

The Fitzroy History Society Inc. Newsletter

October 2000

September activity

Those who attended our September activity had twice the usual enjoyment, for our program boasted two guest speakers.

Our first speaker was Lina Favrin, Fitzroy Library's Information Officer who explained what's in the Local History Collection and how to use it. Included in the collection are maps, scrapbooks, journals, directories, newspapers, 2,000 photos, and a CD-ROM of births, deaths and marriages. Lina showed a sample of the offerings which included Edition 1 Volume 1 of The Age newspaper with John Pascoe Fawkner's signature across the top. We spent some time fossicking about the shelves, searching the map drawer, and marvelling at the collection of photographs. In fact, it was difficult to draw people away to begin our next session.

Society and Committee member Michael Moore presented his research on Greeves Street. This was a fascinating journey from the 1850s to the present day, detailing how the land was divided up from the original Lot 71 which stretched from Johnston Street to Alexandra Parade. Michael has spent months poring over architectural drawings, Board of Works maps, and directories to bring to life the story of a street in Fitzroy.

He showed us how he has meticulously catalogued each house so he can trace its history from the first occupant to today's owner. Patterns of development and stories of families have emerged, making this work an important contribution to the social history of our suburb.

Michael enlivened his talk with snippets of tales such as when aviator Bert Hinkler called in to take a resident on a joy flight and when the Travellers Rest Hotel on Nicholson Street staged the Hotel Games over what is now Greeves Street. It was great to see so many Greeves Street residents at the meeting, hopefully inspired to undertake some research of their own.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Louise Elliot made a plea for interested people to join the Friends of the Library Group and to rally around the cause for the protection of the Town Hall which is now in danger of being sold. You can contact Louise on 9419 1480 (home) or 9349 0741 (work).

Useful websites

Thanks to member Michael Moore for the following information:

AAustralian Heritage Commission, and then search on the Register of the National Estate www.ahc.gov.au

National Trust (Vic)
<http://dargo.vicnet.net.au/natrust/search.cfm>

Heritage Victoria
<http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/> and then search the Victorian Heritage Register

National Library of Australia - on line images
<http://www.nla.gov.au/servlet/imagesearch>

State Library of Victoria - on line images
<http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/> and then search the Multimedia collection

Public Record Office, Victoria for on-line immigration shipping lists
<http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/welcome.htm>

Church of Latter Day Saints on line family tree info
<http://www.familysearch.org/Browse/BrowseServices.asp>

National Archives of Australia
www.naa.gov.au and then locate the letter that your grandfather wrote to Prime Minister, Billy Hughes.

Two conference notices

▪ *Genealogical Open Day*

On Saturday 21 October, 2000, the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies is running a family history open day. It's at the World Vision Conference Centre, 1 Vision Drive Burwood from 10.00am to 4.00 pm. Call 9877 3789.

▪ *Victorian State Family History Conference*

An early notice of what sounds like a stimulating two days (28 and 29 April 2001) to be held in Albury. Contact PO Box 289 Wodonga VIC 3689, email: nokey@albury.net.au or check out the website:

homepages.rootsweb.com/~surreal/AVNE

Thanks and Welcome

'Thank you' to everyone who has recently renewed their membership or joined as new members.

Brunswick Street heritage nomination

Brunswick Street has been officially nominated for classification by the National Trust to be placed on its historic register. Currently, the Trust is conducting a site survey and will report its findings in October. The full council must then ratify the nomination. One of the street's major areas of significance is its social significance. Information from our Social Justice Walk last year will contribute to the nomination. If anyone has any other information about specific buildings, sites or events in Brunswick Street, please call Dr Celestina Sagazio at the National Trust on 9654 4711 or Jill Robertson on 9419 8868 or write to the Society at PO Box 180 Fitzroy.

Advertising, 1905-style

Mr A.C. Bowman of 77 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy carries one of the largest and most brilliant displays of jewellery in any of the northern suburbs.

The quality of its goods entailed can never be doubted and as all articles are under direct supervision, customers are assured of getting a first class article at a moderate cost.

Today, 77 Brunswick Street is part of the North Yarra Community Health Centre.

Calling the Morath family!

We have had a letter from Jack Morath in Surrey, England who is researching his family. An Albert Arthur Morath died in 1957 in Fitzroy and Jack is keen to know if there are any descendants. Please contact the Society and I will forward any information.

Executive Committee —1998-1999

Convenor: John Senyard
Treasurer: Harold Mackrell
Secretary: Shared role
Publicity: Margaret Lee
Editor: Jill Robertson (9419 8868)



**Join us for an entertaining
(and instructional) evening!**



Wednesday 18 October 2000

Photographer, travel writer, jazz lover and Fitzroy habitué, Steve Robertson,
presents an evening to stir the senses.

We'll start off with a show of slides to test your keen eyes

**1 Competition: How well do you know Fitzroy?
(Prizes for winners!)**

Then Steve will explain the do's and don'ts of taking photos of historical
buildings and sites using lots of Fitzroy examples.

2 Taking photographs in an historic area

Finally, Steve will share his love of Fitzroy through photographs.

3 Impressions of Fitzroy: a slide presentation

Bring along any of your own photographs you would like Steve to look at for
advice and suggestions.

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Meeting Room 1, Fitzroy Library, Moor Street

(Please note that no-one can be admitted after 8 pm because
the library itself will then be locked)

Members \$2

Non-members \$3