



# Raves from the Graves

## President's Report

Welcome to the 13th edition of our Newsletter, *Raves from the Graves*. Greetings to all. The Committee of The Friends extends a warm welcome to all our new members, and many thanks to our current members for their continued support of the group and our aims.

The Cheltenham Friends had great success in 2019 managing to obtain funding to place a full grave at the gravesite of Ernest (John) Dunbar aka John Beech. Ernest was a WW1 Veteran who has lain in an unmarked grave for 95 years. The Friends approached Minister Darren Chester of the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the head of the War Memorial, Dr. Brendan Nelson, for funding. Ernest was a prolific artist during his war time service, and the Australian War Memorial now sells some prints of his work, so we felt it only fitting that some of the revenue the government receives from these sales should be directed towards placing a proper grave, as a way of recognising Ernest's service to his nation. The Minister and Dr. Brendan Nelson agreed to our request. We were delighted, as was Ernest's family. There will be a Commemoration for Ernest (John) Dunbar on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery.

An approach has now been made to the Department of Veteran Affairs for a full grave for the grandfather of one of our members. Edward Leake, who was awarded the Military Medal, the Croix de Guerre and the La Medaille Militaire by the French Government, also lays in an unmarked grave. His extended family made a huge contribution to the war effort in WW1 and we feel that the Minister will agree with our proposal and approve a full grave for Edward.

In 2020 The Friends will again focus on restorations of memorials, and the placing of plaques at grave sites. We hope to begin this by finally having a plaque containing the exact wording on the Richard Tilley

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### Current Committee :

*President:*  
Rosemary Reddick  
*Vice President:*  
Margaret Osborne  
*Secretary:*  
Sue Beazley  
*Treasurer:*  
Sue Beazley

### Ordinary Committee

Members:  
Ric Norman  
Pam Norman

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headstone – the oldest headstone at Cheltenham Pioneer. As well as applying for approval to place historical plaques at the graves of Alexander Vause MacDonald and Dr. Richard Goldstone – both who played pivotal roles within the local community when Cheltenham was in its infancy. These two men were outstanding in their contributions to the district, but sadly they both lay in unmarked graves.

Tours conducted by The Cheltenham Friends in 2019 were well attended, with many of our guests joining all the tours we held throughout the year. It is wonderful to have such great support, as there is a great deal of effort put into research for tours by Sue Beazley. Sue is an exceptionally gifted researcher – always verifying facts with as many sources as can be found - and undertakes to present our tours in a way that engages with the audience. *Note:* Our tour program will be affected for 2020 with the ongoing works associated with the Cheltenham Station development.

The articles for this issue are diverse and interesting. We do hope you enjoy reading them.

First up, we continue with Part 2 of the story of Private Michael Ward and his 'Suitcase of Memories', a legacy of memories which has been saved for future generations. Our second article is an interesting piece written and researched by Sue Beazley on the Beaumaris Churchyard Cemetery.

We also have further excerpts from the delightful reminiscences of Fairlie Taylor – *Memories of Cheltenham and Beaumaris*. Fairlie wrote a wonderful journal describing people and happenings in 'her' Cheltenham, when she lived there. It is a wonderful insight into the history, values, morals and standards of the day. Fairlie's memories which appear in this edition will focus on Beaumaris, as a follow on from the article about its churchyard cemetery.

As always, I would like to thank The Committee of The Friends for all their hard work and tireless efforts to keep the group moving forward. Everyone has their own specialty, which makes for a very cohesive and unified group

As the year rapidly races to a close and a new one is about to begin, all of the Committee of The Friends wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy festive season with a relaxing start to the New Year.

I thank you all for your continued support for The Friends of Cheltenham Group and I look forward to hearing from you in the New Year if you have feedback, concerns, or stories you would like to share.

**Rosemary Reddick**  
**President**



## **Membership Renewals**

A reminder that our membership year ends on 30 June every year.

If your membership was due to lapse on that date, you should have received an email from  
Rosemary Reddick.

If your membership has lapsed since then, we look forward to hearing from you as you continue to  
support your group.

We look forward to working with you all in the future growth and goals of the Friends of Cheltenham Regional  
Cemeteries.

# Streets Where We Live tour

In October The Friends Committee conducted our final tour of the year, which drew a great crowd of interested people. The weather was perfect, with some sunshine as well.

