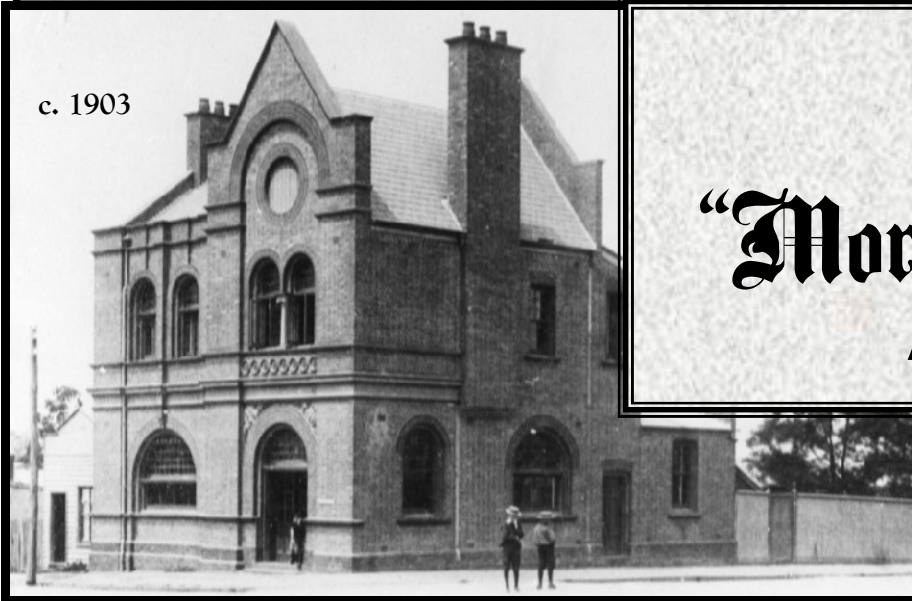


# Morwell Historical Society Inc.

Website: [www.LVonline.com.au/morwellhistoricalsociety.htm](http://www.LVonline.com.au/morwellhistoricalsociety.htm)

c. 1903



# The

AOO 16986 W

# “Morwell Post”

April 2006

Vol. 23 No.2

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

Compiled by: Stephen Hellings

Published every two months



Proudly supported by Latrobe City Council

## Annual General Meeting 2006

At the Annual General Meeting of Morwell Historical Society, held on **March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006**, the following office-bearers were elected.

**President:** Leonie Pryde

**Vice President:** Alan Davey

**Secretary:** Elsie McMaster

**Treasurer:** Alan Davey

**Archivist:** Bruce McMaster

**Systems Manager:** Kym

Tunbridge

**Newsletter Editor:** Stephen Hellings

**Executive Committee:** (In addition to President, Vice-President/Treasurer and Secretary) - Stephen Hellings, Allan Lawrence, Carole Smith.

**Acquisitions Committee:** (In addition to Archivist) - Joyce Cleary, Stephen Hellings, Kym Tunbridge.

**Dates and Times of Meetings** remain unchanged - **third Tuesday** of each month except December and January, **7.30 pm** at **21 Church Street Morwell**.



**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE:** They remain at **\$17.00** for Single Membership, and **\$20.00** per couple or family.



## President's Annual Report

The Society's membership numbers have remained at 52, but we were saddened at the passing of one of our staunchest members, Eric Lubcke, former President, who was responsible for a large part of our photographic collection and who contributed greatly to the Society's development in very many ways.

Our premises are still at 21 Church Street, Morwell and these are open to the public each Wednesday between 11am and 2pm., or by appointment.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, except December and January, at 7.30 pm.

Our annual dinner was held in October at Morwell Golf Club when guest speaker **John Murfett** gave us an overview of the history of the Morwell High School, (later part of Kurnai College), which closed in 2005.

During the past year, members have taken part in a number of activities, providing assistance with the "Making Tracks" railway exhibition in Traralgon, the Rose Festival in Morwell, and the Morwell High School reunion, assisting in plans for development of the Morwell Town Common and the erection of a memorial to Sir Stanley Savige, and providing guest speakers to several organisations.

Members have also provided information to a number of people researching their family history and to several organisations seeking help in writing their own histories.

Finally, I must thank all members who have worked so hard during the year to keep the Society operational, particularly:

- **Kym**, for the hours he spends on data entry and general record keeping.
- **Stephen**, for his excellent bi-monthly newsletter, for all his work on presenting our displays in such a professional manner, and for his compilations of photographs from our collection.
- **Bruce**, for all his work archiving and recording materials.
- **Ken**, for his work on data entry of much of our material.
- **Alan**, our Treasurer, and **Elsie** our Secretary.
- and last but not least all those members who are on the roster and who keep the rooms open and available to the general public.

