

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the March Newsletter

* A *Centenary of Federation Parade* will take place in Morwell on **Sunday, April 1st** commencing at the Town Common at 10.30 am. and members of the Latrobe Combined History Group will be involved in the festivities. We need volunteers to carry placards outlining the main events in each decade of the past century. The placards are very light and the parade covers a distance of 1.2 km. If you or a family member (over 8 years old) can help, please let Elsie McMaster know.

* **Traralgon Historical Society** is organising a **bus trip** to the National Trust's historic farm, *Gulf Station* on **Sunday, April 8th** which is Scottish Settlers' Day at the farm – a celebration of our Scottish pioneer heritage. There will be historic displays, pioneer skills and crafts, Scottish music and dancing, food tasting, a pipe band and a collection of Scottish and rare breed farm animals. Cost is \$35 per person – booking is essential.

* **Enquiries and booking: Dawn Hustler Tel: 51744540**

* We were pleased to play host to three groups of grades 3 and 4 students from **Commercial Road Primary School** last week. The children are studying Federation and were keen to understand how present day life in Morwell differs from the lives of Morwell residents in 1901. Five of our members demonstrated the use of a Coolgardie safe, butter churn, washboard, etc and answered a wide range of questions about changes in the town over the years. Both members and students enjoyed the day and we hope to encourage more school groups to visit our rooms.

* **The Annual General Meeting of Morwell Historical Society Inc** will be held on **Tuesday, March 20**, at 7.30 pm in our rooms at **21 Church St Morwell**.

* **Following the A.G.M we will hold our normal monthly meeting.** This will be a "members' night" – the theme: *Schooldays*. Members are asked to bring along any **school memorabilia**, photos etc. and a **reminiscence** of their schooldays to share with others.

Plants of Significance to the Ganai Community

This book, launched recently in Morwell, is a completely local production. Compiled by local residents *Rob de Souza-Daw, Ken Harris and Doris Paton*, it is published by the *Woolum Bellum Koorie Open Door Education Campus* of Kurnai College, Morwell, printed by *Gippsland Printers*, Churchill and was made possible by a grant from *Hazelwood Power*.

The book identifies plants known to have been used by the Ganai community and it aims not only to preserve this part of Koorie heritage but to be of educational value and interest to both the aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities.

The book is beautifully illustrated with coloured photographs by Ken Harris and Dr Beth Gott and each entry details the botanical name, the location where the plants are found and their use by the Ganai for either food or medicine.

Our Society has received a complimentary copy of *Plants of Significance to the Ganai Community*, donated by the authors, and we are delighted to be able to add it to our library. Copies are available, price \$10, from Wollum Bellum KODE Campus, Kurnai College, Tel: 03 51339323 and proceeds go to KODE Campus to further Koorie education.

Dad's War Stuff – the Diaries

Another completely local production, launched recently. Many local readers will have visited the exhibition of *Dad's War Stuff* which is permanently on display at the Airlie Bank Gallery, Morwell.

George Auchterlonie was a local farmer from Narracan who served in the 8th Light Horse Regiment in Egypt, Sinai and Palestine during the First World War. He kept diaries, took numerous excellent photographs and wrote many letters home to his family. These, together with other memorabilia, were kept by his wife and handed on to his son Glen and Glen's wife, Gloria, who have placed them on permanent display where they give a fascinating and valuable insight into the life and feelings of an Australian Lighthorseman.

Now, Gloria has produced a book – *Dad's War Stuff – The Diaries* – which contains George's diary entries plus selected photographs. Although the entries have been edited, the original spelling and punctuation have been retained.

Dad's War Stuff – The Diaries is available at Airlie Bank Gallery, Morwell Newsagents, Claasens Computers and Pazzaz Printing. A CD Rom is also available. Cost is \$25 for either the book or the CD. (Postage/handling \$6.50). Copies can also be ordered from Gloria by e-mail: auchterlonie@nex.net.au

RULES FOR TEACHERS

There is unfortunately no source listed for the following rules but the reference to ice cream bars suggests America rather than Australia. The 1915 rules are obviously for women only.

RULES FOR TEACHERS – 1897

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys before beginning work.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the children.
4. Men teachers may take one evening a week for courting purposes or two evenings a week to attend church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school you may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside, from each day, a goodly sum for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smoke, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool and public halls or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.

RULES FOR TEACHERS – 1915

1. You will not marry during the term of your contract.
2. You are not to keep company with men.
3. You must be home between the hours of 8pm and 6am unless attending school functions.
4. you may not loiter downtown in any of the icecream bars.
5. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have the permission of the Chairman of the Board.
6. You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your father or brother.
7. You may not smoke cigarettes.
8. You may not dress in bright colours.
9. You must wear at least two petticoats.
10. Your dress must not be any shorter than two inches above the ankle.
11. To keep the school neat and clean you must sweep the floor at least once daily, scrub the floor at least once a week with hot soapy water, clean the boards daily and start the fire at 7am so the room will be warm by 8am.

200 year Commemoration of Churchill Island

On the weekend of March 24th/25th, Phillip Island Nature Park will commemorate the landing of Lt James Grant from the *Lady Nelson*, anchored off Rhyll and the building of Victoria's first blockhouse.

Festivities will include a landing from the replica vessel, Lady Nelson, a naval salute and the firing of Churchill Island's historic cannon.

Premier Steve Bracks will lead the commemoration with Commander Colin Jones of *HMAS Cerberus*, and officially open Churchill Island's recently restored historic precinct.

Churchill Island will come alive with a heritage carnival featuring circus performers, the Navy band, working horse and other historical displays.

Entry is by ticket only. Enquiries: Genna Bull - Tel: 5951 2800

Fancy a Flying Fox?

With the imminent cull of fruit bats in the Melbourne Botanical Gardens, perhaps someone might like to try the following recipe from *Mrs Lance Rawson's Australian Cook and Laundry Book - 1897*.

Ingredients: Flying fox, breadcrumbs 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 flower 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 are young and plump. They can be stuffed with breadcrumbs and herbs or mashed potatoes, and either roasted or boiled. A young flying fox, split like a spatchcock and grilled, is a capital breakfast dish.

Talkies for Morwell!

The following advertisement appeared in the *Morwell Advertiser and Gazette* on Friday, July 24, 1931-

Grand Opening

"TALKIES"

FULL ALL "TALKIE" PROGRAM

'AFRICA SPEAKS'

The Strangest Romance Ever Filmed

The Black Heart of Equatorial Africa - the Duck-billed Women - the Pygmies - the Most Amazing Lion Fights Ever Screened. Thrilling! Sensational! Different!