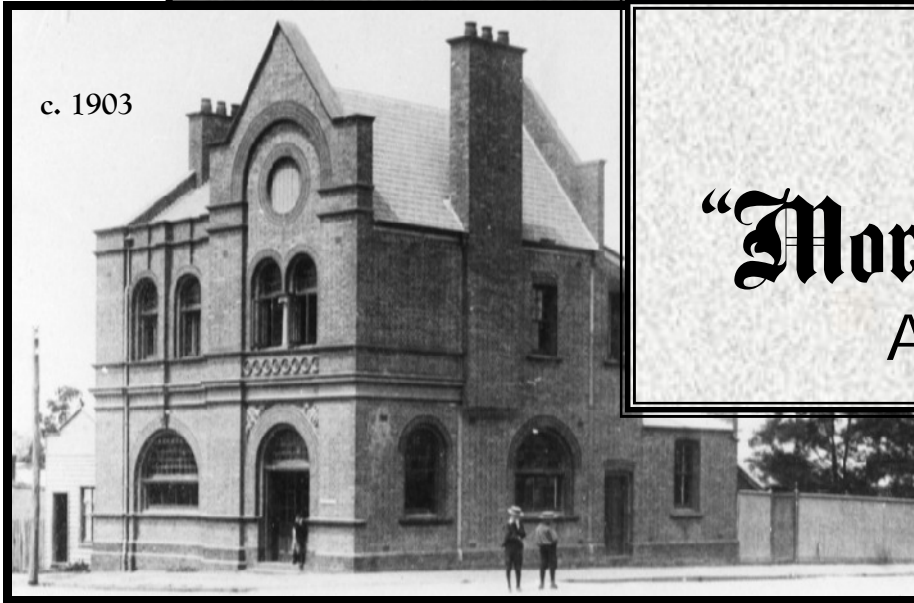


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au



c. 1903

The

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“Morwell Post”

August 2008

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Proudly supported by Latrobe City Council

2008... our 25th Birthday!!!

The next meeting of Morwell Historical Society will be held on Wednesday, August 20th at 2.30pm in our rooms at 44 Buckley Street. Guest speaker at this meeting will be **Malcolm Lawrence**, who will speak about his experiences driving trains in Gippsland and interstate.

Also, at this meeting, we will be discussing the success or otherwise of our trial period of daytime meetings - the June and July meetings were held at 2.30 on Wednesday afternoons, as will be the August meeting. We would like members' opinions on the timing of future meetings. Some suggestions are:

- # night-time meetings only, throughout the year
- # daytime meetings only, throughout the year
- # night-time meetings in the months October - March (or, perhaps, during daylight saving months?) and daytime meetings during the months April - September.

Please contact Secretary Elsie with your opinions or any other suggestions.

Another point of interest: During our 25 years of existence the Society has met in a variety of venues- Morwell High School, Collins St. State School, the foyer of the Town Hall, a shop in Church St and, at present, a shop in Buckley St. We urgently need a home of our own, in which our considerable collection of photographs, records and memorabilia can be safely housed and displayed, and, to this end we have set up a building fund, with the aim of one day being able to purchase suitable premises.

This, of course, is a long-term project but a worthwhile one.

Elsie McMaster

“The Post”

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Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

26th. March 1942

Air Raid Shelter at State School



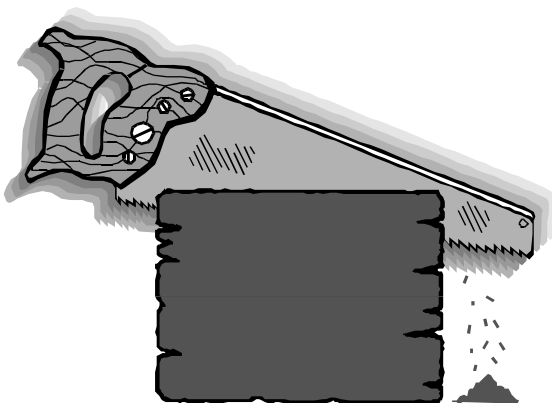
A start was made on Saturday morning, excavating an air-raid shelter at the Morwell State School, by a band of voluntary workers. The honor of turning the first sod, fell to the fine team of Morwell Shire horses, with Mr. R. Watson handling the lines.

They are being made from plans supplied by Mr. Baldy, Shire Engineer.

