



Newsletter Friends of St Kilda Cemetery Inc

January 2017

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St Kilda Cemetery**

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Welcome to the January 2017
newsletter and Happy New Year to all
members and supporters

Volunteers needed...

**COME AND HELP THE FRIENDS BE A WONDERFUL
HISTORICAL GROUP.**



Printing of newsletter



Printed copies of our newsletters are provided courtesy of
SCOTSBURN NURSERIES

www.scotsburn.biz

The Friends thank Scotsburn. Their kind assistance is most
appreciated.

Contributions to our newsletter are
welcomed. Email for further
information to info@foskc.org

Recent tour/events highlights

History Week Tour: A Mixed Plot, Sunday 23 October 2016

This was our last public tour for 2016 and we enjoyed taking a small group around the highlights of the graves visited during the year. Some who attended had not been on a tour before and we hope to see them again in 2017.

Manningham Council Seniors Tour, Wednesday 9 November.

Mary Reid and Pearl Donald led 13 people on a private tour for Manningham Council Seniors Group and provided them with an extremely interesting morning on a busy day out for their group. Mary reported that the group enjoyed visiting the graves of famous residents and were most curious and keen on learning more about the cemetery and its history and heritage. Thanks to Mary and Pearl.

Brighton Cemeterians' Christmas Party, Sunday 11 December. Thank you, Brighton! A great day as always and a chance to catch up with so many friends and supporters.

Other Cemetery Friends' Tours

Friends of Coburg Cemetery – Lawyers, Guns and Money Tour, Sunday 16 October

Elizabeth Hore attended this terrific tour through Coburg Cemetery which included many extremely interesting residents on a great theme. A great tour by the Friends of Coburg Cemetery...

Remembrance Day tour through Boroondara Kew Cemetery, Saturday 19 November.

Elizabeth Hore attended the Friends of Boroondara Kew Cemetery Remembrance Day/Somme Commemoration Tour on a brilliant sunny Saturday morning. The presence of members of the Australian Great War Association enhanced the event by acknowledging each grave visited. A most informative and moving tour to commemorate those who gave their lives in WW1.

Consider attending other Cemetery Friends' tours as they are always interesting and diverse and they would love your support.

Items of interest

Friends of St John's Cemetery, Parramatta, NSW. This is the oldest European Cemetery in Australia (1790). They have a Convict project. Find them on Facebook for more details.



Enjoying a tour through St Kilda Cemetery



Mary Reid, leading tour for Manningham Council Seniors Group.



Friends of Boroondara Kew Cemetery, Remembrance Day Tour

Featured Article

William Mountford Kinsey Vale

Protectionist; Politician, Bookseller, Barrister

Born 10 August 1833; died 23 October 1895

Buried 25 October 1895 IND B 067

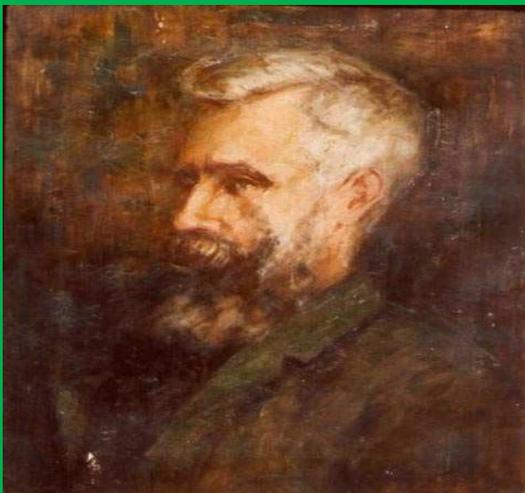


William Mountford Kinsey Vale (1833-1895) protectionist, politician and bookseller, was born on 10 August 1833 in London, the son of John Vale, bookseller, and his wife Elizabeth, née Tayler (Taylor). In March 1853 William and his parents and siblings arrived in Melbourne in the *Blackheath*. The family settled at Castlemaine where William set up in partnership with his brother Richard as booksellers and newsagents in 1854 before shortly moving to Ballarat.

William then returned to England and in 1859 at Hackney, London, married Rachel Lennox. They returned to Victoria and, as a liberal with a keen interest in protection, Vale represented Ballarat West in the Legislative Assembly from November 1864 to August 1865 and from September 1865 to April 1869. He was vice-president of the Board of Land and Works and commissioner of public works from July 1866 to May 1868 and commissioner of trade and customs from July 1868 to May 1869, when he resigned on principle in an attempt to prevent the return of Charles Edwin Jones. Unsuccessful in the May by-election, in October he won Collingwood which he represented until March 1874 when he did not stand for re-election. In 1870 he was a member of the royal commission on the civil service, and from November 1871 to June 1872 he was commissioner of trade and customs in the Duffy ministry. In about 1872 William sold his business in Ballarat to his brother and moved to Melbourne.