Our renowned tour leader, Sue Beazley, put together a fabulous tour that explained the origins of many street names in the local community. These streets honour some of the dignitaries and pioneers who settled in the Moorabbin Parish, of which Cheltenham is a part. Some of the streets we looked at were Crawford, Barrett, Charles, Edward and Booker Streets in Cheltenham; Comport in Beaumaris; Cullinane in Black Rock; Kingston Road in Moorabbin; Tootal Road in Dingley; Bloxsidge in Mordialloc; Watkins in Aspendale and Mundy Street in Mentone. We also looked at the proposed new suburb of Pennydale. This new tour is part of our ongoing quest to document the life stories of our early settlers.



# RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Private Michael Ward's 'Suitcase of Memories'

### Part Two

In the September edition of *Raves from the Graves*, we introduced you to Private Michael 'Mick' Ward and his 'Suitcase of Memories'. In that edition, we covered his early life and his journey to the Western Front. We told the story of his early days, his enlistment, training and subsequent embarkation, firstly to England and then his march into France and the battle on the Western front, where he was seriously wounded in April 1918 in the Somme region when the trenches there were shelled during the German Spring Offensive.

This is Part Two of Mick's story and will pick up from the time immediately after he was injured on the Western Front. It will also touch on his life upon his return to Australia in 1918.

It is worth noting again that it was indeed fortunate that Mick's suitcase and the diversity of its contents, along with the valuable historical information it contained, was discovered at the time of a clean out of a deceased estate and that its significance was recognised at that time, with the suitcase being acquired at auction by Museums Victoria in 2016.

The stories behind many of these items may never be fully known. But it is important that they have been preserved as they provide a moving insight into the story of one man's journey to the Western Front, his time there and his return to Australia. We have lost so much of our veterans' history over the years, it is indeed a good thing when a treasure such as Mick's 'Suitcase of Memories' surfaces and is able to be saved.

*We would like to acknowledge and thank Deborah Tout-Smith from Museums Victoria for her invaluable assistance with the provision of information and permission to use the photographs in this article. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Judy Davies from Lakes Entrance Historical Society and Lois Comeadow from Brighton Cemeterians.*



**Pte. Mick Ward's suitcase**

## Wounded in action

In our September edition, we left off at the point where Mick was seriously wounded in April 1918, suffering injuries to both knees, as well as the middle finger of his right hand, which eventually had to be amputated a few years after his return to Australia.

As a result of his injuries, Mick was transported from the front to the first of several medical facilities for treatment, after first receiving treatment at the Aid Post at Buire. It is reported in the 38th Battalion Unit Diary that the Aid Post was a 'very substantial cellar of large size, on the western end of the village.'

After receiving initial treatment at the Aid Post, Mick was then transferred to the 20th Casualty Clearing Station at Gezaincourt, before being moved to the 1st SA (South African) General Hospital at Abbeville.

It seems that Mick's injury management was never-

ending and in May 1918, he was transferred to England for further treatment at several more hospitals in the United Kingdom, including the Norfolk War Hospital in Norwich.

Mick never returned to the front, and after what must have been an incredibly long five months for him, finally returned to Australia on the D23 HMAT Runic, which embarked 23rd September 1918. He arrived back in Melbourne late November, 1918, shortly after the Armistice.

After his arrival home, he was admitted to the Caulfield Military Hospital for further treatment. In November 1918, his daily rate of pay was recorded as 6/-, with an 'allotment' of 3/- as an 'incapacitated member of the Australian Expeditionary Forces'.

Mick signed up for the Army Reserve in February 1919, although it appears his discharge from service was delayed for two further years until 1921 as he was still undergoing treatment for his wounds.

3rd M.D. Army Form B. 103-11.  
Part II.

**(SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM Part II).**

Regiment or Corps 19/25th Bn 38th. BATTALION Regimental Number 4138

\*Substantive Rank Pte Surname WARD Christian Names Michael

*Private Rank Reduced 26.4.16.*  
(\* To be entered in pencil to facilitate alteration.)

