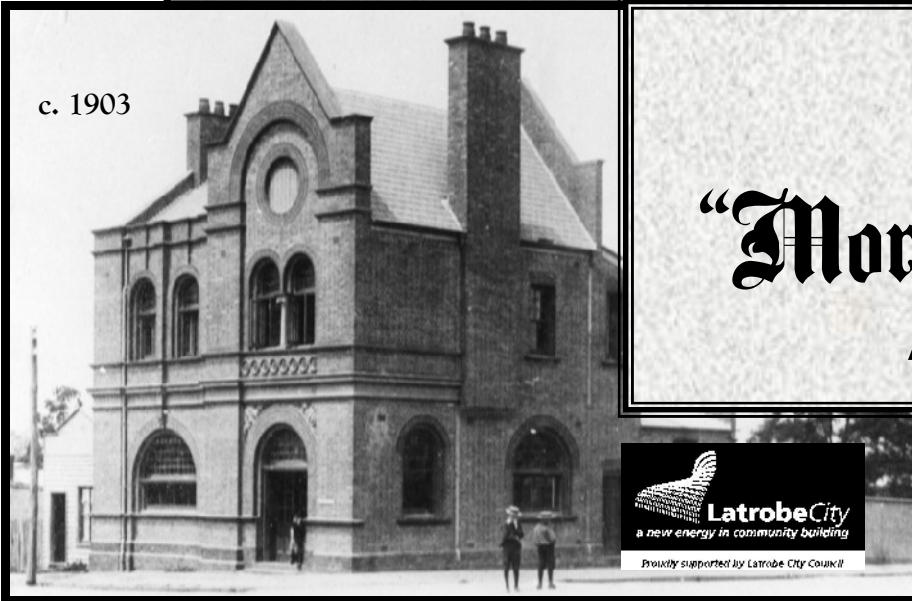


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

Website: www.LVonline.com.au/morwellhistoricalsociety.htm

c. 1903



The

AOO 16986 W

“Morwell Post”

April 2004

Vol. 21 No.2

Secretary: Elsie McMaster
2 Harold Street Morwell
Tel: 5134 1149

Published every two months

Compiled by: Stephen Hellings

HERITAGE WALKS

On **SATURDAY, APRIL 17**, join us on a walk through historic **HAZELWOOD CEMETERY**- last resting place of many of our pioneers, bushfire victims, war heroes, and, of course, ‘ordinary’ people like us.

Meet at the Cemetery Gates at 1.30pm.

Leader: Claire Wood

And on **SUNDAY, APRIL 18**, walk with us through **MORWELL'S C.B.D.** - learn about Morwell township's beginnings and how it has changed over the years.

Meet at Commercial Rd. School car park (on Commercial Road) at 1.00pm.

Leader: Stephen Hellings.

(After the completion of this walk, you are invited to join us at our rooms in Church St. for afternoon tea.)

OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

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

President: Leonie Pryde

Vice-President: Alan Davey

Secretary: Elsie McMaster

Treasurer: Alan Davey

Asst. Treasurer: Rosalie Davey

Curator: Bruce McMaster **Newsletter Editor:** Stephen Hellings

Committee Members:

Joyce Cleary, Dot Bartlett, Muriel Feehan, Stephen Hellings, Kym Tunbridge

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

At the annual meeting it was reluctantly decided to raise the annual membership fee to **\$17 per year for single membership and \$20 per year for a couple or family.**

(These amounts barely cover the cost of personal and public liability insurance, affiliation fees with RHSV, and newsletter production.)

BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

‘Changing Landscapes - A History of Settlement and Land Use at Driffield’ by Linda Kennett and Meredith Fletcher. **Cost \$15.** Available from our rooms in Church St or contact Elsie McMaster-51341149
We also have a limited number of sets of the **History of Morwell High School** by I.T.Maddern, published as school magazines over the years 1965 to 1971.

These are being made available first to our members, at a cost of **\$10 for the**

seven-magazine set. Any sets not sold by the end of May will be offered to the general public.

There are also a number **broken sets.** The magazines from these will be sold separately at a cost of **\$2 each.**

Enquiries about specific years available should be directed to Elsie McMaster.

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

25th March 1948

Bush Fires Near Morwell



One house was destroyed and fencing and grass lands were burnt when a fire swept through a large area at Morwell North last Thursday.

