

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

FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING:

1. It was decided to proceed with plans for an audio-visual display to be mounted during the Bicentennial celebrations next year. This will possibly take the form of a series of slides taken from original photographs, set in a magazine projector, and co-ordinated with a recorded commentary. Along with this would be a display of photographs, maps and items of historical interest and significance. Any suggestions for the development of this project will be most welcome.

2. In response to a request from the Latrobe Valley Regional Library for sponsorship of the microfilming of the Morwell Advertiser, it was decided to donate \$110 to cover the cost of filming one year's editions of the paper.

3. It was resolved to press on with plans for incorporation of the Society. As this is a rather complicated process, we hope to have a guest speaker at our November meeting to explain what is involved.

4. ~~There was discussion of the possibility of marking the site of Billy Hillier's grave. (see August newsletter). It was resolved to try to find out more details of Billy's death, if possible, before proceeding.~~
Can you help?

5. In response to a request from the Morwell Shire Bicentennial Committee for suggestions for material to be included in a time capsule, to be buried at the Bicentennial opening ceremony next year, the following list was compiled.

- a) a copy of "Steamhorse to Power" and "A Souvenir History of Morwell" - to cover the first 200 years.
- b) a copy of the 1987 Shire voters' roll.
- c) a copy of the Shire's community services directory.
- d) copies of the "Express".

PAGE 4: PLEASE
NOTE.....

WE HAVE NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD.....

MORWELL ADVERTISER,
OCTOBER 1970


COLES NEW WORLD SUPERMARKETS



15oz.
CHICKEN
VELVET
STOCKPOT
VEGETABLE
CHICKEN and VEG
10c



NEW 3 PINT SIZE
THREE PINT SIZE
42c



NEW MOISTURISING
LUX
TWIN PACK BATH SIZE
19c
OR LIFEBOUY



2 VAR.
12oz.
LIMIT 2
35c



ASSORTED VARIETIES
CAKE MIX
GOLD CREST
CAKE MIX
LIMIT 2
15c



CORDIAL
26fl.oz.
ASST'D.
25c



CLOCK BRAND
14oz. MILK
FULL CREAM SWEETENED CONDENSED
20c



TWIN PACK
Sorbent
TOILET ROLLS
31c



JELLYMEAT
Whiskas
FOR CATS
CALCIUM ENRICHED
NET 7 OZ.
7oz. CAN
13c



LIMIT 2
Scotties
TISSUES
200s
39c



LIMIT 2
REXONA talcum powder
PEARS Baby Powder
FAM. SIZE
25c

VARIETY DEPT. SPECIALS

- PANTY HOSE** LATEST FASHION SHADES SIZES A.B.C. **39c**
- GARBAGE BINS** 8 GAL. RED or GREEN **\$1.50**
- PLASTIC BUCKETS** ASSORTED COLOURS **35c**
- JUNIOR COOLERS** IDEAL FOR SUMMER **75c**



PAL
meat for dogs
NET 14 1/4 OZ.
LIMIT TWO CANS
16c

LARGEST RANGE, LOWEST PRICES, BEST QUALITY

cont'd from Page 1...

- e) clubs, businesses, institutions etc could be invited to submit a summary (say, two sides of an A4 sheet, typed) of their activities. This would include schools, sporting clubs, service clubs support groups - in fact any organisation which would like to set down a record of its aims and activities. These reports could then be combined in a loose-leaf format for inclusion in the capsule.
- f) the Bicentennial Committee could approach a local writer and/or historian to write an overview of the state of the Shire as at the end of 1987, ie. -population, number and ethnic background - main industries - land use - services - recreation - schools, including changes involving Kurnai College - local government, including changes to the ridings.
- g) aerial photos of the Shire.
- h) maps of the Shire'.

This is by no means an exhaustive list - further suggestions will be welcome.

Supermarket site steeped in history

The site in George-st., Morwell, upon which G. J. Coles & Coy. Limited's New World supermarket now stands is steeped in local history.

It transpires that a Mr James Robinson carried out the first land survey of Maryvale (as Morwell was once known) in October 1878. At the subsequent sale of land blocks, three settlers, Edmond Kelliher, Timothy O'Connor and Edward Crinigan bought three adjoining blocks on Section Five of the survey as the site for a Catholic Church.

