd Mooroolbark, opposite what is now the main entrance to Billanook College. A new house has been built on the remaining five acres. Maurie was a long-serving councillor on the Shire of Lilydale including two terms as President.

⁷ David Mitchel's diversion weir and water race beside Bellbird Drive, Melway 38 G8. The weir was much damaged by fallen trees from the storms in 2021.

⁸ Melway 52 F1

⁹ The spot seems to be where the pipeline crossed under Olinda Creek, Melway 38 G12.

¹⁰ The Horseshoe Falls in Quinn Reserve, Melway 52 J2.

¹¹ The old water tank on Hereford Road, Melway 188 B11, is now gone. The tank at Old Hereford/Old Gippsland Roads is still in use, Melway 118 B7.

¹² Birmingham and Hull Roads were continuous, Melway 38 H11.

¹³ The Zig Zag was in the steep section of Birmingham Road, Melway 38 J11.

¹⁴ *Lilydale Express* 25 Nov 1949, 2; 6 October 1950, 7; 3 August 1951, 1; 15 August 1952, 10 April 1953, 5.

A Letter from Jack Lundy-Clarke

Kieran Cox shares his memories of a visit and

letter from historian and author Jack Lundy-Clarke. My family has always loved the Dandenongs and surrounds' writes Kieran, 'and school holidays at the guest houses for a week or two was not unusual. ... When I got my driver's licence at 18, I would frequently drive to all parts of the Dandenongs, culminating with me buying a block of land in Inverness Road Kalorama when aged about 22. Many a weekend was spent ridding [the block] of blackberries. ...

On my engagement to Rosemary in 1972, we discussed and agreed that it would be a great place to establish our home and we did, a Mt Evelyn builder, Hank Sturre, supervising matters. [Kieran was eventually able to buy the adjacent block on the corner of Inverness Road and Scenic Crescent, making about an acre in total.]

One day Rosemary and I were at the home when there was a knock on the door and on opening we were met by a man who asked if he could make enquiries as to our property and surrounds.

Jack Lundy-Clarke was his name! A delightful gentleman, and one so knowledgeable about the Dandenongs, its surrounds and our little piece of it. A couple of hours were spent, all of us thoroughly enjoying the chat. Shortly after, we received the enclosed material, which we found fascinating.'

Jack's letter is dated from 39 Burlock Avenue Bieg Wood, the August 1975. *Dear Kieran, the August 1975. In the work I am doing, inspires me to let you into the mysteries about you. Geologically, florally and humanly, your area is deeply interesting. ...*

If you examine the cut-bank of the main road to the north of you, between 'Telopea' and 'Grevillea'

(stop coming up the road and stay on the outside of the bend, you can see it all across the road), you will see a peculiar yellowish clay with marking creases in it.

Actually this is volcanic tuffs, a kind of ash. It is one of two seams of tuffs that run from where you are to at least Fern Tree Gully, along the steep face of the mountain range. The other seam is half way along the straight piece of road a couple of hundred yards below the landslide. You can see it also from the outside of the road.

Between these two seams is a wall of rock 900 feet thick that runs with the seams to Ferntree Gully and beyond.¹ The facts which I have just stated ... make the little knoll on which you have made your home of tremendous interest.

That it is one of the most fire-prone areas in the world is a fact you must surely know and which, just as surely, you must take into consideration in planning the layout of your garden.

The reason for this is of course the flora of the knoll. The forest about you has never been cleared 'in toto'.



John L-C taken at the 75th birthday celebration of Mt Dandenong Primary School in 1972. He is wearing a badge that identifies him with the Lilydale & District Historical Society. Photo supplied by Wendy Britt, Mt Dandenong & District Historical Society..

¹ The Kalorama Rhyodacite.

The messmate-stringybark forest has given the terminal knoll a character that is a distinctly different one to that of most of the Ranges, as for example, Sherbrooke. Yet to me it is just as beautiful, in a more austere way. The drier climate of the knoll is in part responsible for this, the drier soil, the sunnier aspect and, of course, the fires. Mountain Ash trees would not have withstood the fires that have swept over the knoll in my lifetime. The tougher bark of the messmates, stringies and gums take very little notice of the fires that are gone quickly from the exposed position. Little litter gathers under the trees on the knoll, a characteristic of the flora types. And this makes the fires quick and passing. ...

The road you face, Inverness, has one of the most romantic stories of any on the range.

I wish you all happiness and in some ways I envy you the beauties of your surroundings.

John Lundy-Clarke (signed 'Jack Clarke').

Born in Christchurch on 12 November 1901, Jack Lundy-Clarke grew up in the Kalorama/ Mt Dandenong area. He was the author of several books, including *Mountain of Struggle, Tales from the Dandenongs, The Dandenong Volcano and Settlement in its Great Forest* and an autobiography, *My Delayed Inspiration*.

He also wrote ballads about events and characters of the Dandenongs, two of which he included with his letter to Kieran, 'The Bright Yellow Mane' and 'Bold Isaac the Splitter'. Together they tell the story of settlement on Mt Kalorama.

