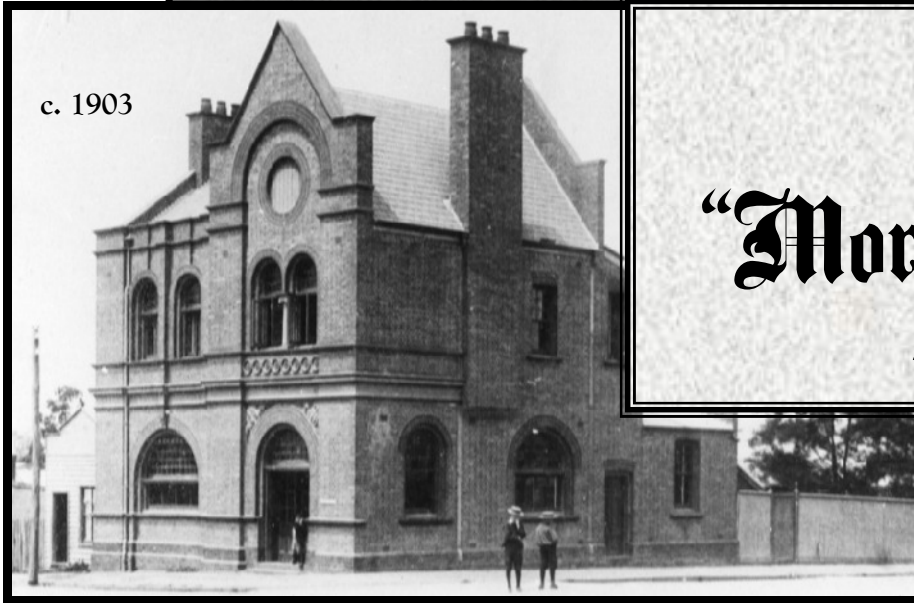


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.latrobeonline.com



c. 1903

The

AOO 16986 W

“Morwell Post”

April 2007

Vol. 24 No.2

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

Compiled by: Stephen Hellings

Published every two months: February to
December



Proudly supported by Latrobe City Council

G.A.A.H.S. MEETING

At the meeting of the Gippsland Association of Affiliated Historical Societies (GAAHS), to be held at Stratford on May 5th, one of the items for discussion is the possibility of the establishment of a Regional Archive in Gippsland. The state government has recently provided a substantial grant for the establishment of such an archive in the Bendigo district.

A Gippsland archive would provide much easier public access to the many records pertaining to Gippsland, which are at present stored in the Public Record Office in Melbourne.

Another thought concerning the preservation of records is the problem of what happens to the minutes, photographs, correspondence etc of small community organizations – e.g. sporting clubs, Apex, etc when they close. Their records, which are an important part of community history, are often lost – stored in someone’s garage and finally thrown out.

Local historians need to give the matter some consideration!

Further details of the GAAHS meeting, for anyone interested in attending, are available from Elsie McMaster.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
ARE NOW DUE**

\$17.00 single member \$20.00 couple or family

“The Post”

The Morris Case (1929)	p. 2
Memorial Anvil (1957)	p. 4
Barry’s Hotel (1951)	p. 5
Advertisement (1936)	p. 6
A New Shire (1887)	p. 7
ANZAC Day (1971)	p. 11
Who’s Who (Aherin)	p. 12

The Morris Case - July 1929

(Cont. from February issue)

The dead girl's birthday was on the 27th February, and opposite her name in a birthday book found in the room were the words from Psalm XXXII - 7: "Thou art my hiding place, Thou shalt preserve me from trouble, Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance," and a verse from the well-known hymn "Nearer my God to Thee."

Magisterial Inquiry

The tragedy was reported to the Coroner (Mr Bond, P.M.) and a magisterial inquiry touching the sad affair was opened before Mr Bond on Tuesday morning last, at the Mechanics' Hall.

John Bolger, carrier, Morwell, deposed:

"On the 1st July 1929, I visited a house in Station Street, Morwell, in company with Senior-Constable Frowd and Constable Slater. I there saw the bodies of a man, a woman and a child and I identified them as the bodies of Alec Morris and his wife and child. I have known the two adult deceased for about six years and the child, which was about two years old, from birth.

The male deceased was a sober man and appeared to be very much attached to his wife and child. He was not of a quarrelsome disposition. His wife also had a very pleasant disposition. On Friday, 28th June, I saw deceased Mrs Morris with her child in a perambulator in a neighbor's yard. It is some time since I had seen the male deceased."

