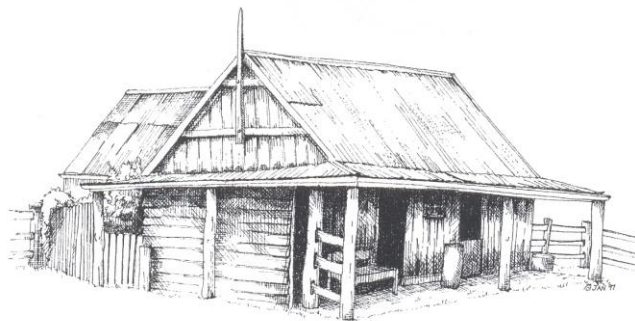


# FRIENDS AND RELATIONS OF GULF STATION AUGUST 2018



## Diary Dates (except if a Total Fire Ban for *Central District*)

### Open Day Saturday 13 October, 10am-4pm

Come to help, come to visit, tell your friends. Details on page 3.

### La Trobe Society talks at Mueller Hall, Melbourne

Details on page 10.

Second Sundays, 2.30 pm

12 August

9 September (topic: *Gulf Station*)

### Tetlow Talk 14 October

Details on page 10.

Yarra Glen and District Historical Society

### BBQ 30 January - can we help?

See next column.

### David Clark 180th anniversary 2019

27 October 2019. Details on page 10.

### Thursday Work

Newcomers welcome, all skill levels,  
gardening, general maintenance etc.  
Also visitor reception.

### Newsletter arrangements

Emailed to those with email.

Volunteers' copies available for collection  
at Gulf Station.

No subscription.

Newsletter **contributions** always welcome.

### Newsletter print size

Irene has reduced the font size to fit more  
into this issue while trying (unsuccessfully)  
to keep it to four sheets of paper. Is the  
print too small to read? Feedback welcome.

## Report from Work Group

Although winter has slowed down some aspects of Gulf Station life, others continue as the months whizz past.

A change for our Clydesdales is that **Hannah** found her main employment wasn't leaving the time she wanted for our horses so **Bri Anderson** has taken over, quickly earning the horses' trust; it's a pleasure to watch her caring for them. Bri was able to meet most of the volunteers at **Stan's** party although she'd already met volunteer **Barry**, a police officer in his day job - Barry drove past on a day when volunteers are not normally at Gulf Station and came to investigate. Thank you Barry for keeping an eye on the place!

During the school holidays, **Peter's** grandson **Chris** joined the maintenance team where his efforts were much appreciated - we hope he comes again.

The various reports on work in the newsletter give only a summary. Then there are the off-site activities which include managing the petty cash and verifying accounts, both involving liaison with Trust officers.

On behalf of the Work Group, I attend the Trust's quarterly meetings of site managers. This quarter the meeting was at Polly Woodside and I passed on relevant news at the Gulf Station Volunteers' Meeting on 28 June; minutes of our meeting were emailed to volunteers.

On 30 January, the Yarra Glen and District Historical Society will run a Bunnings BBQ and has suggested Gulf Station sizzlers might help in return for a share of profits. Let me or **Kevin Heeley** know if you might be able to help.

If you wish to make a donation towards Gulf Station, you have the option of donating to the National Trust of Victoria Foundation (Gulf Station account) or to fund Gulf Station's immediate needs. If you need more information about the Foundation, contact the Trust, ask Irene to send you a brochure or see:

[www.nationaltrust.org.au/about-us-vic/foundations-vic/](http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/about-us-vic/foundations-vic/)

In June, Gulf Station volunteers were nominated in the Victorian Premier's Volunteer Champions Awards, Team category, for our efforts for the April Open Day. There were 261 nominations in that category. Unfortunately we didn't progress any further but we can congratulate ourselves for being nominated. Well done us!

While recent Thursdays have been very cold at Gulf Station, the atmosphere is as warm as ever.

**Mike Ridley**  
for the Work Group

## FROGS news

**Lesley** has been between rehab and hospital for some weeks; **Mike** and **Irene** visited her in Donvale Rehab after Stan's party and she looked as elegant as ever; **Alex** created a lovely card for her from two group photographs taken at the party; **Kevin H** and **Marion** have been in contact and we all hope Lesley will be back home soon.

