

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

published monthly, except December

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm
in St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Hall

Vol. 9 No. 4

APRIL 1993

WELCOME TO THE APRIL NEWSLETTER

At the Annual Meeting held in March, the following office bearers were elected:

President: Mr E Lubcke. Vice President: Mr L Bond.
Secretary: Mrs E McMaster. Treasurer: Mrs D Bartlett.
Committee: Miss C McRoberts, Mrs J Cleary, Mrs J Cafiso,
Mr J Bush

Members voiced their appreciation of the services of retiring President Mr L Bond and Treasurer Mrs D Taylor, both of whom were inaugural members of the Society when it was reformed in 1985 and have held office since then.

The lease for the foyer of the Old Town Hall has been signed and we anticipate being able to take possession in the very near future. Meetings will continue to be held in the Presbyterian Church, at least until the new premises are furnished.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY APRIL 20th - St Andrews Presbyterian Church

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT - MARCH 1993

1993 was a busy year for members, due mainly to the celebrations connected with the Centenary of Local Government in Morwell. Our President and Vice-President were members of the Centenary Committee and put in a great deal of time and energy assisting with the planning of the celebrations.

The Society's photographic display at the Community Fun Day was so popular that it was retained for the rest of the week to enable more people to view it. Another week-long display in a vacant shop in Tarwin Street in September was also a great success and helped bring the work of our Society before the people of Morwell. Much of the credit for the success of these displays must go to Eric Lubcke, curator of our photographic collection, who devoted many hours to their presentation. A number of the Society's photographs were used in two new publications - 'Heart of the Valley' and 'Morwell's Sacred Heart'.

Members have, as usual, provided assistance to a number of students with V.C.E. assignments and to others researching family history

After much discussion over a number of years, Morwell City Council has agreed to allow the Society the use of the Foyer of the Old Town Hall for meetings, storage and displays. This, our first "home", is a great step forward for us and we look forward to being able to house, organise, catalogue and display our growing collection of historical material appropriately during the coming year.

Membership for the year remained steady at 40 and members are kept informed of the Society's activities through a monthly newsletter.

Sales of 'Glimpses of Our Past' continue to bring in a small income each year and Mr Merv Medew donated six pencil sketches of historic Morwell scenes which have been copied and are available for purchase.

We look forward, in the coming year, to increasing our collection of historical material and continuing to provide assistance to the public with their research and to engendering further interest in the history of our district.

Morwell Advertiser & Gazette Aug.6 1942

At the close of my previous contribution I spoke of the coaching days and must here mention an old identity in the person of the late Mr John Rintoull, who used to journey from Rosedale to shoe the coach horses at the various changing places along the route, and later purchased the first lot at the first Government sale of Morwell township allotments.

In writing of old identities perhaps it would not be out of place at this stage to mention some of the old settlers who came before the railway or about the time it was in the course of construction and in glancing at the parish plan to refresh my memory I notice the names of such sturdy men as Andrew and James H. Matthews who first selected land on Waterhole Creek and later shifted to Hazelwood. In the course of conversation with the late Mr J.H. Matthews he told me he arrived in this district in the year 1870. The late William Daly, another arrival, also settled on Waterhole Creek and like the Matthews moved to Hazelwood but retained his Maryvale selection which is still held by the family. William Daly was a very kind-hearted Irishman, very outspoken, but to use the expression of those who knew him, he was as straight as a gun barrel and many a struggling selector was assisted by him and saved from the clutches of the mortgagees.

Robert Pratt selected the land on Waterhole Creek on the opposite side to the old butter factory site, that part which is still remembered as Pratt's Flats.

Geo. Derham, who was a well known identity, came from Braybrook and selected land on the Latrobe River. His father and brothers were in the Indian horse trade and it used to be said that wherever there was an Indian remount there would be a Derham not far away.

Then we meet Edward Crinigan who, along with his sister Miss Rose Crinigan, were among the first pupils to attend the Morwell State School which at that time was situated near Waterhole Creek about a mile to the east of the town. The school building was constructed of wattle and daub and upright slabs. The teacher was Miss McCrory who afterwards became Mrs John Rintoull.

