



“Nurungi”

Remembered

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CONCORD HERITAGE SOCIETY

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MEETINGS

General Meetings

2nd Wednesday of month
at 7:30 pm in the
Concord Citizens' Centre
(except July)

Executive Meetings

4th Wednesday of month
at 7:45 pm in the
Concord Citizens' Centre

Committee Meetings

As arranged
Contact Chairpersons
for details

Museum

Fred Stansfield, 9743-1866

Walker Estates

First Thursday each month
(please contact to confirm)
Strathfield North Public School
Correy's Avenue, North Strathfield
Errol Grace, 9743-4301

Heritage

Bill Barlow, 9743-3662

Oral History

Lola Sharp, 8753-0659

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**CONCORD
HERITAGE MUSEUM**
5 Wellbank Street

Open 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Wednesday & Saturday

Remembrance Day - a minute's silence

At 11am on 11th November 1918 the guns of the Western Front in Europe fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare.

Remembrance Day is set aside to remember the sacrifice of those who have died for Australia in wars and conflicts.

The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month became universally associated with the moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front.

On the first anniversary of the armistice, 11 November 1919, two minute's silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London.

The silence was proposed by Edward Honey, an Australian journalist working in Fleet Street.

A South African statesman made a simi-

lar proposal to the British Cabinet that endorsed it.

King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the armistice "*which stayed the world wide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom.*"

After World War II, the Australian and British governments re-named the day Remembrance Day.

In 1997 the Governor-General issued a proclamation urging all Australians to observe one minute's silence on Remembrance Day.

Museum Victoria observes one minute's silence on Remembrance Day to commemorate the sacrifice of those who died for Australia in wars and conflicts.

Reference: <http://www.museum.vic.gov.au/hottopics/article.asp?ID=335> (Published with permission)



The Poppy is for Sacrifice

November is poppy month, the time of the year when by the wearing of a simple emblem, a red poppy, we salute the memory of those who sacrificed their health, their strength, even their lives that we might live in a free country.

The Red Poppy of Flanders is a symbol of modern times, but legend has it that the poppy goes back to the time of the famous Mogul leader, Genghis Khan, as the flower associated with human sacrifice. In the 12th and early 13th century, the Mogul Emperor led his warrior hordes on campaigns south to India, and west to envelop Russia as far as the shores of the Black sea. The policy adopted by the armies of Genghis Khan was simple and effective. They would isolate their enemies, surround and completely annihilate them. The legend states that on the battlefields that were literally drenched with blood, white poppies grew in vast profusion.

The modern story of the poppy is, of course, no legend. In the years immedi-

Urgent Appeal

We have undertaken a very big job in selecting our next project - the restoration of the historic squash court at Yaralla.

This means more tours for each open day and at least two open days per year.

We are now in desperate need of tour guides for Yaralla grounds and mansion.

Won't you give it a go? It's a great chance to become involved in our efforts.

It's not hard work and can be very rewarding.

Don't be modest - you CAN do it! Why not give it a try?



Bulletin Board

Wednesday, 13th November - someone from a **Calligraphy Association** to speak on "**Illuminated Addresses**"

Wednesday, 11th December - **Annual Christmas Party** at Rhodes Park.

ately following World War I, governments and the whole of society, had not accepted the responsibility for those incapacitated and bereft as a result of war. In Britain, unemployment accentuated the problem.

Earl Haig, the British Commander-in-Chief, undertook the task of organising the British Legion as a means of coping with the problems of hundreds and thousands of men who had served under him in battle.

In 1921 a group of widows of French ex-servicemen called on him at the British Legion Headquarters. They brought with them from France some poppies they had made, and suggested that they might be sold as a means of raising money to aid the distressed among those who were incapacitated as a result of the war.

The first poppies were sold in the streets of London on Armistice Day in 1921. The experiment was an immediate success as the poppy was a touching reminder of the battlefields of Flanders, where the small red flower grew in profusion. The Poppy Day sales were greatly assisted by the publication of a hauntingly beautiful poem written by John McCraw on the battlefields of Flanders.

*"In Flanders fields the poppies blow
between the crosses, row on row,
that mark our place, and in the sky
the larks still bravely singing, fly
scarce heard among the guns below.*

*We are the dead, short days ago
we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow
loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe
to you from failing hands we throw
the torch be yours to hold on high
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders field."*

(Reprinted from "Remember")

Fund Raising can be Fun

Errol and Margaret Grace, Trish Harrington and Lorna and Alan Wright have kindly offered their homes to host a Progressive Dinner on Saturday, 22nd February, 2003.