**Leonie Pryde**  
President

# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

10<sup>th</sup>. August 1933

## PRESENTATION



TO MRS. HALL



St.Mary's Ladies Guild met at the residence of Mrs W. Young, in Tarwin Street, on Friday last.

In the absence of the President (Mrs Benn), the Rev. Benn opened the meeting.

There was a record attendance of members and after the business had been transacted, Mr. Benn said: I have been specially invited to-day and I am glad to come to perform a very pleasing task. During the 4½ years I have been here, Mrs Hall has been Secretary of the Ladies' Guild, and I believe years before that.

The faithful work which she did will have a splendid lasting effect and now that she has been forced, through failing health to give up the work she loved, the members have asked me to present to Mrs Hall this token of their esteem.

Mrs Harding, who was presiding, also spoke in warm terms of the valuable work done by Mrs Hall.

Rev. Benn then handed to Mrs Hall a black silk chubby umbrella.

Mrs Hall, who was taken quite by surprise, briefly acknowledged the gift.

Afternoon tea, provided by the members, was dispensed, and the happy function closed as it had begun, with prayer by the Rector.



# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

5<sup>th</sup>. September 1946

## New Driffield School

---

OFFICIALLY OPENED BY MR. JOHNS, M.L.A.

---

ON Friday last, the opening of the new Driffield school took place under ideal weather conditions.

Mr. G. Auchterlonie, as chairman of the school committee, welcomed Mr. J. A. Johns, M.L. A., Mr. O. C. Phillips, District Inspector, Cr. A. L. Hare and other visitors.

Cr. Hare congratulated the committee on having such an ideal building for educational purposes. He took the opportunity of informing the residents that two miles of their road was to be sealed during the coming summer, and, as Mr. Johns was present, he recommended they extract a promise from him for a further three miles to complete the work to the school.

Mr. Phillips, in a lengthy address, outlined what equipment would be necessary to make it equal to any rural school in the State.

Mr. L. Vary, as an old scholar, gave a very interesting talk on the early history of the old school. **Leonie Bond** then presented posies to Mrs. Johns, Mrs. Philips and Mrs. Hare.

Then followed the official opening by Mr. Johns, who referred to the excellent work done by the rural schools of the State.

Miss Vary, as the oldest scholar of the Driffield School, was first to enter the new building.

Sweets and oranges, kindly donated by Cr. Hare, were distributed among the children, whilst the visitors were given a splendid afternoon tea. A case of oranges was also donated by Mr. Caldwell and soft drinks by Mrs. Greg. Campbell.

---

# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

19<sup>th</sup>. January 1933

## OBITUARY

### DEATH OF MR DONALD MACMILLAN

A highly respected old pioneer of this district, in the person of Mr Donald Macmillan, eldest son of the late Mr John Macmillan, who was the first man to select land in this district, about 70 years ago, passed away at his late residence, East Malvern, on Sunday last, after a sudden heart attack.

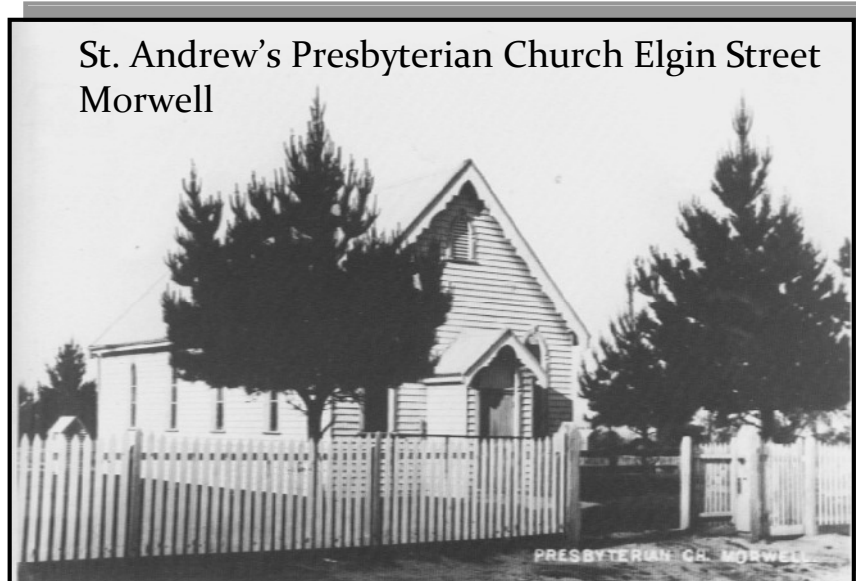
Deceased, who was 71 years of age, was a striking personality, being about 6ft. 4in in height. He was a member of the Morwell Shire Council for some years, and occupied the presidential chair on more than one occasion.

