

Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

c. 1903

AOO 16986 W

"Morwell"

May 2016

Vol. 35 No.3

Secretary: Florence
Butcher
12 Hazelwood Road
Morwell 3840

Please address all correspondence to the
Secretary.

The official organ of the Morwell Historical Society
Inc.

Published every two months: February to December.

From our old photographs –
courtesy; State Library of
Victoria. Morwell – 1934 -
looking westwards.

Items for publication in
the "Post" are always
welcome; please forward
your articles to the above
address



**Can you see the fire station, the Anglican Church, the old scout hall and the
Commercial Road Primary School?**

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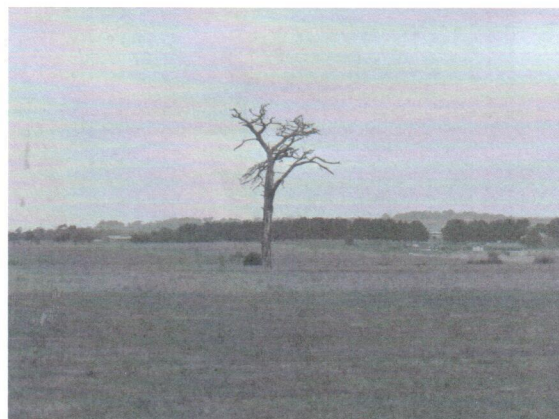
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Morwell Historical Society Directory 2015 – 2016

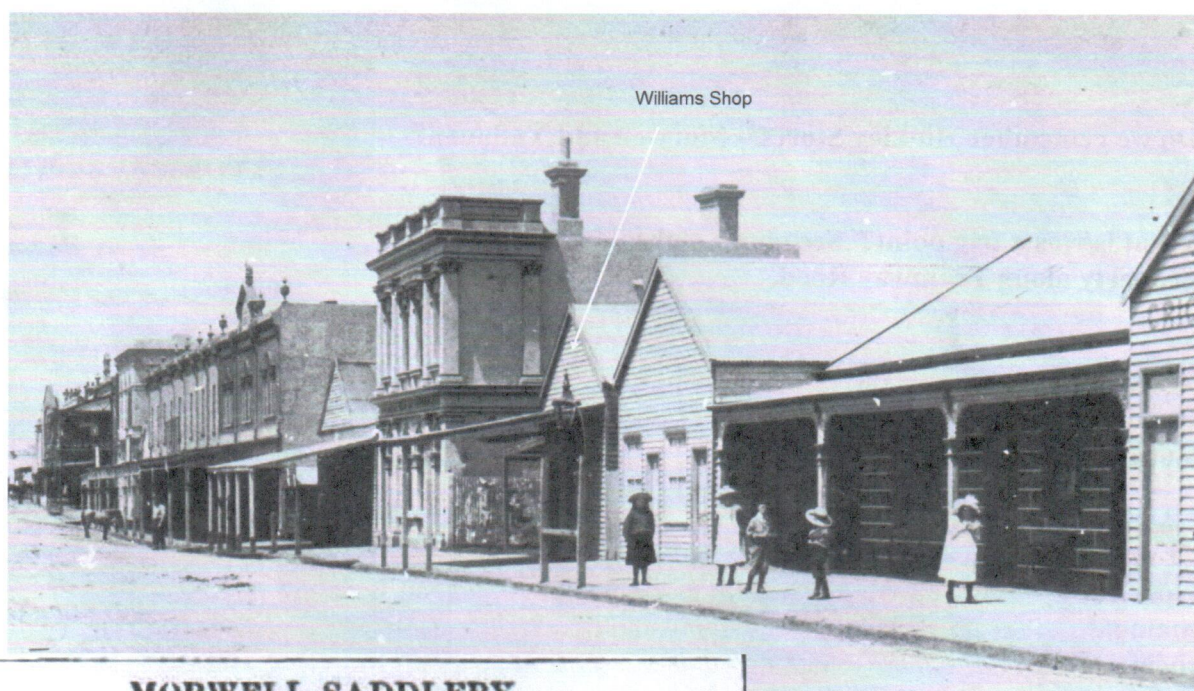
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Annual General Meeting:	3rd Wednesday of March each year
Membership Fees:	Due 1 st July each year Ordinary Member \$20.00 Family \$25.00 (two persons at same address)
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What is the history of this Morwell house? What is located on this prominent corner now? – United petrol station



The stark tree is in a paddock in Tramway Road. David McInnes knows all about this tree – apparently he remembers it from his childhood days living at Hazelwood North.