Farran's old homestead on Latrobe Road, was burnt to the ground and the occupants, Messrs Malcolm Gordon and Lyle Chatterton lost all their belongings. The fire burnt to the walls of the home of Mr. A. J. Coe and singed pens containing 300 fowls before passing on.

Morwell North State School was saved after the fire was halted in a gully on Mr. J. Baillie's property about a quarter of a mile away. The fire was finally stopped about a mile from the Mill.

Losses were suffered by Mr. Spen. Brinsmead, one and a quarter miles of fencing and about 50 acres of grass; Mr. J. Baillie, 56 chains of fencing damaged and 25-30 acres of grass; Mr. A. Coe, practically all fencing and Mr. J. Williamson, 100 acres of grass and some fencing.

Heavy deposits of coal dust made the task of finally extinguishing the flames a difficult one as in places the grass had been burnt out by the roots. Even a thorough soaking of areas with water failed to put out the flames for a considerable time.

The effectiveness of a tank and powerful pump mounted on a vehicle was well demonstrated on the property of Mr. J. Baillie, where Mr. Frank Farley was in charge of a truck and men from Yinnar Dairy Products.

Prompt action by members of the Morwell North and Morwell Bush Fire Brigades, A.P.M., Yinnar Dairying Products and volunteers, together with First-Constable Mason, resulted in many good saves.



Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

August 20th 1926

Masonic Service



A very largely attended Masonic Service was held in the Mechanics' Hall, on Sunday afternoon last. In addition to members of Morwell Lodge, several members of the craft from Sale, Traralgon, Moe and other places were present, and also a large attendance of the general public.

The seating accommodation of the hall was taxed to such an extent that extra seats had to be procured. Wor. Bro. W. McGowan presided, and seated on his right, on platform were the Very Worshipful the Right Rev. G. H. Cranswick, D.D., Lord Bishop of Gippsland, Past Grand Chaplain, Rev. Bros. A. J. Smith, A. A. Lyons and J. A. Craigen.

During the service a soul-stirring address was delivered by the Bishop, and an anthem "King of Kings" rendered in a delightful manner by a united choir, under the conductorship of Bro. W. Craig.

A collection taken up in aid of the Gippsland Hospital amounted to £17.

The service was thoroughly enjoyed by the large assemblage.



The Foundation Stone for the Masonic Hall in Hazelwood Road was laid on 28th January 1927

*The following item appeared in the **Morwell Advertiser** edition dated:
Friday, 23rd. August 1901*

Shire of Morwell

ANNUAL ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS

At the Election of two councillors for the Shire of Morwell, held this day, the following are the votes recorded:

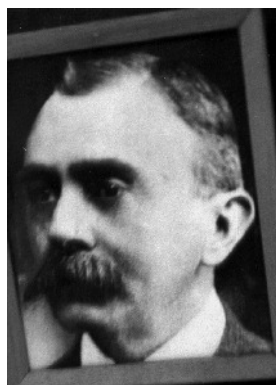
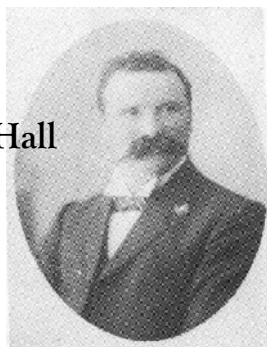
	Bolger	Hall	Macmillan
Morwell	134	343	260
Yinnar	77	39	45
Boolarra	45	75	59
Driffield	6	9	9
Middle Creek	27	17	20
Darlimurla	15	15	21
Totals	<hr/> 304	<hr/> 498	<hr/> 414

I therefore declare John Hall and Donald Macmillan, the candidates who have obtained the highest number of votes to be duly elected accordingly.

