

# PHOTOGRAPHER



*Lgc*

## LIN

# CUMMING



## HERITAGE SERIES

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# LIN CUMMING

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### CONTRIBUTORS

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Sandra Cumming  
State Library Victoria  
National Library Australia

Shannon Carnes  
Graeme & Norma Hodson  
David & Debbie Hibbert

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Special thanks to Sandra Cumming for her help in  
compiling this factsheet and her generosity in  
sharing her father's life with you, our reader

Faded cover image from a page of an early Journal belonging to Lin Cummings.



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY

**Name:** Lindsay Gordon Cumming  
**Born:** 20 September 1894  
**Married:** 6 June 1939  
**Died:** 24 April 1979  
**Known for:** Ford dealer, photographer

Lin was a local businessman, community worker, photographer, apiarist, bike store owner, piano salesman, gold prospector and ran new car dealerships. He also produced the most significant set of historical local photographs in our District.

Lindsay Gordon Cumming is one of the pre-eminent Alexandra based Artists of his time and the first to be recognised as an illustrator of major significance as well as the district's foremost early photographer, capturing thousands of images throughout his life.

Lin (as he was known), was born to parents Jack Cumming and Sara (née Allsop) at Fawcett in 1894 and attended the Spring Creek Road school at Fawcett which later burnt down. He attended this school until he was expelled for setting a mouse trap under his desk to catch the female teacher who was constantly inquisitive about what he was doing with his head down. He was often drawing in his lap when the class was boring. Once expelled, he attended the Mansfield Convent of Mercy Boarding School until educated. During his time at the boarding school, he rarely got home.



Lin was an artist of advanced stature, and his drawing of three horses completed at age 12, shows up many working artists of today. His pencil to paper co-ordination and his ability to visualise the object on a blank canvas is obvious in his extraordinary early works. In August 1910 (aged 15) he opened a Bicycle Store next door to Wheelers Pharmacy. By August 1912 he was advertising this as a Photography Shop also.



After their house at Fawcett burnt to the ground while spending the day at the Alexandra Show, the family moved into a vacant house in Perkins Street, Alexandra. Over time Lin built a garage next door. Over time this passion for mechanics grew and he started a Ford Dealership servicing early model Fords. It is believed, though not confirmed, that the original ford dealership in Perkins Street was built with wood from the Reefers Hotel at Enochs Point. Folk law has it that Lin purchased the building,



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY

carefully drove his truck to Enochs Point and loaded the wood himself, after the hotel closed due to lack of patronage.

The front outside wall of the dealership had a panel with a large painting of two dogs about to chase a car and one dog says: 'No use Mac, it's a Ford!'.

Although Lin ran the dealership primarily as a 'Ford' outlet, there was a period in the middle where he left Ford, though he came back to Ford after the break. The dealership was later taken over by Bill Price and son Neville, whom, after suffering financial troubles, sold the business to keen competition sailor Geoff Smith in the 1960s. Geoff successfully made the business great again and became a good friend to Lin and told him he would always be there for his wife and daughter.



Sandra Cumming with pet dog Scotty.

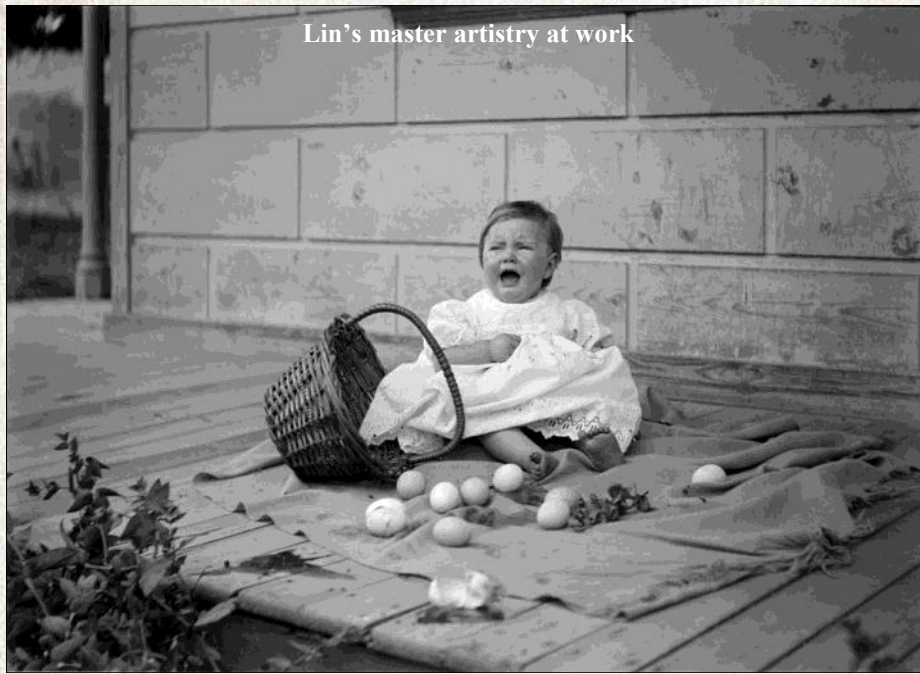
With the invention of photography, Lin bought a Thornton-Pickard Special Ruby Altrincham glass plate camera and worked hard to develop his photographic skills. He worked with early gelatine based glass plate photography, developing them himself in his own photography lab. His daughter Sandra Cumming reflects how he and three other prominent locals would often meet the Alexandra train from Melbourne on the weekends and transport a picnic group in their lovely vehicles and take pictures of them in the bush and sell the images back to the groups. This was our earliest record of this style of salesmanship from a photographer in our district.

In the 1950s Lin upgraded his camera to the latest top of the range Leica 35mm camera and started shooting in colour slide film. His excellent eye and artistic manner continued and further developed in this new medium. He sold the Leica camera and accessories on 25 March 1979 (four weeks before his death) to local Con Appelman for \$200. On his



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## HISTORY



80th birthday his family bought him a Polaroid camera which was loved and much used. Sadly by 2010 most of the Polaroid prints had deteriorated beyond use.

Lin was also an avid beekeeper and spent much time out on the field with his bees. At his peak he had over 600 hives and sold the honey direct from his home and in Melbourne as well as exporting some overseas. In

his later years he produced royal jelly and honeycomb sections. He once exported over 100 tins of honey to Cyprus, each weighing 60 pound. His daughter Sandra had the task of writing on each tin which was arduous, thanks to the buyers long and complicated name and township address. Sandra remembers the long task with fondness. Incredibly, Lin's honey took out the first prize at the Melbourne Show in 1962, 1963 and 1964. He also came second twice for his comb honey (large frame section).

His engineering expertise and creative spirit came into play when he redesigned an old army cooker van, creating a bee keeping mobile honey extracting van. He also invented a motorised lifting unit for collecting and moving around the hives which was picked up by other beekeepers. A galvanized barrow with motorbike wheels was another favourite invention of his and was used in his apiary. Up until 2013 it was used in Sandra's garden (along with the additional wire cage).

Lin also operated a photo studio and bike shop for a period of time after 1910 in Grant Street. His love of mechanics helped him to be successful with bikes, while his love of everything photographic helped him to achieve great success as arguably the town's foremost early landscape photographer. His professional grade photographs document the growing history of the Alexandra district from 1910 up until the late 1970s.