Several volunteers have been, or are currently, travelling - sending back images of warm sun while we freeze.

## Stan Hardidge - leaving Gulf Station

On 24 June, volunteers held a lunch for **Stan** as he planned to move to live with his daughter at Pyalong - too far away to continue his many community involvements in the area where the Hardidges have lived for several generations. At Pyalong, Stan will have a shed so can continue contributing to causes close to his heart. The volunteers gave Stan thermal socks and gloves, and a framed print of the drone photograph of Gulf Station (kindly emailed by the Trust) which we hope will remind Stan of his Gulf Station



Image: Carina Harding

chums.

Stan's last day at Gulf (19 July) was marked (of course) by cake and **Alex** gave Stan framed prints of the group photographs taken on the 24th.

Next day, **Alan**, **Ian** and **Kevin B** turned into removal men, picked up a truck at Chirnside, then loaded up at Stan's house, on the road at 11.15am; lunch at Broadford then at Stan's new house by 1pm; unloaded and settled Stan, said their goodbyes and returned to Chirnside by 4.15pm - good job well done.

## Years of Volunteering awards

The Trust delivered a batch of award certificates that were distributed at Stan's party. **Stan** and **Pam** received their Five Year certificates; **Harvey** his Ten Year certificate.

Mike is assisting the Trust to amend and complete their records of when volunteers started. If you have ever been a volunteer at Gulf Station, please could you let Mike know your start year (and end year, if appropriate)? Or email Irene and she'll pass it on.

The latest Trust *Victoria Magazine* lists volunteers achieving a five-year milestone, including our three.

**Alan, Ian, Elizabeth, Stan, Harvey, Ros, Mike and Irene**

Image: Marion Bishop



## Tours and School visits

Winter is a quieter time for **Pam** and her team, although keeping everywhere clean and tidy is ongoing. A recent highlight for **Pam** and **Ros** was a booked group that turned out to include **Dixie Behan**, a Bell descendant. Dixie is now on the FROGS list; she said of her visit:

*You volunteers do a wonderful job. Our tour of the station was so interesting, full of history, both family and life on the station when families settled in Australia. Our guides Pam and Ros were so informative and made us so welcome, greeted us as though this was their own home (there were flowers in some of the rooms, a lovely homely touch.) The outbuildings are fantastic, if anything needs repairing it has been done the same as the original product.*

## David Clark history

Irene has had two articles published about the passengers on the 1839 voyage of *David Clark*. One was in the July issue of the *La Trobeana* (the journal of the C J La Trobe Society); the other in the June newsletter of the Eltham District Historical Society.



## Open Day - Saturday 13 October 2018 10am to 4pm

This is our second big Open Day for the year, which is part of *Yarra Valley Seniors Festival* and will appear in its printed program; it will also be listed for *History Week*. We would appreciate any help on the day, particularly:

- Help in the reception area, especially for the first two hours - on our April Open Day, it was too busy for one person to cope with (a good problem to have).
- Help in the car park during the first two hours.

If you can help in *any* way, contact Irene (details on front cover).

If you can't help, do visit on the day and tell your family and friends to come. This is an outline of the program so far:

*Working Clydesdales . Sheep shearing and sheep dogs. Exhibition of paintings 'inspired by Gulf Station' by Cathy Berry. Bush poetry. House, garden and farm buildings. open Guided tours. Plant sale. Refreshments (or BYO picnic).*

## April Open Day - Trust Heritage Month

This was a great success due to listings in local newspapers and generous coverage (right) in the Trust's attractive printed program which this year was arranged by theme rather than alphabetically so we were no longer at the back (under Y for Yarra Valley). People arrived in such numbers that efforts to keep an accurate count dissolved into scribbles but we had well over 200 visitors. Well done, all volunteers!



### Opening the Drawers

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Ever wondered what is hidden in the drawers, wardrobes, and cupboards at The Heights? Come and learn more about the stories and personal possessions left behind by Louis and Marnie Whyte, the last owners of the property.

