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Inherit welcomes suggestions of stories and events to be included in future issues.

HERMES MILESTONE

HERMES reached a major milestone this month with an Edwardian farmhouse recommended for a local heritage overlay becoming the 150,000th entry.

Heritage Record Management Electronic System (HERMES) is the heritage database centrally managed by Heritage Victoria and used by the Victorian government, the National Trust and local government to record heritage sites in the state.

While HERMES is the 'backend' database, information from the Victorian Heritage Register and Heritage Inventory, the National Trust and, to date, information on heritage places in approximately 10 local government areas is available through the Victorian Heritage Database at www.heritage.vic.gov.au and also on local government websites.

HERMES includes data from 73 of the 79 local government areas in Victoria. The most recent areas to make information available on HERMES were Bayside, Central Goldfields, Hepburn, Loddon, Mornington Peninsula, Moira and Wyndham.

In the longer term, all state and local government heritage information will be available on a single searchable online database. The aim over the coming year is making all this information more easily accessible to the public and local planners in order to make heritage protection in the state more informed and more effective.

MELBOURNE OPEN HOUSE

Heritage buildings were a hit at the 2010 Melbourne Open House on 24 and 25 July with seven of the 10 most visited properties buildings included in the [Victorian Heritage Register](#). These included Melbourne Town Hall, Old Treasury, Melbourne Athenaeum and the Supreme Court.

Boasting an extended program over two days, this year's Melbourne Open House attracted almost 65,000 visitors.

[Heritage Council of Victoria](#) is the Heritage Partner for Melbourne Open House which showcases the city's rich architectural history and illustrates how many early buildings have been adapted to meet the demands of modern office and retail accommodation.

Sustainability was also showcased in popular sites with the Origin Roof Garden the most visited site and the green roof on 131 Queen Street also in the top 10.

For more information, and to keep an eye out for next year's program, see www.melbourneopenhouse.org

Heritage Victoria tweeted about the program over the weekend, highlighting the key attractions at many of the heritage sites, which were also featured in a heritage walk, one of several suggested itineraries.

The favourite heritage buildings of many local architects were also noted during this year's inaugural Speaker's Series events.

AUSTRALIA'S OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

The Guide to Australia's Open Gardens Scheme for 2010-11 is now available.

More than 600 gardens across Australia will be open from the last weekend in August 2010 through to May 2011 (and later in some states).

This includes the gardens at the heritage listed *Bolobek*, Macedon, the Melbourne Club and a John Patrick garden at an 1850s Iron House in Brunswick.

Other significant properties include *Cruden Farm* which opens the program on Sunday 29 August; *Ercildoune* at Burrumbeet; *Dalvui* at Noorat, an 1898 William Guilfoyle design; the Edna Walling garden at *Narroghid*, Colac; and many other gardens with plantings from early pioneering and goldrush days.

For further information see <http://www.opengarden.org.au/guidebook.html>

BACK TO SCHOOL

As applications closed for this year's round of Victoria's Heritage Grants, recipients of a 2008-09 grant were in the spotlight.

Member for Macedon Joanne Duncan joined the former Kerrie Primary School community to celebrate completion of works under a \$36,000 Heritage Grant.

Linked to former sawmilling operations in the Macedon Ranges and a rare example of a pre-fabricated school building, the former Kerrie School is now a community meeting space. It has also served as a church, Sunday school, hall and post office.

The former school is also surrounded by an unusual war memorial plantation of Red Cedar and Douglas Fir, with a tree planted on 26 January 1920 for every local man who served in World War 1.

School No. 1290 was opened as a non-vested Rural School known as the Railway Steam Saw Mills School in or before 1870. The Education Department took over the school in 1874 and purchased a new site on which was placed a portable timber school with quarters and a shingled roof. The new building was completed by March 1877. From 1879-81 the school was known as Mount Hope Saw Mills School but in 1891 its name was changed to Kerrie.

Its timber decagonal shelter shed is a rare intact example of an early outdoor structure, once characteristic of Victorian schoolyards.

Pictured at the celebration are (from left) Community member Suzanna Mueller, former student Darryl Maxted (who attended in the 1940s), local member Joanne Duncan and committee members Marlene Leckie (attended school 1963 -1969), and Shay Horvath and Sarah Leckie, grade three students among the school's final students when the school closed in 1993

Suzanna is holding a photo of the returned WWI local servicemen who all had a tree planted for them on January 1920.

May, who is Marlene's mother and Sarah's grandmother, is holding a photo of all the people who attended the ceremony on 26 January 1920: May is a baby in arms in that photo.



INTERPRETING MILL

Also in the spotlight has been the historic Andersons Mill near Smeaton where new outdoor interpretive signs commissioned by Parks Victoria have now been completed and installed.

Funded by a \$20,000 grant from Heritage Victoria, the signs are innovative in their design, and have been fabricated to reflect the age of the buildings with sympathetic use of materials such as rusty metal, and are finished in sepia tones.

A large 'Welcome' sign at the entrance to the site details the Mill's history as well as providing a site map. It also gives a brief insight into the Andersons family who built and worked the Mill until its closure.

More detailed descriptions of the dates, developments and workings of the Mill can now be found on the three large signs housed inside the old stable building.