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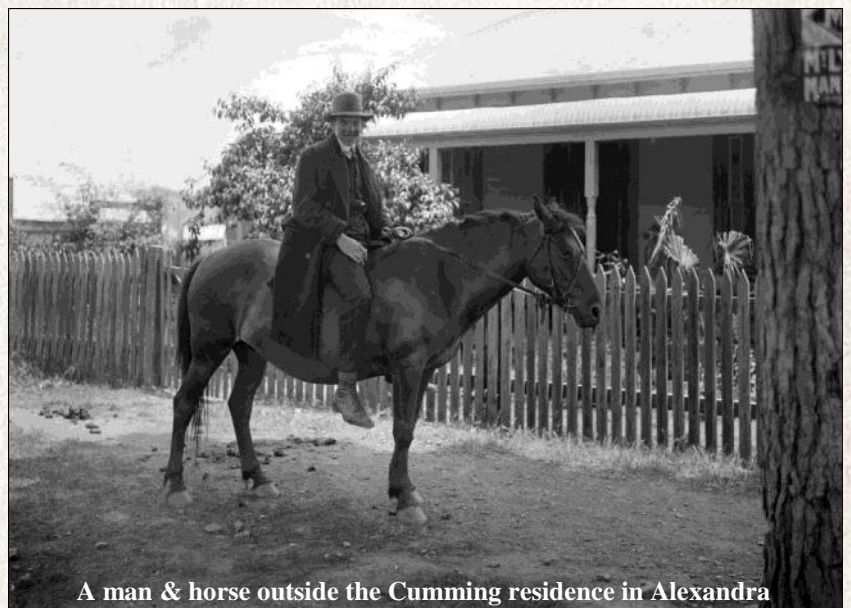
## HISTORY

workshop and gifted back to the family. The framed images were donated by Sandra in 2010 to the Seymour Railway Museum for open display.

As Lin had one of the best cars in the district in the early 1920s, he volunteered for it to be used as an ambulance in emergencies requiring people being taken to Melbourne for further treatment. This illustrated the community heart and soul of Lin who always tried to serve others where he could. His caring spirit towards others was never more evident than during the 'Black Flu' epidemic and the Melbourne Exhibition Building was turned into a temporary hospital. Lin helped where he could, and thankfully never contracted the 'Black Flu'. It is noted that he also acted as a chauffeur for wedding parties as well as conducting free learner driver training, which paid off when he married Margaret Kubeil of Kanumbra after teaching her to drive in the 1920s. Margaret's father was too old at the time and could not be bothered learning to drive, so she was sent to learn to drive in his stead. Lin invited Margaret to stay with the family for the two week period during which she trained and received her licence. Sara looked after her well and during this short period the seed of love was planted between Lin and Margaret.

Lin and Margaret were engaged for 9 years before finally tying the knot at Margaret's parent's house in Kanumbra. It was kept as a very small affair, though Mrs McGuigan became aware when she saw the minister's car following Lin's car, drive to the Kubeil's property. When later informed of the union, Mrs McGuigan stated 'I already know'. Margaret often joked how she didn't have a wedding, due to it being such a small affair on her parent's farm. The engagement went on for nine years due to events occurring that required the marriage to be delayed. Although Lin was not a strong believer, he did support the church and was married by a Presbyterian Minister.

Between 1942 and 1945 Lin was a member of the Volunteer Defence Corps. Although he was never



A man & horse outside the Cumming residence in Alexandra



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY



Margaret & Sandra Cumming with a friend

called to active duty, he was always ready to go if he had been called upon by the Australian Government as he saw serving his country as his duty.

Lin taught his last student how to drive in 1958 when he took his then eighteen year old daughter Sandra for her licence. Sandra had already learnt how to drive previously thanks to her father's graciousness, so the licence was really just a formality. Sandra passed with flying colours, though was required to purchase glasses in order for her to be licensed because of her short-sightedness. She went on to gain her heavy vehicle licence so she could legally drive the bee truck.

Lin spent over 15 years as a member of the inaugural Committee of Management of Fraser National Park.

He was a valued member of the team thanks to his broad range of skills, enthusiastic nature and love for nature.

Another of Lin's passions was shot gun shooting and hunting, though later in life he became resistive to the shooting of animals for sport and turned entirely to competition Clay Pigeon shooting to avoid the hurting of any animals. He also introduced his daughter Sandra to the sport and she likewise excelled.

When Lin was 70 years old and eligible for the old age pension, he was surprised when the first cheque to arrive in the mail was in the name of 'James Lindsay Cumming'. The story is told that his mother liked the name 'Lindsay Gordon' (after the renowned poet Adam Lindsay Gordon), though his father was more for a traditional name like James (possibly after his brother James). It was apparently decided to call him Lindsay, though



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY

his father had the last say when he signed the Birth Certificate as 'James Lindsay Cumming' (no Gordon).

Lin passed away quietly in his sleep after retiring to bed early and checking that his clothes were ready for the next day's trip to the specialist in Melbourne. He was aged 84. It was discovered that he had been living with an undiagnosed aneurysm that ruptured and took his life. Just prior to his passing Lin had donated a sum of money for plants to be purchased for the development of the Alexandra Garden (later named the Jack Shiel Garden). On the day of the funeral, Sandra noted how she was driven past the gardens and saw workers preparing the soil for the planting trees. Two conifer trees purchased with the money from Lin still stand tall and compliment the amazing garden area.

Two thousand and eleven saw Lin mostly unrecognised locally, even though he was an artist of major significance. Artworkz now works to change this legacy. The giving spirit of Lin was passed solely onto his daughter Sandra whom had already given away virtually all of Lin's masterful photographs (in the form of glass plates).

Over 400 of what is believed to have been all remaining glass plates from Lin's collection were cleaned and restored by Dick Edwards. Dick is recognised for his efforts and willingness to help maintain Lin's legacy into the future. They were then handed to the State Library in 2005 for safe keeping and free public display. High resolution versions of Lin's works are now viewable on the State Library website thanks to the State Library of Victoria.

In 2012 a request on Sandra Cumming's behalf to the Alexandra Historical Society (then Alexandra Historical Register) for Sandra to have a copy of her fathers works, was declined. Members of MHR had taken copies from his glass plates at some point. As a result Artworkz stepped, downloaded many of Lin's works from the State Library and presented them to her in a lovely photographic album.