SUNDAYS 18 APRIL - 20 MAY 1-4PM

The Heights Heritage House and Garden,  
1440 Aprillia Street, Newtown

ADULT \$10 CONC \$7 CHILD \$5 FAMILY \$20  
NT MEMBER \$7



### Open Day at Gulf Station

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Visit Gulf Station as the volunteers go about their work maintaining this historic farm complex. Take a tour, meet the friendly Clydesdales, see sheep dogs and working horses demonstrate their skills, and make sure to visit the station's plant stall.

THURS 19 APRIL 10AM-2PM

Gulf Station, 1029 Melba Highway, Yarra Glen

ADULT \$9 CONC \$6 CHILD \$3 FAMILY \$20



Photo: Gulf Station, Yarra Glen,  
by Christopher Groenhout.



Living Museums, Galleries, Archives, and Collections | 35

## Garden news

## Words from Carina and Louella, images from Carina

The garden is starting to give signs that spring is not far away. **Louella** filled the large box (below left) with soil and planted seeds of nasturtiums, marigolds and calendulas, all lovely bright shades of yellow and orange to attract useful insects to our vegetable patch. Watering has been necessary even though there has been some rain. We've left the old wood on the kitchen-wing grapevine (below right) and hope to get another vine to grow on the old wood. Regular garden maintenance continues and we've bought a supply of pea-straw. Around the shade-house, we've pruned to allow rain through to water the plants we propagate to sell.

*Any potted plants gratefully received to sell - especially for the Open Day on 13 October!*





## The Task List

**Peter Petherbridge** maintains the list, adding new tasks as identified, updating the status of current projects and recording completions. The list also identifies who will carry out the work - volunteers, tradesperson, Trust staff - in consultation with Trust staff. A new feature of the list is the addition of 'before' and 'after' photographs which both assist those working on the project and become a valuable record for the future.

*From Peter's recent reports:*

A lot has been done in recent months. Repairs to the back walls of the Bakery and the Butcher shop which **Ian** has undertaken with help from **Barry**; clearance of the tree-lane on the southern boundary which **Alan** and **Kevin B** have worked hard to complete [it is now planned to add a fence and gate across the end to prevent stock from entering the heritage area while permitting grazing]; work on the old stock yards by **Harvey** plus a number of fencing tasks that **Don** and **Peter** have undertaken.

The gardeners have been busy each week; and we have with the help of **Norm Cronin**, obtained a new ride-on mower. **Sherredan** has prepared a certificate of recognition for Norm.

There is work to be done to repair the cattle-yards and ramp, and **Ian** has identified more work on gates and fences, and if that was not enough, the bridge at the start of the Quince Walk needs repair. A gate will go in the fence separating the paddock above the dam to allow grazing, thus saving some mowing.

We are proceeding with the agistment agreement for sheep, and **Jeremy** is proposing to begin with 40 ewes.

With prices currently at between \$90 and \$120 a head it will be quite an investment for the lad (and his dad). I am now in discussion with Jeremy about a start date.

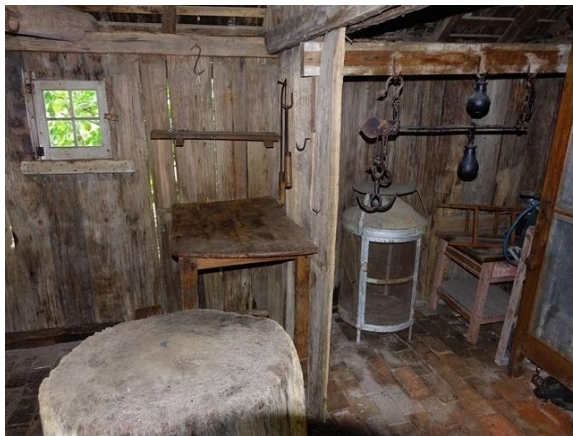
## Butcher's shop work

**Barry** and **Ian** restored the back wall in the butcher's shop as it was in very poor condition: the bottom of this wall had rotted causing the vertical slabs to drop out of the top groove and thus open up gaps (see particularly the immediate right of the window). Over the last year or so, several other major work has been done on this building.

