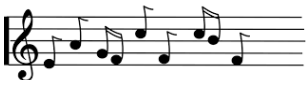
MT HORROCKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2019

Christmas Carol Service
St Marks Church

As takes place every year, a Carol Service was held in the historic St Marks Anglican Church at Penwortham on Wednesday 19th December 2018. The congregation gathered at the nativity scene in the church grounds where Fr Thompson led the carol singing.

Fr David Thompson greets the congregation at the Nativity scene outside the church



December Visitors

On 12th December 2018 the Mt. Horrocks Historical Society hosted a Christmas lunch for a party from Mt Bryan/Hallet, the Sir Hubert Wilkins History Group. Horrocks Cottage was open for the visitors to browse through and Wendy Spackman along with Malcolm Weddles presented an account of the life of John Ainsworth Horrocks. It was a warm day, however everyone enjoyed themselves and left feeling more informed about our local history.

Visit to Chertsey Museum

On a recent trip to the UK, Janet & Jim Morran visited the Chertsey Museum in Surrey, UK.

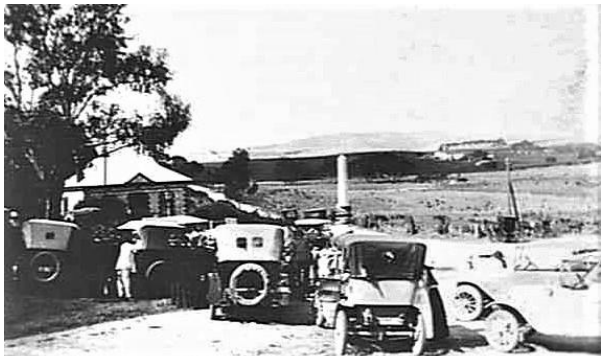
'The Cedars' – the home of Chertsey Museum

The visit was prompted by the fact that the Museum houses a "Horrocks Collection' containing some 46 documents relating to the Horrocks family. In 1837 John Ainsworth Horrocks' father Peter moved his family to Chertsey and purchased/leased a house called '*Beomond*'. The large spacious eighteenth-century house stood on 26 acres of rich meadowland. It was one of Chertsey's grandest houses, but was demolished in the 1940s. After Peter's death in 1841, his widow Clara lived there for a number of years.

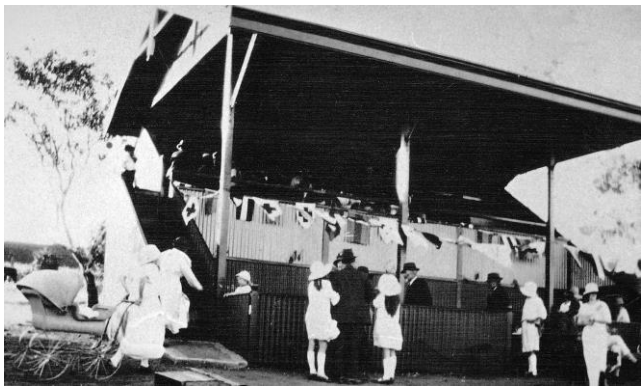
Beomond House

Opening of Watervale Soldiers' Memorial Park 1919

The Soldiers' Memorial Park at Watervale celebrates its centenary this year. Mr. Samuel Solly donated the land and a Committee was formed to oversee the planning and construction of the park. As its name suggests, the park was and still is, a memorial to the fallen in the First World War. It was opened on 26th March 1919. A memorial obelisk was also erected and the photograph below shows the unveiling.



A pavilion was later erected and this was opened in 1929 in the memory of William Tavender, a prominent resident and local storekeeper.



After the Second World War money was distributed to towns by the Government for memorials and a pair of wrought iron gates was purchased for the park. These gates were restored and replaced in 2014.

Another Side to Technology

By Carole Simmonds
President, Tea Tree Gully & District Historical Society

My husband and I received letters from our banking facility to say they are going to close the branch we use due to the rapid amount of people who are embracing digital services rather than the over-the-counter facilities! I might add that this branch is always very busy.
Over the last 6 months, staff at the branch have been encouraging, and in some cases pushing, people to do all their banking via the internet with the comment "you will find it much easier", but I still believe in my right to have a choice of how I conduct my banking business and was happy with the over-the-counter service.