MORWELL SADDLERY.
W. R. STEPHENSON,
 (Late of Warragul.)

BEGS to inform the residents of Morwell and surrounding district that he has just opened a saddler's shop, and trusts that a fair share of public patronage will be accorded him.

ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

W. R. STEPHENSON,
SADDLE & HARNESS MAKER,

MORWELL,

(Next door to Cricketers' Hotel.)

ALL KINDS OF SADDLES AND HARNESS MADE ON THE PREMISES

Gent's Saddles from £3; Ladies' do. from £2; Sets of Buggy Harness from £6; Sets of Heavy Cart Harness from £5; Cart Saddles from £1; do. Breachings from £1 up.

All other articles at equally Low Prices.

All Kinds of Harness Always on Hand.

William Richard Stephenson – Commercial Road, Morwell.

Did you recognize the young firefighters from Morwell shown in the March 2016 newsletter – Brian Suares, Bob Evans Jnr, Ken Hewat and John Owen. One name was unknown. The date – December 1966.

WHEN PREPARING THAT SPECIAL MEAL —
REMEMBER ITS . . .



FOR
FRESH
FRUIT
AND
VEGETABLES

WE
DELIVER
FREE

HINKLEY STORES

OF

MORWELL — YALLOURN — MOE

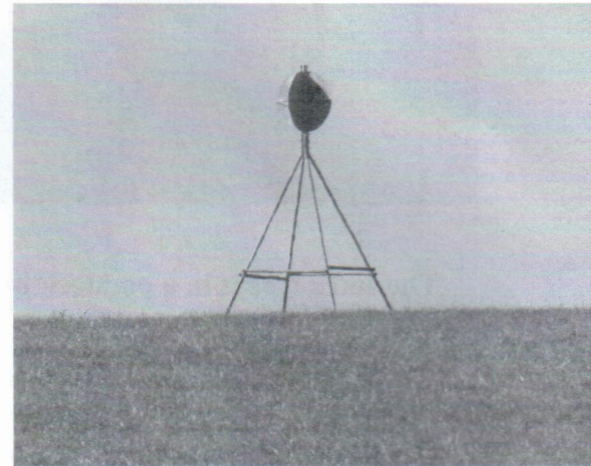
Phones:—

MORWELL 4 3448
4 3058

YALLOURN 5 2372

MOE 433

7.



Do we remember Hinkley Stores – Morwell and Yallourn?

What is/was a trig point? See above right – found in a property along Tramway Road.

William (Bill) Owen relocated his business into Commercial Road during the mid 1960's – opposite the former Spotlight store – what was then Sharpes.

From a Commercial Road Primary School recipe book – from our previous newsletter – Budges Butcheries had their main administration office in Latrobe Road Morwell – at their processing facility (once known as an abattoir).

Also in the March newsletter a picture of the *Abbeywood* homestead was shown: Located in Hazelwood North, it was built in 1925 by Priscilla and Alfred Firmin - *Abbeywood* was given its name from a nostalgic reference to a location in England, possibly near London. [Alfred Firmin was one of 11 children born to George and Maria Firmin, pioneers settlers who took up land at Yinnar in the 1870's.]

PEDERSEN & KING
TOILER & HARDWARE
MERCHANTS

PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES

Agent for Rogers Paints and
"Unique" Sash Balances.