Smaller signs placed outside the array of individual buildings at the Anderson Mill complex describe their uses and dates of construction. These include the stables, office, grain store, chimney, chicken shed, water race, oil shed and blacksmiths shop.

Anderson's Mill is on the Victorian Heritage Register, see http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/vhd/heritagevic#detail_places;2366 and open on the first Sunday of each month with information available from Parks at http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/1park_display.cfm



COASTAL HERITAGE

About 30 people attended the one day Forum on Coastal Heritage (below second from left) presented by the Heritage Council of Victoria and Heritage Victoria in Lakes Entrance this month.

The program included presentations from Gippsland Port's Andrew Fullard (second from right), Planning Consultant Helen Martin and Archaeologist Alister Bowen (right). The program focussed on how best practice management of historic maritime infrastructure along the South East coast can preserve cultural heritage values within development or maintenance projects, such as the New Works at Lakes Entrance (below left, image Helen Martin).

Attendees also learnt about Heritage Victoria's permits and consents process as well as a general introduction to Maritime Heritage.



REGISTRATIONS

An excavator, a band rotunda and an avenue of honour were included in the Victorian Heritage Register in August.

The oldest surviving bucket wheel excavator to be used in the Morwell open cut mine is one of the state's biggest heritage objects. Known as the Number 21 Dredger (*below left*), the excavator was ordered by the State Electricity Commission of Victoria (SECV) in 1950 and commenced operation in the open cut in 1955.

The opening of the Morwell open cut in 1949 and the excavators bought in for extraction, marked the beginning of the significant expansion of SECV's activities during the post-war growth and expansion of Victoria.

The dredger is enormous in scale, weighing over 700 tons. It was used for excavation of brown coal from the Morwell open cut mine up until 1992.

The dredger was built by Lubecker Mashinebau Gesellschaft (LMG), of Lubeck, Germany and is mounted on crawlers.

The Beaufort band rotunda (*below centre*), built in honour of Queen Victoria, is one of the state's most ornate.

One of the first memorials built in Victoria following the 1901 death of Queen Victoria, it was officially opened in 1903 by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Sir Malcolm McEarchen.

The elaborate band rotunda, a sophisticated amalgam of architectural styles popular at the time, reflects the importance of such places in local social life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when they served as the focal point of musical and other cultural activities.

The bandstand is also notable for its secondary function as the local weighbridge office, located at the base of the rotunda after it was built on the site of the former local weighbridge.

It is also the only known example of a band rotunda with a clock tower. The rotunda clock was donated by Rear Admiral Bridges, a local pastoral property owner.

The Heritage Council has determined to include the Bacchus Marsh Avenue of Honour (*below right*) in the Victorian Heritage Register, finding it to be of historical, scientific (research and botanical) and aesthetic significance to the State of Victoria.

A combination of 281 Dutch elms (*Ulmus X hollandica*) and Huntington elms (*Ulmus X hollandica* 'Vegeta') planted in pairs approximately 20 metres apart, it is the second largest Avenue of Honour in Victoria and is largely intact.

The Avenue of Honour was planted on the afternoon of 10 August 1918 to commemorate locals who volunteered to serve in World War 1. The tree planting was a community effort attracting 1000 spectators, with workers from the Darley Firebrick Company and other volunteers digging the holes and erecting tree guards in readiness for the planting. After a bugle call, 281 elms were simultaneously planted with each tree representing an individual volunteer soldier.

Following the ruling on registration by the Heritage Council, the heritage permit application made earlier this year for works to occur at the Avenue is now being assessed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria.



SHIPWRECK SURVEY

Heritage Victoria maritime archaeologists were joined by a team of volunteers to undertake survey work on the protected historic shipwreck *Grange*, at Apollo Bay in late July, reports Hanna Steyne (*below centre*), of the Maritime Heritage Unit.

The *Grange* was a three-masted barque built in Troon, Scotland in 1840. It was wrecked on Little Henty Reef on 25 March 1858 having mistaken the lights of the small timber-cutting settlement at Apollo Bay for the Cape Otway lighthouse. The *Grange* was sailing in ballast for Guam, having departed Melbourne just three days earlier. The site now lies within the Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary.

The 2010 fieldwork was the first archaeological survey of the wreck site, designed to assist understanding of the site's history and improve interpretation for the many divers visiting Marengo Reef. Little Henty Reef is about 7m at its deepest and at its shallowest breaks the surface, where it is

home to large seal colony. The reef shelters the wreck site from breaking waves, but not from the large south west swells or surge. The rocky reef and 1m high kelp added to the team's difficulties in locating features and undertaking traditional underwater surveys.

Small floats were used to locate and identify individual features in the kelp. Despite poor weather at the start of the week, the team undertook a total of 13 dives and surveyed most of the significant features that were located.

The site spreads over about 45m of reef and is primarily made up of iron 'knees' and frames. An area with a large number of concreted iron objects was also located in the north-western part of the site; approximately one third of the objects here were surveyed in detail. The rest of area was photographed.

Thanks to the volunteer dive team which included Scott Allen (right), Des Williams (left), David Steinberg, Sam Bell and Martina Fucshberger and to Parks Victoria and Department of Primary Industries in Apollo Bay for their assistance.



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