Full details will be available later but please mark the date in your diary now so that you can keep the evening free.

As well as raising funds it will be a great social occasion where we can all get to know one another better in a relaxed, home atmosphere.

See you there!!!

Australian "Israelites" Strange Doctrines

The following article was printed in the Sydney Morning Herald of 27th June, 1916.

At a place called Eden Springs, Benton Harbour, Michigan, U.S.A., the "Israelites" have their headquarters – the "Israelite House of David". There are already a large number of Australians there, and by the last American boat twenty more left. Nine more are to go by the next boat.

At a place named "Homedale" – underneath which name are written the words "House of David" – near the Cabarita tram terminus – the Israelites have their Australian headquarters. Eleven years ago there came to this country a man and a woman, who are known as Benjamin and Mary – the leaders of this remarkable religious sect – and when they returned to their headquarters at Eden Springs, on the shores of Lake Michigan, and about 100 miles from Chicago, they took with them 86 Australians. Five or six years ago two ladies came to Australia to supervise the work here. They established themselves at Strathfield, and later they went to Cabarita, which is known to most of us as one of Sydney's popular holiday resorts on the Parramatta River. One of the ladies went back to America with the twenty Australians recently; the other remains at Cabarita. Her name is Miss Tomlinson. She is a short, frail-looking woman.

A "Herald" reporter paid a visit to this "House of David" a day or two ago. It is a picturesque cottage fronting the Parramatta River. On entering the grounds from the Cabarita road – the back entrance – one notices a large vegetable garden, a considerable number of Buff Orpingtons, Minorcas, and other fowls, a galah or two, and half a dozen cockatoos.

Miss Tomlinson was found in the garden outside of the house in conversation with another lady, who had a boy and a girl with her. The boy's hair hung down over his shoulders. The Israelites wear their hair long. One learnt that passages have been booked for this family by the next boat.

Why do they wear long hair? "Because", said Miss Tomlinson, "the law of God says 'Thou shalt not round the corners of thy head nor mar the corners of thy beard'."

Presently Miss Tomlinson and the interested reporter were sitting in the drawing-room discussing the reasons why Australians should be leaving for Eden Springs, via Chicago.

"It represents the ingathering of the people who hope to be saved – that is, the 144,000", said Miss Tomlinson enigmatically.

"What is – who are the 144,000?"

She pointed to Revelations, 14th chapter

– "the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth". Then she went on: "We do not say that other religions are not all right as far as they go; but we go further. We say that the salvation of the soul is a free gift of grace, without works. But the 144,000 will find also the salvation of the body. That is to say, the 144,000 will not die at all, but will be redeemed, spirit, soul, and body, from among men, and set from the grave, like the great host. There are different glories for man, as Paul speaks of the glories of the sun, moon and stars, etc. All receive their glory according to their faith and works. Which will you have, we ask – the glory of the sun, immortality without death, and receive an hundredfold, or will you choose death and get only the soul salvation, the glory of the moon, sixty fold? It was written that Seven Angels would come before the fulfilment. We have already had six, and the seventh is now with us, preparing us for the ingathering. Oh, no, we do not say that all who go to our headquarters will be numbered among the 144,000 – only that it will enable them to better to live the true life according to our teaching."

"Your organisation is conducted on socialistic lines, is it not?"

"Yes, we are entirely self-supporting. We are our own tailors, our own bootmakers, our own bread-bakers, and so on. In the summer time we operate a great amusement park at Eden Springs – miniature railway, shooting the chute, and all the rest of it – and that brings in a great deal of money. We take advantage of the crowds that gather there to deliver our message. We do not eat meat but we grow large quantities of fruit and vegetables. We send a great deal of our fruit, especially strawberries, to the Chicago markets – we are able to supply it at a few hours' notice. I may also say that a few years ago we purchased an island in Lake Michigan and we do a large lumber trade on it. Let me show you some photographs."

Miss Tomlinson had a tray full of photographs. There was a view of the beautiful house at Benton Harbour, Michigan, with scores of men and boys (all with long hair), women and girls in the grounds. There was a view of the island, with immense stacks of timber all along the foreshore, and a large-sized steamer (the property of the Israelites) waiting to be loaded. And there were views of Benjamin and Mary, Mark and Virginia, Bennie and Gladys, and other notable preachers of the "House of David".