The workers were Messrs Jordan, Bavington, Fletcher, Scammell, Owens, D. McDonald, R. Davey, F. Longley, J. Bell, C. De Bona, H. Guy, N. Davey, Coster, J. Toner, H. Evans, W. Newton, J. Crozier, R. Alexander, R. Stubbs, R. Robinson, J. Taylor, J. Dalglish, L. Warfe, Treadwell, R. Watson, B. McKay, J. R. McPhee, G. Rust, A. Jackson, E. Williams, A. Rome, W. Miller, K. Alexander, and a number of boys did good work with the shovels.

Morning and afternoon tea was dispersed by the ladies of the Mothers' Club, and a number of other ladies sent baskets, though they were unable to attend.

There will be another "working-bee" next Saturday, when it is hoped that more fathers of the scholars will attend.



Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

February 12th. 1948

Memorial Gates at Cemetery



HANDING OVER CEREMONY



FOLLOWING the disastrous loss of life in the 1944 bush fires, a number of residents of The Ridge and vicinity conceived the idea of raising funds to erect Memorial Gates at the Hazelwood Cemetery in memory of the thirteen people who lost their lives on 14th February 1944.

A committee consisting of Mr. R. Embleton (president), Mr. W. J. McFarlane (secretary), Messrs J. R. Lawless, E. Lock, E. Horsfield, G. Polwarth, A. Walker, E. Webster and L. McKenzie was formed, funds to value of £150 (approx.) raised and the gates completed.

On Saturday morning next (the third anniversary of the disaster) at 11 a.m., at the office of the secretary of the Morwell Cemetery Trust the committee will formerly hand over the gates to the care and custody of the Cemetery trustees.



Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

February 19th 1948

Hazelwood Cemetery Memorial Gates



Officially Handed Over to Trustees

At 11 a.m. on Saturday morning, 14th February, at the office of Mr. H. W. Gay, secretary of the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust, the granite and iron gates erected in memory of the bush fire victims of 14th (August) February, 1944, were officially handed over to the Cemetery Trust by the president

(**Mr R. Embleton**) of the Hazelwood Ridge Committee, which conceived and carried the project into effect.

Following a welcome to the Hazelwood Ridge Committee by the Trust president; **Mr John Bolger**, Mr. Embleton recalled that it was four years that day since the disastrous fires that were responsible for the loss of fourteen lives and the widespread destruction of property and stock in the district. Soon after the disaster it was felt by many people that some memorial should be erected in memory of those whose lives had been sacrificed. A small committee elected at a public meeting at The Ridge was given the job of organising the appeal for the work and later arranging for the construction at the cemetery of the gates, which were the type of Memorial favoured. The appeal was a success because it was liberally supported by givers of large and small amounts and the position was soon reached when the committee was able to plan for the gates.

Mainly by the fine offer by **Mr. Ern. Webster**, who negotiated the purchase of the material, dressed the stones and erected the gates without cost, it had been possible to complete the fine imperishable memorial which the committee felt was worthy of the sacrifice of those who lost their lives on the ill-fated 14th February 1944.

He felt it was fitting on that occasion for him, on behalf of the committee to pay tribute to the generosity of the people who willingly contributed according to their ability, and to the grand effort of **Mr. Webster**, whose advice, technical ability and voluntary labour made possible the completion of a work of considerably greater value than the funds at their disposal would have otherwise made possible.

Concluding, **Mr. Embleton** said it was now the privilege and the duty of his committee to officially hand over the gates to the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust and, in so doing, he felt they would not only be an asset to the Trust, but a memorial for all time of the precious lives lost and an imperishable tribute to their memory by their fellow citizens.

Mr. W. J. McFarlane, secretary of the committee, said that the handing over of the gates automatically wound up the financial responsibilities of the committee and he had much pleasure in presenting the financial statement, which revealed:-

RECEIPTS- Donations, £151; interest £3/10/-. Total £154/10/-

EXPENDITURE- Granite, £47/0/6; Freight (granite) £14/4/; Cartage, £3; Gates, £52/6/2; Freight (gates), 10s; Cement, £3/14/9; Inscriptions, £29/10/; Advertising and Petty Cash, £1/4/7; Balance £3. - Total £154/10/-

Other voluntary contributions were in nature of putting in concrete foundations by working bees, to which **Messrs R. Embleton** and **A. Walker** were the chief contributors. The only money paid to Mr. Webster was for the inscriptions on the granite pillars. He would like to make it perfectly clear that at the time **Mr. Webster** made the offer to dress the stone and erect the gates, he was employed by the State Electricity Commission and was prepared to devote his spare time to the work.

Much later **Mr. Webster** severed his connection with the S.E.C. and established himself as a monumental mason, but the need to devote time to his new undertaking did not prevent him from honouring the offer made to the committee. Further, he had incurred much incidental expenditure in travel and it seemed fair that the amount of £3 at credit of the fund should quite properly be paid to him and the fund wound up.