(A) Report		(B) Authority of Part II. of Orders	(C) Record of promotions, appointments, reductions, casualties, transfers, postings, &c. All acting as well as substantive promotions to be shown, for method of entry of which see A.C.I. 1816 of 1917. Corps and unit to which transferred and posted to be invariably named.	(D) Place of casualty	(E) Date of promotion, reduction, reversion, casualty, &c.	(F) Remarks, and initials and rank of an officer
Date.	From whom received					
	OO Troops. A16"Pt. Melbourne"		Embarked	Melbourne	21/10/16	
			Disembarked	Devonport	28/12/16.	
16/3/17	8th. Tng. Bn		Sick to Camp Hpl	Hurdcott	16/3/17 DO23/1398E	
18/3/17	"		Sick to Parkhouse Hpl	"	17/3/17 DO23/1398E.	
8/4/17	"		M/I from Parkhouse Hpl	"	5/4/17 DO32/2185E.	
11/11/17	15th. Tng. Bn		M/I from 8th. Tng. Bn	Codford	5/11/17 DO	
24/12/17	OO "		Proceeded Overseas to France to reinforce 38th. Battn	Southampton	27/12/17 DO1/33E	
28/12/17	1st. A.I.B. D.		M/I ex England	Rouelles	28/12/17	
30/12/17	"		M/O to Front	"	30/12/17	
5/1/18	OO. 38th. Battn		C.O.S.	Field	1/1/18 DO3/247.	
15/4/18	COE. 3rd Aus. Div		Wounded in Action	Field	15/4/18 VL 685.	
20/4/18	OO 38th. Battn		<del>Wounded in Action</del>	"	DO18/1440.	
15/4/18	11th. A.F.A.		Adm. G.S.W.L. Thigh & Hand	"	15/4/18.	
"	20th. C.O.S.		Admitted	"	"	
17/4/18	1st. S.A.C.H.		Admitted	France	17/4/18 DO22/1942.	
1/5/18	"		Inv. to England	"	1/5/18	
2/5/18	HS. "St Andrew"		Embarked for England	"	2/5/18 DO21/1932.	
3/5/18	Norfolk W.Hpl		Adm. G.S.W.L. Thigh	Thorpe		
18/5/18	1st. Aux. Hpl		Tfd from Norfolk W.Hpl	Norwich	3/5/18 DO37/1261E.	
20/6/18	"		Adm. Shrp. W.L. Knee etc.	Harefield	18/5/18.	
			Disch to No3. Com; Depot.	"	18/5/18.	
				Hurdcott	20/6/18.	

To be folded on this line.

Nothing to be written in this margin.

W1889-PP1150 500,000 5/18 G.W.P.Co.(3490)

### Service and Casualty Form (part)

Private Michael Ward



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P00707.027

D23 HMAT Runic

B.R. Form No. 9.

Don't forget to send any change of address to—  
BASE RECORDS,  
M.C.S. MELBOURNE.

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.**

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,  
VICTORIA BARRACKS,  
MELBOURNE, 25th May, 1918.

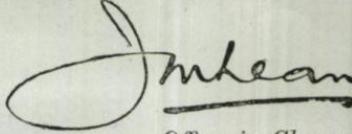
Dear Sir,

I now beg to advise you that Pte. M. Ward, has been reported admitted Norfolk War Hospital, Norwich, England, 3/5/18. suffering from gunshot wound, left thigh.

His postal address will be—  
No. 4158, Pte. M. Ward,  
38th Battalion  
(late 29th Battalion.)  
Australian Imperial Force,  
Abroad.

In the absence of further reports it is to be assumed that satisfactory progress is being maintained, but anything later received will be promptly transmitted, **it being clearly understood that if no further advice is forwarded this department has no more information to supply.**

Yours faithfully,

 Major,  
Officer in Charge, Base Records.

D.1171/1.13.—C.445.—23M.

Admission paper for Norfolk War Hospital in Norwich  
Private Michael Ward

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

31 W 24 31  
Transferred to

D

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 4138

Rank *Pte* Name *WARD M.*

Unit *1335<sup>1</sup> 38<sup>th</sup> Bn (29<sup>th</sup> Bn)*

LIST.

Casualty WOUNDED

OIBE 2463/1335<sup>F</sup> dated London 23/4/18 Received B. R. 25/4/18 *Ph.*

*S.W. left thigh*

*Medical condition not stated 3/5/18. Norfolk War Hosp.*

WSML 716 1553 H dated London 15/1/18 Received B. R. 22/5/18 *NY*

*Regy. to Aust. for H. T. "Pueris" List "W" emb. 29/9/18  
C.I.B.L. 2876/2814 dtd. Lon. 3/10/18. Rec'd B. R. 4/10/18.*

*Invalid but*

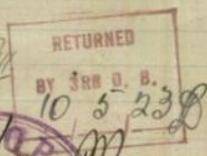
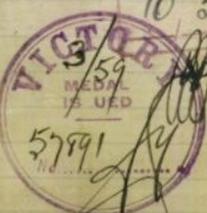
Returned to Aust. in per. *H. D. Domico Pte*