Images: Ian Gaff

Right: Before - interior

Below: After - interior and exterior



## Kangaroo Ground history

Eltham District Historical Society recently handed to the Public Record Office of Victoria the first seven Eltham Road Board ledgers, starting from 1858. This was the origin of 'rates.' The ledgers had been scanned and Irene is now transcribing them. They cover an area which included Yarra Flats and Kangaroo Ground. They list

acres by various categories (eg, 'cultivated,' 'arable') and identify dwellings (eg, 'hut,' 'house,' 'brick house') and businesses (eg, 'store,' 'tannery').

Irene soon found a *David Clark* passenger: John Barr, Kangaroo Ground farmer, who'd been a blacksmith in Melbourne in partnership with fellow passenger John Cook. Cook later moved to Rochford to continue his 'smiddy' (pictured).



## Early Bell photographs

**Alan and Gay Bell** sent images of photographs of the Gulf Station children and a young Agnes Muncaster Bell. These came originally from cousin **Murray Thomlinson**, Frank Bell's eldest grandson. They agreed for the images to appear in the newsletter but say, 'the quality isn't great as they are photos of photos. **Sandra Sharman**, Murray's sister, and other relatives remember the [baby] originals hung in the dining room at Gulf Station. Sandra thinks these pictures were later stored with other archival material. If this can be confirmed and the originals located, it would be great to see them displayed in the homestead once again.'

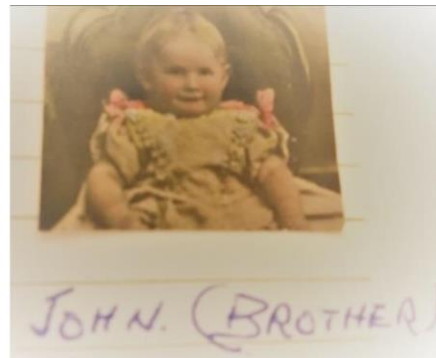
**Sherredan** confirms the photographs are at Tasma and she'll see about having good copies made for us. We can then print and frame them to display in the house. Thank you Alan and Gay for reminding us and also Sherredan for your efforts to provide these interesting parts of the Gulf Station story for visitors.



Left: Agnes  
(Muncaster)  
Bell as a young  
woman



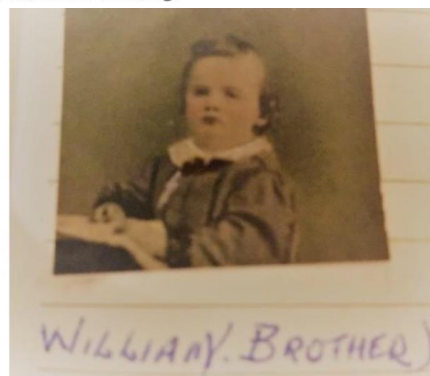
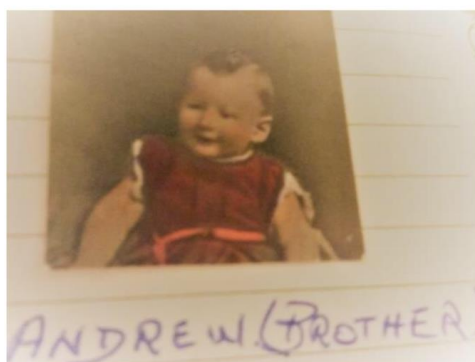
Right William  
Bell senior and  
Agnes Bell



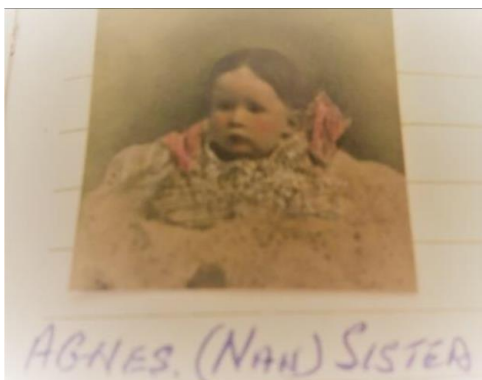
Left: Dinah and  
John Bell as  
children (b 1871  
and 1873)

Below left:  
Andrew and  
William junior as  
children (b 1866  
and 1862)

The writing underneath these photos was done by Elsie MARY (MEG) Tomlinson nee Bell, daughter of Frank Bell and Elsie Beer. Some of the other sibling photos were missing.



