

Nobelius Heritage Park & Emerald Museum

Newsletter No. 5

Spring 2013

"I am never five minutes into stripping the clutter from my life before I start running into the clutter that is my life" — Robert Brault

Spring cleaning or de-cluttering is something we all need to do and I guess with the anticipation of warmer weather, spring seems to be the appropriate season to get people motivated, no matter how big the task.

Similarly at this time of the year, our museum staff tend to dig into their archives to find what hidden relics we have and to ponder their mysterious and sometimes dark secrets. Photographs appear to be the items that cause the most intrigue when it comes to hidden treasures and the unknown story behind them. Below is one such problem.



Who are these gentlemen? they appear to be workers and the truck mentions "Marysville Tours, Marysville" but unlike any tour coach I have travelled on.

*Son of the boys
 apt to right. Slim Duncan, Bin Jones,
 Ed. Lamb, Pumpkin, Keith Lamb
 Chas. Erickson, Ann. Spooner, George Duncan
 Dave Heines, Toe.
 on the truck just in front of the
 Melrose ball room.*

The writing on the back of the photo gives names but does anybody know of them? They are pictured in front of the "Melrose Ballroom", does this mean anything to anybody? We have searched and come up with a blank for this region. If you have any information that can help us trace the story behind this photograph, we would be very grateful.

From the Bookshop



Publications Price List 2013

Books

Emerald in Focus.....	\$20.00
A History of Emerald & District Co-Operative Society.....	\$5.00
Nobelius Heritage Park - An illustrated guide.....	\$5.00
Been There, Done That	\$11.00
A Facet of Emerald.....	\$11.00
From Forest to Farming.....	\$25.00
Gardening with Gus (limited number available).....	\$10.00
Gemco Players Community Theatre (History).....	\$12.00
No Legs or Many.....	\$5.00

PhotographsPrices on application

We like to think of Emerald Museum and Nobelius Heritage Park as a couple of hidden gems within Cardinia Shire. The only problem is that they are too hidden and people have difficulty in finding them.

Sign posting is very poor even some locals don't know we exist. Because of this and to coincide with History Week, we are having an advertising push in October.

Our brochure will be promoted in many outlets throughout Emerald district, including restaurants and real estate agents. Along with this we will be displaying a new series of posters (see example below), in the library and various noticeboards.

As well as the posters we have also added Emerald museum and Nobelius Heritage Park to a new Dandenong Ranges touring Map being produced by Yarra Valley & Dandenong Ranges Marketing. This map will be distributed widely throughout the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges in restaurants, cafes and accommodation premises. There is also a website that is worth viewing and hopefully we will be included on this at a later date.

www.experiencethedandenongs.com.au

Cardinia Shire Council is also going to include Emerald museum and Nobelius Heritage Park on their website as a link under Parks and Gardens. All we need now is some decent signage around Emerald to indicate where we actually are. It is not uncommon to hear from visitors "we would have come sooner but we didn't know where you were". This comment might not seem that unusual, but when it comes from locals as well as visitors, you do start to wonder.

Emerald

A glimpse into the past



In the beginning.....

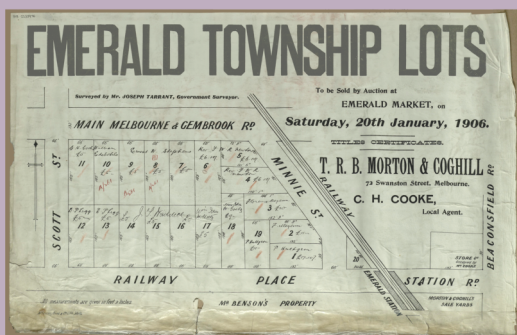
Although gold discovery in 1858 first put Emerald on the map, few prospectors remained to settle, those who did eked out a living clearing land and splitting timber or growing fruit and vegetables.

In 1859 an official survey of the area was carried out and an area of one square mile, centred on the present junction of Emerald - Monbulk and Belgrave - Gembrook Roads, was marked out for the Township of Main Range. It was only with the release of land in 1877 in the northern part of Emerald, that settlement began in earnest.



The first permanent store opened in Emerald on the corner of Monbulk and Gembrook roads in 1898, a blacksmith and a butcher soon followed. The first Emerald Mechanics Institute was built in 1905 and in 1906 there was further subdivision of land in the township. With the opening of the narrow gauge railway in 1900, the centre of Emerald township moved from the Monbulk Road end

to concentrate around Emerald station which opened in 1901. It was at this end of town that a police station, churches and the primary school eventually opened.



Produced by:

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Coming Events

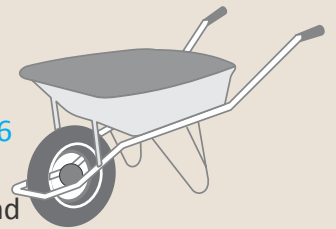
History Week

Come and celebrate History Week with us on:
Thursday 24th October 2013.

You are invited to discover Emerald's history by visiting the museum and wander around the beautiful Nobelius Heritage Park. The museum will be open from 1.30pm until 4.00pm and afternoon tea will be provided.

Working Bee

The next working bee will be on **Saturday October 26** 11.00am - 1.00pm. Please feel free to come along and join us for a couple of hours to help improve the park by weeding, mulching or generally tidying up. Tea and biscuits provided.



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