Medical testimony having been given by Dr. H. W. F. Mitchell, Morwell, an order for burial was given, and the inquiry adjourned for two days.

The inquiry was resumed before Mr Bond, P.M., yesterday, when further dispositions were taken. Katherine Vary deposed: "I am a married woman residing in Station Street, Morwell, with my husband. I knew Alexander James Morris and his wife and child. They resided next door to me. I have known them since October last. At about 5 p.m. on Saturday, 20th June, I saw the three deceased in their back yard.

I spoke to Mrs Morris and asked her how the baby was getting on.

Mrs Morris replied to my enquiry and appeared in her usual spirits.

At about 9.15 on same evening, I was sitting by the fire in sitting room, when I heard a very heavy muffled sound. I got up to investigate and on reaching the back door I heard a similar sound come from Morris's house. I switched on the yard electric light, and stood in the yard. I noticed a kind of vibration on the wall of Morris's house.

I stood there a while and then went inside, and as I closed the back door, a third sound came from the deceased's house. My daughter said to me "what is that?" I replied, "I don't know. They must be moving something very heavy next door." It seemed as if something heavy had fallen down.

As far as my observations went, Morris and his wife got on well together and I am sure they were very much attached to their little child. I never heard any quarrelling or a cross word spoken between them.

Henry Hewitt, deposed: " I am a blacksmith employed by State Electricity Commission, and reside in Station Street, Morwell. On 23rd June last, the deceased Alexander James Morris, asked me for the loan of my gun. He wanted it for the Saturday. He came to my place for it on the Saturday, at about 2.15 p.m. He told me he wanted the gun to shoot some rabbits for his dog. I informed him that I would want the gun next day.

On Sunday morning my boy went down to Morris's for the gun. He came back and told my wife that no one was at home at Morris's. Shortly after I went past the house and noticed the blinds down. It was about 10.30 a.m. on Sunday morning. I went into Mr Vary's yard and saw Mr Vary, I asked him if he knew anything about his neighbors - the Morris's - or had seen them about. I told him that Morris had borrowed my gun and expressed the opinion that something was wrong inside. I thought so because the blinds were down and doors locked and know the deceased's to be very early risers.

I have known the three deceased intimately for about five months and the male deceased for some time previous. The three deceased visited my house frequently. Morris was of a quiet disposition. Mrs Morris was of a sociable nature and always had something to say when she saw you. They seemed a very happy family, and as far as I know they never quarrelled.

They seemed very fond of the child. I never heard deceased threaten to take his own life.

Continued next issue

Making News 50 Years Ago.....

Morwell Advertiser

7th. January 1957

Anvil as a Memorial

THE first anvil upon which all the metal needs of the first farmers and settlers in the district were fashioned, has been offered to the Morwell Shire Council as a historical relic.

Council at December's meeting referred the offer to its Shire History Committee.

Mr. M. C. Shaw, in a letter to the Council, made the suggestion that the anvil be set up as a memorial to the pioneers of the district. He wrote that he first came to Morwell in 1891, and transferred to Western Australia in 1899.

A recent return visit to Morwell had impressed upon him the remarkable industrial development, and also the need to commemorate the work of the pioneers, upon which this development was based.

He informed Council that the anvil used by the late Mr. Jack Rintoull could be obtained from his son, Mr. John Rintoull.

Councillors were enthusiastic at the proposal, and suggestions were made that the Shire History committee should consider mounting the anvil on a suitable pedestal in a prominent position in the town.



Looking Through the Lens to Yesteryear



Commercial Road c. 1951

MORWELL RAMSAY HALL SATURDAY, May 2nd

THE KING AND QUEEN
OF SONG-AND-DANCE
IN THEIR FIRST GREAT
SHOW TOGETHER!



SEVENTY-SEVEN SONGS
Chorus of Hundred
The Musical Picture



Supporting Picture :- - "SOMEDAY"
Cartoons, News Reels, Etc.

Morwell and Mirboo Gazette

18th. January 1887

FORMATION OF A NEW SHIRE



At the Mechanics Institute, on Saturday evening, a meeting of ratepayers of the West Riding of the Shire of Traralgon, was held. There were about 60 persons present, the various portions of the riding being fairly represented. Mr. Donald Shaw was voted to the chair.