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY

### AUSTRALIAN BEE JOURNAL EXTRACT-JULY 1979

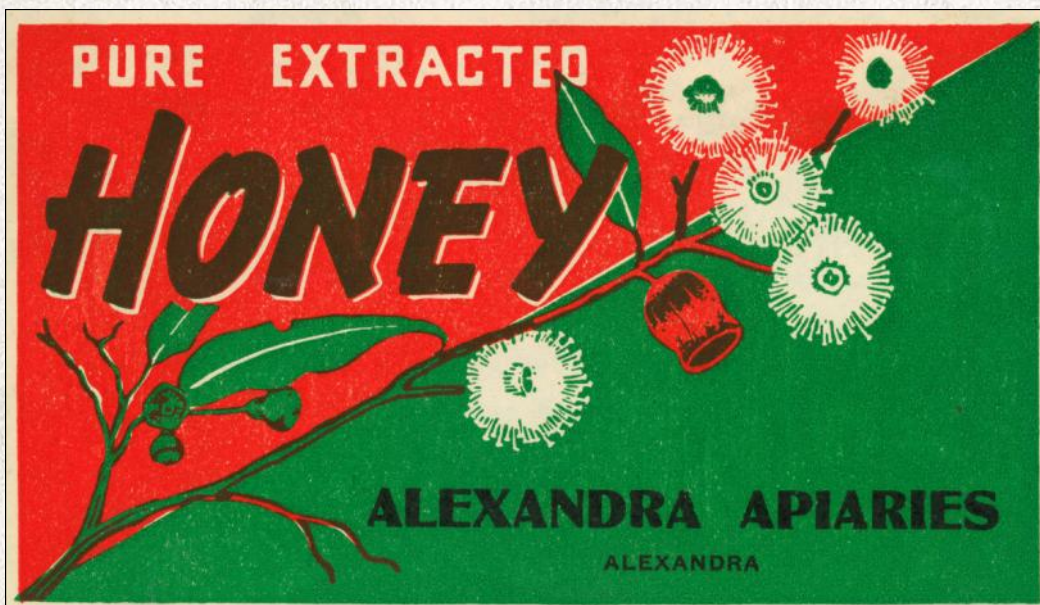
**Lin Cumming was born in 1894 and died 24 April 1979**

Lin was one of the best known and most respected members of the beekeeping community, particularly in his more active years. Having lived to a grand old age of 84, he was better known as his own and our generation than to the younger people in the industry. He spent his early years on the dairy farm at Spring Creek and moved to Alexandra in 1913.

His occupational interests were varied and everything had to be good. He was at various times a professional photographer, bike shop proprietor, farm implement salesman and garage owner. As a Ford agent he was well known and picked up the top salesman award on two occasions.

He told stories of the day when his dad sold the huge and cumbersome Ronaldson and Tippetts stationery engines. It was Lin's job to teach the customers how to start them. Also in the day when the purchase of the T model Ford, carried free driving lessons. Some of the older pupils found it hard to let the good old days out of their systems. They would haul back on the steering wheel and yell 'Whoa' to help with an emergency application of the brakes.

Lin's kindness to people and animals was legendary. Like the times he reluctantly left



the bee yard early because he saw a mother rabbit and her kittens, peeping from their burrow and waiting for him to go home, so they could get on with their evening meal.

Lin became Victoria's premier section honey



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## HISTORY



producer. It would be impossible to describe his skill and attention to detail to create a near perfect article as was humanly possible. This began with annual importations of the best breeding stock available, followed by the dedication of a truly master craftsman in rearing stock from them. His influence on the beehives of Victoria will remain for a long time to come. This is due to his generosity in distributing the previous year's queens—up to 600—to other bee keepers.

His kindness extended to his bees. Who could forget the frustration of helping him to shift a load of bees and waiting 'till every last bee had come home? He could not bear to think that one of his bees would return to find her home gone.

Lin is survived by his wife and daughter, Sandra. To know Lin, was to know them all. They worked together on the sections. Lin and Sandra participated in Clay Pigeon shooting.

A journal twice as big would not be big enough to write a full story of this man, or his love for his country, his family, his friends and our bees. I waved as I left him on Monday morning (23 April 1979). He spent the rest of that day working on the sections. He had his tea, sat by the fire before saying good night and retired to bed. He went quietly to sleep as he had done for his long life time.

One of the strongest and gentlest men I have ever known left this world. He left us so much better for his having been here.

*L Braybrook.  
Senior Apiary Inspector*





## THORNTON-PICKARD SPECIAL RUBY

To our knowledge, Alexandra based photographer Lin Cumming's first camera was the 'Thornton-Pickard Special Ruby Altrincham'. The Thornton-Pickard company was founded by John Edward Thornton and Edgar Pickard in Altrincham, Cheshire in the United Kingdom in 1888.

The camera was of solid wooden construction, and Lin had both the single and Stereographic lens attachments in his bag. His large leather bag also includes a number of empty glass plate backs. In 2012, the camera was purchased by a local, in order to keep it in the area, as Lin's daughter Sandra, was wishing to sell the camera on the open market.

In the 1950s Lin updated to a Leica 35mm Slide Film camera. We do not currently have any information or images of this camera.

*Lin was also the Alexandra Ford Dealer for many years, and a dedicated beekeeper. All photographs taken with the kind permission and assistance of Sandra Cumming in 2010.*