He was also an elder of the Morwell Presbyterian Church. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace and after leaving Morwell about 20 years ago, to reside in Melbourne, he frequently occupied a seat on the city Bench.

As a mark of respect for deceased, the flag at the Shire Hall, Morwell, was flown at half-mast on Tuesday.

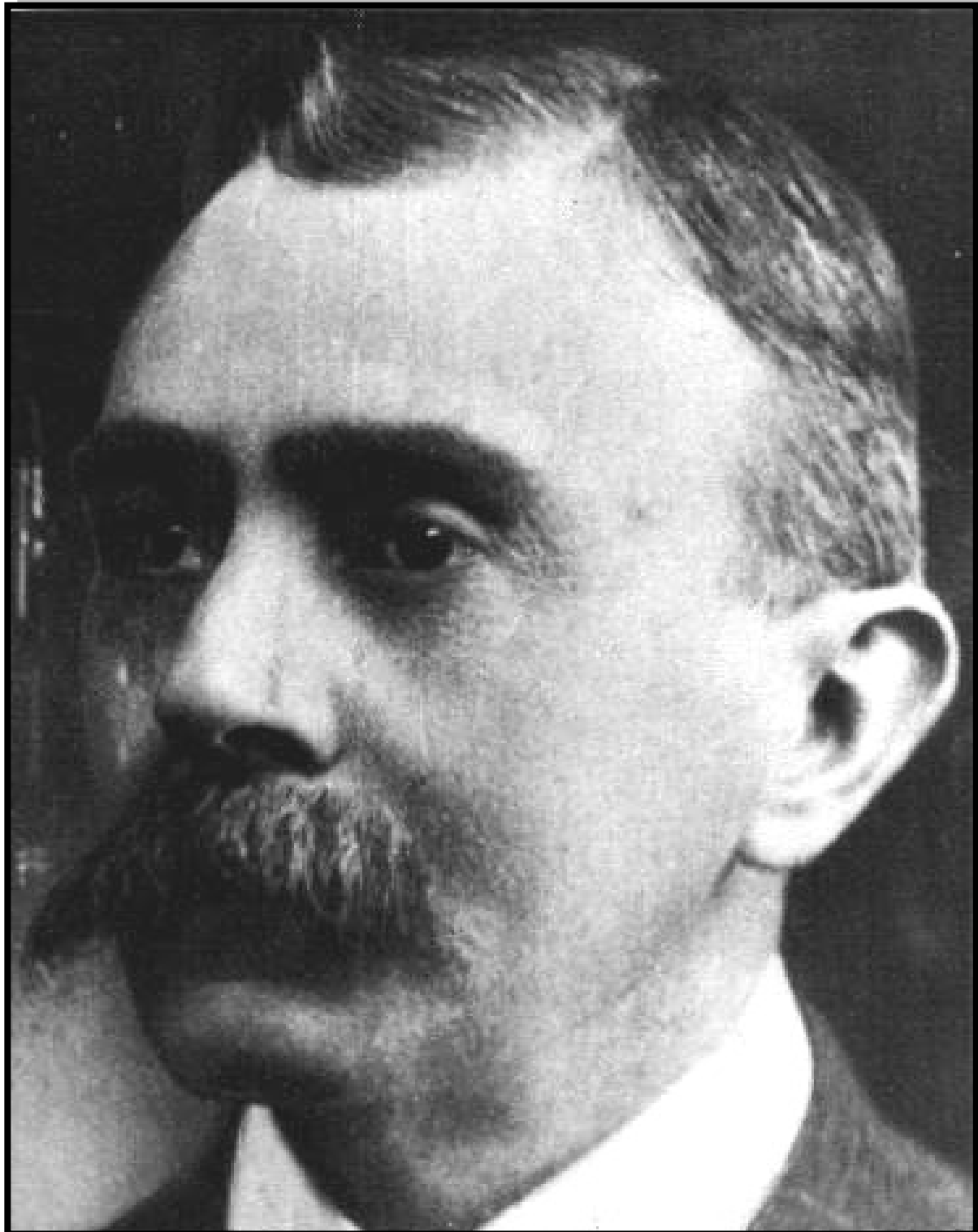
The remains of deceased were brought to Morwell and interred in the Hazelwood Cemetery on Tuesday last.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Elgin Street  
Morwell