The Chairman, after reading the advertisement in the *Gazette* convening the meeting, said he had but little to say on the subject. If the majority of the ratepayers were of opinion that they could better themselves by having a new shire, by all means let them have it. If they thought otherwise, no harm would be done by discussing the matter.

Mr. E. Crinigan was confident that the ratepayers would be better served if a new shire was formed. They had reaped a benefit by severance from the Rosedale Shire, they had benefited by the division of Traralgon Shire into Ridings, and he saw no reason why they should not benefit by having a new shire of their own.

The shire hall as at present situated was too far away, and it could not be expected that the ratepayers whenever they had any business to transact should be compelled to travel to Traralgon. (Hear Hear.) Financially they were in a position to form a new shire, and he therefore intended moving that the West Riding of the Shire of Traralgon be formed into a new shire.

Mr. English said that as matters stood at present the West Riding had half the income of the shire, but only one third of the expenditure, as the members were out voted.

Both the East and Central Ridings were considerably overdrawn, and when they came to balance up they would require about £1,000, which they would have to take from the West Riding, and they would get it, as the other members would be out-voted.

The interests of the West Riding were not identical with the other ridings, and severance was the only means of obtaining our just right.

Some would raise the objection that a shire hall would have to be built and new officers appointed, but he would point out that the hall already used was far too small to accommodate the ratepayers who attended the meetings, and would have to be enlarged. As the other ridings had no money they would have to take ours, and we might just as well have the money spent in our own township. (Hear, hear).

At least 90 per cent of the ratepayers were in favor of a new shire, and they would have the advantage in having an engineer who would be able to do the work. At present the engineer had to travel 40 miles to inspect some works. It might also be said that the income was not sufficient, but he could assure them that it would increase, as a large amount of land had been recently taken up and as this became settled upon the revenue would increase.

Mirboo might also object, but that portion could be added on afterwards, as it would be inadvisable to deal with any territory but that in the West Riding.

In reply to a question, Mr. English said the income of the riding last year was £2500, and that with regard to the subsidy they had nothing to fear, nearly all the rough country being situate in the West Riding.

Mr. Crinigan pointed out that taking in the back country was what gave the Traralgon Shire the £3 to £1 subsidy, as the Rosedale shire was only receiving 30s. to every £1.

Mr. Murdoch did not wish to speak against the proposal which had been made, but he thought it premature. In his opinion it would be better to extend the territory in the West Riding and form two ridings. By so doing they would have additional representation at the council table. Traralgon, no doubt, would soon form itself into a borough, and they would then be glad to kick us out.

(A voice: They would be glad to do that now.)

Two ridings could be worked at less expense than a new shire, and they would have the same voting power as the other end of the shire. It was the absence of a natural boundary which he thought would interfere with the formation of a new shire.

Mr. Hayward thought there would be less difficulty in getting a new shire than two ridings. With regard to the shire hall that matter could be held over for a year or two, as the room they were in would be suitable for the purpose. There were several shires with less revenue than the one now proposed, and he thought it was a great advantage in any district.

Mr. English said that last year's working expenses amounted to £1500, and it would not cost more than half that sum to work the new shire. Since he had been elected he had had more money spent in four months than had been spent previously.

Mr. Murdoch: That is what we put you in for, and you will get more if you only stick to it.

Mr. English: Not whilst I have to work against my own side as well as the others.

Mr. Guthrie said he was one of those who believed in letting well alone, but seeing that men of influence had signed the requisition for a new shire, and believing that they were capable of judging what was best, he had determined on being present. Such a proposal as had been mooted should be taken in hand in a masterly manner, as the ratepayers who were interested would want to know how they intended to act.

He had been seven years in the district, but the roads which were supposed to be improved might just as well have been left in a state of nature, and surely a new shire would be able to do better than that.

He certainly agreed with Cr. English (though he was not quite so hot headed) that our position could be improved if a new shire was formed, but they ought first to know the basis on which it was intended to work.

A certain portion of the Narracan shire would join with them, but if severance from Traralgon was sufficient at present that could be dealt with afterwards.

The present members were out-voted, and the money was swallowed up in a most mysterious manner, and was borrowed something after the fashion that the Kelly gang used to obtain theirs. He thought they should band themselves firmly together and form a new shire.

(Hear, hear.)

