



# Newsletter Friends of St Kilda Cemetery Inc

July 2017

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## FIND US ON FACEBOOK:



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of St Kilda Cemetery**

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Welcome to the July 2017 newsletter and hope everyone is keeping warm

## 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](http://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](mailto:info@foskc.org)

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VALE

(DAPHNE) PEARL DONALD

1927-2017

It was with much sadness that I heard whilst I was in Italy that Pearl Donald had suddenly passed away on 5 May 2017. Pearl was the inspiration for the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery...without her, there would not have been a Friends Group formed, or in operation for so many years.

I consider that Meyer Eidelson summed up Pearl's significant contributions to history and life in his touching tribute. Meyer wrote:



“Pearl and I served for eight years together on the executive of the St Kilda Historical Society. We were also friends. She was a brilliant historian and researcher who helped restore the society's fortunes and worked on endless projects including 15 books despite many challenges. She was also the St Kilda Cemetery historian with thousands of stories in her head. Pearl had the old fashioned virtues: integrity, honesty, commitment and infuriating stubbornness where principles were concerned. She was brilliant as Granny the star of our history book on our annual history day with schoolchildren. It has been an honour and privilege.”

Vale, Pearl, you will always be in our thoughts whenever we lead tours through St Kilda Cemetery, and we will miss your generous input, knowledge, interest, insight, commitment and sense of humour.

All our thoughts are with Pearl's family and many friends at this sad time.

Elizabeth Hore  
Vice President  
Friends of St Kilda Cemetery

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## Recent tour/events highlights

**We were most fortunate to have Roger Wilson OAM attend our tour on 25 June and speak at the Yuille family grave (his ancestors). Roger kindly donated the book Yuille Tide to the FOSKC. We are most grateful to have it and thank Roger and his family for their generous donation.**

## Featured Article

### THOMAS MOUBRAY

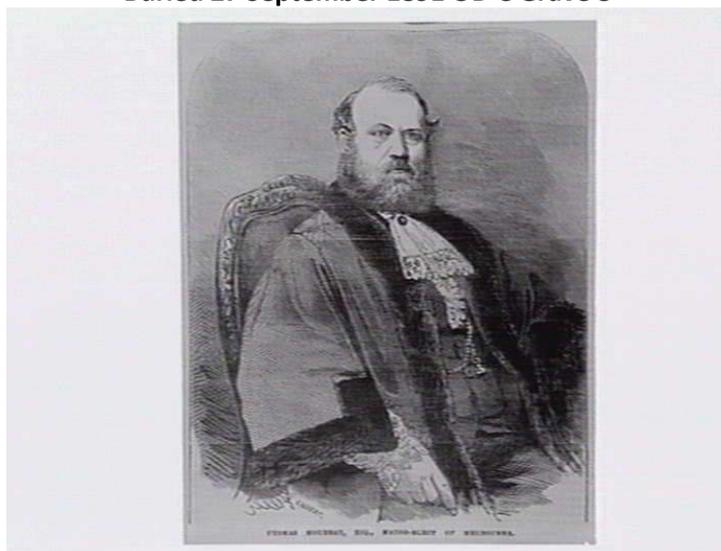
(1825 – 1891)

**Businessman and alderman; Mayor of Melbourne**

**Born 12 September 1825**

**Died 25 September 1891**

**Buried 27 September 1891 OD C Grave 8**



Thomas Moubray (1825-1891), businessman and alderman, was born on 12 September 1825 at Ballintra, County Donegal, Ireland, fourth and youngest son of William Mowbray, landowner of Scottish descent, and wife Euphemia, née Teevan. After local education he went with his parents in 1842 to join his eldest brother Robert in New Zealand and thence to northern Van Diemen's Land. In 1848 Thomas went to Melbourne where he entered the softgoods business.

#### **Moubray, Lush & Co**

In 1853 the foundations for a prosperous business and personal wealth were laid when Moubray, Lush & Co., wholesale and retail drapers, outfitters, silk mercers, carpet and furniture warehousemen, was established with Thomas as senior partner.

