VOL 3 No. 8

THE MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Published every month except December.

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday of the Month 7.30pm Collins St. State School Library

Welcome to the August Newsletter

Is it reasonable to assume that your knowledge of historical trivia has improved? Another set of trivia appears in the Newsletter - can you obtain full marks. Readers will find a piece written by Mrs. June Lubcke dealing with Billy's Creek. Obviously there is reference to one of our early runs, Scrubby Forest. To complete the set, there is a piece referring to HASELLWOOD STATION (Hazelwood) and MARYVILLE (Maryvale). The 1896 voters' Roll continues and this month readers will notice reference to some old family names.

An Inspector's Lot....

Mr. I.T.Maddern, Advertiser, 6/8/62.

In June 1877, Inspector of Schools, James Holland of the Victorian Education Department was asked to furnish a report on the Maryvale Ridge school building. He was unable to do so and gave the following explanation why he was unable to carry out this duty. It was in the old days of the horse and buggy, or on such occasions when the roads were bad and the seasons were wet, of the horse alone, without the buggy.

"The building is between four and five miles north of Hazelwood, and about eight

miles west of Traralgon.

On account of illness, I was unable to attend to the matter while I was in the neighbourhood. When I was at Brandy Creek on the Monday of the preceding week, I was thoroughly drenched with rain. I got dry while inspecting Drouin school and was wet through again before reaching Dawes' Hotel.

The same thing happened on the Tuesday, and on Wednesday, the rain fell in torrents again. I reached Drouin East school, miserably wet and cold, dried myself

at the fire and was again drenched through twice with the rain of that day.

The consequence of this was that, by the end of the week, I was so ill and weak from severe cold and exposure, that I was unable to sit in the saddle or to walk. The road to Maryvale at this time was so bad that I was unable to drive.

Under these circumstances, I thought the best thing I could do would be to ask Mr. mattingley(head teacher at Traralgon), on whom I could rely, to visit the building for me, and rather than remain idle at Traralgon, to push on in the buggy, and, if I felt well enough, to inspect the schools immediately on the road."

Note: Maryvale Ridge school closed in 1879 and its pupils transferred to the newly opened Commercial Rd. school in Morwell

NUMBER.	VOTER'S	VOTER'S CHRISTIAN NAME.	TRADE OR OCCUPATION.	DESCRIPTION AND SITUATION OF PROPERTY GIVING TITLE TO VOTE.	NUMBER OF VOTES.	ELECTORAL DISTRICT IN WHICH PROPERTY IS SITUATED.	DIVISION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICT IN WHICH PROPERTY IS SITUATED.
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264		Findlay	grazier	do do	3		*** ***
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276	Noy	Walter	. ,,	house, Morwell	1	3.7	. >>
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298		Mrs.	grazier	land, Narracan	2	West Gippsland	Narracan
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$\frac{317}{318}$		Thomas	grazier	land, Hazelwood and Narracan	$\frac{3}{2}$	South Gippsland South Gippsland	***
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THE PALM TREES - UPDATE.

At the meeting of Morwell Historical Society held on July 21st, it was decided unanimously to support the removal of the palm trees from their present position to a new site, to be decided.

Mr. Gerry O'Connor, Curator of Morwell Shire's Parks and Gardens, is keen to see the trees preserved and is at present considering suitable sites for their re-location.

The R.C.A's horticultural advisers say the trees can be successfully transplanted and it is expected that the move will take place within the next couple of months.

HELP WANTED

The Bi-Centenial Committee of Shire of Narracan, is planning to produce a book describing several scenic and historical bushwalks within the Shire. The book will be a high quality hard cover edition, complimented with contempory photographs by a well known photographer, as well as suitable historical photographs relevant to the walks. It is hoped that the final choice will include some photographs that have not previously been published, so for this reason, I am appealing to the readers who may have suitable original prints that they would be prepared to lend for inclusion in the book. The owners of the photographs that are chosen would be acknowledged in the book which is well advanced and due for publication in November, 1987. Some of the specific scenes that are needed are as follows:

- 1. Poverty Point settlement or any indication of community life.
- 2. Toombon township showing any of the building.
- 3. Activity at Collin's Siding or Morgan's Mill.
- 4. Scenes along Baw Baw Alpine Track, between Mt.Erica and Walhalla, in particular with people included.
- 5. Cobb & Co. coach transporting passengers, mail as in bogged conditions, possibly in Shady Creek district.
- 6. Early township of Erica, or early poato farming methods.
- 7. Early township of Coopers Creek, or work at lime kilns.
- 8. Township of Jerico, Red Jacket, Aberfeldy, Toombon and Donnelly's Creek. also working activity such as mining, clearing, transporting etc. in these districts.
- 9. Narracan, Childers, Allambee and Thorpdale townships or potato farming, timber industry and community life.
- 10. Bullock team on "Old Thorpdale Road".
- 11. Corduroy road maintenance in any area.
- 12. Coalville mining activities.
- 13. Gould, Old Tanjil, and Russell's Creek townships.

