

THE MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Published every month except December.

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday of the Month 7:30pm Collins St. State School Library

This month's Newsletter features the planned twentieth Anniversary Celebrations for Churchill. Twenty years of life are to be celebrated by the co-operating Church on Sunday November 3rd. There is also an appeal for photographs of the Churchill area. The contact is Rev. Brian Edgar on Churchill 221 480.

As the school year draws to an end, the interest in local history is still being encouraged.

Maryvale High School Students will attend a school camp at the Gunyah Campsite on November 27. For four days the students, who are studying Local History at Middle School, will endeavour to "experience life" without modern facilities. The camp experience creates life in the bush akin to the life experienced by early Gippsland settlers.

Maryvale has used the Gunyah Campsite since 1978. The site is located where the former Gunyah State School was situated - on the Grand Ridge Road approximately 30 km south of Boolarra. Land in this area was opened for settlement in the early 1900's. Nowadays it features forests of Mountain Ash and Radiata Pine.

The camp site is equipped with a corrugated tin shelter (for the collection of water and shelter over an open fire place) and a concrete tank. Otherwise the area is light bush with the occasional clearing enabling tents to be pitched.

Recently Hazelwood North Primary School students were encouraged to draw up family trees. The difference, however, was that these students were from the Grade 1/2 class.

The students combined the family trees with letter writing practice - the new script style now being introduced at primary school level.

Moreover the young students were able to identify with members of older generations and thus become cognizant of where "we all belong". In particular the exercise was a challenge for parents. Many households were kept busy searching for information to include in the interesting and rewarding task of constructing a family tree.

REMEMBER the little Morwell to Mirboo North railway? It closed to passengers about 20 years ago and was quickly ripped up after the final train's historic journey about 15 years ago. Now little remains.

So? Just on 100 years ago, the line held a lot of promise and, round about now, had just reached Darlimurla, six kilometres on the Mirboo North side of Boolarra. As each stage ended, trains ran regularly between the connected station, carrying both passengers and goods.

Incidentally, back in 1885 as the railway line was edging towards Mirboo North, tenders were being invited for a railway line to serve the Narracan valley, south of Trafalgar. A survey had been completed and work was expected to start by the end of the year.

The people of Thorpdale were already agitating to have the line extended to their area to carry the huge amount of fence palings being cut there for the Melbourne market.

Whatever happened to it all? Perhaps some local historian can fill us in.

Recording history

TRARALGON Shire Secretary, Mr Alexander, was appointed by Council last week to record any historic memorials in Traralgon Shire.

The appointment came after a letter from the Royal Historical Society of Victoria requested Council to assist in a project aimed at recording all historic memorials in Victoria, such as statues, cairns, plaques, tablets and engraved stones. The project is being funded by the 150th Anniversary Celebrations Project Committee.

...and saving records

TRARALGON Shire Council will investigate the possibility of having all shire records prior to 1900 micro-filmed for retention in Traralgon.

The move follows growing fears that all records before 1900 may be called for storage in the Public Archives Section at Laverton.

A letter to Council last week from the Traralgon and District Historical Society said it was concerned that the removal of records to Laverton would mean a lack of facilities for research in the Traralgon area.

Council is investigating ways to have its rating and minute books recorded on microfilm.

For the record.....

L. V EXPRESS. OCTOBER 8, 1985

The late Mr. SAMUEL WESTLEY VARY, M.L.C., arrived in Australia at the age of thirteen with other members of the family, and landed at Geelong, where he completed his education. He went to the gold diggings at Ballarat, but, on finding the gold rather elusive, returned to Geelong, where he settled down to learn the butchering trade as an employee of the firm of Low and McKenzie, and drove cattle for them from Geelong to Newmarket,



MR. L. VARY, J.P., MORWELL.

Melbourne, where there were only two firms operating in what is now one of the biggest saleyards in the Commonwealth. In 1870, seven years before the railway went through, he went to "Merton Rust," bought some stock and took over that property on a lease, which the Gov-

ernment would not renew on its expiration, but threw the land open for selection. Mr. Vary then exercised his pre-emptive right, and retained 320 acres under this clause and selected a further 320 acres, where he was successful as a cattle grazier and dairyman.

He entered the public life of the district as a councillor of the Narracan Shire, and when the Morwell Shire was formed became one of its councillors, and has occupied the presidential chair. He was a Justice of the Peace. He died in 1930 at the ripe old age of 90.

There was a family of six sons and three daughters—Arthur, Alfred, Charles, Frank, Llewellyn, Hugh, Nelly, Alice and Florence. Alfred served as Engineer Commander during the "Boxer" rising in 1900.