Discharged..... *M. D. 26/1/18 (Medical) List 158/3/18/18*

**DECEASED** (*6496*) 13/6/62

*74346*

DATE	Form B. 109, describe	PURPORT.	P
APR 30 1918	N. O. K. Advised Wounded		
OCT 24 1918	N. O. K. Advised in Hospital H. O. K. Advised returning to Australia, Form 7 and Card		
10.6.20	aa & 3rd queried re disposal	<i>m 50/1225</i>	
1.5.24	B.R.P.F. 44 DESPATCHED WAR HISTORY INDEX	<i>Lakes Entrance</i>	
	Discharged..... <b>M. D.</b>		
	Still on the strength of the a.9.7 Receiving treatment at No. 11. a.9.76.		
20/2/21	Discharged..... <i>3<sup>rd</sup></i> <b>M. D.</b>		



20 FEB 1924  
MILITARY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT  
B. R. P. F. 42  
G. F. O. Melbourne  
4296  
13 APR 1924  
50/1225  
WR

### Life after service

Mick initially returned to Bunga Creek, possibly with his parents, before moving to Brady Road in Bentleigh. According to his repatriation file, he applied for a 'tools of trade' as a farm labourer and market gardener, but his application was denied on the basis that his employer should provide his tools.

An M. Ward is listed in the 1942 Electoral Rolls, working as a gardener and living at Lydia Street in Bentleigh. Living nearby was a Frances Kinsman and her husband, Percy. Frances had a sister, Ellen 'Nellie' Malane and it would appear that Mick and Ellen met as records show they were married on 6th October 1950 at St Paul's Church in Bentleigh. At the time of their wedding, Mick was 61 years old and Ellen was 49. When they were married, they were both living at 591 Centre Road, Bentleigh, which was the home of Ellen's parents, Patrick and Mary Malane. Mick and Ellen did not have any children.

A later record on Mick's repatriation file notes him becoming ill and appealing to the Veterans branch to have his expenses covered, claiming that his

arthritis had been caused in part by the significant amount of time spent lying in the trenches on wet ground. His application was initially denied, with his doctor sadly describing him as 'an unhappy old fellow' as a result of the pain caused by his arthritis.

Mick Ward died at the age of 72 on the 13th June 1962 and was buried at Cheltenham Memorial Park the following day. Ellen received a war widow's pension until her death on 10th March 1986.

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### Sources:

National Archives of Australia: Pte. Michael Ward, Service Number 4138. Barcode 8347184. <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8347184>

*Every Week*, Bairnsdale, Vic 1914/918, p4. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article153442997>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P00707.027/>

Deborah Tout-Smith, Museums Victoria.

Judy Davies, Lakes Entrance Historical Society.



**Private Michael 'Mick' Ward's  
grave at Cheltenham Memorial Park**

More items from Mick's 'Suitcase of Memories'



Family photo, with Mick second from the left



# Cheltenham Station Level Crossing Removal

## An Update

Well we survived our first closure of Charman and Park Roads whilst they did some preliminary works for the crossing removal. Reserve Road and Weatherall Road traffic was chaotic at times as locals observed the recommended detours. Children from Cheltenham Primary were walked in by their own Walking School Bus, well done to the volunteers who looked after the children. Just when life returned to normal, the President's Cup hit our area with one side of Reserve Road closed and one lane in Bay Road reserved for buses. Chaos struck again and it was bumper to bumper whatever way you tried to go.

There will be **various closures of the Frankston and Sandringham lines in January** as well for the Metro Tunnel works, with the first occurring on 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Buses will be operating throughout these closure periods. Please note that Charman Road will cause problems for Pioneer Cemetery, with access available by foot only during that time. Arrangements will be made for any funerals during the closure. *Please see page 11 of the newsletter for further information relating to the closures.*

As you know, the Friends have been advocating for the historic Cheltenham Railway Station buildings since 2016 and we nominated for the Cheltenham Railway Community Reference Group so that we could continue to fight for the retention of the buildings which were headed for the tip. We are delighted to have the support of three other local CRG community members, Katrina Witt, Bill Pimm and Derek Screen, and together we have formed a community action group to push the heritage claims. It has been hard going, but we are finally getting somewhere. Thank you to Bayside Mayor Cr Clarke Martin who wrote to us recently committing Bayside to retaining their building (to City) in the station precinct. I am pleased to advise that Bayside and the Level Crossing Removal (LXRP) are close to reaching an agreement to place the historic station building (1899) on the old Cheltenham Bowling Green section of the strip of Cheltenham Park that runs beside the cemetery just down from the turnaround (Council owned land). Bayside plan to make the building available to a number of local community groups such as Men's Shed and Elderly Citizens.