The site, in what is now George-st., had a total frontage of 300 feet with a depth of 250 feet, and was purchased at a total cost of \$12 — \$4 each allotment.

The church was subsequently built, and in 1883 the Sacred Heart Church School erected.

However, in 1907 the Church was re-located to a new site in Commercial-rd., and the George-st. property became the local saleyards.

Then for many years the land remained vacant until it was acquired by Coles in 1969. A shopping centre, of which Coles' New World supermarket is the major store, was developed on the site this year by Hanover Holdings Limited.

MORWELL ADVERTISER

OCTOBER 1970

DO YOU KEEP A DIARY?

"Oh," I hear you say, "my day-to-day activities aren't interesting enough to be worth writing down."

Almost certainly young teacher, Anne Browne, writing down the day-to-day activities of her life at Budgerie, had no inkling that, seventy years later, her diary would be of absorbing interest as a record of a lifestyle very different from ours. Everyday events like these:

"Another misty day - just seven at school - some good lessons to all in arithmetic - otherwise filling in time at gardening and knitting....had a race with the kids coming home"

and

"Helped milk, went to O'Grady's for flowers, decorated hall in afternoon. Jim came down with a load of paling. We all went to the ball, which the rain slightly spoiled. Myra and I sat out and talked on the steps of the hall.".....

were commonplace to her, but they give us a valuable insight into the lives of the hill farmers in the early days.

Similarly, such entries in a 1987 diary as:

"Kids had dental appointment today - John needed three filling" or
 "Took car to be serviced - new set of plugs - one brake pad worn" may be of great interest in an age when dental caries is a thing of the past, and the internal combustion engine is no longer the main means of propulsion.

With the Bicentenary almost upon us, there is a growing interest in preserving a record of life in the eighties for future generations, and there has never been a greater variety of means for recording history.

Film, microfiche, computer disc, audio and video cassette will no doubt be used to document events taking place in 1988, but a personal diary, recording your own opinions, activities, hopes and fears, will be of much greater interest to your descendents because it is just that - personal.

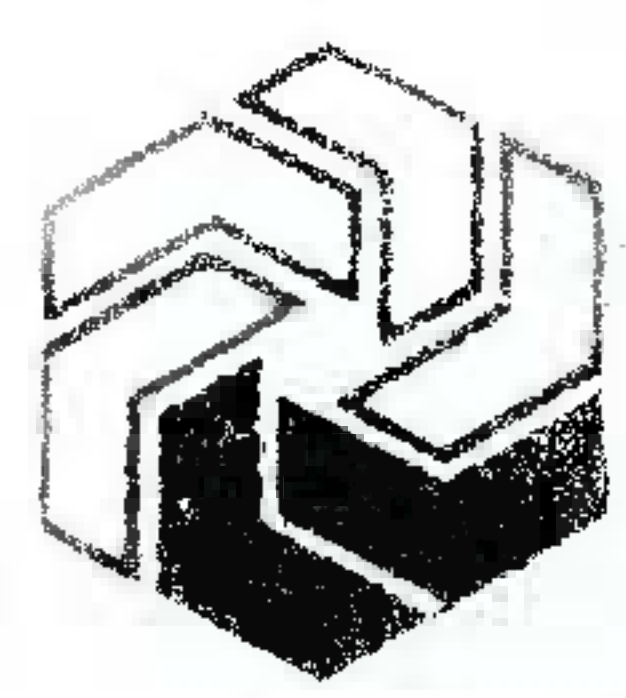
There are various Bicentennial diaries, many of them beautifully bound and illustrated, available for purchase, but a loose-leaf folder is possibly better (and certainly cheaper) because you can take as much room as you choose for each entry and, if you wish, insert photos, newspaper cuttings, etc. It is probably wise to use ink, rather than biro, which tends to fade with the years.

Another record which you might consider keeping is a family diary, which records the main events in a family's life each year. Perhaps you could start with the year you were born, or the year you were married, and record such things as building or buying a house, birth of children, purchase of a new car, childrens achievements at school and sport, Dad's election as president of a service club, Mum's graduation from computer class, weddings, funerals, family gatherings etc.

As historians, we should all be doing our bit to record such information. After all, today's news is tomorrow's history. So.....how about it?