Mr. Llewellyn Vary, J.P., was born at "Merton Rust" in May 1880, and educated at Drikfield and Morwell. After working for his father for a time he joined Matherson and Davis, stock and station agents, with whom he has been associated for thirty-one years, being a partner for the last eight years.

His wife was a daughter of Cr. John Manning, and there is a family of three sons and two daughters.

From: "VICTORIA and RIVERINA" 1933.

* MERTON RUST or MERTON RUSH ? *

MORWELL

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6000 living in Churchill in six years

The Housing Commission is determined to achieve its objective of 6000 residents in Churchill by 1971, Shire engineer, Mr J. W. F. Connan said yesterday.

He told Morwell Shire Council that by the end of 1968, it was expected that over 1000 homes would be constructed.

Mr Connan said tenders would probably be called in October or November for shops and office blocks.

He said he had no knowledge of the plans of the Education Department

to establish schools, but in the early stages the Hazelwood South School would be used.

However, Cr W. J. Pettigrew said that the Assistant Minister for Education, Mr Rossiter, had stated on Sunday that the Hazelwood South school idea was rapidly losing favor.

Mr Connan told council that 102 Housing Commission homes would be completed this year.

It was expected that 200 Commission and 66 private homes would be built in 1965-66, 204 Commission and 80 private in 1966-67, and 240 Commission and 130 private in 1967-68.

By 1968, it was planned that 746 Commission and 276 private homes would have been completed.

PROTEST ON CABLES

Morwell Shire Council will make another protest against above-ground power lines being used at Churchill.

Cr J. Bennett described the use of above-ground lines as "a most retrograde step in a modern age."

"It is an absolute disgrace that a model town as Churchill is destined to be should be disfigured by a lot of unsightly sticks," he told the Shire Council meeting yesterday.

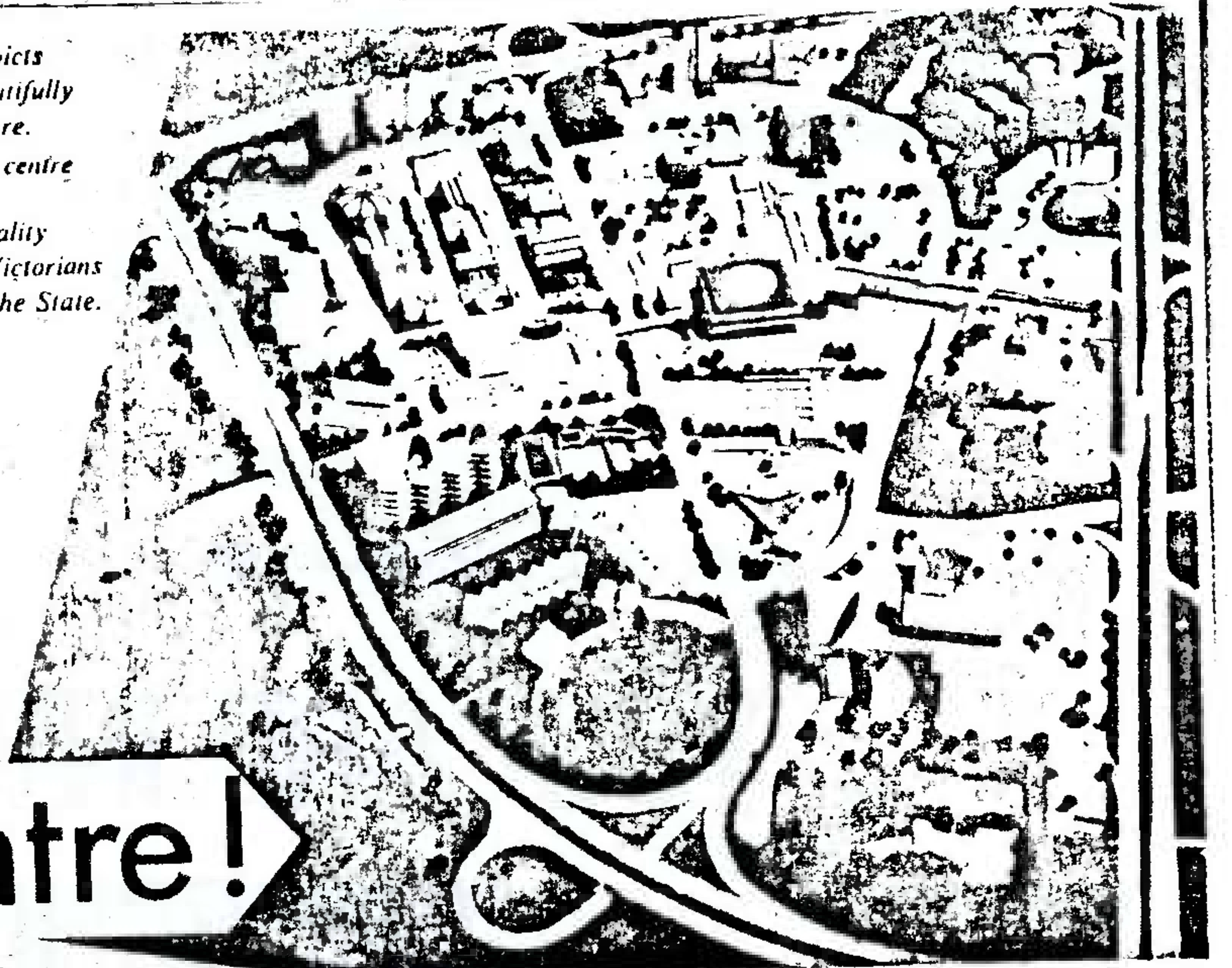
He said that for a few thousand pounds extra all electric power lines could be located underground. He urged the Council to protest strongly to the Housing Commission.

