

CAMPERDOWNHISTORY.ORG.AU
PAST MATTERS

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HELLO TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS

ACQUISITIONS FROM "TALINDERT" WELCOMED

The Camperdown Heritage Centre recently acquired a number of items of significant local importance from the historic property "Talindert" on the eastern outskirts of Camperdown.

The items were generously donated by Mrs Sally Emanuel, a daughter of the late Sir Chester and Lady Agnes Manifold.

Talindert, which has very recently been sold, was originally part of the "Purrumbete" run and has always been held by the Manifold family. Its occupants have made remarkable contributions to public life at the State and National levels.

The Manifold brothers - John, Peter and Thomas, were the first European settlers in the Camperdown district. They settled on their property Purrumbete in January 1839. In the late 1880s, Purrumbete was divided into four separate holdings. Talindert became the property of James Chester Manifold, a son of district pioneer John Manifold.

James Chester Manifold (1867 -1918) was a public benefactor, Federal politician, and influential pioneer of the dairying industry in western Victoria. In 1890, he commissioned the build-

ing of a 33 room two-storey stucco and brick mansion to a design by Colac architect, Alexander Hamilton. Talindert homestead and stables remain virtually intact and in near original condition.

Following the death of J.C. Manifold, Talindert was taken over by his only son, Thomas Chester Manifold. Sir (Thomas) Chester Manifold KBE (1897 - 1979) was a prominent member of the Victorian Racing community and a successful racehorse owner and breeder. He also spent six years as a Victorian politician.

In 1961, Sir Chester was appointed the first chairman of the Victorian Totalisator Agency Board (TAB). He is also remembered as the owner of the famous jumper 'Crisp', which ran second in the 1973 English Grand National Steeplechase.

The numerous donations from Talindert range from saddlery to household memorabilia.

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Opening Hours:

Tuesdays 10am-3pm
& 1st Sunday of month
(Market Day) 10am-3pm
or by appointment.

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LETTER BOX FROM THE HOMESTEAD



SIR CHESTER MANIFOLD



PHOTO OF JOHN MANIFOLD

Most items donated have a strong connection to the Manifold family and our local history (*some of these items are featured in this newsletter*). In the coming weeks the items will be carefully evaluated, described and stored.

Sometime in the next 12 months we plan to mount a special Manifold exhibition. Together with other items in our Manifold collection, the donations from Talindert will help us tell the wonderful Manifold families story.

Bob Lambell
Heritage Centre Coordinator



MAY 1901 ILLUMINATED ADDRESS TO J. C. MANIFOLD

NEWS FROM OLD TALINDERT

Our Facebook posting about the sale of Talindert brought some interesting memories from Keith Halford as follows:

As ten pound poms, my family emigrated to Australia in 1956 and my Mum and Dads very first job was at this amazing place!... it was all arranged before we arrived by one of Dads mates!... Dad (Bob Halford) was to be the Butler and Mum (Phyllis) the Cook. Dad was previously a London Bus driver, with absolutely no knowledge of being a Butler and Mum was always a great cook but was certainly not prepared for what this job involved!

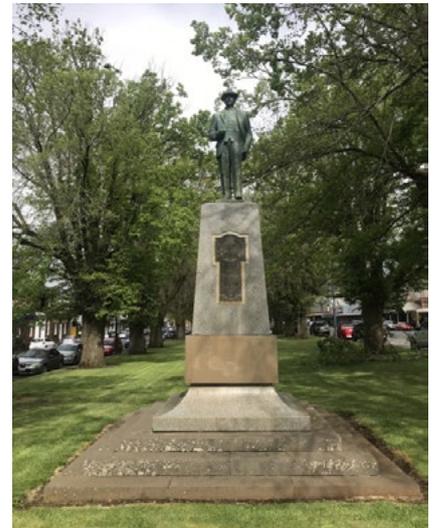
There was more from Keith which you can read on our webpage. He has also promised to visit us and bring some photographs. It's great to hear from people like this, who worked there and share their stories.

Gillian Senior
Newsletter & Communications

COMING EVENTS

**Next executive meeting -
Wednesday 13th November at
9:30 am, at the Heritage Centre**

**Invitation to CDHS Members:
Christmas Picnic Outing - Tuesday
10th December - see details page 3
a visit to Chocelyn Homestead!**



STATUE OF J. C. MANIFOLD
ON MANIFOLD STREET

CONGRATULATIONS - ROB!

Our President, Rob Wuchatsch has just won yet another prestigious award for his writing. This time it is the Alexander Henderson Award, which is “given to an author who has taken considerable effort to research and write a family history that complies with the specified criteria.” Rob’s book, *Sarka to Westgarthtown* is the result of 48 years painstaking research which took him across the world to continue his research in Germany.



