

PAST MATTERS

CAMPERDOWNHISTORY.ORG.AU

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**2020
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF THE NURSE AND
THE MIDWIFE**

Join us in celebrating nurses and midwives!



**World Health
Organization**

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS

2020 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE NURSE...

"This year it is 200 years since the birth of Florence Nightingale and nursing and midwifery are being acknowledged on a global scale. The World Health Assembly has designated 2020 the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife." ~ Article by Jennifer Rabach

The World Health Organisation (WHO), the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), International Council of Nurses (ICN), Nursing Now and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) have joined together to celebrate the work of nurses and midwives, highlight the challenging conditions they often face, and advocate for increased investments in the nursing and midwifery workforce.

Nurses and midwives play a vital role in providing health services wherever they practise and many of us are familiar with what nurses and midwives do and of the challenges they face at work as we have a nurse or a midwife in our family. Legendary Australian nurses such as Vivian Bullwinkel left documents and diaries that record their service that are accessible through the Australian War Memorial.

Understanding the evolution of the professions is important to remembering the past and understanding

nursing and midwifery today.

Those that practised in rural and regional parts of Australia faced physical isolation which brought its own challenges personally and professionally. They were often the first and only point of care in their communities. Today, wherever they practise, nurses and midwives still play a key role in the health of the community.

Today, it is important to reflect on and celebrate our own history and how nurses and midwives contributed in our community.

In 2019 the Camperdown Historical Society was very grateful to receive some historical records from the Camperdown and District Hospital. Nurses and midwives often do not leave a record so it may be difficult to document their working lives. However, glimpses can be obtained through archival work and this is why

article continued page 2

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& 1st Sunday of month
(Market Day) 10am-3pm
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IN THIS ISSUE:

- P 1. Year of the Nurse
- P 2. Year of Nurse cont.
& Police Files
- P 3. Coming Events
- P 4-5. Mr. J.L. Currie at Larra
- P 6-7. Chocolyn Visit
& A Very Special Booklet
- P 8. Jottings & News

2020 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE NURSE...

Today, it is important to reflect on and celebrate our own history and how nurses and midwives contributed in our community.

Some years ago retired Cobden policeman Alan Hart gave the Heritage Centre two lever arch files of records relating to police who were stationed at Camperdown between 1862 and 2005.

the documents we have received are so valuable. The hospital documents provide a snapshot into the lives and deaths of those in the local community. For example, the patient register records two deaths that would have sent shock waves throughout the community and to Melbourne.

Several Police Officers, were admitted to Camperdown and District Hospital on December 8, 1911 as emergency cases. Harold Riddle (39) had a fractured collarbone and leg and died seven days later and James Ogilvie (52) died four days later from shock and diabetes.

The "Cobden Times" records the Police Band arriving on the midday train to play at the Cobden Carnival in aid of the hospital. From the records we can identify their religions and their home addresses - both in Melbourne.

So, why are we interested in what terrible thing happened to the Police Band on that day? What could their story tell us about nursing and patient care?

In placing together what happened to them and how can we give meaning to their lives and also the lives of the nurses and doctors that provided care.

Their stories illuminate a period of time that is unfamiliar to us today with methods of treatment that are strange or sometime unsafe. More will be revealed in the next newsletter.

The Camperdown and District Hospital historical documents are being catalogued and organised so that that in the future they will be available for researchers.

- 1 <https://www.biography.com/scientist/florence-nightingale>
- 2 <https://www.who.int/campaigns/year-of-the-nurse-and-the-midwife-2020>
- 3 <https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/fiftyaustralians/5>
- 4 "Cobden Times" Saturday Dec 9, 1911

Jennifer Rabach
Heritage Centre Volunteer, Archivist

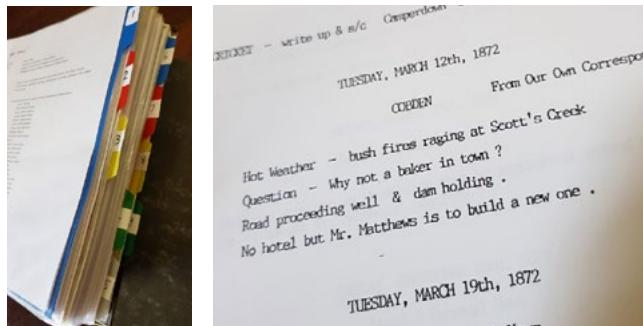
COMING EVENTS

**Next executive meeting - at the Heritage Centre
Wednesday 18th March, 9.30 am**

**Invitation to CDHS Members: Guest Speaker
Sunday, 16th February, 2.00 pm**

Graham Arkinstall, Details on Page 3.

