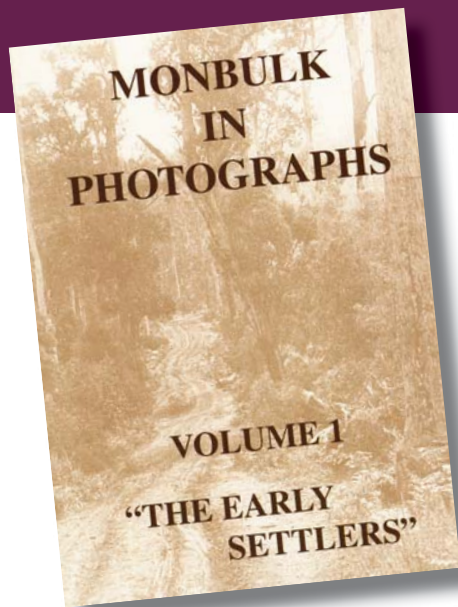




Roundabout

Newsletter No. 1

Winter 2014



MHS BOOK RELEASE

Monbulk in Photographs Volume 1 "The Early Settlers" is finally back in print. Thanks to receiving a Local History Grant from Public Record Office Victoria, Monbulk Historical Society has been able to have this very popular book reprinted. It contains over 140 large photos with very informative captions of the early families who came to Monbulk, Kallista and The Patch in the early 1900's. The book sells for just \$25.00 and can be purchased at the Yarra Ranges office in the Monbulk Hub or direct from the Society.

Also available are Monbulk in Photographs Volume 2, "One Big Family", covering 1920 - 1950 and Volume 3 "A Growing Community" 1950 - 1990 are available for just \$10.00 each. along with many other small MHS publication.

Monbulk Historical Society meet in their rooms in the Monbulk "Hub" Living and Learning Centre each Wednesday morning from 9.30 - 12.00 and welcome visitors who would just like to browse our books and photos or may have some local or family photos or knowledge they would like to share with us.

We are keen to have our photo collection and information 'up to date' so we love to see old local and family photos but more recent ones are also being sort. After all, they will one day be historical

too! Anyone with a photo or document they are willing to share with the Society can bring it up on a Wednesday morning or a pre-arranged time and we can copy it while you wait.

We are very lucky to have a room in the "Hub" and we have past president, Jan Williams to thank for that. She spent many hours with the Yarra Ranges Councillors and their associates before the Hub was built to ensure we had a home. Look out for us at our next street stalls outside the ANZ bank on Saturday 6th December 2014. Contact Monbulk Historical Society by email explore@monbulkhistoricalsociety.org.au or PO Box 98 Monbulk 3793 or call in and chat at the Monbulk Hub. For more information visit the website - www.monbulkhistoricalsociety.org.au.

The following publications are at present being revamped and bought up to date so if you would like to share with us any information or photographs you may have on these stories, please contact us or pop in to visit at 'The Hub' on a Wednesday morning.

The Concrete Bridge
Wellington Cottage
Steve Burnes' Cottage
and

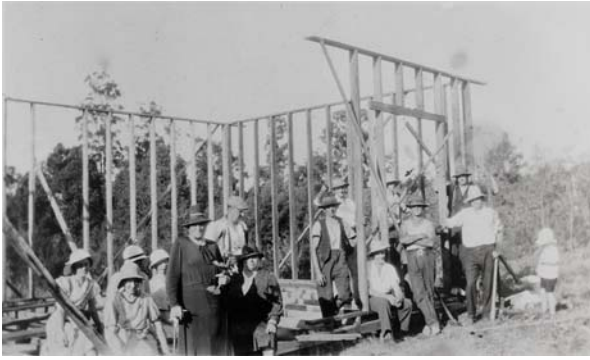
Women at Work which covers several of our pioneering women but we are missing many dates! If anyone can add to the stories of these women, please help us record the history.

Polly Smith
Sarah Coulson
Eliza Hibgame
Maria Hill
Lilias McAllister
Mary Camm

Margaret Dennis
Catherine Mitchell
Frances Murray
Eva Seamer
Jessie Godfrey
Ruby Gray

WELLINGTON COTTAGE

A Tribute to the Women of Monbulk



The construction of Wellington Cottage 1933

These were the Depression years, but the ladies raised the money by holding Euchre nights, stalls, suppers for dances, raffles etc. The last payment was made on 8th March 1935, the total cost being £87/5/11.

Mr Albert Crerar undertook to supervise the actual construction by the men of the town. Work started before Christmas 1933, but stopped temporarily because of the picking.



Muriel Peck Cottage 1940's

The fourth day of July 1934 was cloudy but fine when Lady Huntingfield turned the key in the lock and said, "Now on behalf of the Governor and myself, for the continued success and progress of the Monbulk Baby Health Centre, I have the honour to open the Muriel Peck Cottage."

Mothers in Monbulk, prior to 1931, took their babies to Belgrave to visit the Health Centre there, until the cancellation of the bus service made it impossible to go and return in the same afternoon. So a Health Centre Committee was formed, and Monbulk became a branch of the Croydon Centre. The Shires of Ferntree Gully and Lillydale shared the cost of Sister Dunn's travelling to Monbulk one day a month. A room in the Mechanics' Institute was equipped with a cupboard, a set of scales, for which the Victorian Health Centre's Association had given £10 (\$10), and a magnificent measuring box, made of Blackwood by Mr Crerar from a tree

on his property, and polished to show the grain of the wood.

Mrs Baynes, Mrs Lane, Mrs McPherson, Mrs Crerar, Mrs Phil Camm, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Wallace, Mrs McAllister, Mrs Cavey and Mrs Severino were the members of that Baby Health Centre Committee, and the annual subscription was one shilling (10c).

The Muriel Peck Cottage was not just used as a Baby Health Centre. The C.W.A. met there, as did the Red Cross and the Junior Red Cross, the R.S.L., the William Angliss Hospital Auxiliary, and the Kookaburra Club, a group of ladies who kept in touch with, and sent parcel to, the Monbulk men fighting overseas in the World War of 1939 - 45. Mrs Lane also started a Play Group in the 1940's.



Renaming of "Muriel Peck Cottage" to Wellington Cottage". Muriel Peck started the Monbulk Health Centre. Back: Joyce Cavey, Marion Mitchell (Gay), Freda Camm (Gay), Irene McAlister (Wigmore). Front: Olive Gannon (Camm), Mrs Kath Wellington, Mr Cecil Wellington, Agnes ? (Wigmore)

In 1975, the renaming of the cottage to 'Wellington Cottage' took place. The name was to honour Mr and Mrs Wellington who were both honoured for the work they had done with the Guides, the Health Centre, the CWA, and indeed the whole community.

Do you enjoy learning about the people and places that led to our community being what it is today? Has your family played a part in the history of the District? If your interest is in research, contributing your family's history or sharing the history of others, we need and welcome your help. You can participate in various ways depending on your time, interests and skills. If so please become a member of Monbulk Historical Society and join us in collecting, documenting and preserving our local history.

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