A VISIT TO “CHOCOLYN” HOMESTEAD, NEAR CAMPERDOWN TUESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER 2019

For our final meeting of the year, Steve Nagle and Mark Grant have kindly agreed to allow us to visit their historic home “Chocolyn” on the eastern shore of Lake Colongulac, a few kilometres north of Camperdown.

The Chocolyn run was originally the home of pioneer pastoralist, JP and magistrate, William Adeney, who settled here in 1842.

This is a rare opportunity to visit this wonderful property and to learn about its fascinating history.



Depart from Camperdown Heritage Centre at 6.15 pm

BYO PICNIC TEA

Bookings:

Maree Belyea, Ph. 0417 352 987

Bob Lambell, Ph. 0424 220 809

Email: camperdowndhs@gmail.com

RSVP by Friday 6th December

NOTE: This is a strictly members only event



Camperdown's Robert Burns Scottish Festival 2020
Bob Lambell reports that 3 fantastic speakers have been secured - SAVE THE DATE! More details soon.

HALF WAY HOUSE - STONY RISES HOTEL - INFORMATION NEEDED

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.

TALINDERT ARTEFACTS – IMPERIAL AIR FLEET FLAG

By Rob Wuchatsch

Among the many interesting Talindert artefacts recently donated to our Society was an Australian Red Ensign. This flag (pictured) bears the markings IAF Aeroplane City of Hull. We decided to find out what this flag was all about and why it was in the possession of the Manifold family. Internet checks soon revealed the very interesting story behind the flag.

On 25 May 1918, James Chester Manifold, MHR for Corangamite, then visiting England, accepted a Sopwith Camel (D3388) named the City of Hull on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia. The plane was a gift under the Imperial Air Fleet (IAF) Committee's ambitious program begun in 1913 to provide planes to Britain's Dominions to 'serve as a nucleus of an air fleet in each of the King's self-governing possessions'. With the outbreak of the First World War, the planes were sent direct to the Front.

The plane James Chester Manifold accepted from the Hull Chamber of Commerce was the second presented to Australia under the IAF program. Hull was one of twelve British cities and eight Chambers of Commerce to fund an IAF plane. Hull's plane cost 2,000 guineas. Each plane was presented with a bronze mascot bearing the IAF motto 'Heaven's Light Our Guide' and a symbol of the recipient country, in this case a kangaroo. At the presentation ceremony, Mrs Manifold attached the mascot to the fuselage. Other Australians at the presentation ceremony included Lt. Col. Walter Oswald Watt, Commanding Officer of 1st Wing, Australian Flying Corps and Major Harry Turner Shaw of Wooriwyrite, between Camperdown and Mortlake, the Commanding Officer of No. 27 Training Squadron, Royal Air Force (RAF). Not present but serving on the Western Front with the Royal Field Artillery's 76th Brigade was Manifold's son Thomas Chester Manifold.

Following the presentation, the City of Hull (D3388) was issued to No. 210 Squadron, RAF in France on 5 June 1918, but lasted less than two months before being crashed into the sea by a Canadian pilot.

The Australian Red Ensign donated to the Camperdown & District Historical Society was presented to James Chester Manifold by the Hull Chamber of Commerce when he accepted the Sopwith Camel on behalf of Australia. Sadly, James Chester Manifold died later that year while returning to Australia via North America.

Paul H. De Serville's entry in the Australian Dictionary of Biography includes the following information about James Chester Manifold (1867-1918), the fourth son of John and Marion Manifold, of Purrumbete.

James Chester was born on 10 February 1867. After attending Geelong Grammar School he went to England with his family in 1881, but returned because the climate did not agree with his health. Chester completed his schooling at Melbourne Church of England Grammar School. When he came into

possession of his portion of Purrumbete, named Talindert, he subsequently let much of it to dairy farmers, who later bought the land on generous terms. He was a director of the Camperdown Cheese and Butter factory, established in 1891, and its chairman from 1907. A keen sportsman, he captained the Camperdown polo team.