POLICE RECORDS INDEXED



The Camperdown Police Station opened in 1857, but we have no records between that date and 1862. Our volunteers have now organised and indexed these two books.

The indexes include:

- an alphabetical index of police stationed at Camperdown
- a timeline of police stationed at Camperdown
- personal and/or service records for 84 of the police stationed at Camperdown
- letters, plans and articles relating to the Police Station, Police House and the Police Paddocks
- various Police Muster Rolls for the Geelong District from July 1874 - June 1878
- newspaper articles and reports from 1866 to 2005 relating to about 230 individual officers

The reports cover a large range of topics, including shipwrecks, murder, suicide, child molestation, drunkenness, horse stealing and car accidents to name but a few.

The reports make fascinating reading, showing how different life was in the past, but human nature doesn't change.

Alan Hart has given us a wonderful resource. Thank you, Alan. We hope members will be able to make use of it in their research.

Jan Whamond
Heritage Centre Treasurer & Archivist

VICTORIA POLICE.—[15.]		RECORD of CONDUCT and SERVICE of Richard Cunningham	
PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.			
Name & Surname	Reg. No.	Date of Birth	19-4-62
Appointed	{Foot} Mounted Constable	Height	6'0
	18-10-87	Eyes	Grey
		Hair	Very Light
		Complexion	Fair
		General Appearance	Smart
		Country	Mayo
		Island	Ireland
TRANSFERS.			Remarks
			1. 34. Irish born

COMING EVENTS: FEBRUARY - APRIL 2020

A SPECIAL EVENT ~ GUEST SPEAKER

SUNDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2.00 PM, CAMPERDOWN HERITAGE CENTRE

“THE CHANGING FACE OF MT LEURA AND MT SUGARLOAF, 1839 - 2020”

For nearly three decades, our guest speaker, Graham Arkinstall, has been the driving force behind the restoration of the original vegetation to the Mt Leura and Mt Sugarloaf reserves.

Graham will tell us about the past, present and future of the Mounts.

Guests Welcome

Members: please bring some afternoon tea.



FESTIVAL 2020 TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!
CAMPERDOWNBURNSFESTIVAL.COM.AU

4 fantastic speakers & topics for the Lecture Series

Saturday 4th July, 10.30 am - 3.30 pm, Killara Centre

More details on the website: <https://camperdownburnsfestival.com.au>

**ROBERT BURNS
SCOTTISH
FESTIVAL
CAMPERDOWN**

Victoria
Australia

Dr Andrew Lemon

Subject: The Manifolds, their horses, and the Scottish connection

Dr Ruth Pullin

Subject: Vision and patronage: von Guérard and the Scots of the Western District

Dr Ian D. Clark

Subject: A Scottish Ramble through the Western District

David Jellie

Subject: The legacy of Scottish Engineers, Telford and McAdam, to Australia's roads.

LARRA GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY – JUBILEE OF MR. J.L. CURRIE AT LARRA.

By Gillian Senior

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1844-1894

In his review of CDHS publication, "Scotland to Australia Felix", Historian Peter Yule singles out John L Currie of Larra as "the greatest story" in the book. The son of tenant farmers in Scotland, the 26-year-old Currie built his property near Mt Elephant into one of Australia's premier Merino studs. "On his death in 1898, his estate was valued for probate at £479,000, one of the great fortunes of nineteenth century Australia ."

An interesting report in the "*Camperdown Chronicle*" of Saturday, 28th April, 1894 enthusiastically describes the 50 year celebrations at Larra, marking a half century of growth and development at Larra and in the new State of Victoria.

Four years after this celebration, John L. Currie died at the age of seventy-nine.

"*Camperdown Chronicle*" (Vic. : 1877 - 1954), Saturday 28 April 1894.

JUBILEE OF MR. J.L. CURRIE AT LARRA.

Tuesday, the 24th April 1894, will be a memorable day in the history of the Larra, Titanga, and Gala estates, because it marks the jubilee of the settlement of Mr. John Lang Currie, upon the verdant plains of Larra.

From 1844 to 1894, represents a remarkable epoch of Colonial history to those landholders who settled in the Western district in the forties; the change from the primeval forest to civilisation must appear almost as marvellous as the fabled results of the lamp of Aladdin.

