

Mundaring & Hills Historical Society Inc

Newsletter

SPRING 2023

New Exhibition Opening November

'What the Frock' has come to an end and we will be opening our new exhibition in November. Keep a look out for the opening date of 'We've Got Balls', our latest exhibition taking you through the journey of sport in the Shire. When Mundaring was just being established it was considered different from the rest of the suburbs of Perth. Public transport has never been fantastic in the hills, therefore the community felt the need to create their own entertainment. Sport was very popular and this exhibition will showcase the variety and talent that the Mundaring Community offered.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are on, the Whadjuk and Ballardong Noongar people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this region.

Afternoon Tea Greenmount—1943

A leisurely Sunday afternoon was often spent at the grandparent's house on York Rd, Greenmount. This particular Sunday it was Winter of 1943.

At about 3pm, Grandma and the maiden aunt would set the table in the front room with an embroidered cloth, sugar basin with lumps, sandwiches, homemade biscuits and fruitcake. (There was always fruitcake) Side plates with cups and saucers with a delicate blue flower pattern were placed on the table. I always had the cup and saucer with the yellow daffodils as it was stronger chine, safer for a child my age.

A bell would be rung on the back veranda to call in the men folk who were working down the back part of the block. Then we would all sit down to tea. We could see onto the York Road from the open French doors and occasionally a car would pass by. Not many as it was wartime and petrol was rationed.

Suddenly the stillness of the lazy Sunday afternoon was broken by a loud sound. A small black sedan had come speeding down the hill towards Midland and rolled just outside the house. I was told to stay inside while the adults ran out to see if they could help the occupants.

However, I crept up to the front gate while the adults were occupied and we were all surprised and relieved to see four young American sailors climb out of their upturned car. They had been drinking and were unhurt. They were laughing at their predicament, and as they were talking in the U.S. drawl. They all pushed the car back on its wheels, jumped in, and with a wave they carried on their way down the hill.

We all trooped back inside the house to finish our afternoon tea which had only been interrupted for a short time.

Notes from the President

I am now entering my second year as President of the MHHS and this year is going to be a busy and important year with all that is going on with the Shire's ongoing planning for the new Multipurpose Community and Cultural Facility.

Happily at the last special meeting, the Council voted in favour to go ahead with the concept planning and can now seek funding.

If you haven't attended any of the community sessions I urge you to check out the information on the Shire's website under 'Engage Mundaring' and keep up to date with what the Shire is planning.

Also 'Engage Mundaring' you were able to nominate a particular building or site that you think has merit to be included on the updated Local Heritage Survey. We hope the resulting Heritage List will ensure the safe future of those special sites in the Shire.

Along with various meetings to attend I spent time looking through our Collection for interesting information and particularly photographs. (A picture is worth a thousand words), to share on our Facebook page.

We post at least once a week and hopefully if is of interest to our readers. If you haven't checked it our please do. Our Website address is www.mundaringhistory.org

At the Historical Society we collect, document to ensure our unique cultural heritage is preserved. I would like to ask you "What do you value about where you live and what brought you here? How committed are you to preserve your lifestyle"

Noongar Seasons



Makuru Winter June-July Season of fertility

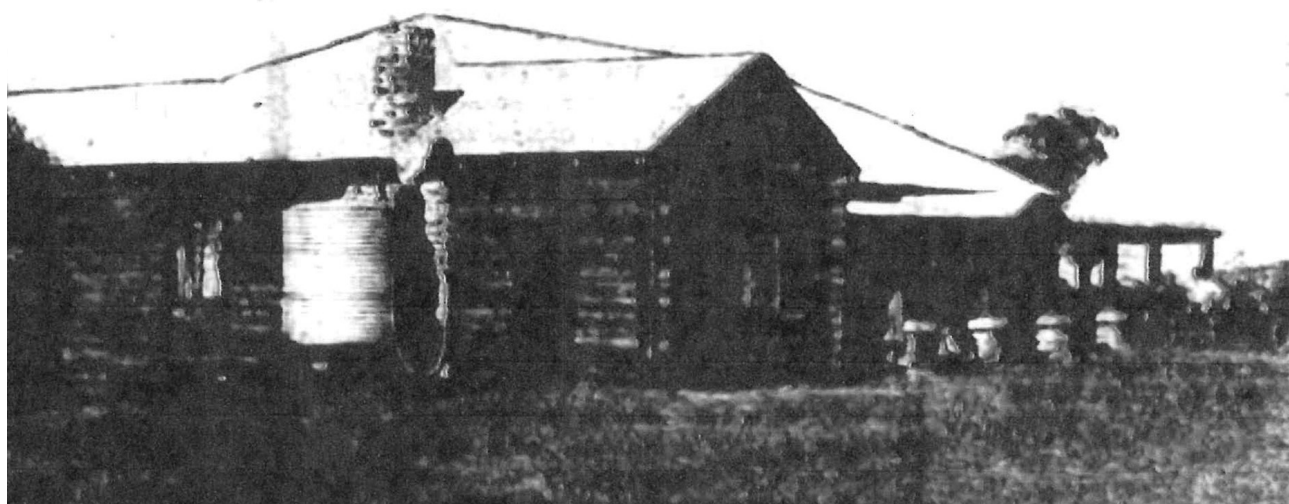
Coldest and wettest season of the year. More frequent gales and storms