Then down on Plough Creek we find Edward McGauran, who arrived from Ireland with his parents when only a child. The mention of plough Creek reminds me how this so-called creek came by its name. In the very early days, a plough was borrowed from Merton Rush by Traralgon Station and on returning the party got bogged and left the plough by the side of the road to be picked up at a later date. It laid there all the winter and people travelling through began to call the place Plough Creek. I would like to mention here that this plough was made solely of wood except for the share, and was the only plough in the district at the time. It also had a history as it was brought from Sydney by John King already mentioned and given by him to his man Charlie Farley, who had taken up Merton Rush. I can remember as a boy seeing this plough behind the old stable, left to decay and what a relic it would be now if only it had been preserved.

On the Melbourne road John Dwyer and his brother Pat, selected land where the Paper Mill is now erected. John was noted for his fine team of working bullocks, of which he was very proud. The proudest day of his life was when he was invited to exhibit them at the Royal Melbourne Show. For an interesting epistle on this we refer you to Mr W.W. Cook of Brown Coal Mine.

HARKING BACK (cont).

Coming back to the town we find James O'Gorman who acquired a large tract of land which he sold in later years to Messrs A.N. Walsh and sons where the Flax Mill now stands. A nearby selector was the late Mr Ned Fleming.

Passing to the south side of the line we find such names as Robert Porter, John Watson, Roger O'Flaherty and John Flewin, all of whom played a great part in the settlement of the district.

The town proper, of which there is a lot to be said, I will leave until a later date.

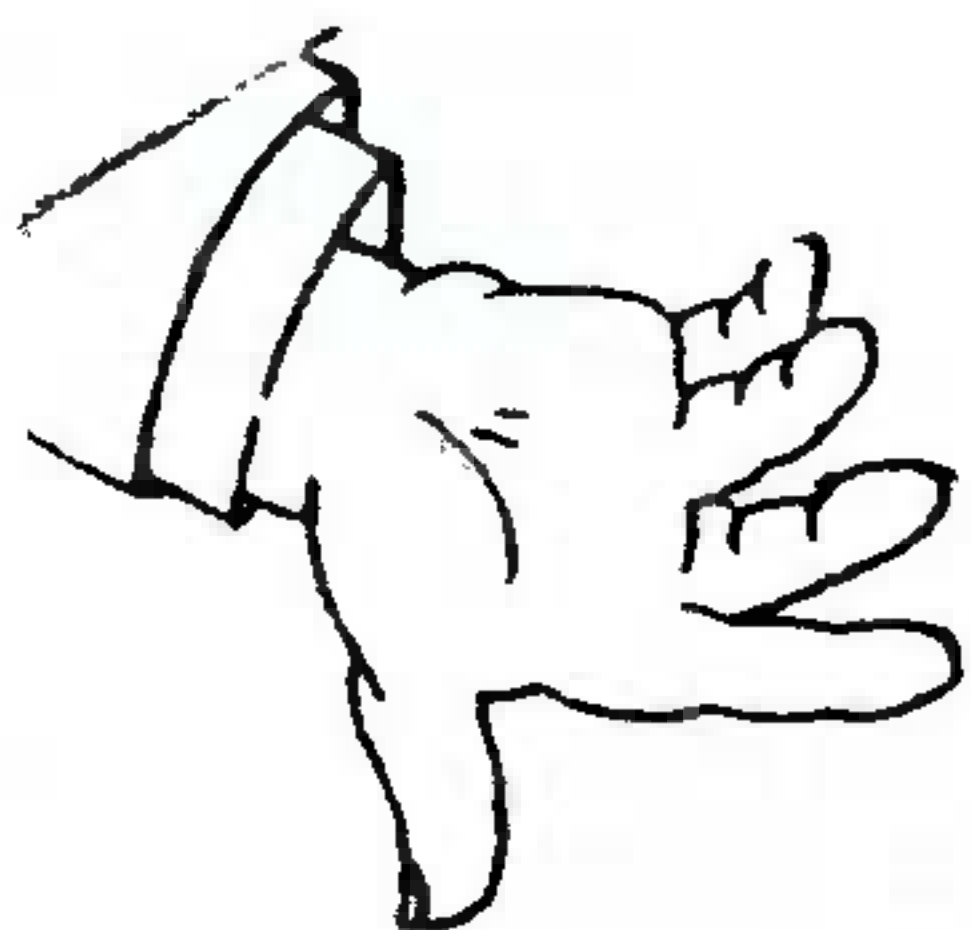
.....