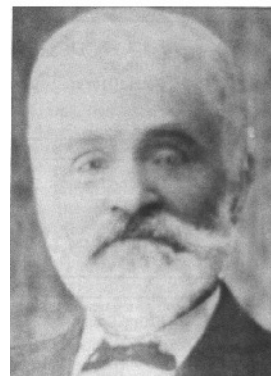
SAMUEL VARY,
Returning Officer

Shire Office, Morwell,
22nd August 1901

John Hall



Donald Macmillan



Samuel Vary

All photographs from M.H.S records

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

4th November 1948

Hero of Ambon



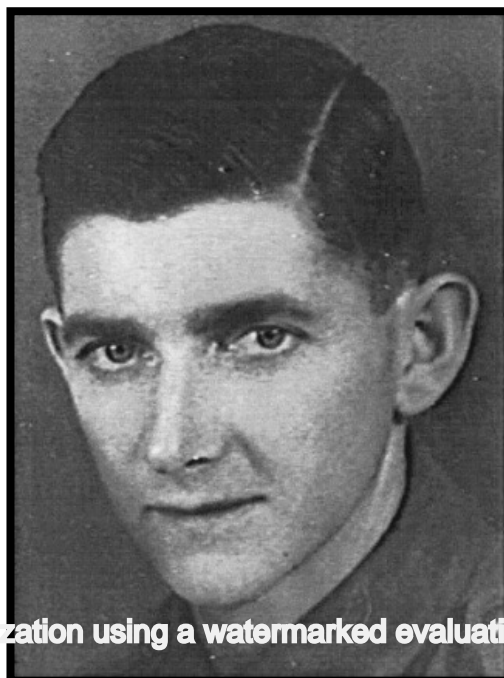
“DADS” SEEK RECOGNITION OF BRAVERY



RECENT broadcast references to the heroism of Driver W. Doolan, who died at his post in Ambon after accounting singlehanded for 300 Japanese, were mentioned at the meeting of the Morwell Dad's Association on Friday night last.

Speakers pointed out that, although some years had now elapsed since this gallant soldier was killed in an epic fight with the enemy and his valour had been recognized by an allied nation, Holland, with the award posthumously of its highest honour for bravery, as far as the Australian Army authorities were concerned, not only had no steps been taken to recognise his deeds, but the utmost reticence had been shown in connection with the matter.

The branch made two decisions, by motion of Dads James and Bell, that the secretary endeavour to contact the source of the information used in the broadcasts with a view to ascertaining some further facts and also to ask Lieut. Col. G. H. Bowden, M.P., to take up this matter with the Army in an endeavor to secure more information from official records on which to press a claim for recognition of the bravery of this gallant soldier.



Driver W. Doolan

Photograph: Australian War Memorial web site.

The following article appeared in the **Morwell Advertiser** edition dated:
Monday, January 7th. 1957

Modern premises for E.S.A. bank

One of Morwell's most modern business premises - the newly-built E.S.&A. Bank in Church Street - opened for business on January 2. Mr. C. W. Birrell has been appointed manager.

Married with four children, Mr. Birrell was formerly manager of the bank's Moorabbin branch. He has been with the E.S.&A. for 33 years and has served in 14 different branches in Victoria and New South Wales.

Mr. Birrell takes an active interest in bowls, and is a keen follower of many sports.

STRONGROOM

An interesting architectural feature of the modern new structure at Morwell is the placing of the strong room, which has become an important element for both decorative and structural purposes.

Situated boldly at the front of the building, the strongroom is covered with Italian blue mosaic tiles providing a characteristic identification to the building.