Chester Manifold entered public life as a member of the Hampden Shire Council in the 1890s and was twice president. In 1901 he was elected as the first member for the Federal seat of Corangamite, sitting as a Protectionist, but retired because of ill health in 1903. He was persuaded to oppose the sitting member J. H. Scullin, and defeated him at the 1913 elections. A very 'popular man of the unobtrusive sort', he retained the seat until his death. While visiting England during World War 1, Chester volunteered to report on conditions in military camps and hospitals, and to investigate rehabilitation schemes in Canada and the United States of America. He died unexpectedly on 30 October 1918 of pneumonia, a day out of San Francisco, and was buried at sea. By his wife Lilian Eva, née Curle, whom he had married on 11 March 1891, he left a son (Sir) Thomas Chester and a daughter. One of his last gifts had been a property in the Richmond River district, New South Wales, made available for local returned soldiers. Manifold was hailed by conservative newspapers as a model of the second-generation pastoralists: a good sport, public-spirited (a parliamentarian who disliked 'politics'), and generous in benefactions to his country, Church and district. His estate was valued for probate at some £400,000. A statue by Nelson Illingworth was unveiled at Camperdown by S. M. (Viscount) Bruce in 1921.

For further details about the Imperial Air Fleet, the City of Hull presentation, James Chester Manifold and Harry Turner Shaw see:

[The Advertiser \(Adelaide\) 27 August 1913, p. 14.](#)

hull-humber-chamber.co.uk/pages/camel

adb.anu.edu.au/biography/manifold-james-chester-667

<https://yandoo.wordpress.com/2019/04/>



RED ENSIGN FLAG - DONATED

A group of 19 Historical Society members and friends left the Heritage Centre at 8.30 am. The bus stopped at Boorcan to pick up another four people before driving along the back roads to Budj Bim Orientation Centre at Heywood.



BUDJ BIM TRIP 24TH OCTOBER 2019 ~ ARTICLE BY JAN WHAMOND

At Heywood there was a bit of confusion as to where we were supposed to be, but this was soon sorted out and we went over to another building for morning tea and a very interesting talk by Eileen Alberts about her people and country before and after white settlement.

Before white settlement the clans lived a very structured life in small villages, with everyone knowing their place and role in the group.

The women collected 80% of the food and the men provided the major protein source by hunting and fishing. Boys and girls played together until they reached their eighth birthday, when they were separated - each sex then being taught the traditional skills they would need in the future.

When the white settlers came and put sheep on the land the number of kangaroos declined and the men started to steal sheep. They would drive the sheep into the lava flows where they knew the white men wouldn't take their horses.

After much violence the Governor sent out the Native Police to "sort things out". The sheep stealing only stopped after all the aboriginal leaders were killed. The remainder of the

Clans were then forced to go into the Mission Station which was set up at Lake Condah.

After Eileen finished her talk we went to Tyrendarra for a one kilometre walk around the World Heritage Site. Our guide, Debbie, spoke about the site as a whole and gave us more detail about individual aspects as we walked around.

She gave us a taste of water lettuce, explained how the circular huts were constructed and how the fish and eel traps worked. Debbie told us how the reeds, which are used by the women for weaving, are burnt on a cyclical basis to encourage new growth.

She also talked about the various food plants in the area and the totem poles which have been erected around a "quiet area" at the end of the circuit.

It was a hot day and we were pleased to be able to walk back to the Visitor Centre and have our lunch in the shade. After that we headed for home, straight down the Princes Highway, arriving back at the Heritage Centre about 4 pm, after a stop to drop the "Boorcanites" off at the Wheelie Waste corner.

We all had a most enjoyable and informative day thanks to Eileen and Debbie at Budj Bim, and Christians Bus Lines for the "Cooks Tour" of the district.

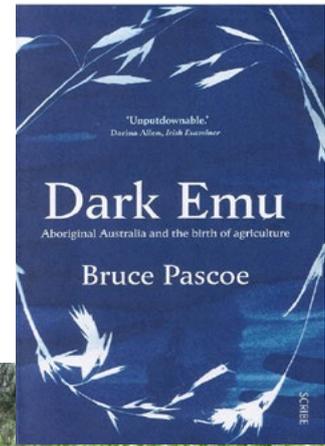
Thank you also to Gillian for organising the tour.

Don't miss our next outing: a visit to "CHOCOLYN" homestead, Tuesday, 10th December - see page 3 for details.



DARK EMU - In our reference library.