Hazelwood Station was situated to the south of Maryvale and was divided from that station by a dog-leg fence which commenced at Eel Hole Creek somewhere near the spot where Applegate's bridge crosses that creek and ran in a north easterly direction over the Ridge for about a mile and then took an easterly course until it met Bennett's Creek which formed the eastern boundary.

The western boundary was the Morwell River upon which the homestead was built and still stands. The southern boundary was Billy's Creek and it was on this creek that the P.R. was acquired. This portion is now known as the Flats or Soldier Settlement, it being resumed for that purpose after the 1914-1918 war.

Hazelwood was taken up by a man named Ken Bennett after whom that creek was named. The writer can remember as a boy listening to a conversation between his father and the late Mr Charles Du Ve, at the time Clerk of Courts, at Rosedale. who stated that he had been stockriding on Hazelwood during Bennett's time. He described Bennett as a very nice, kind hearted Englishman and at this stage I will describe an episode which Mr Du Ve related during the conversation already mentioned. Here it is:-

Bennett discovered some of his cattle had been speared. Now he had been very good to his blacks, as he called them, and they liked him so he informed them that this spearing stock must stop and until it did there would be no more backy, no more sugar, no more flour etc. The blacks declared that they did not do it, but that it must have been the Yarram Yarram Feller and accordingly, some time later they declared war on the Yarram Yarram Feller and brought back thirty human tongues as proof that they had put an end to the cattle spearing for some time at least. This, it was stated, so preyed on Bennett's mind that he decided to get out, which he did, and afterwards settled on the Lachlan River in N.S.W. I have also been told that he died there as the result of a blackfellow's spear but I have not been able to ascertain the accuracy of this statement.

 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE


\$7.00 Single membership

\$10.00 Couple or Family



Payable to: Mrs.E.McMaster, 2 Harold St Morwell 3840

or

Mrs.D.Bartlett, 5 Phyllis St Morwell 3840

Place Names in Gippsland.....by I. T. Maddern.

The names of places in Gippsland fall easily into four main divisions, according to their origins. These four sources of names are:

1. Aboriginal names;
2. Places named after people;
3. Places named after other places;
4. Names given for other reasons. (e.g. descriptive names)

In the list given below, the number in brackets after the place name indicates to which of the four divisions that particular name belongs.

Albert River)...(2)..

Alberton....)...(2)..Prince Albert, the Consort of Queen Victoria.

Port Albert.)...(2)

The name Albert River was given in 1841, by the group of squatter explorers, who set out from Melbourne in the chartered vessel "Singapore" to find a port which might give them easy admission into Gippsland.

Mt. Angus.....(2)..It has been said that Mt. Angus and Mt. Ewen were named after the two sons of Angus McMillan, but since his sons were not born until ten and twelve years after his entry into Gippsland, it is more likely that they were named after himself and his father, Ewen McMillan.

Armadale.....(3). Alexander and Joseph McDonald occupied Armadale Cattle Station, south of Sale in 1846, naming the station after a place in the Isle of Skye.

Avon River.....(3)..Named by Angus McMillan, 1840, after the river in Scotland.

Bairnsdale.....(3)..This is a corruption of "Bernisdale" a place in the Isle of Skye, and the name given to the station, 1844, by the first holder, Archibald McLeod.

Bass River.....(2)..Named after its discoverer, Surgeon George Bass, in 1798.

Berwick.....(3)..Berwick on Tweed, in Scotland.

Billy's Creek..(2)..William Hillier (Billy Hillier), co-holder of Scrubby Forest Station with Nicol Brown from 1848.

Boisdale.....(3)..Boisdale Station was named after a place in South Uist, Outer Hebrides, Scotland.

Boolarra.....(1)..~~"Twenty"~~ *Plenty*.

Briagolong.....(1).. "Men of the west", sub-tribe of the Kurnai.

Brodribb River.(2)..Discovered by William Adams Brodribb, and some of the group of squatters who came from Melbourne in 1841 to Port Albert, on board the "Singapore".