Djilba First spring August-September Season of conception

Mixture of wet days with increasing number of clear, cold nights and pleasant warm days

FROM OUR ARCHIVES



The Log Cabin—Greenmount

Trolling through our archives always uncovers forgotten treasures. We came across information on a local hotspot—The Log Cabin. The following piece was written by Val Martin (nee Kay)

The Log Cabin Tearooms, an authentic log cabin, with a magnificent view over the coastal plains, was built in the 1920s, as a stopping place, serving lunches, teas, meals and catering for parties. It was situated on what is now called The Old York Road just up from Chippers Leap, opposite Bona Vista Road. It had some level ground in front which was suitable for parking. Because of the views, it was very popular with visitors and nighttime parties were often held there. It was frequented by Flappers in their fringed dresses with their Beaus.

Unfortunately, the building of the new road Great Eastern Highway was disastrous for the Cabin. A back entrance was built but even then access was restricted to stopping on the main road, walking up a steep sloping path and then climbing steps. It was only for the fit and active. Trade declined and it ceased to operate as a roadhouse or tearooms. In the early years of WWII it was converted into flats. Some years later in the 1950s it was burnt down.

We have other descriptions of the Log Cabin. An article in the Western Mail November 1927 described the surprise 21st Birthday party for Miss Phyllis Spears, the mother of Mundaring Weir resident Helen Spencer (Nee Fathers)

'Friends of Miss Phyllis Spear, of Guildford (formerly of Mundaring) gave her a surprise party on the eve of her 21st birthday. The gathering took place at the Log Cabin, Greenmount. Miss Spear wore white georgette, richly beaded in silver; a gift of her friend Miss K. Campbell. Dancing and music were arranged and about 70 guests sat down to supper. Among those present were:— Mrs. Spear, Misses W. Spear, K. Campbell, B. Wells, N. Wells, D. Wells, E. Parsons, J. Friedman, B. Gannon, M. Watson, F. Reynolds, I. Long, G. Pepper, H. Tymms, N. Jacoby, L. Jacoby, H. Edwards, O. Edwards, I. Perry, R. Wilson, H. Richardson, G. Donaldson, A. Bending, F. Nelson, K. Chesson, S. Nelson, and G. Gorst. Among their dancing partners were Messrs. J. Carew, K. Spear, N. Fathers, F. Weeks, H. Wilson, A. Campbell, C. Santwick, G. Warnock, T. Coombs, G. Carson, B. Snell, H. Pepper, R. Bodinner, G. Moody, T. Ingram, B. Ingram, G. Knights, X. Renouf, T. Brimmage, J. Wells, R. Wells, F. Nelson, R. North, E. Stump, G. Gannon, B. Lochart, T. Hacket, B. Skitch, and B. Nelson.'

The Log Cabin was also described as Perth's first nightclub. Although there was no bar, people could drink their own alcohol in their cars before going inside. Patrons who paid 7 shillings and sixpence, could stay till 3 am and supper was included.

Upcoming Events 2023

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Wednesday 18 th October	140 th Anniversary	Chidlow Primary School 450 Lilydale Rd CHIDLOW
Saturday 21 st October	120 th Anniversary	Sawyers Valley Primary School 235 Sawyers Rd SAWYERS VALLEY
Sunday 29 th October	Whim Festival	Pioneer Park Mount Helena
Saturday 18th November 2pm	General Meeting	Boya Community Centre Cnr Scott and Clayton Rd BOYA
Saturday 18th November 2.45pm	Guest Speaker To be Announced	Boya Community Centre Cnr Scott and Clayton Rd BOYA

WHERE DID YOUR LOCAL STREETS GET THEIR NAMES?

BRECKLER DRIVE, MUNDARING

This Road runs east off Stoneville Road and is the main entrance road to the Noblewood Estate. The names chosen for this estate represent prominent business people from Mundaring's past. Dr Alexander Breckler became the General Practitioner for the Mundaring district in 1946 and remained the only local doctor for some 10 years. His practice was in a house in Hartung Street opposite the current Mundaring Medical Centre.



MUNDARING & HILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

(ABN 25 028 478 748)

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www.mundaringhistory.org

For details on fee structure

See the information below



MUNDARING STATION MASTER'S HOUSE

3060 Jacoby Street, Mundaring
(PO Box 334, Mundaring WA 6073)
MONDAY AND FRIDAY: 9.30am - 4pm
WEDNESDAY: 9.30am - 1.30pm
E: mhhs@mundaringhistory.org
Ph: 9295 0540

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Senior/pensioner: \$15 (Couple \$20)
Single: \$25 (Couple \$30)
Company/Institution: \$35
Account: Mundaring & Hills
Historical Society
BSB 633-000 Acc No 122609431

MUNDARING DISTRICT MUSEUM

7225 GT Eastern Highway Mundaring
(Inside the Visitor Centre)
MONDAY - SATURDAY: 9.30am - 4pm
SUNDAY: 10am—2.30pm