Picture opposite:

**The Hon William M K Vale, MP
State Library of Victoria**



**May Vale, Portrait of the Artist's Father,
William Mountford Kinsey Vale**

(Artistsfootsteps.com)

Sources:

Australian Dictionary of Biography:
William Mountford Kinsey Vale, Joy E
Parnaby

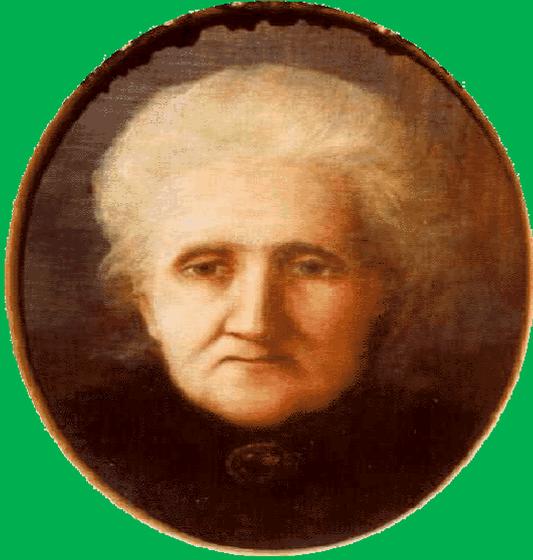
<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/vale-william-mountford-kinsey-4770>

May Vale, Joyce McGrath

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/vale-may-8903>

May Vale: Artistsfootsteps.com

Collingwood Historical Society



**May Vale, Portrait of the Artist's Mother,
Rachel Vale, nee Lennox
(Artistsfootsteps.com)**



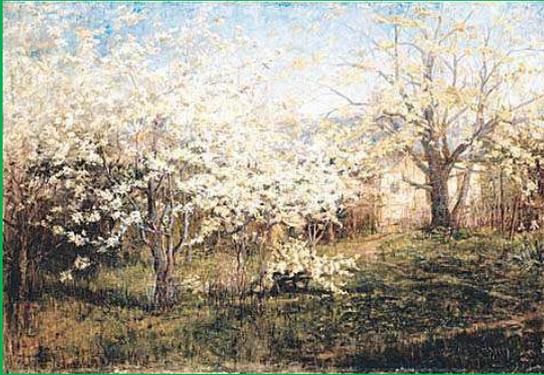
**May Vale, Girl Reading (Artist's
younger sister, Faith Vale)
Castlemaine Art Gallery**

In 1874 Vale went to England where he was a member of the Board of Advice to the agent-general. He qualified as a barrister in 1878, returned to Melbourne and next year was admitted to the Victorian Supreme Court. He set up in Temple Court, sharing a room with Alfred Deakin who described him as '*renowned for his democratic proclivities, his strict adherence to total abstinence and its platform, and for his ever bitter tongue*'. Vale was prominent in the fight between manufacturers, miners and selectors and the landed and mercantile groups which climaxed at the end of the 1870s; but by the time he had returned to the assembly much of the heat had gone and he was too late to persuade Berry to accept his extreme ideas. In May 1880 he won Fitzroy and from August until July 1881 he was attorney-general and minister of justice in the Berry ministry, effecting what the Age described as '*very necessary*' reforms in the Titles Office. He was reputedly a land speculator, and in 1883 the Collingwood Observer attributed his defeat at Emerald Hill to his attendance at a land sale on election day. He contested the seat of Collingwood unsuccessfully in 1889.

Vale, an energetic and committed man, took a great interest in industry, technical education, and education generally. He advocated protection but saw that Victoria not only needed industrial growth, but also an improvement in the level of technical knowledge among workers. In 1869-70 he was a member of the Technological Commission, charged with '*promoting technological and industrial instruction by Lectures and otherwise, among the Working Classes*'. This led to the establishment of Schools of Design, including one in Collingwood. He was a trustee of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery in 1872-95 and was a foundation member of the board of the Young Men's Christian Association. In the late 1880s he was a founder of the Working Men's College (later R.M.I.T). He was involved with the 1880-81 Melbourne Exhibition and the 1887 Centennial International Exhibition but had to resign due to ill health.