Bruthen.....(1).. "Evil spirit". This name was given by Cabone Johnny, the blackfellow friend and guide of Angus McMillan in 1839.

Buchan.....(1)..This is said to be aboriginal for "bag". On the other hand, there is a Buchan District and a Buchan Ness in Scotland.

Buln Buln.....(1).. "Lyre-bird".

Bunyip.....(1)..an imaginary animal feared by the natives.

Callignee.....(3)..A place in Ireland. (Named by the Tanner family.)

Clifton.....(4)..Named by McMillan in 1840, when his horse, Clifton nearly lost its life in a bog there. The horse was probably named after Clifton Station, N.S.W. held by McMillan's employer, Lachlan Macalister.

Clydebank.....(3)..Place in Scotland.

Coadyvale.....(2)..Coadyvale Station was occupied in 1843 by Patrick Coady Buckley.

Colquhoun.....(2)..Miss Colquhoun Cunninghame, a member of an early squatting family from Scotland.

- Cooper's Creek.(2)..Thomas Henry Cooper was a leading personality amongst the first miners at Walhalla, 1863.
- Corner Inlet...(4)..First mapped by Bass in 1798, and called Corner Inlet by him and by Flinders in that same year, from its shape.
- Cowwarr.....(1)..Mountains.
- Dargo.....(1).. "Have patience"; "Wait".
- Darlimurla.....(1).. "Stony Creek".
- Darnum.....(1).. "Parrot".
- Doctor's Flat..(2)..Dr. Alexander Arbuckle, who came from North Uist, Outer Hebrides, Scotland, was a squatter as well as a doctor. He was a friend of Angus McMillan, and accompanied him into Gippsland, and held for a short time, the property known as Doctor's Flat.
- Drouin.....(2)..So called after a French chemist who discovered the chlorination process (wet) of separating metal from ore. One other town in Victoria is named after a Frenchman - St. Arnaud. Marshal Jacques Leroy de St. Arnaud (1801-1854) was in command of the French forces in the Crimean War, but died in the first year of the war.
- Ensay.....(3)..Ensay is a small island in the Outer Hebrides, Scotland. Angus McMillan established a cattle station at Ensay (at first called Numblamungie) on the Tambo River, for Lachlan Macalister, in 1839.
- Mt. Ewen.....(2).. Named after McMillan's son, or more likely, his father, Ewen McMillan.
- Flynn.....(2).. James Manton Flynn was a police constable, stationed in Gippsland for many years. He was at Port Albert as early as 1848.
- Foster.....(2)..W.H.Foster was an early Police Magistrate and Warden in Gippsland.
- Fulham.....(3)..Named by John King, an early squatter, possibly after the town of that name near London.
- Garfield.....(2)..First known as Cannibal Creek but the name was changed in 1881, to Garfield, in honour of General J. Abram Garfield, President of the United States, assassinated in 1881.
- Gippsland.....(2)..Called so by Strzelecki in honour of Sir George Gipps (1791-1847), Governor of New South Wales, 1838-46.
- Glengarry.....(2)..Angus McMillan gave this name ~~to~~ 1840 to the river now called Latrobe River. Aeneas Ronaldson Macdonnell, Chief of the Glengarry Clan, took up land at Greenmount, near Yarram, in 1841, but left Gippsland the following year.
- Gormandale.....(2)..Presumably after a family, named Gorman.
- Gould.....(2)..Gould was the name of the landlord of the "Cecil Inn" on the old coach road from Moe to Moondarra.
- Hallam.....(2)..William Hallam, storekeeper at that place.
- The Haystack...(4)..So named from its shape. McMillan had called it Mt. McLeod, after his uncle, a famous general.
- Hazelwood.....(2). First called Hasellville, and then Hasellwood, after the first white woman to live there, Mrs. Lavinia Ann Zenobia Hasell Bennett (formerly Brodribb), wife of William Bennett. Bennett and his brother-in-law, Albert Eugene Brodribb took up Hazelwood in 1844.
- Hernes Oak.....(4)..In Act IV, Scene IV of Shakespeare's play, "The Merry Wives of Windsor", mention is made of "Hernes Oak" where a ghostly hunter, Herne, bewitched cattle. This seems to be an apt name for a place in the Haunted Hills, where early drovers said their cattle were bewitched.