The Kingston side building (to Frankston) is causing more problems as VicTrack insist there is no room for it to be placed in the station precinct and it is for Kingston Council to find room, and of course they have no land available in that area. The CRG community members have now suggested a compromise position on the other side of Charman Road, opposite Cheltenham Primary where the bus stop is moving to. The verandah could be used as a shelter for those waiting for the bus and ties in with the other shop verandahs there. This land is owned by the Crossing Removal Project and will be sold when they are finished, but Derek Screen and I were recently able to put our case to Southern Metropolitan MP Nina Taylor who is in charge of the Mentone and Cheltenham projects. We thank Nina for making time available for us and we are hopeful part of that land will be set aside for the Kingston side station building (1882). Our thanks also to Cr Rosemary West (Kingston Council) who attended the meeting and has supported our efforts to protect the two heritage buildings. Further negotiations will now take place between Kingston Council and LXRP regarding our recommended position.

If you are further up the line, Chelsea is now gearing up to fight for their old station buildings (1906). We hope you will support them also.

~ Sue Beazley, Cheltenham CRG community representative

# Cheltenham Station Level Crossing Removal

## Service Information

### Road closures:

- **Park Road** will be closed between Hall Street and Churchill Avenue from 5am on Wednesday, 15 January 2020 until Wednesday, 22 January 2020.
- **Charman Road** will be closed between Station Road and Blagdon Street from 1am on Saturday, 1 February 2020 until Saturday, 7 March 2020.
- **Stanley Avenue** will be closed at the rail line from 5am Wednesday, 29 January 2020 until Sunday, 17 February 2020.

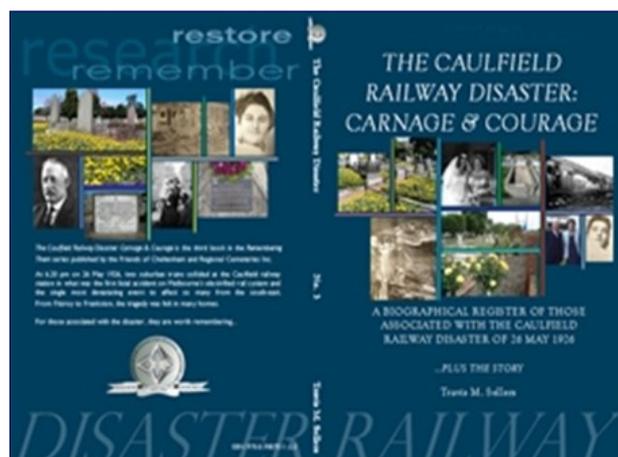
### Frankston line closure:

To undertake construction activities safely within the rail corridor, buses will replace trains between Moorabbin and Frankston/Stony Point from 1am on Sunday, 2 February until the last train on Sunday, 16 February 2020.



## The Caulfield Railway Disaster: Carnage & Courage \$25.00

Please see Page 16 for payment details



At 6.20 pm on 26 May 1926, two suburban trains collided at the Caulfield railway station in what was the first fatal accident on Melbourne's electrified rail system and the single most devastating event to affect so many from the south-east. From Fitzroy to Frankston, the tragedy was felt in many homes. For those associated with the disaster, they are worth remembering...

[Download the index and see if your ancestor is included!](#) [PDF-251KB]

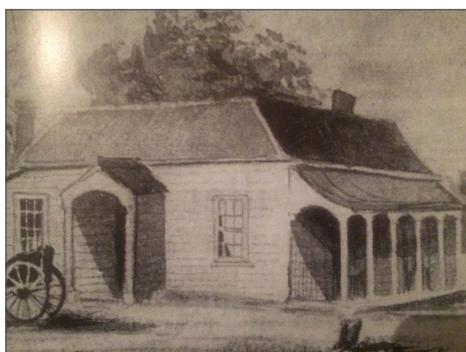
Written by Travis M. Sellers, *The Caulfield Railway Disaster: Carnage & Courage* is the third book in the *Remembering Them* series published by the Friends of Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries Inc. The A5-sized book comprises 172 pages and 71,600 words with colour illustrations and an index of over 1,040 names. It is a rich source of genealogical information on those associated with the disaster including birth, death and marriage details as well as newspaper articles. The publication also includes the story of the tragedy. The book foreword is written by Andrew Lezala, CEO of Metro Trains Melbourne.