I mentioned to a staff member "what happens to your jobs if this is the way of the future?" and was told "oh, we will still be employed". Well it appears they may be, as long as they move, as the letter stated: *All affected employees will be offered positions at alternative locations!* Good luck with that – yes, as you get older you get more cynical.

Another side of technology taking away the social side of life, and yes I have made my feelings known to their Head Office, as I am sure many others will, and I reminded them that their banking facility says it is "**Run by Members Not by Numbers**"!

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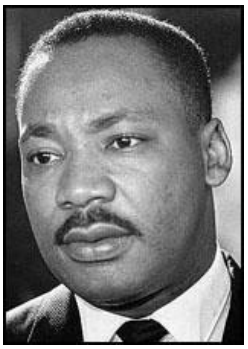
90th Anniversary of the Birth of Martin Luther King
15th January 1929

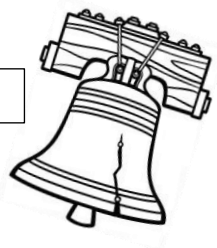


This year will see the anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther King who is remembered for his fight against racial discrimination and for civil rights, and whose assassination at the young age of 39 rocked the American nation to its foundation. King was killed on 4th April 1948 in Memphis, where he had gone to support a garbage workers' strike.

His '*dream'* of the day when his (black) people, and indeed all people, would be judged by their character, and not by the colour of their skin, became an inspiration all over the world. His leadership in the civil rights movement and his belief in non-violence as the best means of obtaining equal justice gained him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Only 35 years old at the time, he was the youngest person ever to be given this award.

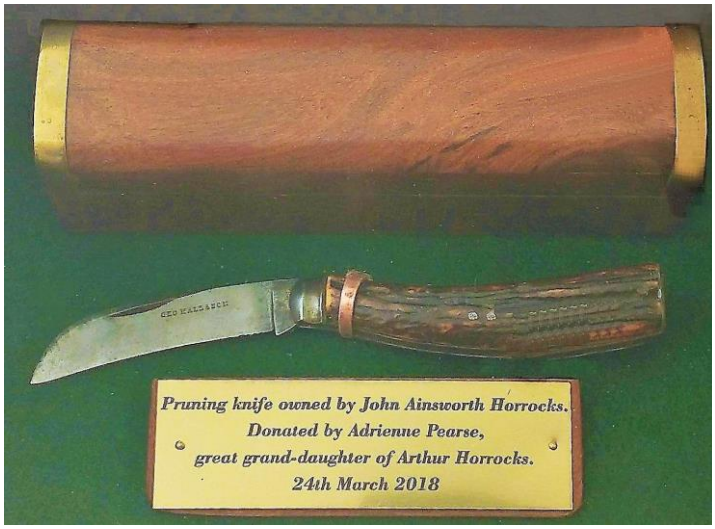
Philadelphia Commemorations of King's birthday centre on the inspirational 'I have a dream' speech which he gave at the 1963 march on Washington. Bells are tolled in all fifty states and ceremonies also include the symbolic tapping of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia.

Liberty Bell



Acquisitions & Donations

- A pruning knife that once belonged to John Horrocks was donated to MHHS by Arthur Horrocks' great-granddaughter Adrienne Pearce at the Bicentenary celebration. This knife is now housed in a beautifully handcrafted case made by Erwin Freund. Erwin also made the reproduction of a collection box from the Leasingham Baptist Church. Both the pruning knife and collection box are on display in Horrocks Cottage.



Wendy Spackman & Erwin Freund

- A '*Colours of Yesterday*' colouring book coloured in and donated by Margaret Walton, a one-time Committee Member of MHHS

- A grinding stone donated by Alan Williams

Committee Members

President	Wendy Spackman	Newsletter	Jim Morran & Meredith McInnis
Vice-President	Janet Morran	Minute Secretary	Jim Morran
Secretary	Anne Weddle	Publicity	Meredith Mc Innis
Treasurer	David Spackman	Public Officer	David Spackman

COMMITTEE Joey Duncan, Alan Williams, Malcolm Weddle, Malcolm Paterson

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