Cr W. J. Pettigrew said that every possible step should be taken to urge the Commission to change its mind.

The Shire President, Cr A. L. Hare, said the matter should be raised again with the Housing Commission.

Churchill shopping plaza - grand opening for a brand new centre!

The photograph at right depicts an actual model of the beautifully planned Churchill City Centre. An "Architects dream" the centre as shown in the model will eventually become a reality bringing to thousands of Victorians the most up-to-date town in the State.



The first tentative steps of an infant Victorian "Canberra" have been made at Churchill where tomorrow the new Minister of Housing Mr. Meagher will officially open the first shops of the satellite city.

'COME JOIN US IN A GALA SHOPPING SPREE'

So similar in basic planning concepts to the national capital, the growing township at the foothills of the Jeeeralangs saw a continuous stream of valley sightseers last weekend, and hundreds more are expected there over the next three days when Churchill's pioneer business people celebrate with a flourish.

Tomorrow morning Mr. Meagher will receive a civic welcome from the Shire President, Cr. Alan Hall, and later he and commissioners, senior Housing Commission executives, Morwell councillors, and officers, will be guests of the Churchill traders at a luncheon. At 2.30 in the shopping plaza Mr. Meagher will formally declare the centre open in a ceremony which is open to all members of the public.

Then will commence a three-day spree of giveaways and competitions which will reach climax on Saturday morning. "There'd be a brass band playing in the plaza, marching girls, a tractor-train ride around the area, and an unlimited flow of free novelties and giveaways. Many of the 10 traders who have set up shop initially have been open for business for a week, and have been quite surprised at the amount of trade

from the embryo settlement. And not only are they serving the needs of townfolk, but many farming housewives from nearby properties at Jeeeralang and Hazelwood North districts have found it a convenient shopping spot. In these pages The Express introduces the Latrobe Valley to the people who have taken what most deem a brave but positive step in establishing themselves from the beginning in what must become one of the State's most modern cities.

Hundreds of Latrobe Valley people have visited the new satellite township of Churchill since the completion of the commercial centre shopping plaza.

Hundreds more are expected to drive there next weekend to look over the developing town and inspect the building allotments which are now available for private sale.

In a special ceremony in the plaza tomorrow (Thursday) the Minister of Housing Mr. Meagher, will officially declare the modern shopping centre open.

He will meet individually at a luncheon beforehand the "pioneer" business people who have opened shops there, and who have planned three gala shopping days to follow.

Auction down

Although the glamor of the first release was absent and the attendance disappointing, both the auctioneer, Mr. Keith Williams, and the Housing Commission this week expressed satisfaction with Saturday's auction of building blocks at Churchill.

Four blocks were sold for prices ranging from \$1,600 to \$1,700, a fifth was finalised after the auction, and two others were held under offer.

Mr. Williams said the commission required that the land first be offered at auction, and if unsold could then treat privately with anyone desiring to purchase.

Terms of sale for the fully-serviced allotments remained the same - one fifth deposit and the balance over two years, Mr Williams said.

"There's no doubt it is a buyer's market," Mr. Williams said.

He said representatives of his company would be on the estate tomorrow (Thursday) during the official opening of the shopping centre, and again on Sunday.

No tip for Churchill

Churchill residents will not have their own tip.

