Morwell Historical Society Inc.

Website: www.LVonline.com.au/morwellhistoricalsociety.htm



Compiled by: Stephen Hellings

Heritage Celebrations April 13th 2002

2 Harold Street Morwell

Tel: 5134 1149

Guided Tour of Hazelwood Cemetery.

A visit to the Hazelwood Cemetery took place on the morning of Saturday April 13th.

A large gathering of approximately 60 hardy souls (the weather looked very ominous) was treated to a very informative guided tour of the many interesting memorials to the pioneers of the district.

The tour was very ably led by local historian **Claire Wood**.

The event was a resounding success. Thank You Claire for all your hard work.

Town Walk and Talk

Approximately 40 people attended our town walk on the afternoon of the 13th.

The weather was much kinder than in the morning and the sun made a few welcome appearances. We began our expedition at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and made our way down Commercial Road, finishing at the Soldiers' Memorial near the R.S.L rooms at the corner of Elgin and Tarwin streets.

The tour went well and we all enjoyed ourselves.

Many thanks to **Elsie** and **Bruce McMaster** for all their assistance along the way. Thanks also to **Eric Lubcke** for his knowledge in relation to Alexandra Park.

OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF OUR WEBSITE

At the completion of the town walk we went back to our rooms in Church Street and had an enjoyable afternoon tea. At 4pm the Society's website was officially launched by Cr. Darrell White. Cr. White's excellent speech and the magnificent contribution made by Mary Hill and Ben Claassen capped of a truly memorable day.

Further thanks to **Gloria Auchterlonie** and **Max Williamson** for their invaluable assistance in the planning and promotion of the various activities.

I would also like to thank the following for their efforts on the day: Leonie Pryde, Dot Bartlett, Joyce Cleary, Muriel Feehan, Mavis Coleman, Flo Lamb, Alan Davey.

OLD BROWN COAL MINE MUSEUM

By Elsie McMaster

Congratulations to Yallourn North Historical Society on the opening, on Sunday, April 21st, of the *Old Brown Coal Mine Museum*.

Situated in Reserve St, overlooking the Yallourn Power Station, the Museum represents a splendid achievement by Yallourn North Historical Society and the Yallourn North community in renovating the former S.E.C. recreation hall (later the Youth Club hall) to provide a display centre and archive for the history of the township of Brown Coal Mine (Yallourn North) and a home for the Historical society.

Mr Ian Maxfield (Member for Narracan) officially opened the Museum, paying tribute to the drive and energy of those involved in the project and the large crowd of locals, former residents and other interested visitors who enjoyed the displays of historical artefacts and photographs relating to the district.

*

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are advised that subscriptions are now due.

Please note that due to an increase in insurance premiums we have had to alter our subscription rates for the ensuing 12 months. The new fees are:

Single Membership: \$15.00 Couple or Family Membership: \$18.00



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 21st 7.30 pm 21 Church Street Morwell The following article appeared in the **MOTHELL ADELLESS** edition dated: Thursday,

11th. January 1951.

Obituary.

GEORGE J. ELDER-BERWICK

Following a period of ill-health over the previous month, Mr. G. J. Elder-Berwick, of Traralgon, passed away at the Gippsland Base Hospital, Sale, on December 29th. at the age of 60 years.

The deceased spent many years in the practice of his profession of dentistry at Morwell before transferring to Traralgon some 16 years ago. While a resident of this town he participated to the full in public activities, and was keenly interested in sport, particularly football and bowls. In the former field he followed up his holding at varying times of the chief executive position in the Queenscliff and Geelong clubs by occupying for a term the presidency of the Central Gippsland Football League and, over the past five years, that of president of the Mid-Gippsland League.

In the competitive field of bowls, he was twice champion of the Central Gippsland Bowling Association and was also a playing member of the Victorian team, which met the visiting English bowlers last year.

The late Mr. Berwick was the first secretary of the Traralgon branch of the Dads' Association.

A Widow, one daughter, Gwen (Mrs. Roberts of Camberwell) and three sons, Alwyn, Stewart and Cedric survive him. One son, Ross, lost his life when H.M.A.S. "Sydney" was sunk during World War II.

The remains were interred at the Spring Vale Cemetery on January 2nd, following a service at St. Andrew's Church, Traralgon.



The following article appeared in the Hornell Abbertiser edition dated:

19th. March 1953

Gilbert Memorial Pulpit Dedicated.

SACRED MEMORY TO WORTHY CHURCHMAN

A large congregation attended St. Mary's Church of England on Sunday evening last, when the Gilbert Memorial Pulpit presented by Mrs. Gilbert and family, in remembrance of the late Mr. Percy Astill Gilbert was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. D. B. Blackwood, Bishop of Gippsland.

In paying an eloquent tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Gilbert, the Bishop said the very fine pulpit was a worthy memorial, and a sacred remembrance of worship and service of a worthy churchman, who, since the opening of the church on February 9th. 1886, and prior to that, in services held at the family home which commenced on November 2nd. 1879, had been actively associated with the welfare and organisation of the work of the church, over 65 years.

Fifteen months ago, as he crossed the church threshold for the evening service, he collapsed and died in the arms of Canon R.W.G. Phillips.

Carrying on the great tradition of St. Mary's, his sons, Richard and Jack are actively associated with the church at Yinnar. The Bishop said the pulpit would keep green a sacred memory, wherever it might be used. There was no more wonderful testimony than the life of a faithful Christian soul. The Anthem, "There is a Secret Place of Rest," was sung by the choir. The pulpit carries the following inscription on a brass plate:

A.M.D.G. And in Memory of PERCY ASTILL GILBERT

A Faithful Member of This Parish. Obit 9th December, 1951.