The children's  
photographs will  
have been hand-  
coloured



Agnes (Nan)  
(later  
Flemming)  
Bell as a  
child and an  
older woman  
(b 1864)



## Clydesdale news

Poor Dinah has again suffered from mites in her feathers so she scratched and broke the skin, which then got infected. Both Dinah and Kelly had their feathers shaved off. **Bri** moved Dinah to an adjacent paddock so medication could be put in the feed but the two girls could still commune over the fence. Each day, Bri gently washed Dinah's lower legs then put on cortisone ointment (in a patriotic Trust green), all the time quietly talking to keep Dinah calm even though the procedure must sting on the broken skin. Now medication is complete, the two horses are back together again now.

Gil continues with his work training. He had a brief chance to catch up with Dinah and his sister Kelly, about which he was clearly very happy, bolting to them when he first caught sight (they'd been in paddocks that put them out of sight of each other for a while). Brother and sister nuzzled each other, then walked around side by side.

**Peter** also reports:

As Matt will be away for 2 weeks, we had a good look at the pasture in the paddocks and agreed to put Gil and Matt's three horses (Trigger, Chance and Pride) together in the large central paddock. When Matt opened the gate and let Gil and Pride out from the Flats, they spied the other two far away up the laneway. Both took off at the gallop to join the other two with much thunder of hooves and neighs of recognition. [Grandson] **Chris** and I were in the laneway at the time and the ground shook as they went passed us. When the four joined up, it was like a group of mates setting out for the football with much tossing of heads and general hooning about! Gil, whose muscles have tightened up a bit with the work, has now cemented his place with the other males: Chance had tried to assert his dominance, but they now have a respectful relationship with Gil putting Chance back in his box when necessary.

The horse shelter in the paddock closest to Yarra Glen has developed with two and a half walls in place (walls added as the horses get used to the shelter).

## Repair projects recently completed

These projects illustrate the standard of work being achieved - restoring objects for use (and safety) while retaining their original appearance.



Re-stumping of  
horseworks belt  
mechanism

Gate repairs

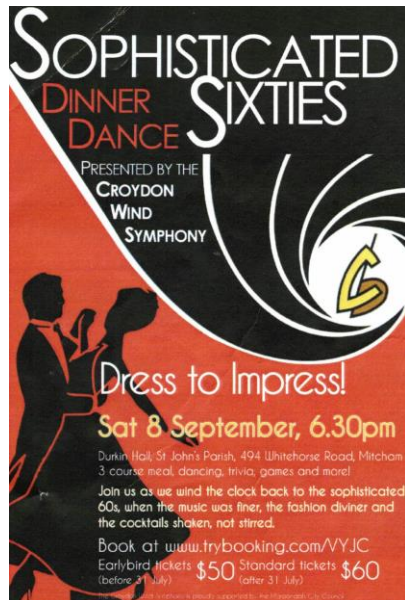
Grinding wheel,  
before and after

Images:  
Above Alan Gosling  
Below Ian Gaff





## Gulf Station identities elsewhere



**Alex** will be in the band at a dinner dance with a Sixties theme (left) to be held on Saturday 8 September, Durkin Hall, 494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham. Book at: [www.trybooking.com/VYJC](http://www.trybooking.com/VYJC)

**Mike** invites you to the Australian Plant Expo (right), 8-9 September, 10am-4pm, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Road Eltham.

**Marion's** son Justin has created one of the rooms for the Trust's *Super '70s* fashion exhibition at Rippon Lea: 27 July to 4 November 2018.

As noted in the last newsletter, **Daniel Ball** has moved to Gippsland. Currently we can see him in Work Safe advertisements (television and the sides of trams), acting the part of a bullied worker - not type-casting

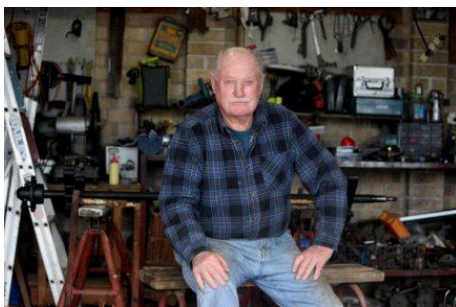


!