MONETARY MATTERS - SOLUTION

	£	s	d
1. Boy's name...Bob	-	1	-
2. Girl's name...Penny	-	-	1
3. Old mode of transport...Penny-farthing	-	-	11/4
4. Ailing sea creature...sick squid	6	-	-
5. Sun, moon, Mars,...three far things	-	-	- 3/4
6. Weight...pound	1	-	-
7. Type of pig...Guinea	1	1	-
8. Male singer...tenor	10	-	-
	<hr/>		
	£ 18	- 2	- 3
	<hr/>		



LATROBE VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY

P.O. Box 815, Morwell 3840

On Thursday 22nd October, 1987

AN INVITATION is extended to

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

to attend the launching of the

~~"Morwell Advertiser" (1886-1967)~~

microfilming project to be held at

Morwell Branch Library 7 to 8 pm.

With the Compliments of the

Regional Librarian: 10 Hazelwood Road, Morwell. Phone: (051) 34 7588

* If you need transport, contact Lou Bond- 34 304i.

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

TRARALGON LIBRARY

7.30 p.m.

Members and other interested people are invited to view the microfilm of the Morwell "Advertiser". This will provide the chance to be part of a small group and, if you don't see enough on Tuesday, you have a second chance at the official launching in Morwell on Thursday.

STOP PRESS -
NEXT MEETING NOT
AT COLLINS STREET AS
ADVERTISED IN EXPRESS

WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN?

The following quotations come from "Steamhorse to Power" and are used here by kind permission of the author, Prue McGoldrick, who is also one of our members.

1. The "Advertiser", May 7, 1897:

"At last we have a genuine exhibition of Edison's latest invention - the
- which will take place in the Mechanic's Hall, Friday evening, May 14. It has just concluded a brilliant season of three months in Melbourne. The programme includes: Thirty life-size pictures, including scenes of New York; a rough sea off the English coast, the lightning sketcher drawing a portrait of the Queen and the great tableau - A Trip to China Town."

Was this invention - the magic lantern
- the cinematographe
- the 35mm movie projector

2. the "Advertiser" 1928:

"D.C.Mills and Co's Universal Emporium ...is conducted on up-to-date lines. For the convenience of staff and customers and to facilitate dispatch of business, Sampson's Rapid RailwayCarrying System has been installed at considerable cost. Three "stations" have been erected within the Emporium and(is/are) speedily conveyed by the electric railway from various points."

What was conveyed on the "railway"? - people
- goods
- money.

3."The room is well ventilated, as the upper part of the back wall consists of a kind of trellis work through which the rain pours in wet weather and the sun shines fiercely in hot weather."

~~These words were said, in 1879, of - Morwell Post Office~~

~~-Commercial Rd. school~~

~~-St. Mary's Church of England~~

4.Morwell "Gazette" 1886:

"On Saturday next an exhibition of will be held on the farm of Mr. Leon Wuttrich, Hazelwood North. Seventy gallons of milk are treated in an hour. With such an article....dairying is becoming quite a pleasant occupation, nothing now being wanting except a machine to drive in the cows and milk them."

Was the article - Rintoull's patent butter churn
- de Laval's cream separator
- Rossini's cheese maker?

WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN? cont.

5. Among the railway workers at Morwell was Tom He came to Morwell before the main line was built. He was well known as a stock rider and bullock driver on all the cattle stations for miles around. He was a strong, thick-set man who could load more railway sleepers onto a wagon, than any two men, in the same time. Llew Vary (1879 - 1947) wrote this of Tom.....

"On one occasion he had his leg broken while he was working alone in the bush. He crawled to his horse, managed to climb on its back, and then, supporting his broken leg with the stirrup strap, rode several miles home.

He had never learnt to write, but some Good Samaritan taught him to sign his name. He just made two down strokes with two horizontal strokes across the top of them, and he had two printed capital T's. Then he added six noughts, putting a stroke down on the third and a stroke up on the last to complete his name."

What was Tom's surname?.....

6. Morwell "Advertiser":

"Mr. Vary's residence at Driffield, the properties of Messrs Regan and Jensen and Mr. McMillan's residence at Hazelwood were all saved by the help of volunteer fighters from Morwell. Miraculously, Morwell itself has survived practically unscathed but not so Yinnar, Boolarra, Mirboo and many other places. Even the corduroy on the roads has been burnt.

The Mirboo train on Wednesday between Boolarra and Darlimurla travelled through dense, blinding, suffocating smoke and occasionally through actual flames."