If you can help in any way please contact,

Mrs. Y. Reynolds 50 Summerlea St; Trafalgar, 3824.

Ph. (056) 332051."



In the spirit: celebrities gather at Ayers Rock to make the opening Bicentennial TV commercial.

MAKING II GREAT

KE 56 assorted celebrities, one Ayers Rock, 45 degree heat, followed by the biggest rainstorm seen in Central Australia all year and you get some idea of the challenges facing the makers of the TV commercial that will launch the Bicentenary to the Australian public.

When the commercial hits our screens on July 26, it will herald the start of an advertising campaign that has been in

planning for over a year.

"Our first objective was to create mark on the nation. anticipation for the year, and to make people want to be involved," said Catharine Retter, The Australian Bicentennial Authority's marketing director.

"MoJo-MDA advertising put six creative teams to work on the campaign following more than three months of briefings on the line we wanted to take." MoJo chose 'Celebration Of A Nation'

'Let's Make It Great in 88' as the concepts with most market appeal.

By ROSS CLELLAND

The commercial is a star-spotter's delight with personalities from a dozen fields: TV's Rowena Wallace and Bill Peach, entertainers Ricky May and Jon English, Mark Ella and Ron Barassi from the world of sport, fashion people such a Prue Acton and Carla Zampatti.

There are famous couples as well: Bert and Patti Newton, Bobby Limb and Dawn Lake, all people who have left their

This is just the first public face of the Bicentenary. Later commercials will feature "everyday" Australians and the part they can play in the activities of the celebrations: the local greengrocer turning his store into a Bicentennial monument, the members of an historical society working on local historic buildings, or the community group putting on its own party — all Making It Great in

Another section of the overall campaign will advertise specific events like the Tall Ships and the Bicentennial Exhibition.

You can even wear the Bicentenary. Companies are being licensed to produce clothing emblazoned with the official symbol, and souvenirs from key-rings to full-size flags will be on sale as part of a media and marketing blitz intended to reach every Australian.

But back to the Centre on a hot couple of days in November 1986, when the Ayers Rock commercial was shot.

"It was quite a logistic operation," said Catharine Retter. "First it took two days travelling to get everybody to the site and then another two days to actually shoot what turns into 90 seconds on the screen.

"Ansett managed the enormous job of getting everyone there, the support of the Northern Territory Tourist Commission was great, and the sponsorship and supplies from Swan Breweries and Rosemount were appreciated by many.

"The whole exercise proved what Australians can do when involved in something as worthwhile as the Bicentennial celebration," said Retter.

"We expected all sorts of ego problems with the mixed bag of people we had, but the co-operation was marvellous. Standing around for hours in the heat should have frayed tempers, let alone the rainstorm when we were waiting for a shot of the sunset over the rock. But there were no tantrums, in fact they all stood around

singing crazy songs."

A farewell dinner provided by the Northern Territory Government after the shooting reinforced the camaraderie. "At one point Norman May and Jenny Kee were in a huddle discussing the problems of small business — the contrast in clothing styles between them was a comment in itself," said Retter. "The mixture of people made it all worth it."

The Celebration Look

TAKE note of these stripes — you'll design is designed to show the user be seeing a lot of them during the Bicentennial year.

This is the Celebration Look, devised to identify Bicentennial activities in a colourful and festive way.

The stripes in Bicentennial green and gold, or together with red and blue or neutrals, can appear on promotional material, publications, calendars, street and sporting field decoration — indeed anywhere with a Bicentennial involvement.

Even if reproduced in black and white, the distinctive angled stripe as part of the Bicentennial "family".

Experience in the US Bicentennial showed the use of a common corporate-style symbol and look ensures a strong identification with the public of the events under the umbrella of the celebration.