# RESEARCH ARTICLE

## The Beaumaris Churchyard Cemetery 1885 - 1866

*Researched and written by Sue Beazley*

On 8 November, 1862, GGG Grandmother Ann Beazley was buried at the Beaumaris Cemetery according to her death certificate. Have we visited her grave? Sadly you can't visit the graves of any of the around 125 early settlers interred in this cemetery because in 1954 the Moorabbin Council granted a permit to the Methodist Church to subdivide the land and seven houses were built straight over the top of the graves in a new street given the name of Bickford Court, named after James Bickford Moysey, the first to settle in this area in 1845, later naming his property Beaumaris Park.



**The Moysey House**

This early cemetery disappeared long ago, but if you look closely you will see a small brass plaque marking the site on the pavement in Balcombe Road, just past the western corner of Bickford Court.



The former Beaumaris Wesleyan Cemetery came into being in 1855 when the first Cheltenham settlers, Stephen and Mary Ann Charman, gifted a parcel of land to what was then the Wesleyan Church. A little wooden building was built on the land and served as the

local Wesleyan Church and the first cemetery of the area was established in its churchyard. The new cemetery would be the final resting place for two of the Charman's own children, Elizabeth Lucy (1855) 10 months and John Arthur (1859) 6 months. This small cemetery operated for only 11 years. The last known burial was the son of Thomas Lay, one of our earliest undertakers - 3 year old Arthur Lay who passed away 11 March 1866 and was interred with his 14 month old brother William (1862).

What caused its closure? The Churchyard cemetery was small and reaching capacity, but the main problem was that only those of the Wesleyan faith were permitted to be buried there. Other faiths had to bury their family at Brighton, which had also opened in 1855. A short drive for us today, but the journey was long and time consuming, by a cart bumping along an unmade road to bury their loved ones, who with no embalming needed to be buried within two days. The growing community needed a cemetery of their own and a committee was formed to petition the State Government for land.

In October 1864, the Mordialloc and South Moorabbin Cemetery was opened for burials, taking its first burial 27 March 1865, 24 year old blacksmith John Fullarton Hunter, the son of Cheltenham blacksmith Hugh Hunter. The people of Mordialloc had also petitioned the State Government for their own cemetery and to appease them the new cemetery was given this long and inappropriate name. From the beginning, the locals were not interested in its official name and quickly reverted to its logical name the Cheltenham Cemetery, rightfully now known as Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery, separating it from the so called 'New Cheltenham Cemetery', Cheltenham Memorial in Reserve Road. The title 'New' never seems appropriate when Memorial itself is 86 years old, opening for business in 1933.

What became of the Beaumaris Cemetery? The church building on the site was sold in 1893 and moved to Langwarrin. The land was

then used to graze cattle and Perry Bros used the site as part of their winter headquarters for their circus animals. There are internet sites that suggest that one of their elephants was buried on the site, but long term locals will tell you it was buried at the corner of Balcombe and Cromer Roads, where the old Ampol service station was later located. In 1954, with increased population and local land values growing, a surveyor acting on behalf of the Methodist Church Trustees made an application to the Moorabbin Council for a permit to subdivide the land. Everest Le Page, Moorabbin Councillor and Cheltenham resident, argued that it was not appropriate to sub-divide the site as he believed there were still bodies buried there, but by then the names had long been forgotten and no one bothered to check the Victorian death registers, which would have revealed the names of those who remained buried at the old Cemetery. Despite Cr Le Page's objections, approval was given and the seven lots of land were subsequently sold for housing development.

We are indebted to local historian, Shirley Joy, and her helpers who finally undertook the painstaking research required to reveal the names of those who to this day remain buried at the Beaumaris cemetery. Many of the burials were the infants and young children of our early settlers, but there were a number of adults buried there as well. Finally, Shirley had found the resting place of her own maternal ancestor, Ann Addicott. Many of our pioneer families are represented – Barber, Bruton, Blencowe, Goldstone, Gomm, Hall, Hitchen, Le Page, Martin, Meeres, Moysey, Organ, Penny, Rose, Ruse, Tuck and Walker are some who remained in the local area. Recently we were asked if anybody had been removed from the Churchyard cemetery. We have been able to trace one, Elizabeth / Sarah Gott originally buried at Beaumaris in 1861, but exhumed and re-interred at Pioneer in 1871, when her husband William passed away.