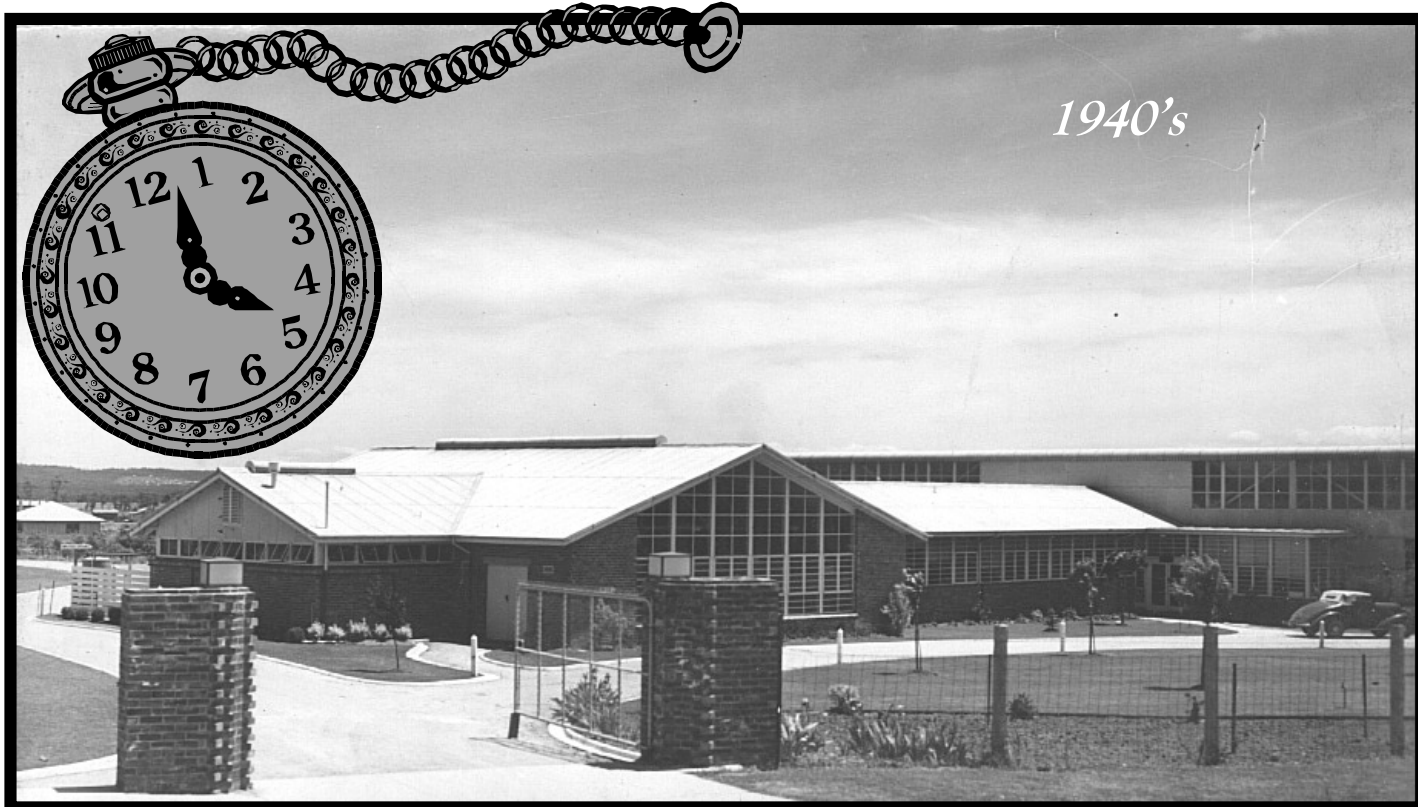
It also supports the cantilevered first floor which reaches out to the street boundary and presents to the Eastern aspect a sunscreen of long white horizontal louvres. This screen gives protection to the staff rooms on the first floor.

Inside the glass and aluminium entrance screen, the ceiling rises to a height of 20 ft., giving a feeling of height and spaciousness to the relatively narrow building. At the rear of the banking chamber, a tall clear-storey window floods the area with strong natural light, creating excellent conditions for staff.

Another modern trend is the gold anodized aluminium used on the fronts of the counters. Other materials used for fittings include highly polished natural coloured and stained silver ash. The manager's and accountant's offices have a floor-to-ceiling wall of glass, opening on to a gravelled court-yard.

Note: a section of "Gaztronomy" restaurant now occupies this building. The old bank vault is still in place. S. H.

“As Time Goes By”



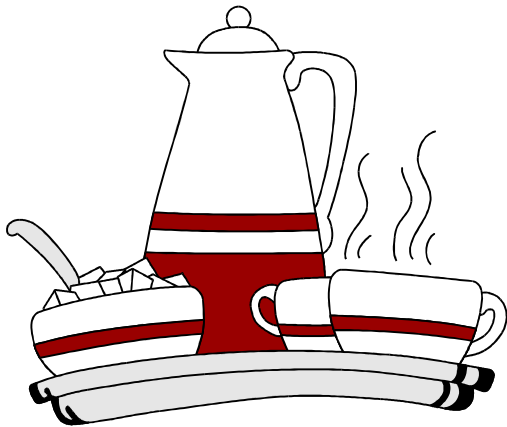
The Changing Face of Morwell (“La Mode” building Church Street)



Next Meeting:

*Tuesday 20th April 7.30
pm
21 Church Street*

All Welcome!



*Come along and have a
friendly chat.*

Quiz Time!

The answer to our last quiz:

*The Spanish flu epidemic struck
Morwell in 1919.*

Who am I?



*A little clue for you:
I was associated with Morwell in
the 1950's & 60's*

Morwell History On-Line

www.LVonline.com.au/morwellhistoricalsociety.htm

Sincere thanks to Ben and Mary for their continued support and assistance.

*Claassens Computers
Church Street
Morwell*