Were these fires in - 1854

- 1898

- 1944 ?

7. Even today, silver-haired men speak with excitement of the flimsy monoplane....

which materialised over the town and actually landed on the makeshift runway between White and Wilson streets. In the absence of a wind sock a straw-heaped fire produced sufficient smoke to show the wind direction.

Who flew the plane? - Ross Smith

-Kingsford-Smith

-John Flynn

(1)
TRANSPORT TRIVIA - ANSWERS.

Before 1865, horses were the main means of transport in Gippsland. A coach service ran from Sale to Port Albert and steamers such as the "Keera", "Ant" and "Charles Edward", plied between there and Melbourne, the complete trip taking 30 hours.

In 1865, Hewitt & Co. introduced a coach service between Sale and Melbourne, taking 36 hours. Later that year, Hewitts combined with Cobb & Co., whose coaches became famous in Gippsland, as elsewhere in the state.

In 1863, a telegraph line from Melbourne to Sale had been commenced and, where trees interfered with the line, the contractor felled them - right across the track. An irate Gippslander wrote to the "Gippsland Times" on 4/12/1863:

"There is no provision made for the removal of this timber - as they fall so shall they lie, right across our only road, and completely put a stop to all traffic between Gippsland and Melbourne."

Later that year the road was re-opened and the contractor instructed to keep it clear. However, the roads were still appalling and coaches were often forced to leave the track to find their way around fallen trees and through mud. A particularly notorious section of the road, between Moe and Bunyip, was known as the "Gluepot".

With the coming of the railway (1877-1879) it was possible to travel from Sale to Melbourne in six hours and the infant settlement of Morwell came into its own. The coaches had travelled through Morwell Bridge but locomotives, being unable to pull heavy loads uphill from a standing start, needed a station built on a rise, and Morwell was on higher ground than Morwell Bridge.

After the railway came motor transport. Les Hare came to the area to work for Morwell's first carrier, George Billingsley, In 1910 he set up his own carrying business and was the first to run a motor taxi service in Morwell. He also ran the first garage in the town.

By the 1930's cars were becoming more common. The advertisement in last month's trivia section was for an Austin Seven sedan.

Petrol rationing in the 1940's caused problems - civilians could only get enough petrol to run a car for about 25km. a week. Some motorists resorted to charcoal-burning gas producers to get extra mileage, but these were not very successful,

Since 1960, with the building of the L.V. Airfield, between Traralgon and Morwell, air links with Melbourne have been established but private cars are still the preferred means of transport for most Gippslanders.