## Past Gulf Station staff man honoured

**George Miller** was recognised with an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his many contributions to the community of Yarra Glen, including being co-founder of the Yarra Glen Men's Shed. He was part-time on Gulf Station's staff some ten years ago.

Those who were there in 2007 will never forget George riding the Waler Dardanelle in the Yarra Glen Anzac Parade. George had dieted to fit into the loaned uniform.



Images  
(L) Kath Gannaway,  
*Upper Yarra Mail*  
(R) Mike Ridley



## Wild life around the Station

**Ian** has dealt with a wasp nest - thank you, Ian! Sadly the bees that inhabited the oak tree near the front gate for as long as anyone can remember have moved out. But this big spider seems happy with his abode on a gate slider. A large flock of wood ducks has been seen on the dam recently, reflecting better water quality.

Image Carina Harding



## Yet another orchard theft

When the orchard was stripped by thieves earlier in the year, the unready medlars were left untouched but they've gone now - just as some of the volunteers were planning on their use. Medlars are indigenous to Persia from some 3,000 years ago, and become edible after being softened ("bled") by frost.

Image from web KEITH LEIGHTON/ALAMY



## Theft from the Andrew Ross Museum, Kangaroo Ground

Rather worse than losing our orchard's fruit is a recent theft from the front wall of the Andrew Ross Museum. This specially made 'end' of a Furphy water cart was unveiled at Kangaroo Ground's Furphy Festival in 1996. The Furfphies have close ties to Kangaroo Ground so this object is dearly valued. If you see it offered for sale, ***please contact the police immediately and notify the Museum: 03 9721 0801***



Samuel and Judith Furphy, from County Armagh, Ireland, arrived on the Argyle in 1841 (a fellow passenger was Gordon McCrae, of McCrae homestead, another Trust property).

After a short stay at Kangaroo Ground, the family moved to Yering, but returned in 1849. Later they moved to Kyneton. As Andrew Ross relates (left), their daughter Judith was the first burial in the area, indeed her death caused the lovely Kangaroo Ground cemetery to be established.

Right: Extract from Andrew Ross's 7th "Reminiscences", *Evelyn Observer*, and *South and East Bourke Record*, Friday 2 December 1887, page 3.

The month of May (1851) was distinguished by three events I must carefully record. The first was the death of an interesting little girl, the daughter of Mr. Furphy, who had attended school a fortnight only. The child caught a cold from resting on wet grass at *Crow's Nest*. Hearing she was seriously ill, I volunteered to ride to Melbourne for advice and medicine, which I did on Mr. Furphy's horse on the evening of the 15th, returning on next morning. Little Judith only survived another day. This event led to the selection of a piece of land suitable for a cemetery. One or two interments had taken place on private ground, but no public burying place existed nearer than Melbourne. The case being considered urgent, a general meeting of the settlers took place on the evening of the 17th, probably the first of the kind held in the county, and the first in the school-house. The result was the selection of unoccupied crown land at the N.E. side of the purchased land, which was subsequently granted by Government for a public cemetery. Here, therefore, on the afternoon of Sunday, 18th May, 1851, the remains of Judith Furphy were deposited, always to be noted as the first interment.

## Recent purchases

The enclosed form for voluntary donations for Gulf Station shows recent purchases but that's repeated here with thanks to generous FROGS who contributed to our account (BBQ profits are also part of the fund).



Clockwise from top left

### Ride-on-mower

This doubles our mowing capacity.

### Portable generator

With this, power tools can be used anywhere on the property. It will also be useful on Open Days when power demand is greater than usual.

### Cordless drill and impact driver

Previously volunteers have brought their own such tools to Gulf Station.

Images: Ian Gaff and Alan Gosling



## Gulf Station at the 2018 MIFGS



### MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

Laurie Staub, Head of Engagement and Philanthropy

The National Trust's recent return to the iconic Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show made waves with a brilliant exhibition that featured the Trust's Gulf Station property in the Yarra Valley. This was all made possible due to the kind generosity of a number of organisations and individuals.

At the last minute, the Trust was gifted a large exhibition space, thanks to our new partner the Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria (NGIV) and show organisers IMG.

Then magic happened. Our long-term member Paul Bangay (Paul Bangay Garden Design), globally renowned landscape designer, responded within 24 hours of our initial 'help' cry inquiring about whether he would be willing to donate a design for the exhibition. His answer was yes!