Jack died on 25 February 1993, aged 91. He was buried in Lilydale Lawn Cemetery.

Two of my fans have requested articles on our recent travels, so I hereby inflict them on all our readers!

Paula and Tim in Aotearoa

We visit New Zealand (Aotearoa) regularly, as it is an easy and rewarding place to visit (except for the ferocious sand flies). This time we based

ourselves for a week in Wanaka in the South Island, home of Cinema Paradiso with its loungeroom suites and aeroplane seats for seating, augmented by a yellow Morris Minor (yes, in the cinema!).



I tried archery for the first time, and it is harder than it looks in the movies.

A highlight after we left Wanaka was my 'carving' a 'jade' axe head in a class in Hokitika. The hard cutting is done on a machine, but the final grinding and polishing is done by hand, to bring the colour out. Someone else did the linen thonging.



One B&B we stayed at was owned by Den Perrin, who was pleased to hear we were from Mt Evelyn as he is related to the Perrin who was the first Postmaster in Lilydale. Made me wonder if there was any connection to Perrins Creek Road and Reserve in the Kallista area. He had cuttings from the *Lilydale Express* talking about Lilydale's first Postmaster!

Paula and Tim in Samoa

We went to Samoa to help celebrate the 50th birthday of Marcus Schutenko, who grew up in Mt Evelyn and went to Birmingham Primary School, where his mother taught. Marcus's mother Reba helped establish Morrison House, co-founded the Lilydale Toy Library with Jean Blencowe and was President of the Mt Evelyn Environment Protection and Progress Association (MEEPPA).



The photo shows Marcus, his wife Andrea and three children (L-R) Daphne, Rachel and Anthony.

Marcus shared his itinerary, and twenty well-wishers arranged their visit around his activities, which included climbing a volcano in a car on his birthday!

We landed at the Apia international airport on the most densely populated island of Upolu, and after a few days took the ferry to Savai'i, where we alternated between joining with the others (we climbed the volcano by car) or doing our own thing. After five days we returned to Upolu by ferry and finished off our sightseeing there, often joining with the others.

Samoa was great but hot and humid for people arriving from Australia and New Zealand. Tim described it as 'plunging to a shocking 28 degrees at night and returning to 32 during the day'. Heatstroke is a problem for me from childhood, so I was prepared with hats, long sleeved shirts and hydrolyte tablets.

A very nice culture, and we would both be happy to visit again. We stayed mainly in places with air conditioning, but accidentally booked into a beach *fale* (house) for several days on Savai'i – open to the sea at our doorstep, and including mosquito netting and a fan. The ensuite had a shower with a lava floor. We managed to get into a villa with aircon one night as we were struggling with the heat.



There are lots of churches in Samoa – BIG churches. Almost everything shuts/stops on Sunday. Not only the buses have religious messages but many private cars had big messages on their windscreens, some secular, some remembering family members who had died, and still others general religious messages.

The traffic is slow – about 35mph (56 kph) maximum. VERY BIG speed humps on the main roads every few hundred metres or so, and always at schools, ensured that not many were tempted to speed. There are few roads in any case, and lots of people just walk, walk, walk, so it is essential that the traffic is slow. People take priority over cars except in the city of Apia. This is also good news for the pigs and others using the roads.

Samoans were in general positive, happy and welcoming – lots of waving and greeting. 'Cultural Shows' were the norm in the evening at most of the places we stayed, but after a while I realised they verged on busking. Different groups (distinguished by their stage clothes and accessories) sang and danced in Samoan style, which includes a lot of 'call and response' type

structures, including teaching us some responses and welcoming us to dance. A box or bucket was put out the front for donations (so it is likely they weren't paid by the venue except at the very expensive resorts and hotels or the Cultural Centre run by the government).

One we enjoyed a lot was a class from a local (Catholic) secondary school, with five of their teachers playing instruments like guitar and drums and leading the singing by calling out (older males or females did the calling out and organising in general). There was often a line of patter and activity like kava drinking or jokes. We asked about the class and were told it was a formal part of their studies. They learnt some traditional songs and dances but were encouraged to write their own songs and dances to perform. They were also encouraged to introduce themselves, practice English and sit around for photos.

Another performance we enjoyed was the guide at the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum who finished by singing (a capella) one of RLS's poems set to music.



At the Cultural Centre we were taught to make a plate woven from coconut

palm fronds, and one could see how the throwaway baskets and other items are easily

made in the same way. The fronds are stripped from the central rib intact so the 'warp' is still all connected, and the 'weft' is also another connected section. The two sets of connected ribs make two edges of the plate when the fronds are woven together, and the plate is finished by tying the excess fronds in a knot.

Baskets are made by forming half a single palm frond rib in a circle and weaving the fronds one forward one back and finishing again with a knot. They were used to



gather garden refuse as this one is, or to put the rubbish out for collection as an alternative to plastic bags (also used, sadly).