In 1844 Ballarat and Bendigo were unknown. Melbourne had assumed the proportions of a second rate township; Geelong, was a small settlement; railways were [unreadable] here; Victoria was undreamt of as an Eldorado. This colony was merely an insignificant part of New South Wales, with a population of 27,000, and a sheep roll of about 2,000,000.

In the 50 years that have followed beautiful cities have replaced the huts and tents of the former time. The year 1855 gave Victoria a constitution. Wool to the value of £170,000,000 has been produced, mining has added £234,000,000 to our wealth, £35,000,000 has been expended in our railways, 15,000,000 sheep and 5,000,000 cattle find ample pasturage in this colony of 1,140,000 people, whose public and private wealth is estimated at £500,000,000.

All this marvellous progress it has been the fortune of Mr. J. L. Currie to witness, and the ceremony and festivities of Tuesday last were graceful and fitting tributes to an honourable career. On that day Mr. Currie had sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to drive across from Tatanga to Larra, and to perform a simple ceremony

commemorative of his jubilee in Larra, viz, the insertion of an inscribed stone in the cairn which marks the site of his original dwelling house (about half a mile from the present residence). The cairn was erected several years ago, and a stone in it bears the inscription

J.L.C. and T.A. SITE OF FIRST HUT. 1844.

The new stone is simply inscribed—J. L. C. Ap. 24, 1894.

After it had been "well and truly laid," Mr. Currie, with his back against the old stone cairn, his old friends Messrs. Peter M'Arthur and Thomas Shaw at his side, and other friends and relatives — including Mrs. Currie and members of his family— around him, he read the following notes of his early reminiscences connected with Larra:

"I humbly praise and thank Almighty God, that he has preserved me in health to see this day, and with reverence to acknowledge, that whatever success has attended my efforts, I owe to His goodness and mercy. In the few notes I am going to read, I wish to follow the injunction of a very wise man, who lived long ago. "Let another man praise thee and not thine own mouth, a stranger, and not thine own lips." If I depart from this wise injunction, it will only be to make my narrative more clear.

On this day, fifty years ago I took delivery, and entered into possession of what is now Larra, in partnership with the late Thomas Anderson, who however, as far as memory serves me, was not present. The property was bought from James Kinross, who died in Scotland about seven years ago. The transfer and [unreadable] into the property was not an elaborate business. The property consisted of some 1500 sheep and lambs, 4 working bullocks, 1 dray, 100 hurdles, and a shepherd's "watch box", it being necessary, owing to packs of wild dogs, for the shepherd to sleep alongside his sheep yard. These with a pot, frying-pan and kettle, comprised the moveable chattels.

The right of run, as was the custom at that primitive time, was given in. I have to trust to memory for these details, for I cannot find a scrap of writing on that subject, to be accounted for, I doubt not, by there being neither pen, ink, nor paper, in the establishment, and so no nearer than Geelong. The improvements, so called, consisted of three huts, very correctly shown in the painting to be exhibited at the woolshed this evening, one being the owner's, another for the men, and the third the woolshed.

The "run" (then without name) was originally taken up by John and Andrew Brown, about the year 1840 or 1841, and formed a part of their run, which then included what is now Larra, Gala, Titanga, Polgelot and Stonehenge. That portion which now forms Larra was taken from the Brown's and given by the Land Commissioner, Captain Fyans, to James Kinross, from whom we purchased.

Mr. Currie's early reminiscences connected with Larra, continued:

The whole country was then very much in a state of nature. I am safe in saying there was [scarcely] a roll of fencing between this and Geelong, and similar conditions prevailed in the opposite direction to the Westward. Our first shearing produced about 11 bales wool. The washing was done at a waterhole at the junction of Monday's Gully and the [unreadable], there being no available water for this purpose. The supply for the huts was taken from a well in the watercourse by dipping a bucket a few feet, where now as you all know is a strong running stream. At that time there was no water on the surface, but a supply could be obtained anywhere on the watercourse at a shallow depth. In, I think, the winter of 1846 the water came to the surface, increased, and began to flow. and has continued to do so in more or less volume from that time to this.