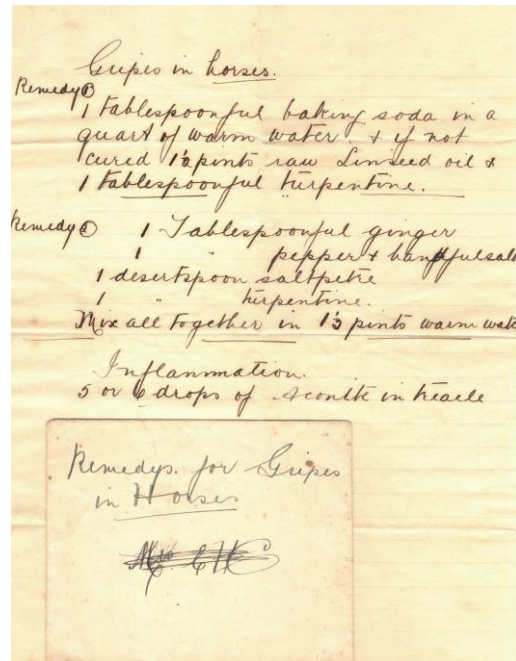
More magic happened, thanks to the Trust's own Justin Buckley, who project-managed the execution of Paul's garden concept, bringing in the Trust's gardening staff and volunteers. Justin's magic was supported by the Trust's head of design, Michelle Nightingale, who cleverly masterminded the barn façade and photographic panels.

*Image: Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show by Jessica Hood.*

The above item is from the latest Trust's *Victoria Magazine* showing another view of the Trust stand at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden show - this featured a huge photograph of the School House. Can't believe it's not Gulf Station.

## Cures for Gripes in Horses

This sheet and envelope were found in the Croydon Cottage. It looks very old but there's no clue about who wrote it or when.



## Another Bunnings donation

In May, Bunnings gave Gulf Station a RYOBI pole branch pruner/lopper; a Trust Certificate of Appreciation was presented in thanks.



Stan with Debbie with the lopper

Image Alan Gosling

On 24 May, Stan and Alan attended a Bunnings function for fund-raising organisations, giving Alan an opportunity to spruik Gulf Station.

## Archives Update

A collection of loose press cuttings, fliers, etc, remains to be sorted, a task needing space (eg, trestles in the Croydon Cottage) but not until the weather warms up!



## La Trobe Society 2018 winter talks

Held in Mueller Hall (near the Shrine), 2.30pm, second Sunday of the month. Entry \$5. **Booking essential for catering purposes**, by the previous Wednesday please:

Email to [talks@latrobesociety.org.au](mailto:talks@latrobesociety.org.au); a webform at [www.latrobesociety.org.au/talks18.html](http://www.latrobesociety.org.au/talks18.html); or leave a message on 9592 5616.

**Sunday 12 August**

**Speaker:** Peter Hiscock AM

**Subject:** "La Trobe and his Horses – Testing Times"

**Sunday 9 September**

**Speaker:** Irene Kearsey

**Subject:** "Gulf Station" Established by John Dickson in the 1840s, then owned by the Bell family for almost 100 years until 1951. The talk will concentrate on the early days of the station in the La Trobe era, following the story of Dickson and the Bells.

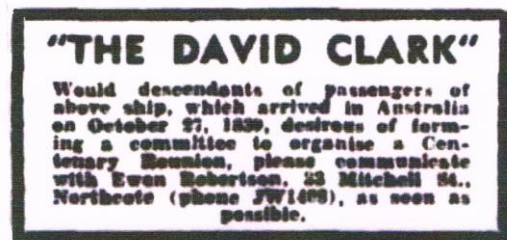
## Tetlow Talk - 14 October (second Sunday)

Irene has been invited to give the 2018 Tetlow Talk for the Yarra Glen and District Historical Society which will cover the early history of Gulf Station from John Dickson onwards. The annual Tetlow Talk follows the Society's 1.30 pm general meeting on the second Sunday in October. This talk commemorates the late Eric Tetlow (1930-2009), the Society's esteemed Secretary/Treasurer and renowned researcher. A special afternoon tea that honours Eric's favourite treats is provided.