Official guides have been produced by the ABA to instruct companies and Bicentennial committees in the correct use of the Celebration Look, the Bicentennial logo itself and other design elements such as official typefaces and stationery.

using a watermarked evaluation copy of

BILLY'S CREEK

Written by Mrs. June Lubcke.

This article appeared in Moe Historical Society's "Coach News" in June 1986, and is here reprinted by kind permission of Mrs Lubcke and Moe Historical Society.

In Volume 13, No.3 of "Coach News" reference was made to the fact that (in the story of Shady Creek) Billy Hillier was buried near the banks of Billy's Creek, (named for him) in a location "today unknown".

My husband and I happened to learn the location of Billy's grave about 20 years ago. We were on holidays in Queensland and visited an old friend and former resident of

Hazelwood Estate, Mr. Doug McFarlane.

He told us that the grave was situated on the property formerly owned by him and that he had been shown the exact location by his father who came to the Billy's Creek area in the late 1800's.

The present owner of the property, Mr. Doug Law, is also an old friend, so as we were eager to find the site of the grave, we paid him a visit when we returned to Morwell.

He was happy to escort us across his paddocks to the spot described by mr. McFarlane - a small rise close to Billy's Creek where anold briar rose grew beside the fence. Mr. Law remembered Mr. McFarlane pointing to the position and telling him that an old grave was located there.

Now, 20 years later, Mr.Andy Ringin has also visited the site with my husband and Mr. Law, (this time per favour of Mr.Law's modern tractor - Billy Hillier must have

turned in his grave!)

They feel that Mr. Hillier's hut was probably built on the high ground near the creek with the stockyards nearby, for an ancient poplar still stands there, and Mr.Law, when ploughing, turned up a great number of horse shoes in the vicinity. This would agree with the reminiscences written by the late Walter Firmin who, in 1874, then a boy of 11, arrived at Scrubby Forest with his parents and brothers and sister. From his article in the 'Morwell Advertiser and Gazette', 12/10/1939 -

"When Brown and Hillier occupied the run in 1850 it was a wild place. The blacks were troublesome. Brown had a hotel and also coach stables (in 1859) at Shady Creek and grew horse feed at Scrubby Forest and carted it down the road to supply Cobb and Co. coach stables."

Eventually, Brown and Hillier disagreed and dissolved their partnership, Brown taking the territory between Morwell River and Middle Creek, and Hillier taking the portion between Middle Creek and Billy's Creek, which was known for years among those connected with the run as "Billy's Side".

Hillier built himself a hut and stockyards on the creek bearing his name, died there and was buried on the banks of the creek. The hut remained standing for some time and there were also the remains of a garden, including gooseberries and a furze hedge which Hillier is said to have planted as "some protection from the blacks". The hedge apparently failed in its purpose for Mr. McFarlane said that Billy Hillier was speared to death by the aboriginals.

Another story told by Mr. mcFarlane testifies to Mr. Firmin's statement that "the

blacks were troublesome."

It seems that there was a man named "Cocky Champ" who had property along Middle Creek. (Billy's Creek runs into Middle Creek about one kilometre west of Billy's grave. Once he was bailed up in his hut by the tribe of aboriginals from that area because he refused to give them any more tea, tobacco etc. He kept them at bay with his muzzle-loaded gun but was reluctant to shoot because he was a very religious man. They hurled spears and set fire to the bark (or thatch) on the roof of his hut.

Eventually he managed to have a talk with them and explained that he would not

give them anything more because they had been spearing his cattle.

BILLY'S CREEK (continued)

But, apparently, the real culprits were a tribe of about 30 aboriginals at Mirboo North. The Middle Creek tribe then disappeared from the scene for some time.

About six of the original dozen or so turned up a little later, somewhat battle-scarred, and tipped out a dilly-bag full of tongues at "Cocy Champ's" feet, saying: "They no more steal-em cattle boss; all dead." This experience played on the mind of "Cocky" so much that he packed up and left the district.

Finally, Mr. McFarlane told us of the site of a favourite aboriginal meeting place in those early days. It was the highest point just to the east of Churchill - literally "within Coo-ee" of the present G.I.A.E. He learned from his father of the many corroborees held there, (or, to use his father's words, "how they used to feast, dance and carry on"), and for many years a mound of ashes remained there as a reminder of those early activities. He himself remembered fossicking there as a boy and finding stone axes and other relics which had belonged to the aboriginals.

Nothing now remains to remind us of vanished people who once lived in these places

- except a briar rose and a poplar tree.