- Heyfield.....(3)...Possibly named after Hayfield in England.
- Hinnomungie....(1).. "Fish".
- Inverloch.....(2).. "Inver" is a Scottish prefix meaning "at the mouth of a river or stream". Inverloch was named after Sir Henry Brougham Loch, 1827-1900, Governor of Victoria, 1884-89.
- Jumbuk.....(1).. "Sheep".
- Kilmany.....(3).. Mrs. Helen Pearson and her son William Pearson named their cattle station Kilmany in 1841, after Kilmany, Fifeshire, Scotland.
- Kilmorie.....(3).. Malcolm and Thomas Macalister named Kilmorie cattle station in 1845, probably after Kilmory on the island of Rum, Scotland.
- Lake King (2).. Admiral Philip Parker King, son of Governor King, and the first Australian to reach the rank of Admiral.
- Koo-wee-rup... (1).. "Blackfish".
- Korumburra... (1).. "Maggot" or "March Fly".
- Latrobe River. (2).. Charles Joseph Latrobe, 1801-75, Superintendent of Victoria, 1839-51 and Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, 1851-54.
- Leongatha.....(1).. "Cheek" or "Teeth".
- Lindenow.....(3).. Place in India. J.M. Loughnan occupied Lindenow cattle station in 1842.
- Livingstone .. (2).. Named after one of the first squatter explorers to enter Gippsland, perhaps as early as 1835.
- Loy Yang.....(1).. "Big eel".
- Lucknow.....(3).. Place in India. Lucknow cattle station was occupied by Frederick Jones in 1842.
- Macalister River.. (2).. Named after Lachlan Macalister, his employer, by Angus McMillan, 1840.
- MacFarlane's Lookout.. (2).. MacFarlane was one of the first three squatters to penetrate into Gippsland in 1835. The other two in the party were McKillop and Livingstone.
- Maffra.....(3).. Named after a village in Portugal, near the Lines of Torres Vedras, the Duke of Wellington's defence line in the Peninsular War, 1808-14.
- Maryvale.....(2).. Named after the eldest daughter of William and Hasell Bennett of Hazelwood, Lavinia Mary Bennett. This cattle station was first called Maryville. It was first occupied in 1845 by Thomas Gorringe.
- Merriman's Creek.. (4).. This creek was named after one of C.J. Tyer's bullocks, which rejoiced in the name of Merriman and was bogged in the mud at this creek.
- Mirboo.....(1).. "Kidney".
- Mitchell River. (3).. Named by McMillan, 1840, after the Surveyor-General, and explorer, Sir Thomas Mitchell.
- Moe.....(?). No-one knows the origin of this name. It was first applied to the huge swamp. Rev. Hales in 1848, spelt the word "Moay", and Mrs. Perry spelt it "Mowie" in 1849. Some say it is the cry of a swamp bird; others say it could be named after a Scandinavian, because "Moe" is a Scandinavian name. Of course, it could be aboriginal, but no-one really knows.
- Morwell (3).. First applied to the river, 1844, and later to Morwell River) the town, 1879. The name comes from an outcrop of rocks in the Tamar River, (near Plymouth, England), called the Morwell Rocks. Nearby is the village of Morwellham. It is said there used to be an abbey, Morwell Abbey, in the vicinity.
- Nar-nar-goon.. (1).. "Native Bear".
- Narre Warren.. (1).. From "Sheoke" and "Ocean".
- Neerim.....(1).. "Spear".