Photograph: Historical Society archives

*From Our Gallery of  
Morwell Shire Presidents:*



**Cr. Donald Macmillan**  
1896-97, 1900-1901(part)

# Morwell Advertiser

5<sup>th</sup>. April 1907

## VALEDICTORY



### PRESENTATION TO MR. J. FLEWIN

Mr. J. Flewin, one of the pioneers of the district, who is about to take a trip to the Old Country in the S. S. Omrah, which sails on Tuesday next, was on Wednesday evening last, wished, prior to his departure, bon voyage, and made the recipient of two nice presents, by relatives and friends.

The gathering took place at Mr. Flewin's residence, and a very enjoyable time was spent.

Mr. D. Dunbar, in making a presentation on behalf of relatives, said Mr. Flewin had been in their midst for many years. Some of them had known him as a single young man, and they knew him now as a grandfather. Generations had sprung up, and the number of relations had greatly increased, and were likely to still further increase.

Some of them had shared with him the trials and difficulties experienced by the pioneers in the early days, before the Gippsland line was made. They had seen Morwell and other towns spring up, and had witnessed the district converted from a kangaroo run into smiling farms closely settled upon.

Even the dense and almost impenetrable forests that stretched away through Jeeraling and Jumbuk had become alive with a fine class of people, who had cleared the land and done wonders.

Mr. Flewin would be able to recount much to his friends in the Old Land that would no doubt greatly surprise them. It was, doubtless, gratifying to him that he was now enabled to visit the land of his birth, which he had left when a boy, and had not seen for fifty years.

They had met that evening to wish him a pleasant trip and God speed. They hoped he would have a real good time, and, above all, that he would have a safe return.

He had much pleasure in presenting him with a small token which he trusted would be found useful during the trip, and at the same time serve to remind him of those he had left behind.

Mr. J. Price, of Traralgon, said he also had a very pleasing duty to perform.

On behalf of a few friends he desired to present Mr. Flewin with a small present.

He had known Mr. Flewin for over thirty years, and during that time they had always been great "pals." He had found him at all times as upright and down-straight man, honest and straightforward, and a "jolly good fellow." It was only natural that after an absence of over fifty years that he should like to return to see the land of his birth. He would, no doubt, find things greatly changed there, and not feel quite "at home."

He, however, hoped he would have a pleasant and safe voyage, and return benefited by the trip. Mr. Price recounted some of his experiences in the colonies, over fifty years ago, and concluded by asking Mr. Flewin to accept the present.

"For he is a jolly good Fellow" was sung, followed by three cheers.

Mr. Flewin, in responding, said he was no hand at making a speech. He sincerely thanked them for the presents and kind wishes. He had a longing to see the Old Country again, and although he was unable to say anything just now, he was sure he would be able to pitch them a long yarn on his return.

Sumptuous refreshments were dispensed, dancing and games indulged in, and during the evening songs were nicely rendered by Messrs Owen, J. Flewin, senr., J. Flewin, jnr., R. Hentschel, the Misses Hentschel, and others.

Things were kept merrily going till the "wee small hours," when the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought the proceedings to a close.

-----



# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

22<sup>nd</sup>. July 1921

## TREE PLANTING STUNT



The movement initiated by the local Progress Association, to plant trees along main roads approaching the town, resulted in some practical work being carried out yesterday, on that portion of Prince's Highway, recently made through Davey's paddock. The effort was quite a united one, as the school children and residents of the town generally, joined forces with members of Progress Association, in the tree planting stunt.

The ladies also provided refreshments which were highly appreciated by non-workers as well as by those who toiled. The working "bee" was almost a hive and although there were a few drones and a lot of queens, there were a number of very energetic bees and during the afternoon thirty trees -elms and oaks- were planted alternately, and tree guards erected around same.

During the afternoon Mr. L. Vary, (President of Progress Association), expressed his pleasure at seeing so many present, and thanked the workers, and especially the ladies who had charge of the refreshments.

Mr. Southern (vice-president) also spoke.

After which cheers were given for the ladies followed by the singing of "For They are Jolly Good Fellows."

It is to be hoped that there will be further tree planting stunts in the near future as the idea no doubt is a most commendable one.