"For alas! those days they have fled forever.

They are like the swans that have swept from sight...

Those days are dead and have left no traces

But the thoughts that live in my mind tonight."

June Lubcke.

From 'MRS LANCE RAWSON'S AUSTRALIAN COOK AND LAUNDRY BOOK' 1897 - some gourmet recipes for you to try:

BANDICOOT.

Ingredients: Bandicoot, vinegar, and water, sweet potatoes, onions.

Mode: A bandicoot is a very disagreeable animal to clean, therefore it should be done as soon after killing as possible and then the flesh can be left in strong venegar and water for a few hours before dressing. Sweet potatoes and onion make a good stuffing for the bandicoot which is good either boiled or baked.

THE FLYING FOX

Ingredients: Flying fox, bread crumbs and herbs.

Mode: Flying fox is excellent eating during the fruit season; when that is over they are not good, taking a peculiar flavour from some flowere or leaf they fall back upon when there is no fruit. Many people are prejudiced against the flying fox on account of its extremely powerful and unpleasant smell; but once the bat-like wings are got rid of, that goes, and when the flying fox is properly skinned and cleaned, the flesh is clean and white, looking somewhat like a fowl that has been skinned. Judgement is required in choosing them to get those that areyoung and plump. They can be stuffed with herbs and breadcrumbs or mashed potatoes and either roasted or boiled. A young flying fox, split like a spatchcock and grilled, is a capital breakfast dish.

A VEGETARIAN'S DISH

Fry some snippets of bread; lay them ona dish, making four divisions and put in each division the following vegetables - stewed cabbage in one, mashed potatoes in the next, mashed turnips in the third and stewed onions in the fourth. The whole may be garnished with slices of fried carrot and pieces of boiled cauliflower.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S TRIVIA.

- 1.a) Cleaning the lamp glass, trimming the wick and filling the lamp.
 - b) Shaping a block of ice to fit in the ice chest.
 - c) Toilet paper.
 - d) Cleaning the open fire-place.
 - e) Cleaning the wood stove.
 - f) Washing the separator.
 - g) Damping clothes for ironing.
- 2 a) I love God and my country, I honour the flag, I will serve the Queen (King) and cheerfully obey my parents, teachers and the law.
 - b) Lowered
 - c) Hazelwood Ridge.
- 3 a) Bonnington's Irish Moss
 - b) Malvern Star
 - c) Ford Pills
 - d) Bryant and May matches
 - e) Brylcreem
 - f) Three Threes (cigarettes)
 - g) Petrol and/or kerosene
- 4. Men's motor car reversing championship.
- 5.a) 1958
 - b) Billy's Creek
 - c) General Sir Stanley Savige.

THE SHIRE PRESIDENTS WERE:-

TOWNSEND	VINALL
AUCHTERLONIE	QUIGLEY
HALL	GRINPUKEL
WHITE	McROBERTS
COLEMAN	WALKER
HOURIGAN	.WILLIAMS
PETTIGREW	. HARE
BOND.	RONALD

YET MORE TRIVIA!

1. The first dance held in Morwell was	in: Murdoch's Hotel
	Commercial Rd. State School
	the railway goods shed
2. The first businessman in Morwell(ge	neral store & hotel) was:
	John Rintoull
	John Quigley
	John Brown
3. "The Auctioneer" was the first loca	1 newspaper of:
	Traralgon
	Moe
	Boolarra
4. Thistle, Full Moon, Miss Dixie and	Blackbird were the names of well-known local:
	greyhounds
	trotters
	dairy cows
5. Who discovered the brown coal depos	it at the site of the present Yallourn open cut?
	Henry Goderidge
	Thomas Gorringe
	Nicol Brown
6.Electric lights replaced the petrol	lights which had previously lit Morwell's streets
	in 1918
	1923
	1928
7. What event in Morwell in 1893 cause to be beaten and the editor of the loc	d flags to be strung across the street, a drum al paper to write a special poem?
8"Positively cures all skin diseases, paralysis, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lum Scalp sores, Dandruff, Open Wounds,	exzema, Poisoned Limbs, Piles, Infantile bago, Contracted Sinews or Muscles, Sprains, S Sores, Cuts, Ulcers, Bad legs etc."
Was this 1917 advertisement for:	Goanna Salve
	Tincture of Eucalyptus
	Dr. McKenzie's Menthoids
	e Gippsland towns and rivers.What are their
present names?	Waterloo
12 Mile Peg	Flooding Creek
	Glengarry River
	Kirsopp River
The 42nd	

THE SETTLEMENT of Gippsland followed closely on the favourable reports brought back by Angus McMillan and Paul Edmund de Strzelecki in 1840. The low demand for cattle and successive drought years in 1839, 1840 and 1841, combined to force many Squatters in southern New South Wales to seek new grazing land for their stock. In the early 1840's many thousands of head of cattle and sheep were overlanded to Gippsland through the Monaro and Omeo districts, forming new Stations on the river plains south of the Australian Alps.