HUNDREDS SEE OVER NEW TOWN

LV EXPRESS
WED. JUNE 7, 1967

**-shop centre
open
tomorrow**

The Co-Operating Churches in Churchill

CHURCH CENTRE

15 McDonald Way, Churchill 3842

Churchill Committee for Church Co-Operation

- ANGLICAN CHURCH
- CHURCHES OF CHRIST
- UNITING CHURCH

The Rev. Brian Edgar
The Minister's Residence
1 Williams Avenue
Churchill, Vic. 3842
Tel. Churchill (051) 22 1480

Dear *Historical Society.*

YOU ARE INVITED TO CHURCHILL'S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE and CELEBRATION

In November 1965 two families moved into newly constructed houses in McInnes Cr. and the history of Churchill began. The life of the church began at the same time and now, twenty years later it is appropriate to look back and see the changes that have taken place. On Sunday, November 3rd, 1985 the Co-operating Church plans to celebrate twenty years of life as a church and twenty years of life for the town of Churchill. We would like you to celebrate too!

WHEN ? SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1985 - 10.30am

WHERE ? AT THE CO-OPERATING CHURCH,
Chr. OF WILLIAMS AVENUE AND McDONALD WAY, CHURCHILL.

Following the service opportunity will be given to people to stay and talk - invitations are being issued to past residents. There will also be an opportunity to share lunch together. Local people are asked to bring something to share if they wish to stay for lunch. People travelling any distance will be provided for.

Could you please let us know if you are coming, particularly for lunch.
Please reply to : - 1 Williams Ave., Churchill. 3842. Thank you.

Hoping to see you,
THE CO-OPERATING CHURCH.

R.S.V.P. October 18th.

Insiders standards of accuracy.
 For survey information, application should be made
 to the Central Plans Office,
 the Office of Titles.

10/8



1	377	J. Collyer	0.2.38	200
2	373	J. Collyer	0.2.7	200
3	273	J. Martin	0.2.7	200
4	203	J. Collyer	0.2.2	200
5	203	J. Collyer	0.2.2	200
6	203	W. Plummer	0.2.2	200
7	203	C. Martin	0.2.2	200
8	203	T.O. Carr	0.2.11	200
9	203	J. Murphy	0.2.8	200
10	203	C.O. Gibbs	0.2.5	200
11	203	R. Kothary	0.1.20	200
12	203	R. Kothary	0.1.20	200

1	273	C. Gilbert	0.1.25	200
2	273	H.M. Ingham	0.1.4	200
3	273	P. Dwyer	0.1.4	200
4	273	H.M. Ingham	0.3.25	200
5	200	D. Turner	0.1.0	200
6	200	D. Turner	0.1.0	200
7	200	C. Turner	0.1.0	200
8	200	N.M. Keenan	0.1.0	200
9	200	T.O. Carr	0.1.0	200
10	200	J. Murphy	0.1.0	200
11	200	R. Gaultidge	0.1.0	200
12	250	F. Dowling	0.1.20	250

1	273	J. Keegan	0.1.36	200
2	273	W. Lillard	0.1.36	200
3	273	H.W. Smith	0.2.1	200
4	273	J.G. Wilson	0.2.7	200
5	273	W. Murdoch	0.1.36	200
6	273	W. Murdoch	0.1.25	200
7	273	W. Murdoch	0.1.14	200
8	200	A. Shields	0.1.28	200
9	200	C.R. Roberts	1.1.31	200

1	200	J. Green	0.2.0	200
2	200	J. Robinson	0.1.0	200
3	200	C. Pearce	0.1.0	200
4	200	B. Kellner	0.1.0	200
5	200	R. Bar	0.1.23	200
6	200	J. Murphy	0.1.20	200
7	200	J. Murphy	0.1.18	200
8	200	R. Barrell	0.1.15	200
9	200	J. Murphy	0.1.8	200
10	200	J. Murphy	0.1.8	200

1	250	C. Pearce	0.1.20	250
2	250	J. Robinson	0.1.0	250
3	250	C. Pearce	0.1.0	250
4	250	B. Kellner	0.1.0	250
5	250	R. Barrell	0.1.0	250
6	250	J. Murphy	0.1.0	250
7	250	E. Turner	0.1.0	250
8	250	E. Turner	0.1.0	250
9	250	T.R. Kane	0.1.0	250
10	250	T.R. Kane	0.1.20	250

1	250	J. Vincent	0.1.33	250
2	250	J. More	0.1.33	250
3	250	J. More	0.1.33	250
4	250	T.R. Kane	0.1.33	250
5	250	M.J. Hoyle	0.1.33	250
6	250	J. Patterson	0.1.21	250
7	250	D. Donaldson	0.1.21	250
8	250	H. Muir	0.1.21	250
9	250	H. Muir	0.1.21	250

1	433	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	433
2	433	STATE SCH. 1000	DL EXT.	0.2.14	433
3	433	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	433
4	433	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	433

1	437	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	437
2	437	STATE SCH. 1000	DL EXT.	0.2.14	437
3	437	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	437
4	437	STATE SCH. 1000	RESERVE	0.2.14	437