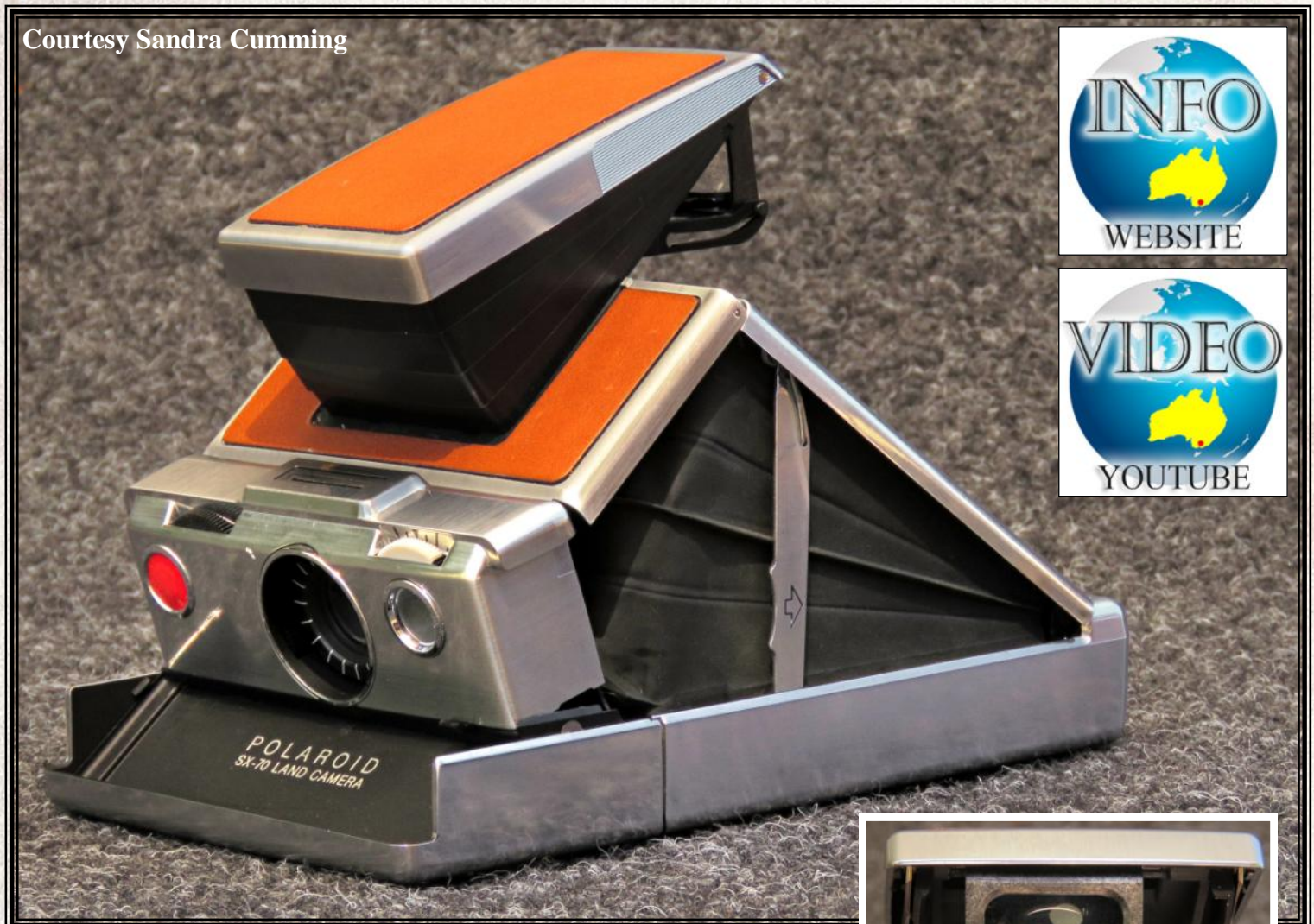


# POLAROID SX-70 LAND CAMERA

HISTORIC CAMERA SERIES

Built 1972–1978

Courtesy Sandra Cumming



## POLAROID SX-70 CAMERA

The Polaroid SX-70 was a single lens reflect camera housed in a slimline folding body and introduced by the Polaroid Corporation in 1972. It was the world's first instant SLR, featuring Polaroid's new instantly developing integral print film. The SX-70 camera maintained a strong cult-like status with the film only discontinued in 2006. The camera boasted a four element 116 mm f/8 glass lens, automatic exposure and a shutter range of 1/175th-10 seconds. Although called a 'Land Camera', the SX-70 was used in space in 1974 by Skylab 3 and 4 astronauts. This specific camera is important locally as it was owned by Lin Cumming who received it as a present on his 80th birthday from his wife and daughter. Lin was Alexandra's most significant early photographer. The camera survives to this day in perfect working order.







# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## LITTLE BITS!

Sandra recalls how when Dad was unsure of Spelling, he would consult his dictionary. He said 'you have to know how to spell it to find it'.

How True!

Margaret always knew that Lin was less likely to do things for her when it was windy. So she would not ask of him when it was. Margaret often joked how this quality had been passed to her daughter Sandra, who, like her father, was also less compliant on windy days.

Jack Cumming of Gobur married Sara Allsop of Gobur.  
Her brother John Allsop married Jack's sister Helen Cumming.

So Lin had double cousins!

Lin's parents, Jack and Sara married in June of 1885.

Jack, Lin's father, played the Violin and it is no doubt from here that Lin learnt to play.

Lin donated, planted and maintained the 'Avenue of Flowering Plums' at Leckie Park near the Alexandra Helipad.

When Lin's daughter Sandra was asked what was her father's most significant quality, she thought about it for a moment and then answered:

'that he was just my dad'.



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## LITTLE BITS!

When Lin was teaching people how to drive the new automotive car, he often had people pull back on the wheel and say 'WHOA' when pulling up at gates, as they would have with a horse!

Lin's office desk used to get messy from time to time. One time after looking for something that was no longer where he left it, he threatened his wife that if she ever tidied his desk again, he would pull out all her roses. She never tidied the desk again!



Lin's favourite Gun Club trophy (an African face), hung on his family's wall ever since he won it in the 1960's.

Early in the new year, the Cumming family would visit the Allsop family at Ringwood. Lin would joke that he never got a plum pudding at home. They always made one for him because he was so deprived! His wife of course would cook them for him regularly.

In late 2010 Lin and Margaret's daughter Sandra Cumming donated all of her family records and images to the District resource kit so that you could see them. She said Lin would have been embarrassed with the attention as he was a very private family man who didn't like the limelight.

Lin's favourite dog was the Greyhound.



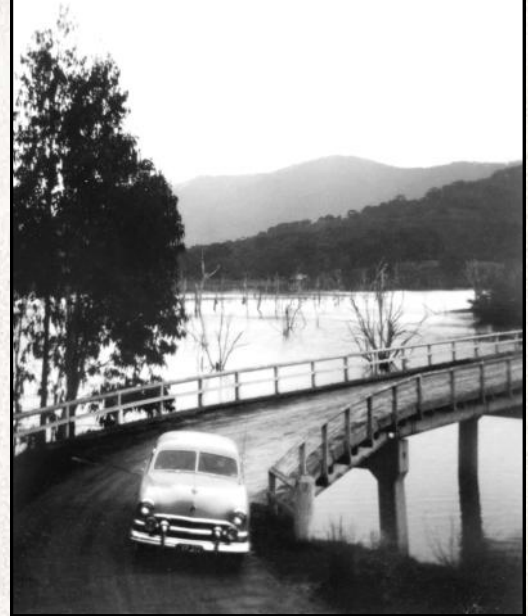
# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY

The showcase illustrates the artistic eye for detail and composure of the artist, as well as his desire to capture day to day life on camera so that it may be remembered forever.



The old Big River Bridge, now submerged

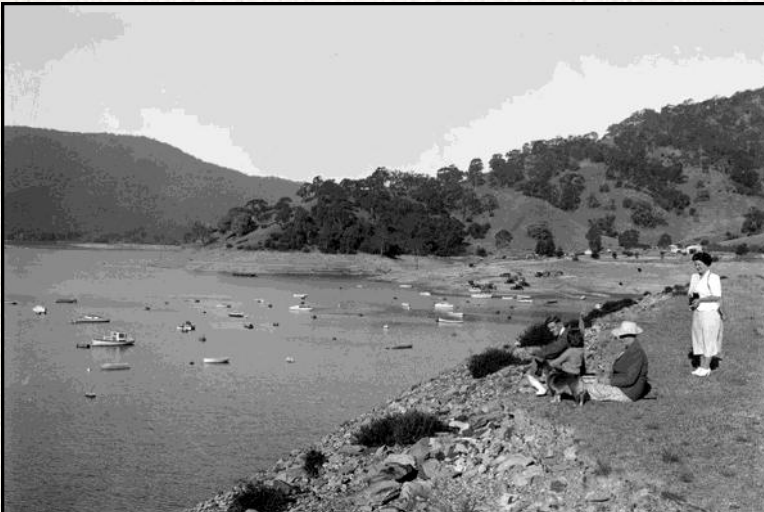


This is just a tiny sample of the works of Lindsay G. Cumming. See our free Artist Gallery under the Photo Gallery section on our free District Resource Kit.