In conclusion, he would like to say that the completion of the enterprise was possible only by the enthusiasm of the committee, with whom it was a pleasure to work. Everybody concerned had played, each his full part, in the work of erecting an imperishable memorial to the lives lost in the greatest disaster in the history of the district. He trusted that the memorial would also serve as reminder and a warning to the younger generations of the menace of the terrifying and destructive forces that may be unleashed by a careless human agency.

Cr. A. L. Hare said he had been asked to represent the relatives of those who lost their lives as the result of the 1944 fires and could say, in all sincerity; that the relatives deeply appreciated the gesture of the committee. Thinking back over the terrible experiences of that day, he felt that the community was fortunate that there were not more names on the gate. The relatives would never forget the work of the committee or the marvellous job done by **Mr. Webster**, whose work would be a memorial for all time and be indestructible even in the worst of fires.

The Cemetery Trust had been concerned about their inability to get essential work done, particularly the fencing which had only just been completed after years of waiting for material. The gates would now finish the fencing job off. On behalf of every relative he deeply thanked all concerned in the project, which would keep green the memory of the dear ones they had lost. **Mr. John Ronald** (for the Trust) said that the Trust felt that something of considerable value had been done for the cemetery, and was deeply grateful for it. He had seen the gates for the first time on the previous day and he had been struck by two things, their suitability as a memorial and the lesson they conveyed to future generations on the careless use of fire.

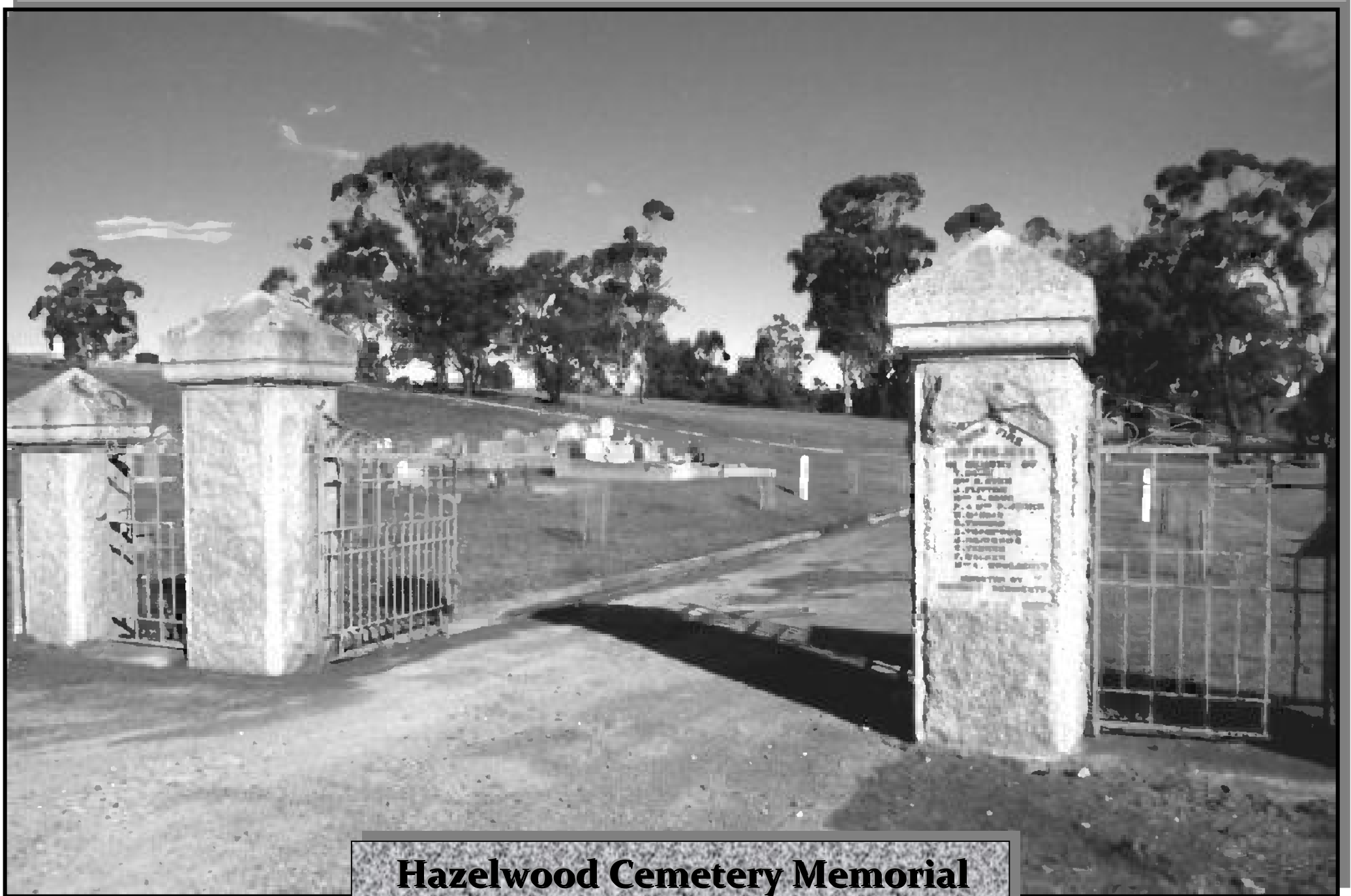
Mr. John Bolger said that as president of the trust he was proud to receive the gates into the care and custody of the Trust as they were a reminder of the generosity of all who made them possible as well as a substantial asset to the cemetery. The erection of the gates had brought to the forefront other works urgently needing taking in hand.