- Nicholson River..(2)..Named by McMillan after Sir Charles Nicholson, Speaker in the Legislative Assembly, New South Wales.
- Officer.....(2)..Mr. Robert Officer-owned land there.
- Orbost.....(3)..Named by Archibald McLeod of Bernisdale Station (Bairnsdale) after an uncle's place in the Isle of Skye.
- Outtrim.....(2)..Alfred Richard Outtrim,(1845-1925) was Minister of Mines in four governments during his 33 years in the Victorian Legislative Assembly, starting from 1885.
- Pakenham.....(2)..Named after General Pakenham, who was a brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington and who was killed in the Crimean War.
- Perry River...(2)..Named in 1840 by Strzelecki after the Assistant-Perry Bridge..(2)..Surveyor-General in Sydney.
- Platina.....(4)..So named because platinum was discovered in the mines there.
- Rosedale.....(2)..Mrs. Rose Parry-Okeden (formerly Dutton). Lieut. D. P. Okeden occupied Rosedale Station in 1844, naming it after his wife.
- Sale.....(2)..Formerly Flooding Creek, the name of this place was changed in 1850 to Sale, in honour of a British soldier, General Sir Robert Henry Sale, (1782-1845). He had fought an heroic and successful action at Jellahabad, Afghanistan in 1841, but was mortally wounded in 1845, in a battle at Moodkee in the Punjab, India.
- Stratford.....(3)..Because of its situation on the Avon River, this town was called Statford, although McMillan had had in mind the Scottish Avon and not the English Avon.
- Strathfieldsaye.(3)..Named after the Duke of Wellington's estate in Hampshire, England, and given by the first holder, W. Odell Raymond in 1842. It is a very apt name too, since the station bordered Lake Wellington. The first Strathfieldsaye means "the field beside the Roman road ("strath" or "strata") owned by the De Saye family."
- Strzelecki Ranges..(2)..Named after the explorer Strzelecki, the first to traverse them (1840).
- Tambo River....(1).. "High cliffs".
- Tarra River..(2)
- Tarra Valley..(2)..Charlie Tarra, the excellent blackfellow
- Tarraville..(2)..explorer with Strzelecki, 1840. and with others.
- Thompson River.(2)..Sir Edward Deas Thompson, Colonial Secretary of New South Wales. Named by McMillan in 1840.
- Thorpedale.....(4).. "Thorpe" means village, and "dale" means valley.
- Tongo-Mungie... (1).. "Fish".
- Toongabbie.....(1 & 3)..Named after Toongabbie in New South Wales.
- Tom's Cap.....(4)..Resemblance in shape to the cap worn by one of the exploring party (McMillan's) that found it, 1841.
- Trafalgar.....(3)..Battle of Trafalgar, 1805.
- Traralgon.....(1).. "River of little fish",
- Tyabb.....(1).. "Worm".
- Tyers.....(2)
- Lake Tyers.....(2)..Charles James Tyers, Commissioner of Lands for Gippsland, from 1844.
- Tyers River....(2)
- Warragul.....(1).. "Wild".
- Waterloo.....(3)..Battle of Waterloo, 1815.
- Mt. Wellington.(2)..The Duke of Wellington. Named by McMillan, 1840.
- Lake Wellington(2)..

GIPPSLAND PLACE NAMES (cont)

- Welshpool.....(2)..Named after Mr.Patricias W.Welsh, an early resident of Melbourne (1837). He was the manager of Batman's estate after Batman's death.
- Wilson's Promontory..(2)..Named by Bass and Flinders,1798 after a business friend in London.
- Wy Yung.....(1).. "Wild duck".
- Lake Victoria..(2)..Queen Victoria.
- Walhalla.....(4)..First the name of a mining claim,and then,of the town. Walhalla was the name of the home of the gods, in the old Scandinavian myths.
- Yallourn.....(1).. "Brown earth",so named by Sir John Monash.
- Yarragon.....(1).. "Head of hair".
- Yinnar.....(1).. "Woman".

General Notes.

There seems to be a good deal of guess work in the meanings given for aboriginal names. Sometimes, two and even three different meanings are suggested for the one name.

It is interesting to note the number of war names that have been applied in Gippsland nomenclature - places or people or battles, connected with wars. In the above list,for example, there are such names as Lucknow, Maffra, Pakenham, Sale,Trafalgar, Waterloo and Wellington.