Premises were purchased at 45 Collins St. West from William Williamson (Gardner (1910)). This address is listed in Butterfield's Melbourne Directory for 1854. Lush Lane, a dead-end from Flinders Lane between Swanston and Russell streets and was named after James Lush.

In 1866 three new partners were admitted to the firm: Christopher Rowan, J.W. Shanklin and Robert Hicks. These names are not associated with the firm's listing in Melbourne directories until the 1869 edition of Sands and McDougall.

#### References:

Gardner, F (1910), "Trade tokens and the firms who issued them", *The Australian Storekeepers and Trades Journal*, 31 May, p 9

Anthony R. Rainer, 'Moubray, Thomas (1825–1891)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/moubray-thomas-4263>

Regan, A. (2005) Moubray, Lush & Co., Melbourne, Victoria, in Museums Victoria Collections, <https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/articles/2240>

Image opposite: SLV

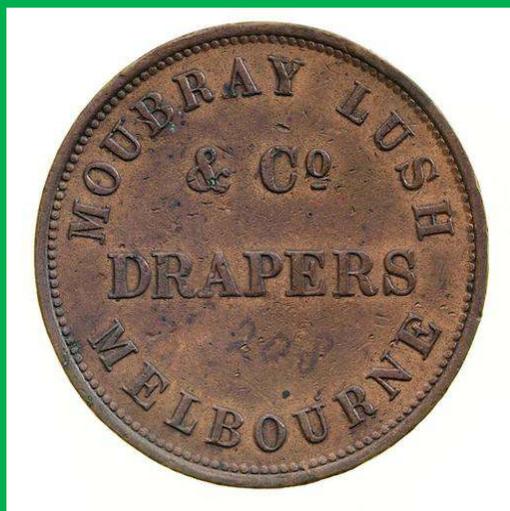


Image: Museum Victoria  
The Moubray, Lush & Co tokens were struck by the Heaton and Sons mint and the example in photo was probably struck in 1855.



**BOOTS (satin, wood, leather); stamped in ink on inner lining: Moubray, Rowan & Hicks / Collins St / Melbourne: Image: NGV**



**Shoes; from Moubray, Rowan & Hicks (retailer); manufactured in England; silk, leather, paste, pearl. Image: NGV**



**Officer's Full Dress Shoulder pouch/belt; Moubray, Rowan & Hicks; Image: AWM**

Moubray, Lush and Co. included the phrase 'Government Contractors' in their ventures won him high repute in financial circles. From 1870 he was a director of the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd and in 1881-91 chairman of the board, where 'his genial tact was responsible for the fact that during the whole period of his chairmanship there was not a single division at the board'. In 1869-74 and 1879-91 he was a director of the National Mutual Life Association and at different times the Union Trustee Co., vice-chairman of Goldsbrough, Mort & Co. and a founding director of the Victoria Mutual Building and Investment Co. and of the St James Estate Co. He was largely responsible for the amalgamation in 1878 of Melbourne's three gas companies into the Metropolitan Gas Co. and was its deputy chairman for many years.

Research into this company uncovered an 1879 agreement between the leading Melbourne drapers (Alston and Brown; Moubray, Rowan and Hicks; Robertson and Moffat; Buckley and Nunn; L. Robinson & Co.) to mark their fabrics at their lowest price and not give discounts, an agreement it is said had not been broken. From this document it is clear that over the course of twenty five years in business, the firm that began as Moubray, Lush & Co. had become one of the strongest in their line of business (see Gardner (1910)).

#### **Token Issuing firms**

Moubray, Lush and Co was a token issuing firm. Tokens were issued by individuals and businesses to fill the void left by the extreme shortage of low denomination currency at the time (Photo: page 3).

#### **Moubray, Rowan and Hicks was formed**

Lush died in 1870. Within a few years, the business moved to 350 Collins Street, where it still stood in 1910. Rebuilding the premises at that address is said to have cost £18,000.