We also attended a highly amusing session at the Cultural Centre on Samoan foods and cooking, including husking a coconut and extracting coconut cream (yum!). Traditionally men do the cooking as it is heavy work. The man leading this session had the audience and his fellow staff in stitches as he insisted that the cooking be done in style, posing and 'looking sexy', as this was the 'Samoan way'! At back right (below) you can see his antics are amusing his laughing helper. The disposable palm frond baskets are on the top of the fire pit; the fish and taro dip is cooked in the pit for as long as it takes to make two baskets.



Tattoos are de rigueur.

And finally, the lava. Both islands appear to be lava, overlaid with dense jungle, with volcanoes in the centre, and a coral reef creating calm lagoons

at the land's edge. Village groups live around the coastline and we were staying near a village on Savai'i which was encroached upon by lava nearly

100 years ago. Most of the coastline on both islands is steep lava cliffs into the sea! We did visit the (uncommon) lovely sandy beach you see in the tourist advertising!



The lava which reached a village.

We bid goodbye to Apia just as an outbreak of dengue fever was being posted, but since we had

spent the two weeks drenched in sun block and tropical strength Aerogard, we could be pretty certain we were OK (dengue fever is transmitted

by mosquitoes). The locals were organising community cleanups of their communal lands.



Tim checking out the blowholes at the edge of a lava cliff into the sea. There is a red line painted on the lava it is suggested you do not cross!

Paula Herlihy

Employees Associated with the David Mitchell Cave Hill Estate²³ A — C

Cave Hill did not keep employee records, though probably David Mitchell (DM) Pty Ltd did keep limited records. The following gives a list of people known to be employed by the Mitchell family from various sources, including *A Child of Cave Hill* [1], *A Diva's Day Out* [2], *Tracks to Trails (2nd Ed)* [3], *The Longest Journey* [4], *Mary Golds* [5], *Franc & Leonie Smith* [6], *No Tombstones Vol. 1* [7] and the *Lilydale Express* (LE) per Sue Thompson. Many are from Mt Evelyn. The Cave Hill Social Club is described in TP#130, per *Mary Golds* nee *Miutescu*. SUT = Swinburne University of Technology; YRRM = Yarra Ranges Regional Museum; MDDHS = Mt Dandenong and District Historical Society.

Name	Comments	Date(s) & source
	Herdsman brought out with Holstein cattle (before 1888) [1]	
	Swiss soap maker [4]	
	Fatality	LE Sept 9 & Sept 16 1904
	75 men employed at Cave Hill	1891
Ah Ping, James	Cook [1]	1907
Austin, Francis Patrick (Frank)	David Mitchell Estate veteran: 31 years' service, 69 in 1965	LE Aug 5 1965
Barner, F	Member Cave Hill Social Club	1965, 1966
Barnes, Maury	Congratulations on building their own homes	LE July 28 1950
Beavis, Bill	[1] Also went to Akarana with the Mitchells	c.1910 – 1945
Binsmead, Arthur	[5]	c. 1959 – 1972
Binstead, Arthur G	David Mitchell Estate veteran: 31 years' service, 56 in 1965	LE Aug 5 1965
Bishop, Francis	Killed by a fall of stone at Cave Hill on Oct 6 1938	LE 1938
Black, Joseph (Joe)	David Mitchell Estate veteran: 31 years' service, 58 in 1965	LE Aug 5 1965

²³ (Abridged) List compiled by Paula Herlihy

Black, Kevin	[5] Probably son of Joe, worked as a fitter and turner. TP#131	c. 1959 – 1972
Black, Joe	A powder monkey. (TP#131) Lost both hands	Jan 28 1945
Boyd, Arthur	TP#130. Drove a truck	Peter Wilson
Briars, Harry	Looked after the Clydesdales at Cave Hill (Merv Wenker)	
Briggs, Jack	Carted from Cave Hill	c. 1959 – 1972
Brown, Asia	Put William Wenker off because his pay rose in 1922	1918, 1922
Brown, Don	Congratulations on building their own homes	LE July 28 1950
Bruce-Smith, David	Manager [5]	c. 1972
Cameron, Ned	Fireman on the loco after Merv Wenker. Also [1]	1923
Chandler, Tommy	Slaughterman at Cave Hill [1]	
Chubb, Bill	Loading holes for shots at Cave Hill	LE July 28 1950
Clark, Jim	Member Cave Hill Social Club	LE Dec 23 1965,1966
Clark, John	Secretary 1966, Member Cave Hill Social Club.	LE Dec 23,1965, 1966
Clarke, F R (Mr)	City Office staff, 41 years	LE 1965
Clutterbuck, Alfred	Went to sleep on railway lines – pushed off by cow catcher	LE May 5 1893
Cook, Alan	Returned to work after minor injuries	LE July 28 1950

From Kev's Rain Gauge				
Rainfall (in mm) for Mt Evelyn, McKillop, and Melbourne for the last 3 months.				
	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	YTD
Mt Evelyn	38.3	54.2	217.2	651.9
McKillop	42.9	62.2	264.9	723.1
Melbourne	24.4	20.2	72.6	358.4
McKillop readings courtesy Jean Edwards. Melbourne figures from Bureau of Meteorology: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/ Kevin Phillips				

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