Mr. Sommers fully concurred in the movement. They had the sympathy of most of the ratepayers, and they could form a very nice and compact shire.

Mr. Wilson thought that the fact of their having a revenue of £2500 was quite sufficient argument for them to obtain what they desired.

Mr. Hayward said that there was a great cry about centralisation in the metropolis, but he thought that Traralgon was on the same move, and the sooner they separated the better.

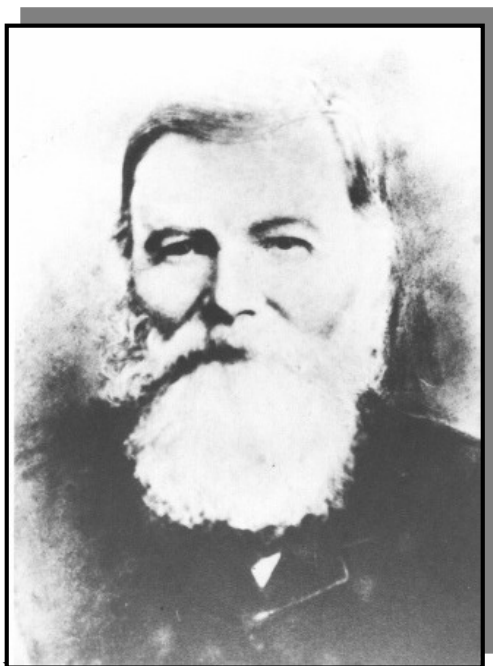
The following motions were then submitted:-

Moved by Mr. Crinnigan, seconded by Mr. English – That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to form the West Riding of the Traralgon Shire into a new shire, and that steps be at once taken to carry out the same. – Carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. W. Waldon, seconded by Mr. English – That a petition to the Governor-in-Council be drawn up by the committee, praying that severance of the West Riding of the Traralgon Shire be granted, and that the West Riding of the Traralgon Shire be formed into a separate shire, and that Messrs. D. Shaw, E. Crinigan, W. S. Guthrie, H. L. Manton, L. Hayward and W. Waldon be a committee to carry out the object of this resolution, with power to add to their number. – Carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

**Mr. Donald
Shaw**



Photograph: Morwell Historical Society Inc.

It was the time to remember



ANZAC Day
1971

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 17th. April 2007

7.30 p.m.

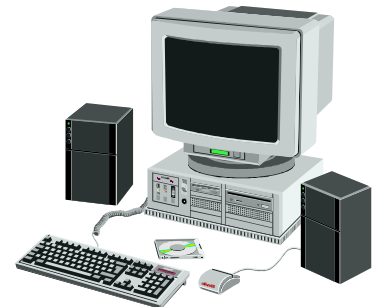
**44 Buckley Street
(Next to TAB)**

**Morwell Historical Society
Inc.**

Annual Subscription Rates:

Single: \$17.00

Family/Double: \$20.00



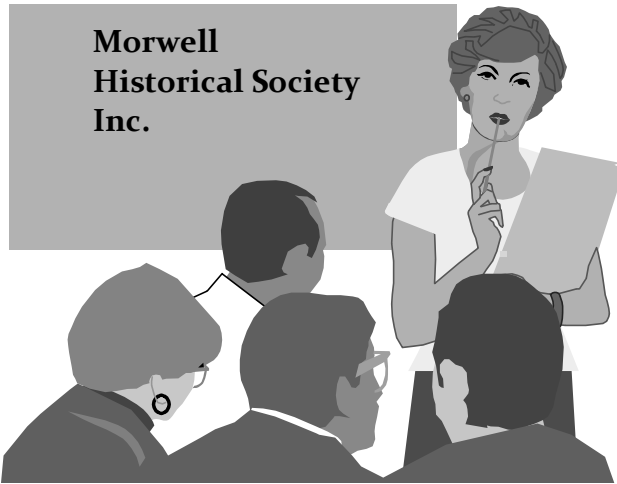
Our Internet Address is:

www.latrobacityonline.com

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

Claassens Computers

**Morwell
Historical Society
Inc.**



Aherin, Charles

Who's Who:

Charles Richard Aherin:

Manager of Morwell branch Bank of Australasia: 1894-1923

Treasurer of Morwell Golf Club 1908

Treasurer of Morwell Bowling Club 1913

Treasurer St. Mary's Church of England

Active member of Morwell Horticultural Society

Committee member Morwell Mechanics' Institute