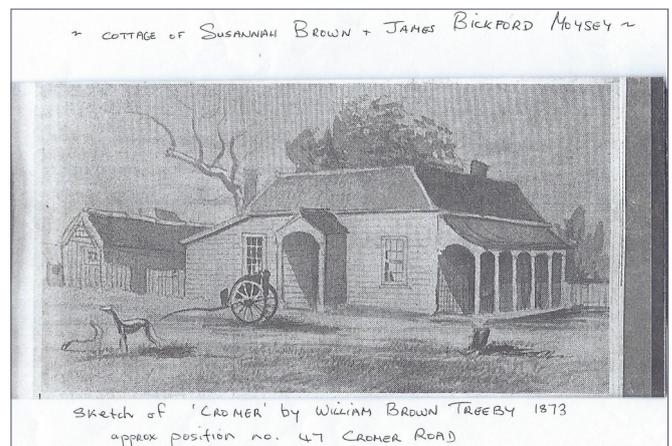
All the Beaumaris burials are listed on our burial search database and are available to all members; enter Beaumaris Churchyard as the cemetery you are searching and you can see the full list of names. There is also a memorial at Pioneer dedicated to those buried at Beaumaris Cemetery, stop and read the names

next time you visit. It is located on the right-hand side of the main pathway, not far from the entrance.



**Memorial at Cheltenham Pioneer dedicated to those buried at Beaumaris Cemetery**

Perhaps some of you remember the old Beaumaris Cemetery before it was subdivided? Was it recognised as a cemetery and was there protest when the Council gave permission for its subdivision? We would love to hear from you if you or your family have memories of the old cemetery in Balcombe Road.



#### Sources:

Original research Shirley M Joy  
FOCRC Burial Search Database  
FOCRC ongoing early settlers' research  
Photos taken by FOCRC  
Moysey house from sketch by William Tibbits

#### Membership Subscription

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# Memories of Cheltenham & Beaumaris

Continuing our series of excerpts from the manuscript of memories by Fairlie (Addie) Taylor.

Source: RHSV Box 41-2 MS 023683 1958

## Beaumaris

At the corner of Charman Road and Beach Road was a very beautiful winding avenue leading to the Wells home. The avenue was a wide sandy track with ti-trees on each side. This had grown over to form a complete arch over the wide track. Harry, Dickie and George Wells lived there. Further along was the Hutchinson home, with old Mr. Hutchinson, who drove a carriage, his distinguished looking wife, and Darken, George and May. The Hutchinson's home was burnt down in the great Beaumaris fire.

Then came Oscar Wetzel with his huge telescope - this was mounted on a heavy frame, and with his telescope he searched the Heavens. Were he alive today, one can imagine how he would have trained his telescope on Sputnik!

The Beaumaris Hotel was originally called "The Great Southern". This faces Bodley Street, which was named after George Bodley - the Engineer of the Moorabbin Council - whose job it was to make plans of Beaumaris subdivisions.

In Cromer Road the first settlers were Rose Bros., later came Granny Sutherland of "Sunnyside", Judge Neighbour, Lamb-Smith, whose son Gemmell became a Master at Caulfield Grammar School. Miss Taylor, a music mistress, whose father built "Marimont" where Miss Robins later opened her school. Great iron gates were at the entrance to "Marimont" which ran right through from Cromer Street to Wells Road and later became "San Remo and still later the "Deauville Estate".

Martins had their home next door to the present Beaumaris School. Other old identities were Davies the Milkman, Coyne in Cromer Road and Coyle and Bob Woff in Church Road. Mr Ruse once had a cottage in Church Street too. Whelans were on the corner of Bodley Street and Tramway Parade. Kathleen, a descendant of Florence Nightingale, and therefore related to the present Archbishop of Melbourne, is now Mrs. Craddock, and lives in her mother's home.

One of Beaumaris's best known characters was old

Mrs. Toy, who carried a tray held by a strap over her shoulders - on the tray was her stock-in-trade - periwinkles.

Well known market gardening families of Beaumaris were Morey, Woof (Woff), Fisher and Monk. Part of Fisher's land was sold to Matthew Wood-Green, a Church of Christ minister. Later, Perry's Circus was established on the spot, and elephants roamed Balcombe Road and Church Road. One lady at Beaumaris heard a noise in her garden one moonlight night, and went out to find an elephant tramping over her precious garden.

Kings were on the North side of Balcombe Road, Bodley at the corner of Church Street and Balcombe Road.

## First Beaumaris State School

The first State School was opened in 1914 in the Beaumaris Hall. The opening ceremony was performed on behalf of the Minister of Education by the Member for the District, Mr. O. R. Snowball.