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY

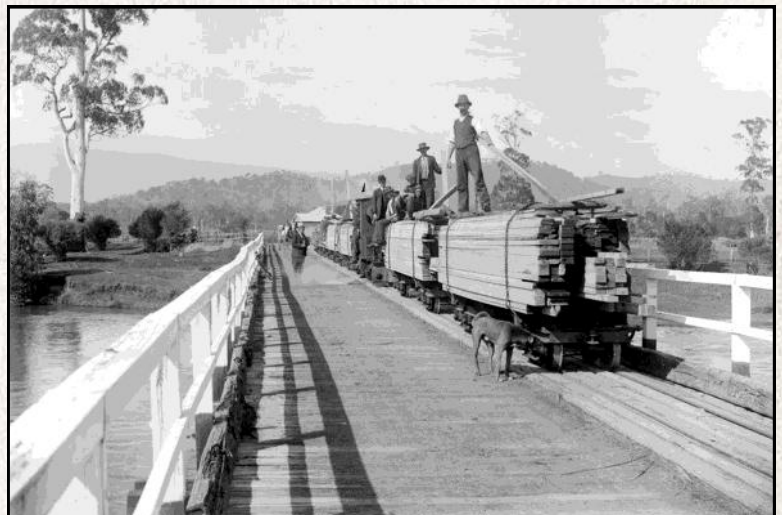
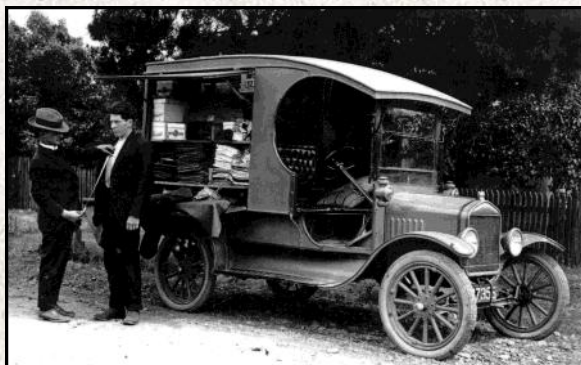
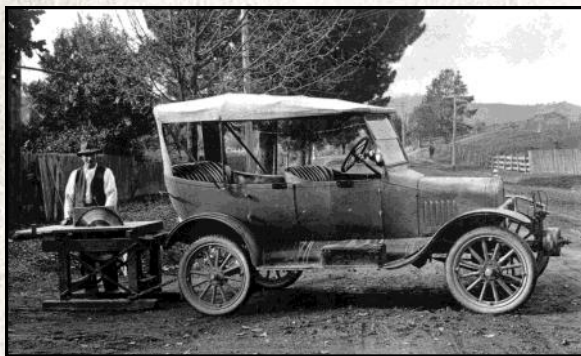
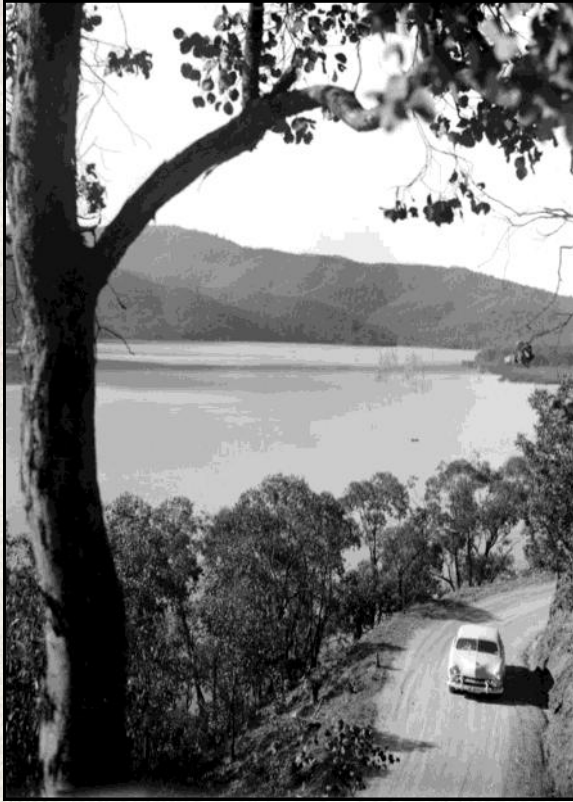


All photographs courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010  
Photographer: Lin Cumming



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## GALLERY



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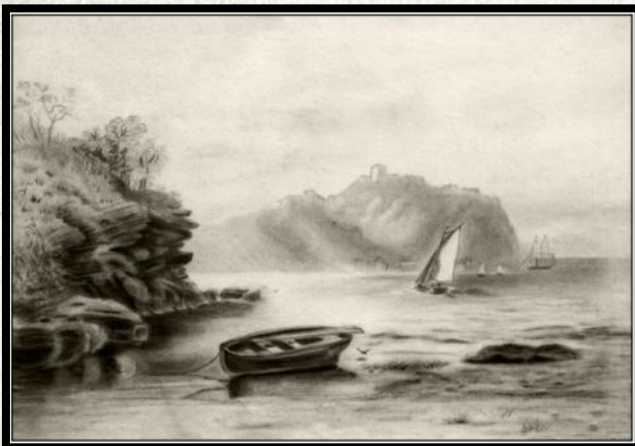


Lin's creative artistic ability was strongly established by the time he owned his first camera. The images of the horses on the left were completed by Lin in 1905 when he was just twelve years of age. The quality is extraordinary!

Likewise, the illustration of the boats on the shore illustrates Lin's understanding of drawing, perspective and composure. It even identifies to some degree how Lin saw the world. Again this was done at a very early age.



Lin is an artist of great local significance and our hope is that he is recognised for his full set of skills, not just his photography.



His love for the creative resulted in him playing the violin, which he possibly learnt from his father, who also loved the instrument.





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

**LINDSAY G. CUMMING**  
**B**EGS to announce that he intends shortly  
to open business in Alexandra for the  
sale of Hercules Bicycles,

**LG Cumming bike business to open soon. He opened next to  
Wheelers Pharmacy August 1910 and was a reseller of  
Hercules Bicycles.**

Alexandra & Yea Standard 12 August 1910  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010

**Follow the Wise !**

**And Purchase a**

**BRINSMEAD** **PIANO!**  
**Or**  
**RONISCH**

**Recognised Superior to Others.**

**The Committee of the Spring Creek Public  
Hall have Purchased a Brinsmead.**

**"It is a Lovely Instrument."--Vide Alex-  
andra Standard.**

**The Terms, like the instrument, are Right.**

**Call on the District Agent,**

**L. G. CUMMING,**  
Alexandra.

Alexandra & Yea Standard  
Friday 29th September 1911  
Courtesy National Library Australia

**Lin was the dealer for the Brinsmead or Ronisch  
Piano in the District at one point. Though this  
was disputed in 1912 by the company, who said  
they had no dealer in the district after the  
Fawcett Hall bought one of their pianos.**

**Advertisements listing L. G. Cumming as the  
Brinsmead or Ronich piano dealer ran in the  
Alexandra & Yea Standard from 22 September  
1911 with the first official advertisement (left) to  
29 September 1911. These advertisements ran  
until 22 March 1912.**

**In August 1912 he began advertising his  
Photographic Business in Alexandra instead.**





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

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### PHOTOGRAPHER.

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**L. G. CUMMING,**

**I**S prepared to execute all kinds of work.  
Prices are reasonable. Work guaranteed.  
Call and inspect pictures. Groups a  
speciality. Trial solicited.

Address: Next Wheeler's Pharmacy,  
Grant Street, Alexandra

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Alexandra & Yea Standard  
Friday 3rd April 1914  
Courtesy National Library Australia

**Lin's Photography Business in Grant Street, Alexandra**  
Courtesy National Library Australia



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS



**£230.** The Car you would be proud of. Complete with everything—even choice of color.

**L. G. CUMMING, Alexandra.**

Alexandra & Yea Standard  
Friday 19 March 1926  
Courtesy National Library Australia

*It's a Rugby* advertisement by Lin Cumming in 1926. Lin was running a series of these advertisements with different illustrations from early 1925.