As an active Congregationalist he believed that '*the state has nothing to do with religion*', but as a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars he was keen to use the state in the temperance cause. In November 1880 at an international temperance conference in Melbourne he moved the resolution which founded the Victorian Alliance.

In 1886 he bought *Mayfield*, the lovely house originally built to the design of Georgiana McCrae in the 1840s, and after her departure the residence of Sir Francis Murphy. Here he spent the last ten years of his life surrounded by his clever and talented daughters and son William who followed him into the law.



**May Vale, The Orchard, Mayfield,
Abbotsford**

National Gallery Victoria



**The five Vale sisters, (Trissie
(Beatrice), Faith, May in centre,
Grace, Elsie) c 1890**

Collections.museumvic.com.au

According to Alfred Deakin, Vale was '*strong in domestic affections*' and the closeness of the family is indicated through their frequent appearances together at social, community and church events, and their house sharing in adult life.

His support for education extended to his own family. At a time when many people considered that young ladies were unsuited to higher education, his daughters were all well-educated. May is the most well-known of the Vale sisters, as an artist of the Heidelberg School and founding member of various artistic societies. May attended Honiton College, St Kilda. During her father's appointment to London in 1874-78, she attended the Royal School of Art at South Kensington. Back in Melbourne, she studied at the National Gallery schools (1879-86, 1888-89) under George Folingsby and Frederick McCubbin. In 1890 she returned to London and studied under Sir James Linton for two years, then attended the Académie Julian in Paris for six months. She is represented in the National Gallery of Victoria, the Art Gallery of New South Wales, and regional galleries at Castlemaine and Warrnambool. Beatrice ("Trissie"), an author/poet married Hopkin Llewelyn Willett, a mission teacher in Shanghai from 1906-1915, and then a Congregational minister in South Australia. Beatrice was associated with the League of Nations (the forerunner to the United Nations). Grace was in the first batch of women to graduate from The University of Melbourne's Medical School and practised in Ballarat in 1896-1915. She then went on to be the first woman appointed to the NSW School and was an active suffragette. Elsie studied for Matriculation exams at PLC and also became an artist although less well-known. Faith set up a private school at Mayfield, assisted by Elsie

Rachel Vale, who is buried with her husband, was not prominent in public life, but her influence within the family must have been strong and she surely supported her 11 children in their education and her husband in his pursuit of a career. At the time of her death in October 1918 she was living in Northcote with four of her children.

After a visit to England in 1888 Vale lived quietly until his death from Bright's disease at Collingwood on 23 October 1895. He was survived by five of his six daughters and three of his five sons.

Despite his many good qualities, Vale was known among his colleagues as a cantankerous and egotistic man. Alfred Deakin described him as handsome, '*well-featured, with fine eyes and a ringing mellow voice, abounding in energy, voluble, fairly well-read and a strict Puritan in life and ideals,...His faults were an egotism which made him envious and suspicious, a biliousness which made him intolerant and vindictive and a vocabulary which made him a master of personal abuse*'.

Future Tours and events

PLEASE NOTE: The Trust has provided portable toilets in the Cemetery for use during tours until such time as toilets are repaired.

Sunday 15 January 2017 at 2.00pm; Albert Jacka Commemoration Service. This is a City of Port Phillip Event held each year at St Kilda Cemetery. Jacka was the first Australian to be awarded a VC in WW1 and was a mayor of St Kilda.

Sunday 26 February at 2.00pm St Kilda Cemetery Tour: Writers, Booksellers and Literati

Sunday 26 March at 2.00pm, St Kilda Cemetery, THE SPORTING TOUR...come and hear some highlights and histories of some of our sporting residents.

Sunday 23 April at 2.00pm, ANZAC DAY TOUR...this is being repeated due to requests.

Cost \$10; members free. Bookings: email info@foskc.org; tel: 9531 6832

All our tours leave from the main entrance to the cemetery in Dandenong Road. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear as we go all weathers, rain, hail or shine.

Private Group Tours for 2017

We hope to do some tours for private groups in 2017. If your group is interested, please email info@foskc.org for more details. Group tours of 20 plus attendees are at a reduced rate.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON TOURS IN 2017.
WON'T YOU COME AND JOIN US!**

Become a member of the Friends...

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US...

Membership costs \$15, includes free tours throughout the year and newsletter. Email info@foskc.org for a membership form.

St Kilda Cemetery is located on the corner of Dandenong Road and Hotham Street, ST KILDA EAST