By 1843, Gippsland, with a thriving trade centred at Port Albert and some forty Stations successfully settled, was proclaimed a District, and Charles James Tyers was appointed Commissioner for Crown Lands. He arrived at Port Albert, by ship, in January, 1844.

The progress of Gippsland was evident, but as yet no road to Melbourne was marked, and the only access was by ship to and from Port Albert. As early as 1842, attempts to find a suitable overland route had ended in failure, with exhausted parties telling of the seemingly impenetrable scrubs and swamps. In some instances survival depended on the ability of their Native guides to find food and water in the inhospitable country.

However, a passage had been forced.

Port Phillip had been settled by men of ambition and courage. No Government provided the means of subsistence and survival; no convict garrison tainted her shore; no wildcat scheme colonized her land. Born of necessity no natural barrier of swamp or scrub could long hold back adventurous and pioneering spirit.

Property south of Arthur's Seat since 1837, overlanded the first draft of cattle to Gippsland from Port Phillip, moving through the Settled Districts along the coast. Hobson had been involved in several attempts to reach Port Albert, having first done so in 1842 travelling through the Latrobe river area. He returned to Melbourne along the coast via Westernport, thus familiarizing himself for an eventual return journey — with cattle.

Attached to Hobson's party was the Bennett family, William and Lavinia and their five young children. Their connection with Edward Hobson is not known, however it appears likely that William Bennett was employed by him, probably as an overseer. In her Diary, Lavinia Hasell Bennett daily recorded the difficult and slow progress of the party on the Journey to Gipps Land, and of the hardships they endured.

On arrival in Gippsland, Edward Hobson moved his cattle to the banks of the Latrobe River, selecting a property which he called *Tra-ralgon*. The Bennett family appears to have remained at Port Albert until October, when William, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Albert Brodribb, selected *Hasellwood Station* on the Morwell River, west of Hobson's property. *Hasellwood* was named after Lavinia Bennett and later, in 1845, an adjoining property, at the junction of the Latrobe and Morwell Rivers, was named *Maryville*, after the Bennetts' eldest daughter.

WILLIAM BENNETT and his family settled at Hasellwood on the Morwell River. With the influx of stock into Gippsland, his partner, Albert Brodribb, would have found no difficulty in stocking the run. Quite likely their brother, William Brodribb, managing properties in southern New South Wales and speculating on his own account, also sent cattle to Hasellwood for fattening.

Little is known of those hard, formative years. The first tents would have given way to rough timber dwellings and thence to the comfortable homestead referred to by later travellers. By 1846 an easier coach road through the scrubs to Melbourne had been marked and townships and stopping-places sprang up along the way. The Bennett homestead would have had frequent additions, for the family was growing. Four children were born at Hasellwood. Eliza Adams in July, 1846; Jane Maria in December, 1848; Flora Blanche in October, 1850 and William Edward Charles, born in August, 1852.

The children were taught by Lavinia's father, William Brodribb, senior, who was a frequent guest at Hasellwood.

In 1851 William Bennett and Albert Brodribb ended their partnership. Brodribb had lived at Melbourne for a number of years having married Ellen Neal. Later, in 1856, Albert Brodribb was associated with Donald John Coghill at Terrick Terrick near Mitiamo and Sutton Grange, north-east of Harcourt. He died in 1860.

William Bennett remained at Hasellwood till 1860 when he sold the property to John Macmillan. In the following years the family moved to New South Wales where they were associated for a time with William Adams Brodribb. Later, they settled near Hillston on Yandembah Station. In the 1870's they returned to Victoria and settled at Kyneton where William Bennett died in 1878 aged 64 years. Lavinia moved to Melbourne where she died at Hasellhurst, Armadale, on April 11th, 1892, aged 80 years. Both Lavinia and William Bennett are buried at Kyneton.

NEXT MEETING __ TUES. AUGUST 18 ... 7-30 pm