The council had been asked to grade the road in the vicinity of the gates and he understood from **Cr. Hare** that it was approved but held up on account of shortage of labour. The council had also promised to put down a pipe drain in the vicinity of the gates. Perhaps the hut at the entrance might now be regarded as unsightly and should be moved to another location.

It was received by motion moved by **Cr. Hare**, seconded by **Mr. J. Ronald**, "that the Cemetery Trust gratefully accepts the gates from the committee and that a special letter of appreciation be sent by the Trust to Mr. Webster."

It was also agreed that the balance of £3 standing to the committee's credit be paid to **Mr. Webster** for out-of-pocket expenses and that the suggestion for the removal of the hut to another position in the cemetery be carried out.





**Hazelwood Cemetery Memorial
Gates**

Morwell & District Community Hospital – 1st. July 1956 - official opening of renovations by Cr. J. C. Balfour, M.L.A., Member for Morwell



20913

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

29th. November 1918

CR. RADBURN RESIGNS



COUNCIL WELCOME RESIGNATION, BUT ARE INDIGNANT AT ITS TONE

At meeting of local Shire Council on Wednesday, the subjoined letter was received from Cr. Radburn, who recently returned from a trip to the Old Country:-

Hood, L.B. 25/11/18.

T. Sinclair Esq.

Dear Sir, - I herewith tender my resignation as Councillor for the Boolarra Riding. In doing so it is with a certain amount of regret, but I have no desire to be associated with a body of men who are capable of performing a dishonorable act.

I am, dear sir,

Yours faithfully,

J. RADBURN.

As soon as the letter was read, Cr. Buckley, in a heated tone said: "Damn him. Stick the thing in the fire. It's a slur on the whole council. It's like his damned impertinence. I'm as good as him any day. I told him once at the council table that if he said the same thing to me outside, I'd go for him, and I'd like to do it now." - (Laughter.)

