

AT THE UNION – BY REES QUILFORD

WORKS REFERENCED

AUDIO

Audio excerpts include:

- Alan Bremner and Harry Haddow discussing their memories of Wonthaggi Miners' Union Broad Committee activities and the entertainment at the Union Theatre. Accessed via the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society Oral History Collection. Recording OH-004, recorded July 1983.
- Elsie Hamilton (interviewed by Lyn Chambers) discussing the founding of the Wonthaggi Miners' Women's Auxiliary and the sometimes feisty tone of their meetings. Accessed via the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society Oral History Collection. Recording OH-0014A, recorded 18th July 1985.

PANEL 1: Building a Hall of Their Own

'First Political Meeting at Powlett River' (1909). Photograph sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

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Chambers, J. & L. (1982), 'Long Plans For A New Miners' Hall', except from It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Page from the Wonthaggi Miners' Union Minute Book' (1924). Photograph sourced from University of Melbourne Archives.

PANEL 2: A New Home For The Union

'Union Theatre Building, Graham Street, Wonthaggi' (1924). Photograph P00716, sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

Quilford, Nell (1982). 'The Completed Hall 1924', illustration in Chambers, J. & L. It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Annie Legge as Queen of Scots in the first big function in the new Miners' Union Theatre' (1925). Photograph P01513, sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

'Miners' Union New Hall' in Powlett Express, published 12 December 1924. Accessed via Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

Reeves, Andrew (2011) Up From the Underworld: Coalminers and Community in Wonthaggi, 1909-1968. Published by Monash University Press.

PANEL 3: It's On At The Union

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'The Blue Danube', film advert cited in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 3 March 1933. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

'The Squatters Daughter', film advert cited in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 22 November 1933. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

'It's On At The Union', cover logo from Chambers, J. & L. It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Ballet For the Runaway Girl', photograph from Chambers, J. & L. It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Wonthaggi's Bookmakers are kept busy', photograph from Mining Town Series. Wonthaggi, Victoria, 9 December 1939. Accessed via Mitchell Library collection, State Library of New South Wales and Courtesy ACP Magazines Ltd.

'The seating in the 1925 theatre', description in Chambers, J. & L. It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Mrs Connolly's Band', photograph, cited in Chambers, J. & L. It's On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

'Combined Unions Stop Work Meeting', flier from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

'Your Best Bet For The Weekend', advert in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 22 November 1933. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

‘Boxing Union Hall: Pay Friday Night’, cited in Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

‘Hospital Crockery Ball’, advert cited in Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

‘State School Mothers Club: Children’s Fancy Dress Ball’, advert cited in Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

PANEL 4: The Best Show In Town

‘Clean, Cheap and Cheerful’, Wonthaggi Black Coal promotional poster. State Coal Mine Gift Shop.

‘The Young People of Wonthaggi “swing it” with an enthusiastic skill worthy of a big city’, dancing photographs from Mining Town Series. Wonthaggi, Victoria, 9 December 1939. Accessed via Mitchell Library collection, State Library of New South Wales and Courtesy ACP Magazines Ltd.

‘A Busy Place’ (1982), description from Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

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Quilford, Nell (1982). ‘Christies Pie Cart’, illustration in Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

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‘Wonthaggi’s Picture Theatre’, photograph of two women attending a Union Theatre screening from Mining Town Series. Wonthaggi, Victoria, 9 December 1939. Accessed via Mitchell Library collection, State Library of New South Wales and Courtesy ACP Magazines Ltd.

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‘Boxing: Union Hall’, advert in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 11 March 1933. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

PANEL 5: The Strike of 1934

‘Union Theatre Building’ (c1930s). Photograph P01764, sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

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PANEL 6: A Hub for the Strike

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‘The Broad Committee, except from Chambers, J. & L. It’s On At The Union. Published by Wonthaggi & District Historical Society.

‘The Wood Cutting Team’, photograph sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

‘Relief Committee Butchers’, photograph sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

‘Council and Mine Trouble’ published in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 1 June 1934. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

PANEL 7: Women’s Advocacy

‘Wonthaggi Miners’ Women’s Auxiliary members marching in protest’, photograph sourced from the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

‘The President of the W.M.W.A. Meg Foster with the Secretary Agnes Doig in the Union Theatre Meeting Room’, photograph sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society, Photograph P02766, circa late 1930’s.

‘Statement by inaugural President, Agnes Chambers on behalf of the Committee’, cited in Cochrane, P, The Wonthaggi Coal Strike, 1934 in ‘Labour History’, No. 27, 1974, p. 28.

‘Mrs J Chambers Addresses Northcote Town Hall’, published in Wonthaggi Sentinel, published 6 July 1934. Accessed via State Library of Victoria newspaper collection.

‘Members of the W.M.W.A in 1967’. Back (L to R): VURLOW, Agnes; HUDSON, Hannah; McLEOD, Mavis; STIRTON, Nancy; HAMILTON, Elsie; CURRIE, Meg; HARMER, Bessie; ALLEN, Nell; DOIG, Agnes; CHAMBERS, Lyn; WALSH, Renie; PUGH, Peggy. Front (L to R): STEIN, Mary; FOSTER, Meg; HANSON, Jess; CHAMBERS, Agnes; HANNAFORD, Martha. Sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection. Photograph P02772, 1967.

Members of W. M. Women’s Auxiliary at a May Day March in Melbourne in the late 1940’s. People (L to R): HAMILTON, Elsie; STIRTON, Nancy; and FOSTER, Meg. Sourced from Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection. Photograph P02768, circa late 1940’s.

PANEL 8: A Political Hotbed

‘Wonthaggi Miners’ Women’s Auxiliary members marching in protest’, photograph P01264 sourced from the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society collection.

‘The War On The Working Class’, booklet cover sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘Demand A Better Deal’, booklet cover sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘Strike Relief’, public meeting flier sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘Defeat Menzies’ Fascist Bill’, political flier cover sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘Public Meeting: Union Theatre’, public meeting flier sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘Unite to out Menzies’, flier sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

‘The Young Worker’, masthead sourced from the W. Rankin Collection. Accessed via the University of Melbourne Archives.

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