# Morwell Advertiser

11<sup>th</sup> July 1960

## Our Newest Bank Opens Tomorrow

**THE handsome, contemporary – style sub-branch of the State Savings Bank at the corner of Church and Buckley Streets in Morwell, will open tomorrow.**

The new office is attached to the established Morwell branch, and will be conducted by Mr. J. B. Matthews under the direction of the Morwell manager, Mr. T. J. Davis.

The State Savings Bank will now be offering full savings and cheque account facilities on both sides of the railway line.

### NO LONGER “FORBIDDING”

The new building designed by the bank's own Architects' Department, is a fine example of the modern trend towards a “friendly” style of architecture, quite different from the rather forbidding appearance of banks in the past.

The very large window areas, occupying almost the whole of the north and west walls of the banking chamber, are framed in aluminium.

At present the series of panels above the windows are of painted timber, in colours similar to those of the special armour-plate glass that has been ordered from Europe. On its arrival the glass will be installed in place of the timber panels.

### FRIENDLY CONTACT

The fittings in the banking chamber are of the modern low-level style that encourages friendly contact between public and staff.

The colour scheme chosen for the walls and floor coverings is in soft shades of green, cream and driftwood and is designed to create an effect of coolness and shade during the hot summer months.

The building is at present a ground floor construction but is capable of taking another storey.

---

# Morwell Advertiser

28<sup>th</sup>. February 1963

## CROWDS RUSH TO CROFTS OPENING

**“Tremendous”** – described the opening of Morwell’s latest shopping addition – Crofts Self Service in Commercial Road yesterday.

The combined food and grocery store is situated in the “all under one roof” departmental store of Michael Guss Pty. Ltd.

Shoppers streamed through the check-outs at Crofts yesterday – and Wednesday is normally a comparatively quiet shopping day – to take advantage of the special shopping bargains.

The Sales Manager of Crofts, Mr. E. J. Hill, said he was amazed at the response by local shoppers. He did not expect such a rush until later, but Morwell shoppers had apparently shown their keenness at the first opportunity.

The store was equally busy throughout this morning and the staff is preparing for what could be their biggest day next Saturday.

### EMPLOY ALL LOCAL STAFF

The aim of Crofts is to employ 100 per cent. local staff and at the moment two girls from Melbourne and senior staff are handling the running of the store until local staff can be recruited and trained sufficiently to allow the Melbourne personnel to return to the city.

Comprising over 6500 square feet of floor space the Morwell branch of Crofts is the largest in size of all the 93 Crofts stores now established throughout Victoria.

As a service to its customers, Crofts has arranged for parcels and goods purchased to be carried to the shopper’s car or bus stop by members of its staff.

---

## Next Meeting:

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April.**

21 Church Street.

Commencing at 7.30 pm.



He's not going to beat me this time!



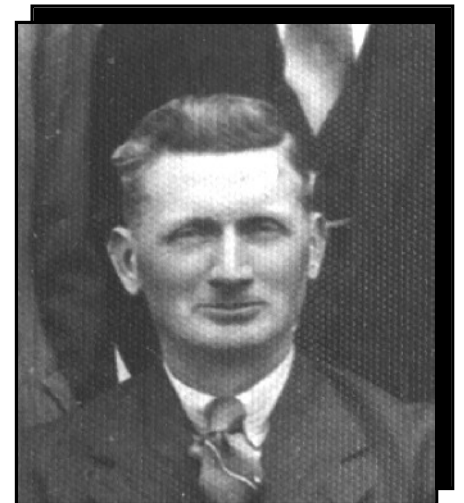
## Quiz Corner

The answer to the poser published in February was:

1921 (6<sup>th</sup> June)

Your question for this issue is:

Who am I?



I had a lot to do with the Town Hall being located on O'Rourke's Corner.

Our Internet Address is now:

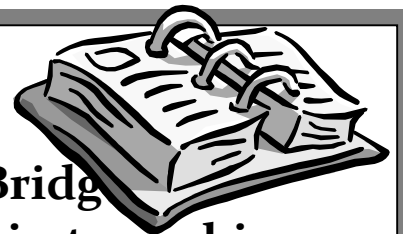
[www.latrobecityonline.com](http://www.latrobecityonline.com)

*Our thanks to Ben and Mary for their continued support and technical advice*

**Claassens Computers**



### It Happened in April:



1. 1879: First train from Melbourne (Princes' Bridge)
2. 1879: Opening of first primary school (2136) in township area
3. 1879: Hazelwood Cemetery established
4. 1879: Marriage of John Rintoull and Zenna McCrory
5. 1929: Morwell butter factory destroyed by fire