



# NEWSLETTER

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## Remember when the Horse was King

Remember when many home deliveries and services were offered throughout Suburban and Country residential areas by delivery persons and tradespeople by the use of horse and cart this continued until at least the mid 1950' and later in some areas .Typical of this service included:

**Milk** - customers would leave a note and empty bottles outside the dwelling and next morning the empty bottles would be picked up and fresh milk in bottles left.

It was common to find milk delivery carts on the road before dawn or first light and many of the carts were fitted with rear lights to warn motorists,bottles could be heard clanking in the early morning as the Milko did his round.

You could of course go direct to the dairy and collect milk in a pail.

**Bread** - Fresh bread was also delivered by horse and cart, like the milk orders a note would be left in a bread container, often together with cash in payment, and the required loaves would be left,it was common to have orders for half and quarter loaves and the bread would be split to the required size by the bread carter.

Bakers started mixing dough and baking usually in the evening hours before delivery day, for example 10.a.m and finished baking around 3.a.m to allow for delivery.

**Ice** - before the days of refrigerators, ice in blocks was delivered for storage in an ice box, used to hold food items, many children of that era recall of following the carts on a hot day and picking up ice splinters which could be sucked to cool down.

**Briquettes:** Coal and briquettes for heating purpose were also delivered to home owners

Other trades for many years also used horse and cart prior to the increase in motor transport,these include the Bottle-O who collected empty beer bottles.

Horses did often not need to be guided, they learnt which house had customers and they stopped there.

Pictured right a Wembley Bakery Cart circa 1942 which served areas of Yarraville,Kingsville Footscray and Seddon



# ALTONA DAIRIES



Les Wenlock delivers milk to homes in the 1950s.

In the first half of the 20th century before supermarkets came into existence, locals purchased their milk from one of many dairies in the area. Wenlock's Dairy was one of them.

Do older members of your family remember the dairies and milk deliveries by horse and cart?



The museum's collection includes a glass milk bottle from Rowdon's Dairy, Altona

Cattle used to roam freely on an open paddock at the north end of Pier Street, Altona in the vicinity of where the dry cleaners is now, until council decreed such paddocks needed to be fenced.

Workers used to ride their bikes through this particular paddock as a short cut to and from work, when riding home one evening they soon discovered the new fence had been installed as they were unceremoniously thrown off their bikes.



*Courtesy Altona Laverton Historical Society Inc*

# Edwards Family

*Altona Laverton Historical Society President Peter Weaver has obtained some interesting family photographs from local resident Bob Edwards*



Team shifting house  
Harry driving, Grandpa Edwards behind horses.



Edwards Family Xmas 1918 Altona



Edwards horse teams unloading rail trucks at Altona

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# Altona

## From our Collection

Also sourced by President Peter Weaver - below Seaholme Primary School, Altona Primary School and a lone Milk Bar



# Items of Interest

The July 2013 Newsletter of the Kooringal Golf Club contained the following article:

## Kooringal Golf Club

We're very proud of our all-weather golf course that has a well-known reputation for being playable after rain when other courses remain too wet, due to water being able to drain away quickly through the sandy base.

**But did you know until 1958 it was called the Williamstown Golf Club?** After Altona seceded from the Shire of Werribee in 1957, the golf club committee decided it was time to adopt a name in keeping with Altona's newly established separate identity, **but where did the name Kooringal come from?**

*Research on the Internet has a reference in Wikipedia that states "Kooringal is thought to mean "Side of a Hill" in the Wiradjuri Aboriginal language.*

*The Wiradjuri are said to comprise the largest Aboriginal group in NSW.*

*The Wiradjuri word for crow is "Wagga" and when mentioned twice i.e Wagga Wagga" it means "The place of many Crows"*



Hobsons Bay City Council are hosting special Anzac Events at Hobsons Bay Libraries to commemorate the centenary of the beginning of World War One.

There will be an Anzac Film afternoon on Wednesday 23rd April from 2.00 p.m. until 4.00 p.m at the **Altona Library** and an afternoon "researching War Records" at the

**Williamstown Library** on Thursday 24th April from 2.00 p.m until 3.30 p.m.

Contact Kay Browne Customer Service Officer T. 9932 1339 or [www.hobsonsbayvic.gov.au](http://www.hobsonsbayvic.gov.au)



The Society now has available on computer digitised copies of "The Altona Star" in PDF format, and with the use of software "Foxit" these articles have become searchable, so members and visitors will be able to search for names contained in articles or advertisements within these copies.

It is hoped that this search facility can be expanded to other PDF files in the future



## Society News

### Information for all Members

The committee of management for the 2013 - 2014 year is shown below.

#### Committee 2013 - 2014

**President:** Peter Weaver

**Vice President:** Carol Winfield

**Secretary:** Sharon Walsh

**Treasurer:** Annette Stephens

#### *Committee Members*

Kim Walsh

Owen Hyde