We are VERY pleased to have added this important book to our list of reference books. **Dark Emu** reveals Aboriginal history that was never taught in our schools - or even acknowledged - until recently. It documents reports by early European explorers and settlers of finding well-settled, permanent Aboriginal villages, fields of grain or root crops being harvested by Aboriginal women, bread-making, and much more. All these reports add up to evidence of a civilisation which has been obliterated so quickly that subsequent settlers were not aware of its existence. The posting on Facebook received many comments. *Many people have already read this book and feel it should be read by every Australian and bought by every school.*



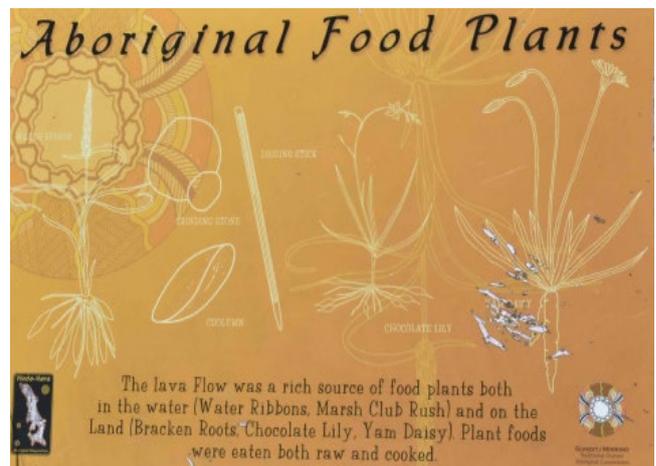
FISH TRAP CHANNEL



FISH TRAPS



EEL TRAP - USED IN THE FISH TRAP CHANNEL



FOOD PLANTS - EATEN BOTH RAW AND COOKED



DISCOVERING MORE



SETTLEMENT STRUCTURES



CATALOGUING OUR ABORIGINAL ARTEFACTS

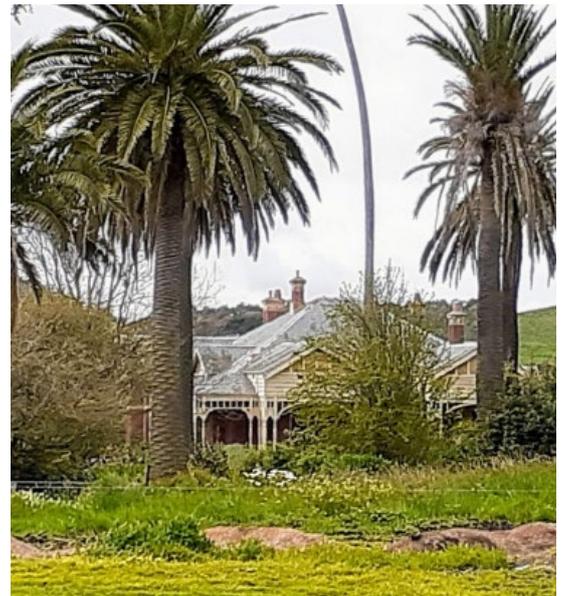
After visiting our Heritage Centre during the 2019 Camperdown Burns Festival, Matthew Phelan from Aboriginal Victoria, offered to visit and evaluate, list and catalogue our collection of Aboriginal artefacts. Of course we gratefully accepted, and on a Thursday in August, Matthew and his assistant arrived. They came with camera, lighting and computer and spent almost all day recording all details of our collection. The catalogue that we will receive from them will be of enormous value to us – telling us where things came from and how they should be cared for.

KEYHAM REVEALED

People driving along the Camperdown-Cobden Rd. were surprised in August to find the beautiful old house known as Keyham was surprisingly visible.

All of the old cypress trees that have hidden to property for so long have been removed. The new owner is working on a complete renovation of the house and, as many of the cypresses were gradually dying, decided that they should all go.

The large expanse of land on the west of the house has, every spring, bloomed with the hundreds of different daffodils planted there by the previous owner, Leonard V. Buckland who won countless prizes with the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria. Back in 2014, a number of these various varieties of daffodils were collected by the Camperdown Botanic Gardens committee and have since been planted in the gardens.



DR KEVIN MOLLOY & SUE COLE

DAWSON SCRAPBOOK

Members may remember that it was almost 12 months ago that the very precious original copy of James Dawson's Scrapbook, owned by Sue Cole and her family for generations, was given to the State Library of Victoria for safe keeping. The conditions of the donations were:

1. SLV to make a complete digital copy of the document.
2. A digital copy to be given to the donor, Susan Cole.
3. A digital copy to be made freely available online through the SLV website.
4. Digitising to be done as soon as possible and uploaded to the web site when SLV's new online system is up and running.
5. Original document to be made available for viewing to family and descendants of the donor.

We are now very happy to report that the computer discs containing all the content of the scrapbook have arrived. The whole process took much longer than expected because there was a lot of conservation work needed before the copying process could begin. *Sue has kindly given the CDHS permission to make all the content available to members so it is now available on our website and searchable!*

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

Searchable PDFs of Dawson's Scrapbook - what will you discover? Available thanks to Sue Cole.