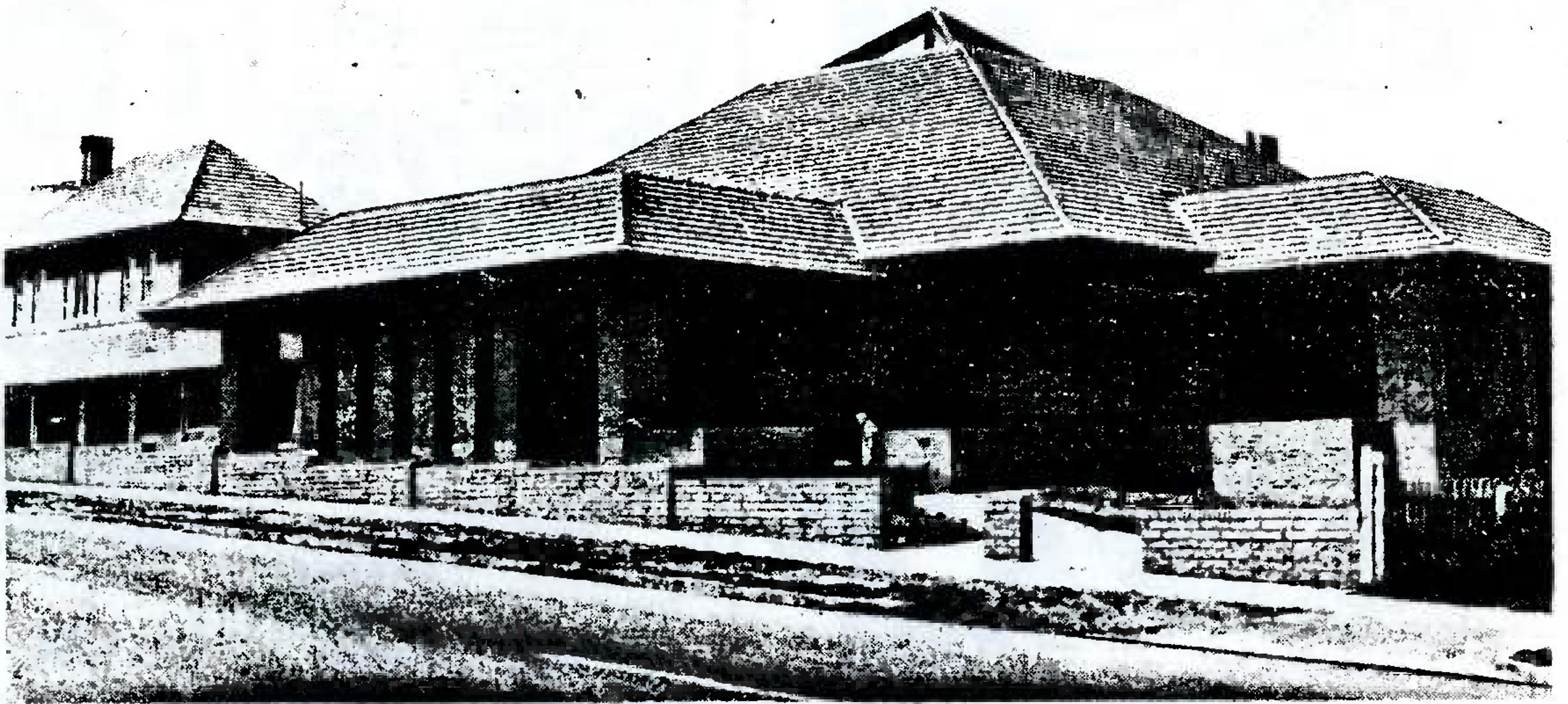
What's in a name? Fill the gaps with the names of present and past citizens of Morwell to complete this fanciful tale.

His name was _____ but they called him Jim. He rode through the street past the Town _____ until he came to the _____. There was a _____ between him and his horse so that no touch on the _____ was needed to guide them through the _____ of _____. scuttled through the _____ grass from its burrow beneath a _____. He could see a _____ tending his sheep. He wished he too could be a _____ instead of a _____ in the open cut. The desire to have _____ job used to _____ him but he remembered the voice of _____ " _____ your anger," was what Mac used to say. So after that, Jim's ability not to be _____ stronger. Now it was dark and by the light of the _____ rode back home. He changed into his _____ made clothes and went to meet his lady love and to _____ in the moonlight.

You'll find the names among these listed below but not all of these are used, of course.

Billington, Wood, Taylor, Zanin, Green, McRoberts, Bush, Coleman, Williams. Bond, Hammond, McMaster, Townsend, Hall, Cafiso, Hare, Gordon, Rodgers, Daly, Pettigrew, Rae, Maddern, Conrow, Tibballs, Jones, Mooney, Shepherd, Auchterlonie, Bridle, Billingsley, Walker, Godridge, James.

NEW RC church - Anglican choir



The choir of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Morwell, will sing at the Blessing of the new Catholic Church, Morwell (above) on Sunday.

DATE ??

The first Catholic choir will be the parish choir at the first Mass in the new church at 6 pm next Tuesday.

Sunday's opening and Blessing will be by the Bishop of Sale, the Most Rev. Arthur Fox.

He arrived back last week-end from delivering the 10-yearly report that all bishops make to the Pope.

Bishop Fox was away for four months.

The opening ceremony and associated speeches take 1 1/2 hours.

During the 12 months that the church has been under construction Mass has been celebrated in the nearby parish school.

The new building has been built on the site of the previous church.

The building cost \$109,000, and is the parish's third church.

It was needed because the previous building was too small and becoming costly to repair, the Rev Fr Noel Daly, parish priest, said yesterday.

The previous church accommodated 230. 620 can fit in the new building.

Fr Daly said the same frequency of Masses would be maintained - four on Sunday with a fifth at Yinnar or Boolarra on alternate Sundays.

On days other than Sunday, morning Mass will be offered in a chapel off the main church.