"Everything is pooled, I suppose. Men and women joining you put all their pos-

sessions into the common stock?"

"Yes."

"Supposing a man altered his mind after joining you, would his possessions be handed back to him, or does he sign everything away?"

"Oh, they know what they are doing, of course, when they join us", replied Miss Tomlinson, not too clearly. "Our preachers", she added, "go all over Australia, taking our message and disposing of our literature. When people get interested they explain everything to them. We have seven preachers out here now. They make this place their headquarters. Some of them go down to the Domain on Sunday afternoons. I will give you a copy

of 'Shiloh's', which is published monthly at our headquarters in America; it will help you to a better understanding."

'Shiloh's' – the copy which Miss Tomlinson handed the reporter – is dated, 'Jerusalem, first month, fourteenth year of the new Creation', and among other interesting articles is one on 'Australia', signed by Jennie and George. Here are some extracts: - "We are now in our new field of work in Western Australia, and as we travel from place to place we truly see that the fullness of the Gentiles has now come. They love to hear more about the devil's work than they do about God's kingdom, and when an Israelite comes along with the truth they reject it – loving darkness rather than light . . . At several

meetings here we had the Russelites, Seventh Day Adventists, and a man who claimed to be Elijah the prophet . . . Afterwards, when canvassing, a lady said she never could believe that it was a snake that deceived Eve, but thought it must have been a sneak in the form of a man."

There is a special note of warning in the paper: "In spiritual matters, books, pamphlets and papers, beware of imitations."

We thank Guy Featherstone of Box Hill North for supplying the above newspaper cutting.

The house "Homedale" at Cabarita was built in 1899 for J.J. Shipley, a Concord Alderman in 1906-1907. It was in the area later purchased by Dulux.

Israelite House of David - Church of the New Eve, Body of Christ

Founded at Fostoria, Ohio, 1902, by Mary & Benjamin Purnell; relocated in 1903, by inspirational direction, to Benton Harbor, Michigan; reorganized by Mary Purnell, 1930, as today's Mary's City of David, The Israelite House of David as reorganized by Mary Purnell

AMERICA'S THIRD OLDEST CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

In the Spring of 1902, Mary and Benjamin Purnell had found a temporary home and resting place in Fostoria, Ohio, after 7 years on the road as itinerant preachers. Here they would found the nucleus of the Seventh Church at the Latter-Day, the Israelite House of David, Church of the New Eve, Body of Christ, and finish the printing of their 780 page manuscript, of 7 years in writing,



The Star of Bethlehem, The Living Roll of Life.

By inspiration, Mary Purnell was given the actual home base for the newborn church to be at Benton Harbor, Michigan. In the Spring of 1903, a small party of Charles Norris, John Schneider, Cora and Paul Mooney, Mary, Benjamin and Coy Purnell journeyed from Fostoria to Benton Harbor, arriving on Saint Patrick's Day. Silas Mooney had been sent ahead to procure properties for housing and open ground for raising food, and to meet with the heads of the local circle of believers, the Louis and Albert Baushke families and a party of nine in Benton Harbor. The Baushke family being prominent citizens and car-

riage makers by trade, built in their down town Benton Harbor factory, America's first automobile of their own design.

By 1910 the Star of Bethlehem was in its third edition, had circulated around the world to the churches/followers of the former six Israelite messengers, and had gathered into the fast growing Israelite House of David community over 700 people.

Eden Springs Park was in its second extra ordinarily successful season on its way to become America's premiere pre-Disney, theme park; the House of David schools would provide education and recreational activities for its children that would soon develop into legendary barn storming base ball teams, "Jesus Boys", and traveling jazz bands that would catch the atten-

tion of America in sweeping nationwide vaudeville circuit tours throughout the 1920s. By the mid 1930s, and in spite of world wide economic depression, the Israelite House of David and its reorganization, Mary's City of David, would come to dominate southwestern Michigan's economy, tourism and agricultural industries.

Within this history you will see that the Israelite House of David and its reorganization, Mary's City of David, over the century, has touched the lives of most of the local population, and also has had its significant effects upon American culture.