141 Station St., Morwell.

Phone, Morwell 267

**BOOT
REPAIRS**

THE SERVICE YOU HAVE
BEEN WAITING FOR

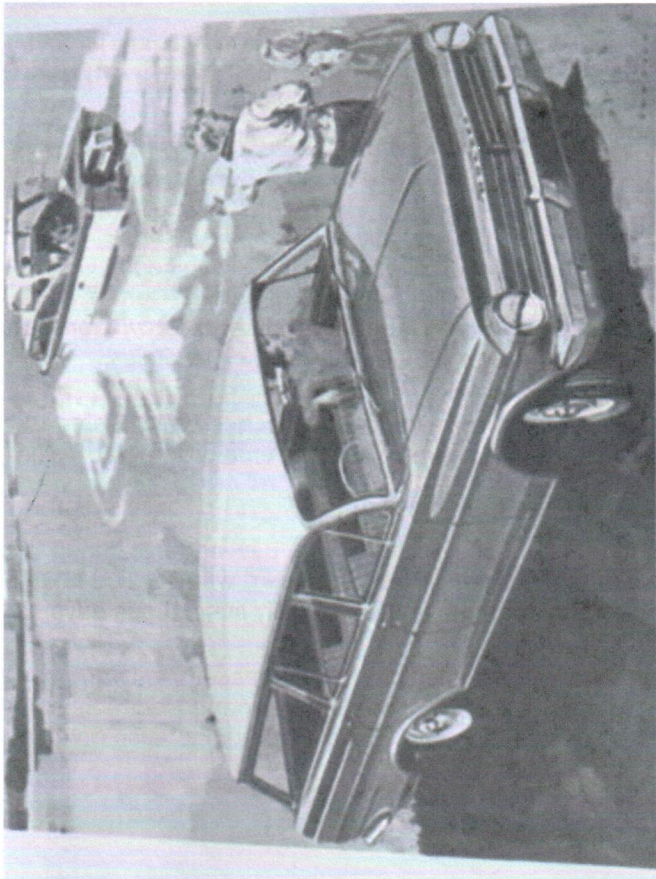
Two Skilled Tradesmen —
No Delay

Golf and Crepe Shoes Resoled.
NOW . . . at

W. J. OWEN

34 McLEAN ST., MORWELL

Remember this particular car?



**You'll get a great new kick
out of going places in Holden**

Going places is a *lot more fun* with Holden Station Sedan's smooth, silent power! On any road, you'll find it mighty difficult to match the thrill of its spirited performance . . . or the comfort of its famous Red Carpet Ride. And while you're getting more enjoyment as you go, it's pretty nice to know you can really rely on Holden. Not only for proved dependability, but for the best resale value at trade-in time, too. In fact, there's only one thing greater than the pleasure you get with Holden . . . and that's the outright value for money it gives you! See your Holden* Dealer now and take a drive!

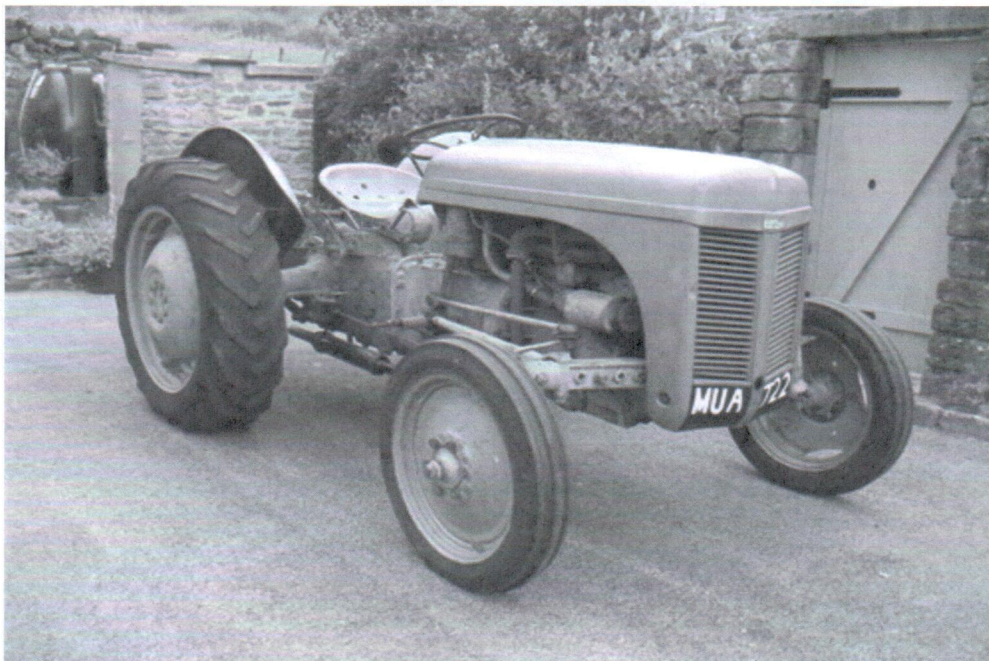
HOLDEN

AUSTRALIA'S OWN CAR

Station Sedan prices from £950 plus tax

GENERAL MOTORS HOLDEN LTD

Remember this particular tractor?