Alexandra & Yea Standard Friday 19 March 1926  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010

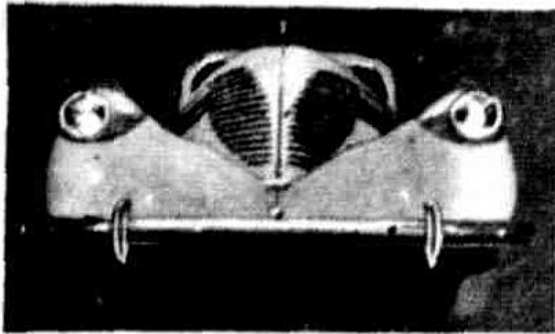


# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

Serious depreciation losses only belong to products sold on unstable prices, stock pressure, or other tinselled inducements. When you buy a WILLYS car or commercial unit, you are assured not only of the lowest running costs known with a standard truck vehicle, but also the highest resale value—two very important factors today. Willys is certified to do 10 to 16 more miles a gallon than any other current American 6-seater. Models include Roadsters, Tourers, Coupes, Sedans, and Commercial units.

PRICE From ... .. £299.



**CUMMING'S**  
**GARAGE**

PHONE 24.

**LG Cumming's Garage**

Alexandra & Yea Standard 24 December 1937  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

### *The Historic Times*

COURTESY SANDRA CUMMING & STATE LIBRARY VICTORIA

20th September 1894 to 24th April 1979

#### - HISTORIC SUPPLEMENT - LINDSAY G. CUMMING



#### LIN CUMMING

Lindsay Gordon Cumming is one of the pre-eminent Alexandra based Artists of his time and the first to be recognised as an illustrator of major significance and then also the district's foremost early photographer, capturing thousands of images throughout his life.

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Continued on next page.



Issue 2 - 2011



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## NEWSPAPERS

### THE HISTORIC TIMES

#### Lindsay G. Cumming

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*When Lin was teaching people how to drive the new automotive car, he often had people pull back on the wheel and say "WOA" when pulling up at gates, as they would have with a horse!*

The front outside wall of the dealership had a panel with a large painting of two dogs about to chase a car and one dog says: "No use Mac, it's a Ford!".

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Her brother John Allsop married  
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So Lin had double cousins!*

As Lin had one of the best cars in the district in the early 1920s, he volunteered to be used as an ambulance in emergencies requiring people being taken to Melbourne for further treatment. This illustrated the community heart and soul of Lin who always tried to serve others where he could. His caring spirit towards others was never more evident than during the "Black Flu" epidemic and the Melbourne Exhibition building was turned into a temporary hospital. Lin helped where he could, and thankfully never contracted the "Black Flu". It is noted that he also acted as a chauffeur for wedding parties as well as conducting free learner driver training, which paid off when he married Margaret Kubeil of Kanumbra after teaching her to drive in the 1920s. Margaret's father was too old and could not be bothered learning to drive, so she was sent in his stead. Lin invited Margaret to stay with the family for the two week period during which she trained and received her licence. Sara looked after her well and the seed of love was planted for Lin and Margaret.

Lin and Margaret were engaged for 9 years before finally tying the knot at Margaret's parents house in Kanumbra. It was kept as a very small affair, though Mrs McGuigan became aware when she saw the ministers car following Lin's car, drive to the Kubeil's property. When later informed of the union, Mrs McGuigan stated "I already know". Margaret often joked how she didn't have a wedding, due to it being such a





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

*THE HISTORIC TIMES*

### LINDSAY G. CUMMING



small affair on her parents farm. The engagement went on for nine years due to events occurring that required the marriage to be delayed. Although Lin was not a strong believer, he did support the church and was married by a Presbyterian Minister.

Between 1942 and 1945, Lin was a member of the Volunteer Defence Corps. Although he was never called to active duty, he was always ready to go if he had been called upon by the Australian Government as he saw serving his country as his duty.

Lin taught his last student how to drive in 1958 when he took his then eighteen year old daughter Sandra for her licence. Sandra had already learnt how to drive previously thanks to her fathers graciousness, so the licence was really just a formality. Sandra passed with flying colours, though was required to purchase glasses in order for her to be licenced because of her short-sightedness. She went on to gain her heavy vehicle licence so she could legally drive the bee truck.

Lin spent over fifteen years as a member of the inaugural Committee of Management of Fraser National Park. He was a valued member of the team thanks to his broad range of skills, enthusiastic nature and love for nature.

Another of Lin's passions was shot gun shooting and hunting, though later in life he became resistive to the shooting of animals for sport and turned entirely to competition Clay

Pigeon shooting to avoid the hurting of any animals. He also introduced his daughter Sandra to the sport and she likewise excelled.

When Lin was 70 years old and eligible for the old age pension, he was surprised when the first cheque to arrive in the mail was in the name of "James Lindsay Cumming". The story is told that his mother liked the name "Lindsay Gordon" (after the renowned poet Adam Lindsay Gordon), though his father was more for a traditional name like James (possibly after his brother James). It was apparently decided to call him Lindsay, though his father had the last say when he signed the Birth Certificate as "James Lindsay Cumming" (no Gordon).

Lin passed away quietly in his sleep after retiring to bed early, and checking that his clothes were ready for the next days trip to the specialist in Melbourne. He was aged 84. It was discovered that he had been living with an undiagnosed aneurism that ruptured and took his life.



Just prior to his passing Lin had donated a sum of money for plants to be purchased for the development of the Alexandra Garden (later named the Jack Shiel Garden). On the day of the funeral, Sandra noted how she was driven past the gardens and saw workers preparing the soil for the planting of the trees. Two conifer trees purchased with the money from Lin still stand tall and compliment the amazing garden area.

2011 still sees Lin mostly unrecognized locally, even though he was an artist of major significance. Artworkz is working with Sandra to change this legacy. The giving spirit of Lin was passed solely onto his daughter Sandra whom had already given away virtually all of Lin's masterful photographs (in the form of glass plates).



All of Lin's glass plates (over 410 remaining) were painstakingly cleaned and restored by Dick Edwards. Dick is recognized for his efforts and willingness to help maintain Lin's legacy into the future. They were then handed to the State Library in 2005 for safe keeping and free public display. Low resolution versions of Lin's works are now viewable on the State Library website thanks to the State Library of Victoria. We are hopeful that in the future we may gain access to one of the two remaining high resolution district copies currently held by two local collectors.

Courtesy Sandra Cumming  
Photographer Lin Cumming  
Photographs Courtesy  
State Library Victoria





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## NEWSPAPERS

*THE HISTORIC TIMES*

Pictured on this page, is a collection of images taken by Lin Cumming during his life.

His excellent eye for illustration and photography, meant we get to enjoy his excellent works forever!

Lin's first camera is pictured on the right - a wooden Thornton-Pickard Special Ruby Altrincham. The camera remains in perfect working condition.

Lin mastered the camera in the field, as well as the processing in the photo lab.