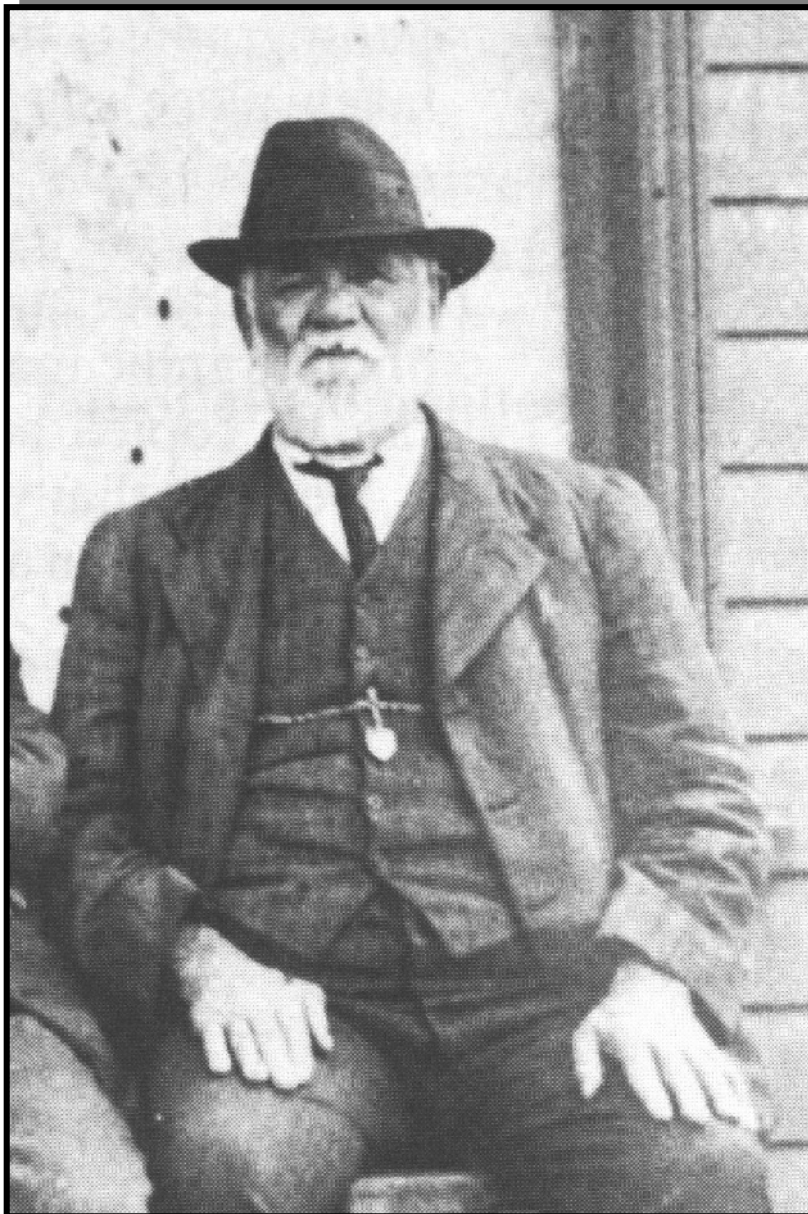
Cr. White said that as Cr. Radburn had been away so long he might have attended the meeting and tendered his resignation personally.

Cr. Penaluna: He only did what you might expect from a man like him. He can be very well done without.

Cr. English: Receive the resignation with thanks. He has ceased to be a councillor, and I think it's a very good thing.

Cr. Buckley: I say put the thing in the fire.

After other councillors had spoken Cr. Radburn's resignation was formally received, and an election to fill the vacancy will take place on the 19th December.



**Councillor Joe Buckley photographed c.
1920**

Photograph: "Glimpses of our Past" page 1

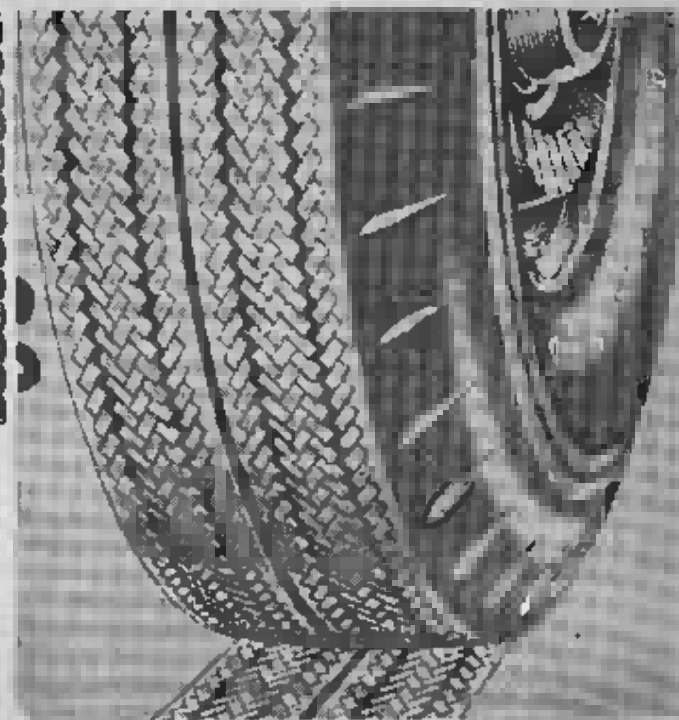
Intriguing stuff!, I will endeavour to find out more about this incident. S.H.

... SAFE ... TYRES ... SAVE ... LIVES ...

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October 2nd. 1958

Next Meeting:

Please note change of meeting day and time.

Wednesday 20th August at 2.30 p.m.

44 Buckley St. (next to T.A.B.)

Answer to photo quiz from last issue:

Mr. Harry Huguenin

Morwell Historical Society
Inc.

Annual Subscription Rates:

Single: \$17.00

Family/Double: \$20.00



Local History On-Line

Our Internet Address is:

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au



Adeney, A.E.

Who's Who:

A.E. Adeney:

Minister: St. Mary's Church of England
Morwell.

1913-1918