Latrobe Valley Pioneers - John Frederick Deppeler and Alphonse Nadenbousch - Family Reunion – contributed by Elaine Andrijczak.

On Sunday 17th April 2016 descendants of the Deppeler and Nadenbousch families gathered at the Yinnar Recreation Reserve for a family reunion.

Some family members travelled from as far as Perth, Brisbane and Sydney to join their relatives at what could be described a "home ground" for the clans.

The two patriarchs of the family arrived in Melbourne, John Frederick Deppeler (1869) and Alphonse Nadenbousch (1862), having trained as vigneron (winegrowers) in Switzerland and initially settled at Geelong and worked in the wine industry. Alphonse Nadenbousch married John Frederick Deppeler's sister, Bertha, in 1873. Eventually selecting land at Yinnar South and Hazelwood respectively, both men became well known for their produce farming, with John creating two unique apple varieties that were renowned for their juiciness.

Approximately 180 descendants attended for a day of discovering their extended family tree branches and catching up with relatives. Many photos were taken and stories were shared about the time growing up in the Yinnar South/Hazelwood areas.

Of particular note was an interview by Darrell White of four of the "most experienced" descendants, Lina Deppeler, Muriel Biram (Deppeler), Margaret Coulson (Nadenbousch) and Edna Holmes (Deppeler) who regaled an attentive extended family with tales of yesteryear, memories of their grandparents and of the daily life in those days.

A team of family members who had begun the family-tree research some time ago had assembled various displays of photos, maps and newspaper articles showing the rich history of the Deppeler and Nadenbousch families from their arrival here in the Latrobe Valley to their contribution to the local community. Also on display were detailed Family Tree Charts for the Deppeler and Nadenbousch families.

THE FAMILY TREE

- Jill Wolf

One tree outlives the mighty oak
Because it's made of special folk,
Through generations changing form,

Providing shelter from life's storm.

Our parents' parents and before,
Who may have lived on distant shores,
They root our lives in memories;
We're nourished by their histories.

A sturdy trunk that lends support
And gives us care of every sort -
The fathers, mothers, uncles, aunts,
Who nurture us like tender plants.

The children, branching toward the sky,
Have brand new dreams and deeds to try.
And babies, buds that seem so small,
Will flower so the tree grows tall.

Nadenbousch family grave at Hazelwood Cemetery



**Thanks to Elaine for the memories.
They will remain as an invaluable
source of Morwell's history.**

Snippets from MHS Committee meeting – April 20, 2016:

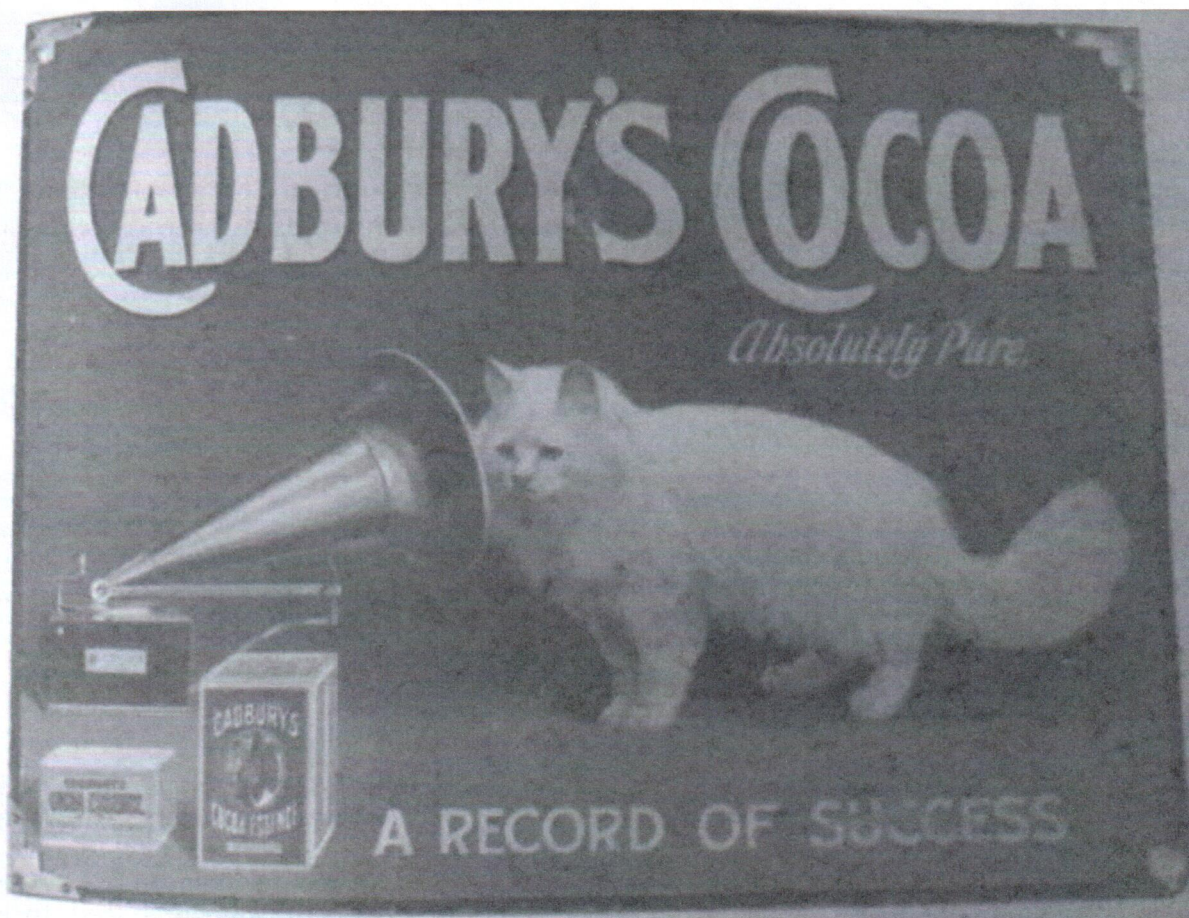
Your newsletter editor/compiler has received numerous requests to provide answers to the 'do you recognize the photos' which appear in the 'Morwell Post'.

The requests are taken seriously because it means there is a readership out there. Newsletters are designed to generate discussion; we live our lives too much in silo format which tends to destroy face-to-face conversations. This edition provides some answers.

I will also consider an idea given to me – that answers are posted at the MHS Inc clubrooms – then members will make visits to satisfy their curiosities.

Two points interested me. First, I recall Merv Medew in attendance. Merv was an original employee with my father, at the former Panoramic Drive-In Theatre, Latrobe Road, Morwell.

The mention of a Rotary Dinner and plans to speak to Dave McInnes about hosting a Rotary Dinner and Tour at the Society's rooms is an excellent initiative. There are two Rotary clubs meeting in Morwell – Morwell and Hazelwood. We cannot have one without the other.



Ever tasted this drink?



Two questions – which building once housed the Cox Bros. retail store in Commercial Road. Please select that building from the above picture. While not a clear photograph, what was the name of the Amcal pharmacy next door to the newsagency?

The company was incorporated in Victoria on January 24 1928, when an amalgamation was effected between Cox Brothers Limited and its two subsidiaries Cox Brothers (Tasmania) Ltd. and Cox Brothers (Adelaide) Ltd.

Details

In 1955, the company acquired the whole of the issued ordinary capital of Foy & Gibson Limited and obtained a controlling interest in Foy & Gibson (WA) Limited.

In March 1959, the company in association with Australian United Corporation Ltd., formed Cox Finance Corporation Ltd. This company was formed to handle the long-term instalments and hirer purchase accounts of the companies within the Cox group.