Courtesy Sandra Cumming  
Photographer Lin Cumming  
Photographs Courtesy  
State Library Victoria

### THE LINDSAY G. CUMMING COLLECTION



THORNTON-PICKARD  
SPECIAL RUBY  
ALTRINCHAM



© Copyright David Hibbert 2011



Margaret always knew, that Lin was less likely to do things for her, when it was windy. So she would not ask of him when it was. Margaret often joked how this quality had been passed to her daughter Sandra, who, like her father, was also less compliant on windy days.



Supplement





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS











LG Cumming Garage Fuel Stamps  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

ACCESSORIES.      SUPPLIES.            FORD PARTS      SERVICE.  
**L. G. CUMMING**  
ALEXANDRA    MANSFIELD    YEA  
 Ford Cars    o    Trucks    o    Tractors  
**SALES AND SERVICE**

July 1925

*M Commercial Garage*  
*8 Favours*

Aug 18	2. 33255B	@ 1/2	4
20	1. 3818R	1/2 2 guggon tires @ 2/3	13 6
	1. 1/2 ton hub (ball type) complete	13/6	13 6
	8 eng valves	@ 1/2	4 4
	1 fan pulley	2c @ 1/4	1 9
Sept 4	1 set com wires (start type)	1/6	7 6
20	1 1/2 rad hose	1/3 2 small do @ 1/4	3 3
24	2 valve springs	@ 6	1
27	2. 2837 1. 2834 2. 2836 2. 2833	@ 3/6	1 13
	6. 2841	@ 9	4 6
29	1. 2721	@ 5/1	5
Oct 3	1 1/2 chg 1/2 chg tolls	@ 6	2 9
	11. 1 low gear adj nut & washers	8	8
	1 main pack	4	4
	7 2 brake shoe tolls	@ 5/1	10
	13 6 hub tolls 4 nuts 3 sets 3377B	@ 6 @ 5/1 @ 6	6
	6 crown pack 6 studs	@ 5	3
Nov. 5	1 com cover 24 2 com wheels	4/9 @ 4/9	14 3
29	1 com wheel 2 rollers	4/9 @ 2/9	10 3
31	1 set bondb & rivets	4/6 @ 3	4 9
Jan 29	3 crown packs	@ 3	9


**LG Cumming Garage Invoice**  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

A.A.F.A.210

  
Certificate

Nº 38991

Australian Military Forces  
Volunteer Defence Corps  
Certificate of Discharge

This is to Certify that

V.371460 PTE. CUMMING L.G. - 16 BN V.D.C. VIC.

Served in the Volunteer Defence  
Corps on Part Time War Service

from the date of his enlistment on 22/3/42  
and until 1/10/45 on which date  
he was discharged from that Corps ..

Date 27 Feb 46

Thos Lint  
for Officer in Charge

J.L. Whitham Lt. Gen. VIC Echelon & Records  
Comd. V.D.C. VICTORIA

Signature of Member .....

LG Cumming Volunteer Defence Corps Certificate  
Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

STATE OF VICTORIA  
"EXTRACT" OF ENTRY No 83566  
MLH

Office of the Government Statist

Melbourne, 20th September, 1973

Re Application Fol.  
MEMO. 73/52469

According to the Registers in this Office,

James Lindsay CUMMING  
was born at Fawcett  
on 20th September, 1894.

The Official Number of the entry is 29692/1894

**V. H. ARNOLD**

Government Statist

N.B.—The Fee for an Uncertified Extract or a search over any period of five years or part thereof is \$1.50. A Certificate of above entry will be supplied for an additional fee of \$1.50. In all correspondence bearing on the entry, the "Application Folio No. and the Official Number" must be quoted.

N.007—3726/72

C. H. Rixon, Government Printer, Melbourne


**LG Cumming Birth Extract**

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

In the State of Victoria.  In the Commonwealth of Australia.

FOURTH SCHEDULE, ACTS Nos. 2691 and 2720.—FORM B.

### CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE. [B.]

Year 1939. Parish or Church District Alexandria Denomination Presbyterian

No. in Register. (1)	When and where Married. (2)	Name and Surname of each Party. (3)	Conjugal Condition, also date of Decree of each former Spouse (if Wid- owed), or Date of Order Absolute (if Divorced). (4)	Children by each former Marriage.		Birthplace. (7)
				Living. (5)	Dead. (6)	
14	6 <sup>th</sup> June 1939 Hanumbra	James Lindsay Gordon burnming Margaret Elizabeth Kubeil	Bachelor Spinster			Fawcett Hansfield

Occupation. (8)	Age in years (last Birthday) (9)	Exact Residence of each Party.		Parents' Names.	
		Present. (10)	Usual. (11)	Father. Also Occupation. (12)	Mother. (Full Maiden Name.) (13)
Motor Dealer	44	Perkins St. Alexandria	Perkins St. Alexandria	John Webster burnming (Deed)	Sara Allsop
Home Duties	35	Hanumbra	Hanumbra	Ernest Harvey Kubeil Farmer	Jane H. Guigan

We declare that the above is a true statement  
of the particulars relating to each of us respec-  
tively; and that Marriage  
was solemnized between us on the date and at the  
place mentioned, according to the rites of  
the Presbyterian Church

James Gordon  
Margaret Kubeil  
 Signatures of Parties.

Signatures of  
 Witnesses { Flora Williams  
E. H. Kubeil

I, Graham Nathan being a minister of the  
Presbyterian Church do hereby certify that I have this day duly  
 celebrated Marriage between the abovenamed parties, after notice (had been dispensed with  
 by permission of \_\_\_\_\_ Esq., J.P.), and after declaration, duly  
 made as by law required [and with the written consent of \_\_\_\_\_].

Dated this sixth day of June 1939

Signature of Minister, Government Statist,  
 or Registrar of Marriages { Graham Nathan

N.371/11.34.—13110.

LG Cumming's & Margaret Kubeil's 1939 Marriage Certificate

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

THIRD SCHEDULE	
DEATHS IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA	
Registered by <u>William John GAYLOR</u> AM	
1 No. .. .. .	Nº 9047 /79
Description—	24th April, 1979,
2 (1) When and where died ..	Alexandra,
(2) Usual Place of Residence ..	19 Perkins Street, Alexandra,
3 Name and Surname .. ..	James Lindsay CUMMING,
Occupation .. .. .	Retired,
4 Sex and age .. .. .	Male, 84 years.
5 (1) Cause of death and duration of last illness	Rupture of aortic aneurysm - 1 year, Lymphoma - 6 years, Chronic bronchitis and asthma - years,
(2) Legally qualified medical practitioner by whom certified and when he last saw deceased	R. Young, 10th April, 1979.
6 Name and surname of father and mother (maiden name, if known), with occupation	John Webster Cumming, Sarah Cumming, maiden name Allsop, Farmer.
7 Signature, description, and residence of informant	Certified by Margaret E. Cumming, 19 Perkins Street, Alexandra. Wife.
8 (1) Signature of Registration Officer	
(2) Date .. .. .	30th April, 1979, <i>W. J. Gaylor</i>
(3) Where registered ..	Melbourne
If burial registered— (Adapt as required)	26th April, 1979, Cremated at Springvale Crematorium,
9 When and where buried ..	
Undertaker by whom certified	G. Devlin,
10 Name and Religion of Minister, or names of witnesses of burial	R. Thompson, Uniting Church.
11 (1) Where born .. .. .	Fawcett, Victoria,
(2) Period of residence in Australia	84 years.
If deceased was married—	
12 (1) Where and .. .. .	Kanumbra, Victoria,
(2) At what age and .. ..	44 years,
(3) To whom .. .. .	Margaret Elizabeth Kubeil,
(4) Conjugal Condition at date of Death	Married,
13 Issue in order of birth, the names and ages	Margaret Sandra, 39 years.
<p><i>Joseph Vincent McCARTHY</i> a Registration Officer of the State of Victoria, in the Commonwealth of Australia, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an Entry in a Register of Deaths kept in this Office.</p> <p>OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST, MELBOURNE, 16 MAY 1979 <i>W. J. Gaylor</i></p>	