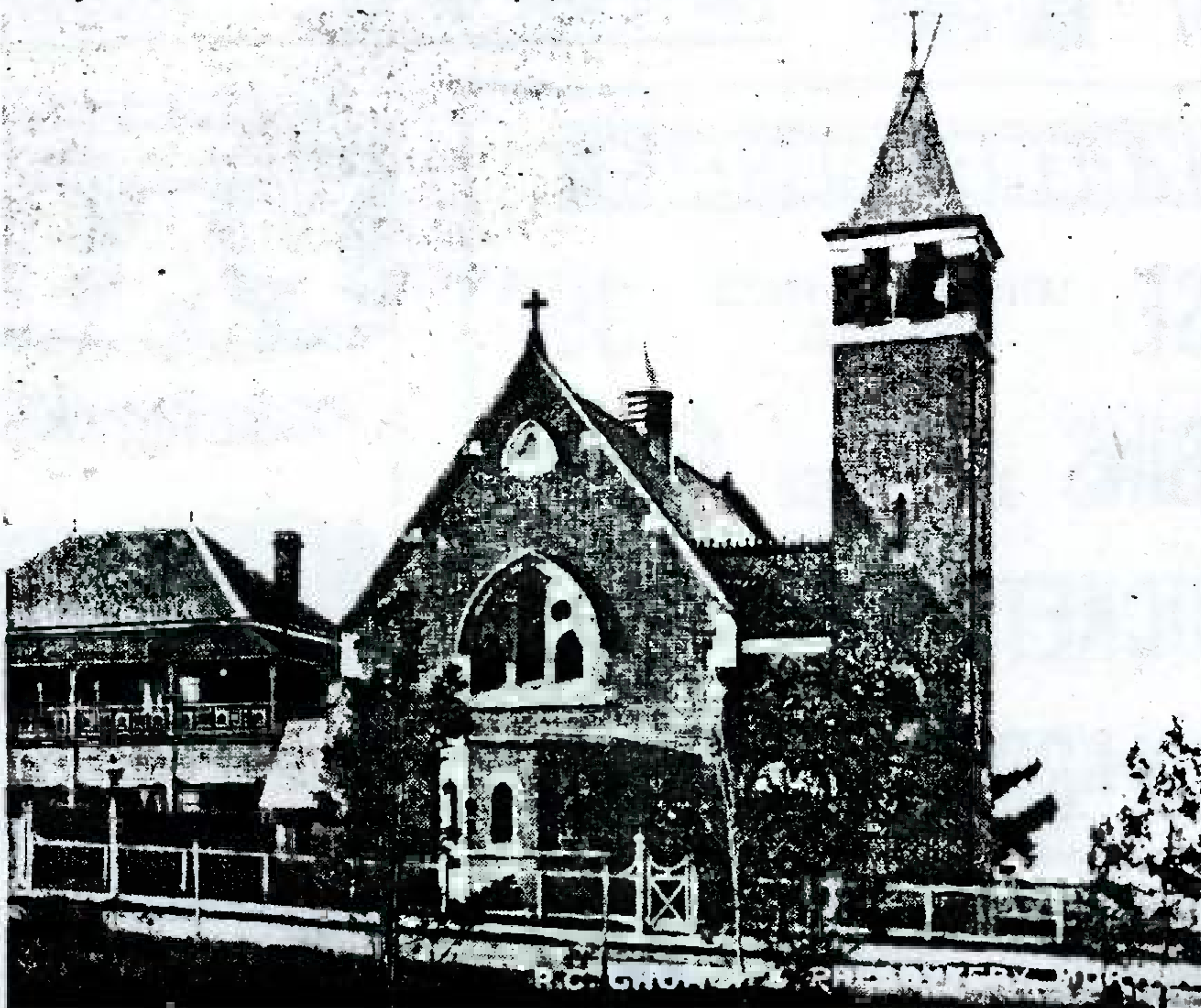
The chapel can accommodate 50.

It will have a big picture of Our Lady, donated by the Polish community. There is also a \$1,000 stained glass window, provided by Italians in the parish's 850 families.

Dutch people have donated one of the 14 Stations of The Cross. The remainder have been provided by families.

Many former parishioners are returning. There will be a barbecue for them in the church grounds on Saturday night.

To mark the occasion booklet of parish history has been written by police inspector C. J. Crowe, of



This previous church was in 1920