In the period 1959/60 the company acquired holding in several companies; all purchases were for cash. Starting in early 1959 the issued capital of Waugh's Pty Ltd of Wollongong NSW was purchased and in July 1959, the issued capital of Bright and Hitchcocks (Stores) Limited of Geelong was purchased. In September 1959 the issued stock of Myers (Bendigo) Pty Ltd was acquired. In March 1960, the issued capital of Bowrings (Australia) Ltd. was purchased. In July 1960 the issued capital of Partons Pty. Ltd of Dandenong was acquired. The company took over the issued capital of Moreshead's Pty Ltd of Ballarat in September 1960. Ordinary paid up capital in Georges Holding Limited was acquired in November 1960. In July 1961 the balance of ordinary paid up capital in Foy & Gibson (W.A) Limited was acquired. During this period the company had become one of Australia's major retailers operating over 100 stores in the early 1960s.

The company started to incur losses in 1962/63. During 1962/1963 Australian United Corp. Ltd increased its holdings in Cox Finance Corporation Ltd to 50% with Cox Brothers (Australia) Ltd retaining a 50% interest. In March 1964 Foy & Gibson (W.A) Ltd operating ten stores in W.A were sold to David Jones Ltd.

Mr Noel W. Buckley of Cooper Bros & Co was appointed receiver and manager on August 2 1966. A number of stores were sold in 1967, including the Foy's Bourke Street Melbourne store and Economic Stores to Woolworths Ltd.; and "Georges" store in Melbourne to the new public company Georges Australia Ltd.

The company's shares were delisted in December 1968.

Sources used to compile this entry: Original data from D. Terwiel, S. P. Ville and G. A. Fleming, *Australian Business Records: An Archival Guide*, Canberra : Australian National University, Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Dept. of Economic History, 1998. Subsequent information provided by RMIT, MBIT student, Catherine Nolan.

Glossary

Yonnies - stones or rubble used as weapons	Gladstone Bag - a carryall leather bag
Chonks - lollies of any kind	The Sun - a Melbourne daily newspaper
Fab - very sixties word for fabulous	The drink - water
Teased hair - made bigger to look puffy	Brinnies - another name for yonnies
Sling-back shoes - no heel, just a strap	"chock-a-block" = filled to capacity
Staties or state dogs - kids who go to State schools	Tom Bowler and Cat's eye - different sizes and types of marbles
Micks - Catholics	Briquettes - small brick-like blocks that have had water extracted from brown coal. Very popular fuel source in the 1950s
Dosh - money A bob - a shilling, ten cents Two bob - two shillings, twenty cents A zack - sixpence, five cents Yonks - a long period of time, ages Proddy Dogs - state school kids Flicks - movies, cinema	taddies - tadpoles (developmental phase of frogs)

Remember these words? This glossary arrived on my desk several weeks ago. Can you add to the list? What was a "quid"? What was a "tuppenny lolly"? What was a "halfpenny"?

DEATHS AND DEVASTATION IN FURTHER DISASTROUS OUTBREAKS



WHEN FIRE BROKE OUT IN HEARNE'S OAK, about 5 miles east of Morwell, considerable damage was caused to property. The remains of the public hall is shown here.



HAZELWOOD CEMETERY, which stands in the blackened waste of burnt fields surrounding it, was the scene of the burial of 7 of the Morwell district fire victims last Wednesday, when this photograph was taken.



RUINS AT DARNUM: The township of Darnum, on the main Gippsland line about 4 miles from Warragul, was almost overwhelmed earlier in the week. Here Mr. J. P. Naylor surveys the ruins of his completely destroyed home at Darnum. He also lost his truck, poultry, and £80 in notes.



SOME OF THE GREATEST DAMAGE was seen at Hazelwood, near Morwell. Cows and calves, burned in the fires, are shown seeking food in the grounds of all that is left of the homestead of Mr. E. Waldron.



RESTORING COMMUNICATIONS: One of the first jobs after the fires had swept by was the restoration of interrupted communications. PMG linemen from Trafalgar are seen on the job between Morwell and Yallourn.