The first teacher was Miss Addie Fairlam, who, later as Mrs. Fairlie Taylor, joined the staff of the Presbyterian Ladies College and pioneered School Library Practice for Victoria and became a Foundation Member of the Library Institute of Australia.

The first child enrolled at Beaumaris was Kathleen Whelan, now Mrs. Craddock. Other children enrolled on the first day were Eileen, Nancy, Ollie and Tom Rose, Jim and Dudley McDougall, Dave and George Shepherd, Tommy O'Loughlin, Gladys Keefer, Essie Chipperfield, Fanny, Roy and Angus Cameron and Tom Kneen.

The Hall was so spacious that the voice of the teacher echoed and she and the children decided to clean out the double dressing room at the back of the stage and move blackboards and other equipment, thus making a very cosy little schoolroom.

Mrs. Whelan brought a hot dinner for the teacher every day, and as there was no support from Cheltenham, Miss Dolly Meinhardt, with her horse

drawn hooded buggy, called for and returned the teacher daily.

The Beaumaris Hall in which the first school opened was owned by an English Clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Hunter, and his Melbourne Agent was Union Trustees.

The School moved to a new building "in the scrub". Mr. Jackson bought the old Hall and demolished it for its good timber. Its site was the centre of the present Civic Centre near the Kindergarten.

### **First Beaumaris Doctor**

Dr. Ray was the first Beaumaris Doctor. His home was "Little Cromer". Ray Street was named after him.

### **Beaumaris Fishermen**

Tommy Woods had a boatshed and jetty in a cove

at Beaumaris, and many a resident had a gift of fresh fish from this kindly fisherman. Other well-known fishermen, nearer the Charman Road Beach, were Parry Bros., Fred Hamilton, Peter Smith and Peter Junner.

Just to the left of Charman Road Beach were 84 steps leading from the steep clifftops to the wide sandy beach. The steps were demolished when erosion caused the cliffs to fall.

### **Whelan's Shop**

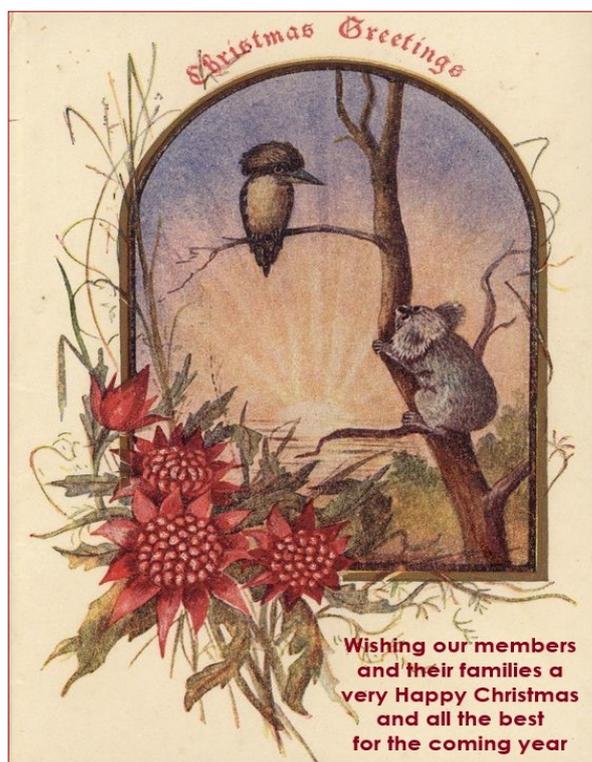
The tram from Cheltenham stopped opposite Whelans at the corner of Tramway Parade and Bodley Street. Seats were provided and many tram travellers bought sweets and soft drinks at the little shop at the front of the Whelan home.

## **HELPERS WANTED**

Are you interested in helping The Friends of Cheltenham Regional Cemeteries group? We would love to hear from you. Maybe you would like to help us on tour days, greeting people, or helping out with our afternoon teas?

Maybe you have administration skills that you are happy to use, perhaps even with helping with our website or social media. Or do you love the thrill of the chase, when it comes to researching many of the interesting people who are buried at both cemeteries? Are you interested in military research, as there are many service personnel buried at Cheltenham cemeteries and the committee is currently attempting to put together a catalogue of all these gallant men and women?

If you are interested in helping the group, please come along and have a chat with one of our committee members, we would be delighted to meet you. There is no pressure to become a committee member, we would just like to meet our members to encourage your involvement in your group – not to mention that we could use an extra pair of hands occasionally! *Contact: [info@focrc.org](mailto:info@focrc.org)*



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