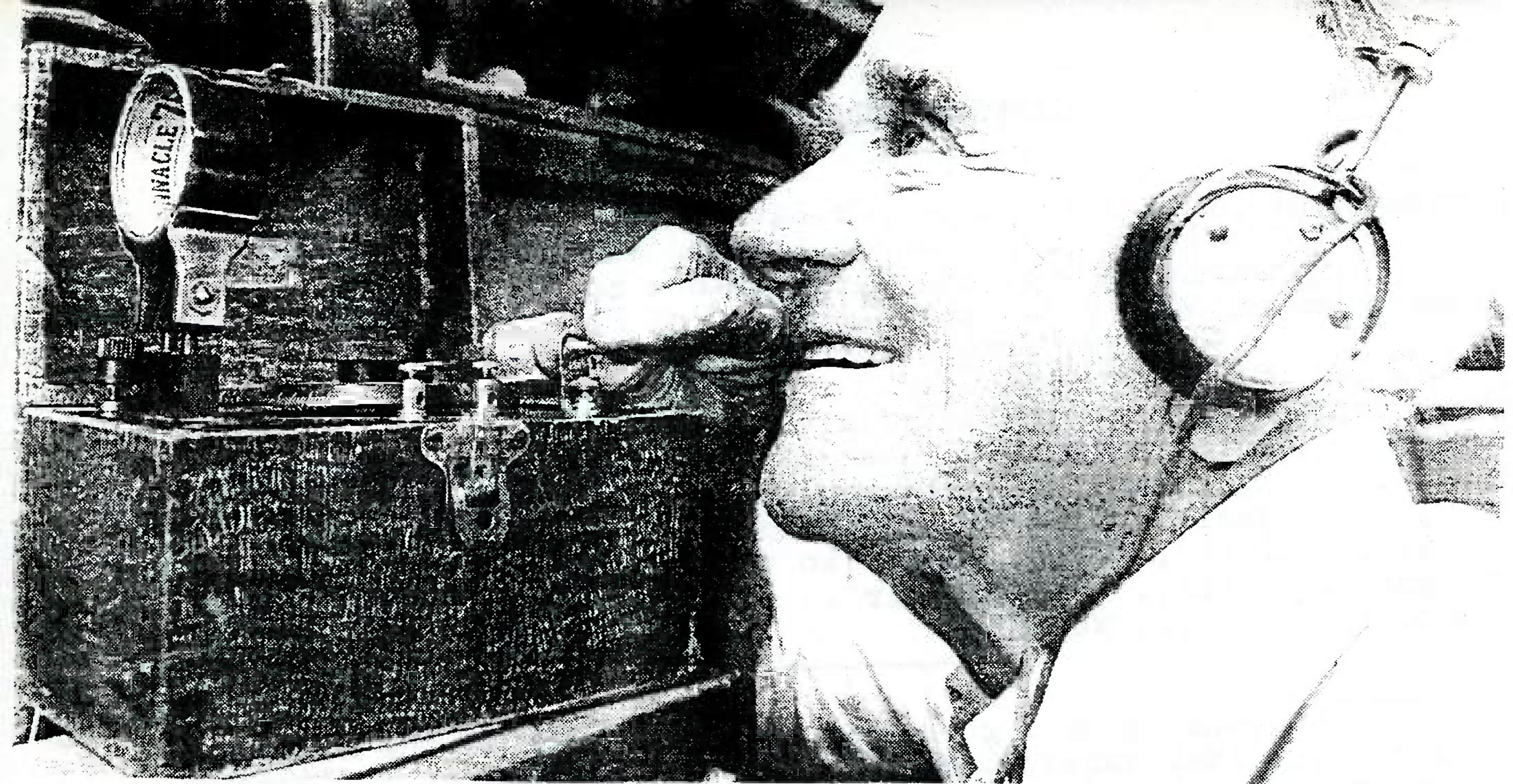
There is also a pronounced Scottish influence, emphasizing the fact that a great many of our pioneers and explorers were men from Scotland - Angus McMillan, Lachlan Macalister and his family, the McLeods, MacFarlanes, the Cunninghames, Dr.Jamieson, Dr.Ar Buckley, and many others. Quite a number came from the more remote, rugged, inhospitable regions,such as the Hebrides.

FAMILY AND LOCAL HISTORY EXPO

The Gippsland Local and Family History Expo held at Sale on April 4 proved a most interesting and informative day (and a profitable one for your secretary, who won around \$150 worth of Gippsland history books and magazines in a raffle!)