## Sunday 27 October 2019 (next year) - David Clark anniversary

This date will be the 180th anniversary of the arrival in Melbourne of the *David Clark* and we are starting to plan an Anniversary Day at Gulf Station. If you are a Bell descendant (or of any of the other passengers), please start to spread the word. *Any ideas for the day would also be welcome.*

The 100th anniversary celebrations in 1939 included a dinner for more than 200 people at the Federal Hotel and a service at Scots Church (Collins Street) during which a baby (6th generation descendant) was baptised using the christening vessel that had been used for the McNay baby born during the 1839 voyage.



In 1989, the organising committee of the 150th anniversary included FROGS Betty Walton and her sister the late Heather Oswin. Included in the program were a dinner at the Prahran Town Hall, a picnic day at Gulf Station and a service at Scots Church.

Left: Descendants of the three Menzies siblings gathered for the 150th anniversary

Image: Courtesy Keith Rees

Below: An item in *The Age* (Heather and Betty on left)



Descendants of Melbourne's first Scottish immigrants walk along Port Melbourne beach where their ancestors landed almost 150 years ago. From left are Heather Oswin, Betty Wilkins, Peg Cregan, Avram Cregan-Wood, Janet Cregan-Wood, Andrew Shugg, Finlay McNab, Tony Miller, Sheila McNab and Jan Robertson.

### 1000 descendants celebrate Melbourne landing of first Scots

It's becoming hard to keep track of 150th anniversaries in Melbourne: these hardy old people of 1839 filled the year with bustle. The latest celebration coming up is for the arrival of the first assisted immigrants to sail direct from Britain to Port Phillip, a momentous event in its day.

Sometimes I think they must have been the most contented migrants ever. They were Scots, 229 of them, who were offered jobs as soon as they stepped off their boat, the barge *David Clark*. They were also canny, because they sailed the economic winds and bagged successfully for higher pay. On their first night ashore, in a camp on

**Lahey at Large**  
JOHN LAHEY

This will always be my mental picture of them: family groups of healthy, uncomplaining, sober, hard-working Scots coming ashore after a voyage of four months, dancing in the moonlight, then walking a mile through the tea tree scrub to watch a corroboree.

These 229 men, women and

children have something like 1000 known descendants now. How they all keep track of each other is a mystery, but they have planned a big reunion beginning with a dinner at the Prahran town hall on Friday next week. This is 27 October, the date of the *David Clark*'s arrival. The next day they'll have a picnic at Gulf Station, Yarra Glen, which is part of their folklore. One of the *David Clark* immigrants, William Bell, settled there.

On the Sunday, they will attend an afternoon service in the Scots Church in Collins Street (where else?). This date coincides with the day their ancestors came ashore and danced. A group of the descendants

were at Port Melbourne yesterday getting their feet wet, as their ancestors undoubtedly did. It doesn't take one long to realise that many of the *David Clark* people intermarried in that small, isolated outpost called Melbourne. Andrew Shugg, for example, is descended from William Bell. His mother, Sheila McNab, is a sister-in-law to Finlay McNab, and is descended from both the Bells and the Robertsons. The McNab name crops up all the time. McNab and McNab has been a Melbourne law firm since 1914.

Heather Oswin and Betty Wilkins are sisters, descended from Andrew and Jacobina Templeton, farm laborer and dairy

maid. The youngest descendant at Port Melbourne yesterday was Avram Cregan-Wood, 19 months. His great-great-grandmother was Janet McNab, a dairy maid. His great-great-grandfather was Ewen Robertson, a shepherd.

Superintendent Charles La Trobe was miffed by the "exceedingly high wages they (the immigrants) saw fit to demand". Shepherds with rations received three pounds a month, and dairy made two pounds six shillings. Butchers received four pounds, bakers three pounds 10s and cooks two pounds. Carpenters, heavily in demand, were at the top of these wage rates, with 15 pounds a month.

The 175th anniversary in 2014, organised at very short notice, was marked at Gulf Station with a small reunion (about 90 people, eight families represented). One result was an email list of interested people (the list has grown since, sharing *David Clark* information).

We have more than a year to organise the 180th event so should be able to reach many more descendants. This is a great way to promote Gulf Station so please think how you can help.