With larger premises in 1878 the firm was reconstituted as Moubray, Rowan & Hicks. Moubray retired from the firm in 1891. He was said to have 'never entered into a business speculation which did not turn out successful'. His involvement in many commercial ventures won him high repute in financial circles. From 1870 he was a director of the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd and in 1881-91 chairman of the board, where 'his genial tact was responsible for the fact that during the whole period of his chairmanship there was not a single "division" at the board'. In 1869-74 and 1879-91 he was a director of the National Mutual Life Association and at different times the Union Trustee Co., vice-chairman of Goldsbrough, Mort & Co. and a founding director of the Victoria Mutual Building and Investment Co. and of the St James Estate Co. He was largely responsible for the amalgamation in 1878 of Melbourne's three gas companies into the Metropolitan Gas Co.



View of Collins Street looking west with Hicks, Atkinson & Sons (Late Moubray, Rowan & Hicks) sign in foreground. Image: SLV



Picture: Herald Sun Picture Library

### ARMADALE, ST KILDA ROAD

Designed for Moubray by Crouch and Wilson, builders, Armadale was built in 1867 and was one of the larger St Kilda mansions, containing 11 rooms over two storeys. It was torn down in 1976 to make way for a 27-storey office block.

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The firm subsequently became Hicks, Atkinson & Sons, Collins Street.

### Mayor of Melbourne

Although he rejected many offers of nomination to parliament, Moubray represented Lonsdale Ward in the Melbourne City Council as a councillor from 21 February 1865 and alderman from 28 April 1877. On 9 October 1868 he was unanimously elected mayor for a year. Apart from entertaining the Duke of Edinburgh, his mayoral term was comparatively uneventful. He continued the works begun in 1867 by J. S. Butters, such as the new Town Hall and the Western Market, laid down many miles of new streets, improved the cleansing and lighting, attempted to modernize buildings on the main streets and struggled with the government to secure more parklands and more assistance in combating the city's drainage and sewerage problems which were then extremely serious. To inform the citizens Moubray had the corporation by-laws published for sale as a pamphlet and completed his term without having to raise a loan. He also served the council for many years as chairman of the Public Works Committee, which carried out much of the administrative work; in 1877-79 he represented the council on the Harbor Trust of which he was chairman, and in 1891 on the new Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, though ill health prevented him from playing an active part.

Moubray Street, Albert Park and Moubray Street, Prahran were named after him.

For some time Moubray was a member of the Early Closing Association which campaigned for shorter working hours for shop employees. With G. S. Coppin and others in 1869 he was a founding member of the Old Colonists' Association of Victoria and donated some homes to the old colonists' 'village' (Rushall). He was married on 3 December 1864 to the widow Emma Augusta Griffith, née Dry; though childless he contributed to the education and upbringing of several of his and his wife's relations. He was much respected for his business acumen and integrity. After months of ill health he died of valvular heart disease on 25 September 1891 at his home, Armadale, St Kilda Road, South Yarra.

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## Future Tours and events

**PLEASE NOTE:** The new toilets in cemetery are near front gate and now operational for future tours

**Wonderful Women Tour, 2.00pm, Sunday 27 August**

**Residents and their Magnificent Mansions, 2.00pm Sunday 24 September**

**AGM...Our AGM is being held on Saturday 14 October 2017 at 10.00am at the Emerald Hill Library, Bank Street, South Melbourne. Come and hear Elizabeth Hore speak on ITALIAN MONUMENTAL CEMETERIES. Free, including morning tea.**

**PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK OR LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE FOR NEWS OF ALL FUTURE TOURS AND EVENTS**

**Tour Cost \$10; members free. Bookings: email [info@foskc.org](mailto:info@foskc.org); tel: 0422379053**

**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](mailto:info@foskc.org) for more details. We charge \$10 per head for group tours and if possible, an afternoon/morning tea will be provided.

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

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## 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](mailto:info@foskc.org) for a membership form.



Image: Dame Mabel Brookes, National Portrait Gallery

Dame Mabel Brookes is one of the people we will be talking about on our Wonderful Women Tour, 2.00pm, Sunday 27 August 2017

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