There were displays by a number of Gippsland genealogical and historical societies, a bookstall, computers with family history programmes, a research area with access to microfiche, books and records, and a most interesting programme of speakers on a range of subjects such as use of maps in genealogy, future directions of Gippsland history, dating old photographs and even on organic gardening.

This was the first time that genealogical and historical societies have pooled their resources in Gippsland to put on such a display and hopefully it will become an annual event.



HEARING you loud and clear . . . Keith Boston at home among his collection of "talking machines". Picture: LUCY SWINSTEAD

Crystal clear fan tunes in to old radio days

RETIRED electrical engineer Keith Boston is more "tuned-in" than most.

The irrepressible 72-year-old has been collecting and restoring antique radios for more than 60 years and now sports a gleaming array of 300 original "talking machines".

Born and bred in Korumburra, he built his first crystal radio as an excitable teenager.

"I was fascinated when I saw a crystal set when I was 12 years old and ever since I have been interested in radio," he said.

To say Mr Boston "loves" radios is to understate his passion.

His house, workshop and shed overflow with elaborate, wooden-cased machines, and he recently decided to turn the garage into an exhibit.

"I just like radios, and they piled up and piled up until I thought I'd display them," he said.

Radio opened up a whole new world when it was introduced in the 1920s, Mr Boston said.

"Before radio you listened to people playing

By **LOUISE RADCLIFFE-SMITH**

the piano. There could be a war overseas and you would not know about it," he said.

"But when radio came in you had world-wide communication. I remember when I was 14 we used to listen to the cricket from England."

Things have certainly changed since the days of make-your-own crystal sets, when enthusiasts had to run a wire up a tree, put another in the ground and "tickle the crystal's whiskers" with thin wire to get good reception.

Mr Boston believes old radios still sound better than new-fangled ones.

"There's something about the old valve radio: the waves are not exactly true and the ear likes them better," he said.

Mr Boston said he was not interested in setting up a museum or selling the collection; he merely wanted to keep a record for future generations.

"The kids of the future can look at this stuff and see what went on in the old days. I think they will look back and be interested to see them," he said.

Radios are not Mr Boston's only passion.

He also paints avidly (mainly landscapes), restores furniture, turns wood, cuts and polishes rock, and goes fishing on the Gold Coast four months a year.

"You just don't live long enough. There's so much

to get done," he said.

Mr Boston said he had bought and "scrounged" radios and parts from all over Australia and was always looking for more.

Anyone with pre-1960 radios or spare parts can contact him on (056) 55-1498.

Get scents of history

EXPERIENCE AUSTRALIA, a new kind of scent-surround theatre in the Southgate complex by the Yarra, invites you to poke your nose into 12 major events of Australian history from the Aboriginal Dreaming to the present.

The new theatre, the first of its kind in Australia, opened to the public this week.

It can accommodate up to 105 people in six one-hour sessions from 11.30am to 4.30pm seven days a week.

"It's not your average documentary style of presenting Australian history, says producer," Marcus McCartney.

"It's a history. Each person who sees it will experience for themselves as if they were present in the actual environment and conversing to a real historical person."

Experience Australia is certainly different from most

By **PETER FAMILARI**

sense-surround theatres. They try for the illusion of being present at a live event by manipulating the sound by clever digital processing technology, which can deliver sound at discreet intervals to any point in the theatre.

Experience Australia takes it a step further by creating the smell of the historical incidents to accompany the visual images on the screens.

Patrons can expect to personally relive incidents like the Eureka Stockade and the First World War, complete with the smell of gunpowder and the gutshaking sound of exploding shells on 15m of surround screen area and 800 watts of power which is delivered through 24 loudspeakers.

The visual images of Aus-

tralian history are fed on to the screen area through a combination of three overhead wall vision color projectors and a barrage of 24 slide projectors.

The smells — which include floral, eucalypts, gun powder, a BBQ and smoke from an Australian bushfire — are ingeniously carried by steam through piping which is located behind every seat in the theatre.

Experience Australia say that this unique presentation of our history will appeal to families, schools and tourists. Language won't be a problem because in the near future visitors will be able to hear the program in eight languages including English.

Admission to this extraordinary presentation costs \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Concessions for two adults and two children are \$15, for students and the unemployed, \$5.

Herald-Sun 30/3/93

Her Id-Sun 24/3/93