The watercourse was then filled with a thick belt of ti-tree. The native name of the head of the spring is Amki-boonook There was a strong tribe of natives, with some very fine men amongst them, owing I have no doubt to the abundance of food. In the swan-egg season great numbers collected—the Elephant Marsh, Laigonn, Bailieu Lake, Murrnong Kiln Swamp. &c, were all favourite and extensive breeding places for waterfowl. The run was not named for some time after occupation by us. When this became necessary, and by official request, it was named Gelonglo. This, I believe, was the aboriginal name for the spring at the head of Gelonglo creek, now Ti-tree. The name Larra was the native name for the locality of a spring in the horse paddock, almost where the Gelonglo windmill now is. It was pronounced by some Lawur, Larrach, and Larra. The last, was adopted as being the best of the three, but after the name had been too well fixed to be altered, another pronounced it Lawarra, a much finer name than either.

The contiguous neighbours were John Brown (Gala), Johnson and Campbell (now Mt. Elephant), Nicholas Cole (West Cloven Hills), J. G. Ware (now Koort Koortnong), John Hastie (Leslie Manor), Oliphants and Robertson (Struan). The timber was thick in places between where the station now is and Mt. Elephant, and I am safe in saying there were forty trees for every one now existing.

Game was very abundant, emu, native companion, turkey, and a great variety of waterfowl, bandicoot etc., with packs of wild dogs to prey upon them. Great cover was afforded by the rank nature of the vegetation and swamps."

On the completeness of these notes and recollections of 50 years ago, which were far more meagre than they would have been but for his recent illness, and after Mr. Currie had again apologised for taking up the time of those around him with what was almost exclusively of family interest, and thanked all for their attendance, Mr. Peter M'Arthur spoke a few words expressing his pleasure at being present on such an interesting occasion.

(Neighbours and friends, Peter M'Arthur and Thomas Shaw both spoke of their histories and admiration of Currie and his development of Larra.)

The old employees of Mr. Currie, who are still on the station, to the number of seven, whose service to Mr. Currie began in several instances from 20 to 40 years ago asked Mr. Currie's acceptance of a beautifully illuminated address. It was handed to Mr. Currie by Mr. Robert Marshall, who originally came to Larra in 1852, and most well and feelingly read aloud by Mr. Abel Jones, who entered the service 23 years ago.

(The address praised Mr Currie's qualities as a man and as an employer. An afternoon of cricket followed, between a team from Larra and neighbouring properties after which all adjourned to the beautifully draped and decorated woolshed for refreshments. Over a hundred guests partook of a splendid spread, a programme of music and recitation followed and, on a newly floored part of the woolshed, a grand ball was held to end the celebrations.)

NOTE: This excerpt has been abridged. The complete report is available at:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18616873?searchTerm=larra&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1894-04-28|||dateTo=1894-04-28|||advtitle=43|||sortby>



J.L. CURRIE 1875

LARRA HOMESTEAD & STABLES



On the evening of Tuesday 10th December, 48 members of the Camperdown & District Historical Society were privileged to visit the wonderful "Chocolyn" homestead and garden. Special thanks to hosts Steve Nagle and Mark Grant.



A VISIT TO CHOCOLYN HOMESTEAD 10TH DECEMBER 2019 ~ ARTICLE BY BOB LAMBELL

On the evening of Tuesday 10th December, 48 members of the Camperdown & District Historical Society were privileged to visit the wonderful "Chocolyn" homestead and garden.

Historic Chocolyn homestead is perched on the eastern bank of Lake Colongulac, a few kilometres north of Camperdown. Steve Nagle and Mark Grant are the proud owners of the property and were our generous hosts and guides for the evening.

In 1842, Englishman William Adeney acquired 5,948 acres from the Manifold brothers, which originally formed part of their Purrumbete run. William named his property "Chocolyn". The name Chocolyn is believed to have been derived from the local Aboriginal word Chukkaelang, meaning feast - possibly due to the abundance of food in and around the nearby lake.

Pioneer pastoralist William Adeney was also a respected artist, naturalist and diarist and served as a JP and magistrate in the early days of Camperdown. He famously discovered the fossilized bones of prehistoric megafauna along the shore of Lake Colongulac.

William Adeney built his imposing

Victorian Gothic style sandstone homestead in about 1858 to a design thought to be by Geelong architects, Backhouse and Reynolds. The original homestead has been incorporated into later extensions and only the walls remain of the original kitchen wing.

William Adeney sold Chocolyn in 1873 and moved with his family into a bluestone house he built at the corner of McNicol and Barkly Streets Camperdown. Remarkably, William's descendants still own and reside in this house.

There have been a number of owners of Chocolyn since 1873 and each has extended or made "improvements" to the original homestead. The property size has gradually diminished to a few 100 acres.

Steve Nagle and Mark Grant purchased Chocolyn in 2011. In the years since, they have painstakingly researched and carefully worked on the massive task of restoring the homestead, outbuildings and gardens.