STOCK DESTROYED: One of the worst features of the Victorian bush fires has been the enormous loss of stock. Thousands of sheep and hundreds of cattle were destroyed when the fires swept over from Morwell. These sheep were burned on Mr. Ernest Hare's property at Hazelwood.



FIREFIGHTERS DID A WONDERFUL JOB in restricting the devastation of the fires. Here local volunteers and men from military camps near Melbourne take a spell from battling the flames near Morwell.

Do you recall 25 years ago when Church Street exploded? Yes, on March 17, 1991 at about 11.30 pm and it was St Patrick's Day.

For Carmen Giddons, Director Morwell Taxis, that Sunday was a quiet night with no-one at work in the upstairs radio room.

"Our radio base operator would normally have been seated directly above the pizza oven below. The massive explosion blew that chair into Buckley Street behind the old picture theatre," Carmen explained.

"Our office was totally destroyed – radios, furniture – everything. Our pens, pencils and note pads disappeared, presumably into the sky."

"One of our drivers was driving east past the Post Office on the then highway. His car was lifted by the explosion and he saw the flames and called me at home."

"My immediate reaction was shock and horror. Our upstairs office was blown away.

"I was speechless. Monday was looming, another business day so we immediately relocated to a private home for 12 months."

"We scrounged second hand furniture and stationery- \$25 the lot. It was pure chaos. We searched for a radio aerial to allow temporary communication with 12 cars using UHF radios.

Popular Church Street butcher, Jim Morris received a call at 11.45 pm. It was a warm, fine night as Jim sped to Church Street.

"The red glow told me there had to be an inferno somewhere near my shop," Jim said.

"There was a crowd hanging around. Firefighters and Police were in control. I had worked in the shop that morning. Now it was destroyed with the front window completely blown out.

"Next morning, with news hounds everywhere, my livelihood was gone after 11 years when I purchased the business previously known as Latrobe Meat Supply.

"Everything was smashed. There was a week's supply of meat in the freezer; which was as good as gold and eventually stored by the Giles family at their meat processing facility in Trafalgar."

Jim soon found employment elsewhere in Morwell and his customers followed. He purchased new refrigeration cabinets, and the Latrobe Meat Centre re-opened on July.

Today, Jim's memory is still as sharp as it's always been. "The Council organized a street barbeque to welcome me back in business."

Jim remains philosophical about his business being blown apart. "I wasn't there, amazingly no-one was killed and the people of Morwell were extra good to me, supporting me right through to our re-opening, and thereafter."

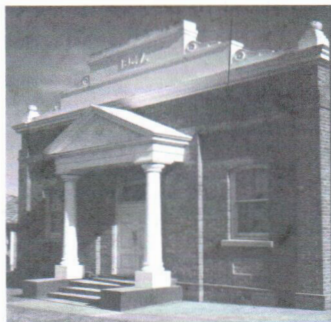
In an open letter published on March 21 1991, Mayor, Councillor John Guy wrote "The Church Street explosion has shocked us all. As the clean-up began, the Morwell community demonstrated how resilient it is. Although property damage was widespread, many businesses were again trading by Wednesday morning and only a handful remain unable to operate."

"The response to this disaster serves to demonstrate that by "Working Together – Morwell City of the 90's" will go from strength to strength, building an even better community."

Please note that the next meeting was held in May.
at 12 Hazelwood Road (Old Masonic Temple)

ENJOY WINTER'S COOLER WEATHER -

Information Page:



Please deliver me to:



If undelivered please return to: 12 Hazelwood Road Morwell 3840

Meeting dates for remainder of 2016:

At this stage: [watch this space]

2017 AGM - March 15th, 2017.

The Foundation Stone for the Masonic
Temple in Hazelwood Road was laid on
28th January 1927

From Our Morwell Issues File:



- Many years ago, the Society was fortunate in receiving State government funding (\$7,000) to compile and produce a DVD outlining Morwell's history and subsequent growth as a town.

The DVD has been "in the making" for many years. It is now finished.

An order will be placed in July for copies to be pressed, not burnt, ready for sale. Thanks to David Davies for doing the production work. More information later as it becomes available. [Leo]

The next edition of the "Post" is due in late July 2016.