- * We played in the first night baseball game in history at Independence, KS, April, 1930
- * Our ladies could VOTE and hold office in 1903, 17 years before the 19th Amendment.
- * One of our founding families was one of America's earliest automobile makers, 1894.
- * We promoted a vegetarian diet for healthy living in our restaurant and cafe from 1908-1975.
- * John Philip Sousa led our band in 1921 at San Francisco during our California/west coast tour.
- * We provided a Jewish summer haven (resort) for 35 years within our Christian community, 1930-1965.
- * We invented the automatic pin-set for bowling, 1909-10.
- * A 1929 Michigan State Supreme Court ruling in favor of the House of David reaffirmed freedom of religious practice and expression in



An accidental picture that became the emblem of authority to govern the House of David after her husband's death in 1927

America.

- * Jackie Mitchell, professional baseball's first female, pitched for us in 1933, and was our starting pitcher in our victory over the St. Louis Cardinals, in September of that year
- * Walt Disney bought one of our original 1909 miniature steam locomotives in the early 1950s.
- * Our hospital, for its short history, boasted of having the leading surgical theatre in America (1938-39).
- * Produce from our numerous agricultural properties made the open-air market in Benton Harbor, the largest in the world during the 1940s-1950s.
- * Our final basketball tour of 1954 was an exhibition series throughout Europe against the Harlem Globetrotters.
- * We invented the sugar waffle-cone for ice cream.

(Information taken from the web site, www.maryscityofdavid.org)

Christmas Barbecue

There will be no general meeting in December, in its place we will be enjoying our annual Christmas Barbecue at Rhodes Rotary Park on Wednesday, 11th December.

We will be gathering there from 5:30 p.m. to enjoy a good meal, good fellowship and good location so come along and join in. The evening will conclude at approximately 8:00 p.m. Visitors welcome.

Cost will be \$10 per head - all food supplied, but BYO liquid refreshments.

Booking is essential for catering purposes so please contact the secretary with numbers.



From the Secretary's Desk

THANK YOU . . .

to the only reader (not even a member) who picked up the error in last issue - *the fifty-dollar note entered circulation in 1973 not 1873*. At least we have one reader!!

HANDYMAN WANTED

We're still looking for a handyman for odd carpentry and painting jobs.

NURUNGI

The editors would appreciate some feedback on what you think of our newsletter.

Are the articles interesting? Are they of no interest? What would you like to see included?

If you have something to say, we'd like to hear from you. We're always happy to print your views, or any article you would like to submit.

If you come across some interesting article from another source, send it along to us (make sure you include details of where it is from so we can get permission to print it). If it interests you it will interest other members.

YARALLA OPEN DAY

We've just received permission for our next Open Day at Yaralla, which will be on Sunday, 30th March, 2003.

Would all our regular volunteers please make a note of the date now so you will be prepared.

To those who haven't taken part before, this would be a good time to give it a try and an opportunity to see our wonderful photographic display. You'll be impressed with what a wonderful day it can be.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: *Yesterday is already a dream; and tomorrow is only a vision; but today, well-lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope.*

You & Your Family are invited to attend the...

BaySports

Launch Party

"Promoting & Fostering Sport and Recreation within Canada Bay City"

Mingle with TV and Sports Stars

Date: Friday 15 November at 7.30pm

Venue: Western Suburbs Soccer Club

4 William Street Five Dock

Free Champagne. Free Nibbles. Free Sports Star Autographs.

Free Adult and Free Kiddies Disco plus much more...

COME AND SEE WHAT BAYSPORTS IS ALL ABOUT

Dates for your Diary . . .

- ☛ Thursday, 7th November - Walker Estates Committee at Concord Bowling Club, end of Clermont Avenue, North Strathfield
- ☛ Wednesday, 13th November - "Illuminated Addresses"
- ☛ Wednesday, 27th November - Executive Meeting
- ☛ Wednesday, 11th December - Our annual Christmas Barbecue at Rhodes Park from 5:30 p.m. Booking essential for catering. Cost \$10 per head, all food supplied. BYO liquid refreshments. Visitors welcome.
- ☛ Executive Committee will not meet in December
- ☛ There will be no general meeting in January

THE WALKER CREST/MOTTO



On our open days we are often asked what is the meaning of the latin on the Walker crest - "Per Varios Casus".

An approximate translation would be "Through diverse (or various) opportunities", which would appear to be an indication of how his wealth was acquired. It's not known if this was an old crest or whether it came about with our Thomas Walker.