They have concentrated on stabilizing and repairing the homestead's damaged foundations and are taking a sensitive, minimalist approach to

restoration and improvements to the house. Steve and Mark have also put an enormous amount of work into restoring and improving the beautiful park like garden. Nobody is sure who designed it. Perhaps it was the celebrated William Guilfoyle, but maybe it was Daniel Bunce?

The joy and enthusiasm of Steve and Mark in working on their historic property and showing us around was obvious. Chocolyn could have no better custodians and we are very grateful to them for having us. A great finale event for the year!

Don't miss our next special event:
Guest Speaker; Graham Arkinstall,
Sunday, 16th February - 2pm
see page 3 for details.





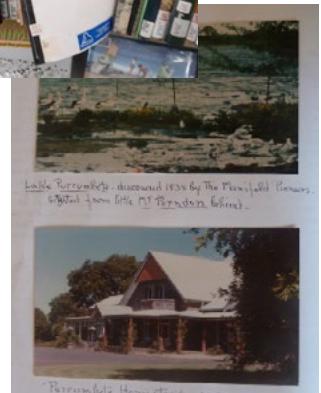
A VERY SPECIAL BOOKLET

Marjorie Butler and 'Gwenda' Grimwade were childhood neighbours, then school friends and their friendship endured throughout their lives. In time, Gwenda married Thomas Chester Manifold and lived much of her life at Talindert in Camperdown.

In 1983, Marjorie Butler wrote and very charming and personal history of Sir Chester and Lady Manifold - the childhood and youth of Gwenda and her married life with Sir Chester. It is a little booklet of 50 pages, carefully typed and bound in a simple cardboard cover with a number of personal photographs pasted in. It is in the Camperdown Public Library for anyone to see and, of course, it is unique.

The CDHS is indebted to a perceptive librarian who brought it over to the Heritage Centre to show us – alerted to its presence by the recent sale of Talindert. Many thanks, Robyn. We're very happy to announce that the whole of the booklet has now been digitised and is available on our website so that those who are unable to see the real thing can access it. It also preserves it for posterity. **Correction:** In our last Newsletter, we referred to Lady Agnes Manifold. Although this was one of her names, she was always known, publicly and to her family and many friends by her other name: Gwendolen.

<https://camperdownhistory.org.au/research-documents/>



Lake Parramatta (discovered 1835 by The Manifold Brothers).
Caption from Peter Mt. Parramatta, before 1900.

**FESTIVAL 2020 TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!
CAMPERDOWNBURNSFESTIVAL.COM.AU**

CDHS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION & DONATION THANKS

Thank you to all our members who have paid their dues since being sent out last August.

A reminder to those who have yet to get around to doing so will be sent in February.

We would appreciate a note or email if you do not wish to renew.

Although unsolicited, some subscription payments arrive with an added donation to assist with running of the Heritage Centre.

This year we extend special thanks to Beth Codling, John Cook, Bruce & Val Gent, John McCabe, Stewart & Bev McArthur, Leon & Peter Morrissey and Angela Preiss for their generosity.

A special welcome to new members Pamela Pitts, Dominique Morizzi, Lynette Roycroft, Jen Burrows, Jenn Downie, Robyn Currie, Norma Fenton, Catherine O'Flynn and Greg & Heidi Wane, who have all joined over the past few months.

***RESEARCH LINKS - SEARCHABLE PDF ARCHIVE
DAWSON'S SCRAPBOOK & TALINDERT BOOKLET***

[HTTPS://CAMPERDOWNHISTORY.ORG.AU/RESEARCH-DOCUMENTS/](https://camperdownhistory.org.au/research-documents/)

**HALF WAY HOUSE - STONY RISES HOTEL
PHOTO NEEDED... CAN YOU HELP?**

Known as the Stony Rises Hotel in past days, this old building stands beside the winding road through the Stony Rises.

Busily researching previous owners, publicans, etc. for his eventual book, Rob Wuchatsch, **would like to ask our readers if they have any stories or information about its history.**

You can email any information to us at camperdowndhs@gmail.com.

**IT WOULD BE OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO LOCATE
A PHOTO OF THE BUILDING WHEN IT HAD TWO STOREYS.**

***DISCOVER 2019 FESTIVAL LECTURE SERIES TRANSCRIPTS HERE
HTTPS://CAMPERDOWNHISTORY.ORG.AU/BURNS-FESTIVAL-2019-LECTURE-SERIES/***