### LG Cumming 1979 Death Certificate

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

2 CON APPELMAN  
ALEXANDRA

Nº 556

25. 3. 79

1 LEICA CAMERA + ACCESSORIES.

\$ 200 00

Paide  
will thank  
L.S. Cumming  
X Cumming

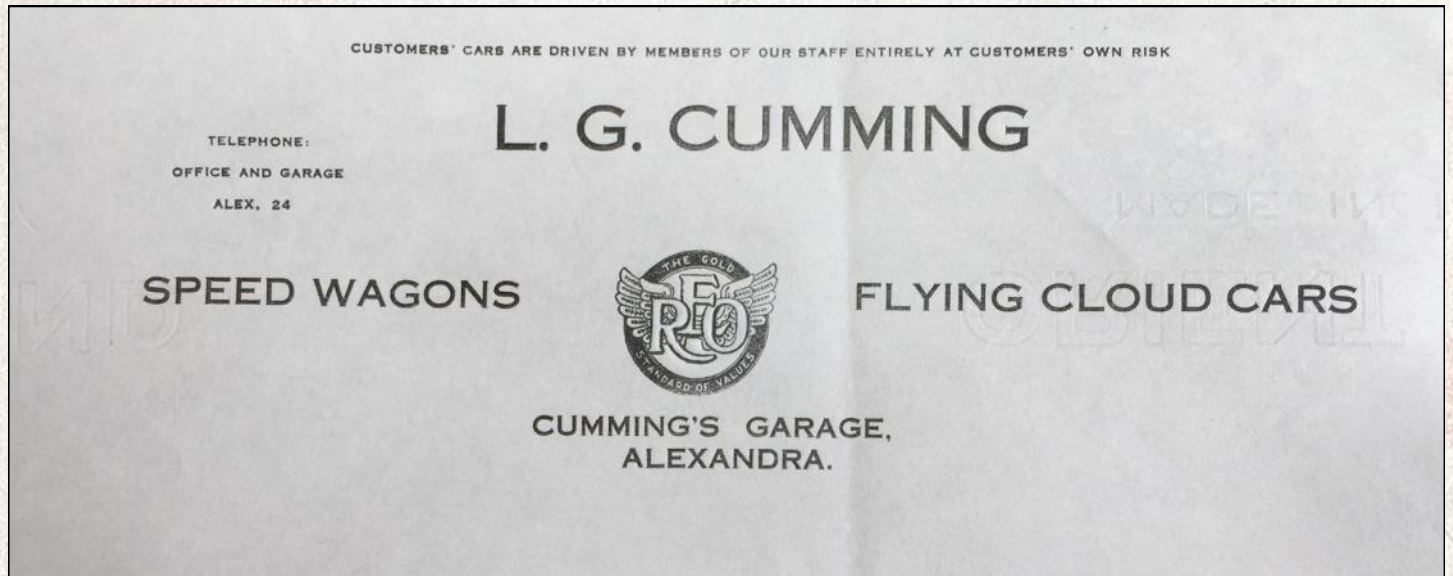
**LG Cumming receipt for the sale of his Leica Camera and  
accessories to Con Appelman for \$200.**

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2010



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS



**LG Cumming Speed Wagons and Flying Cloud Cars letterhead**

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2011



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## DOCUMENTS

ONE HONEY COMB SECTION  
*Alexandra Apiaries*  
PURE "AA" HONEY

PRODUCED FOR  
BEELINE APIARIES  
285 WAVERLEY ROAD, EAST HALVERN

*Spread and eat  
It's Delicious*

Plastic sleeve from Alexandra Apiaries honey processing and sales

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2011



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## LIN'S TRAIN IMAGES



**These seven images of Lin Cumming's are a sample of the works purchased by the Victorian Railways in the early 1900s for display on their E & W class country carriages.**

Refer next page for more details.

Courtesy Sandra Cumming 2011  
Photograph © Copyright David Hibbert 2011



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## LIN'S TRAIN IMAGES

### SEVEN VIEWS OF THE ALEXANDRA DISTRICT by LINDSAY G. CUMMING

These photographic views of the Alexandra district are the work of  
**Lin G. Cumming (1894 - 1979)**  
who was contracted by the Victorian Railways to supply photos for  
display in the compartments of the E and W type corridor country  
carriages.

Mr. Cumming was born at Spring Creek, a small community between  
Koriella and Yarck. In 1912 his family moved to Alexandra where he  
started up a motor garage selling Rugbys, Rios and T-model Fords. To do  
so it was necessary for him to teach his clients to drive! To supplement  
his income, Lin Cumming took up bee-keeping and commercial  
photography and opened a photography shop in Alexandra. As a prolific  
photographer he recorded scenic views of the Alexandra district as well  
as portraits of its people and a number of railway scenes.

In around 1930 the Victorian Railways presented Mr. Cumming with this  
framed set of seven of his photos. In 2010 his daughter, Ms. Sandra  
Cumming, donated them to the Seymour Railway Heritage Centre.

The Centre is proud to become custodians of the historic prints and  
expresses its grateful thanks to Sandra for her generous donation.







# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## THANK YOU

A big thanks to Sandra Cumming for her willingness to give back to the community so that this factsheet could be realized.

Sandra's willingness to share 'everything' with us regarding her family is both refreshing and amazing in this day when history is so often held hostage by those wishing to profit personally from it.

A big thank you Sandra from Artworkz.  
You are that little bit of magic that makes the world go around and inspires us to try to spin it even quicker.

:)

As is normal for Artworkz, we have kept nothing of Sandra's!  
Artworkz, serving our community





# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## PHOTO ALBUM

When we met first Sandra in 2010, we were surprised to find that she had no lasting legacy of her father's photographic works and that there was no publically available display or recognition of her father's prized photographic works.

Sandra had given away all of her father's remaining early photographic plates to local historians, leaving herself with only a handful of her father's prints.

The Artworkz team worked to address this by:

- Purchasing a photo album for Sandra and started filling it with any of her father's images we had received to that point.
- Presenting Sandra with the album a week later. It became her most prized photographic album and the only one she has of her father's works to this day.
- Creating a freely available Lin Cumming Factsheet.
- Creating a freely available Lin Cumming Photo Gallery.
- Publishing a 'Lin Cumming Supplement' in issue 2 of our Historical Newspaper *The Historic Times*.

*David Hibbert*  
Artworkz





*Artworkz*

*Serving the Community*