

The Morwell Post

Morwell Historical Society

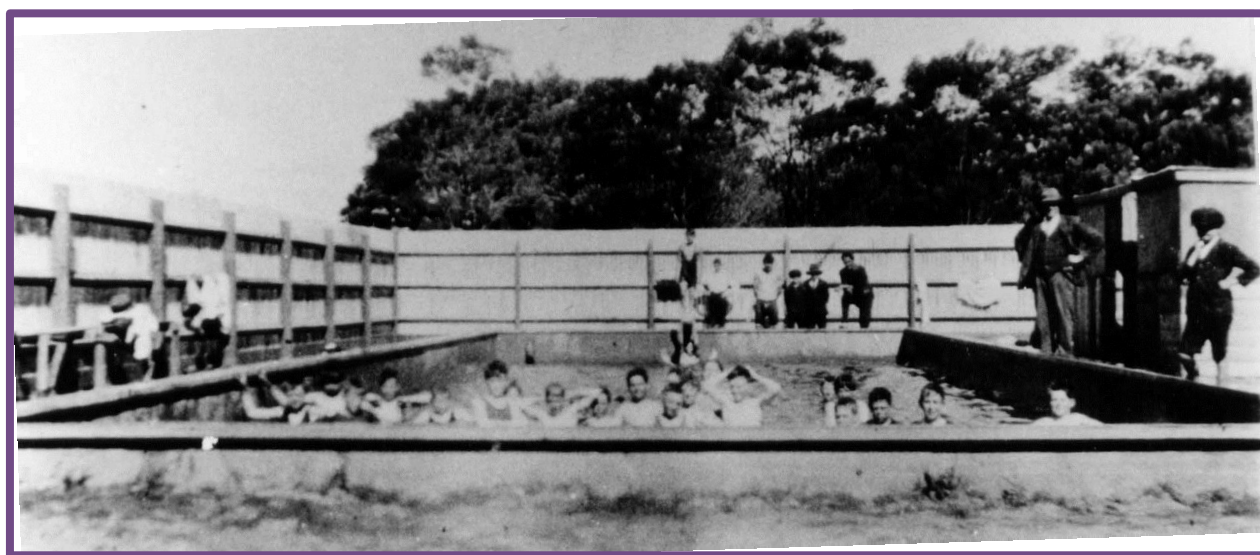
URL: www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

email: secretary@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au



Feature Article – page 8

Morwell Swimming Pool



Swimming pool Commercial Road Morwell, in Alexandra Park, north side opposite State School Chapel Street end c. 1920s

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Morwell Historical Society Directory 2018

President:	Bruce McMaster Phone: 5134 1149 – 0428 528 464
Vice-President:	John Willis
Secretary:	Florence Butcher
Assistant Secretary:	Elaine Andrijczak
Treasurer:	Carolyn Schopp
Committee Members:	Kellie Bertrand Rosalie Davey Shirley Prosser
Research Library:	12 Hazelwood Road, Morwell, Victoria 3840
Research Queries:	research@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au
Public Access:	3 rd Wednesday and last Sunday of each month, 11.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. We will trial opening on the 1 st Wednesday from 11-00am – 4.00pm Not open - December & January
General meetings:	3 rd Wednesday February to November – 2.00 pm
Annual General Meeting:	3 rd Wednesday of March each year
Membership Fees:	Due 1 st July each year Ordinary Member \$25.00 Couple - at same address \$30.00 Dependants - at same address \$5 each Application Forms available on our web site for you to print and send. Corporate Supporter Membership \$100 For a print copy of "The Morwell Post" - \$10.00 per annum
Editor:	email: morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au
Research Fees:	\$10.00 per hour or part thereof, and prices for photo prints on application and postage where applicable.
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/morwellhistoricalsociety/
Postal Address:	12 Hazelwood Road, Morwell 3840 Victoria, Australia

Front page icon is of the old Post Office c1930 which was on the site of the now Commonwealth Bank, corner of Commercial Road and Tarwin Street.

PRESIDENT'S AGM REPORT

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

President's Report to Annual Meeting 21st March 2018

Firstly, I would like to thank all the members who have volunteered their time & effort to maintaining the Society in the many different fields of endeavour to complete a satisfying & productive year.

The major project for the year was the Morwell District Boer War Commemorative Service and Graphic Exhibition and the unveiling of the Roll of Honour in October. Over 300 people attended the service at the Morwell RSL. The Roll of Honour now hangs in the Society's rooms and the Graphic Exhibition has been on display at the Morwell and Traralgon Libraries and is now at the Moe Library.

The Society's rooms have been used by a number of organisations including the art group of the "Moe Life Skills", the Law Department, and other associated Historical groups.

Progress is being made with the alteration of the rooms to make them more useful for the recording and storage of historical records and the safety and suitability for public use. The toilet area is now complete with the installation of support rails and is beautifully painted. A ramp and support rail has been installed at the side entrance for the use of persons with disabilities. The concrete floor in the archive storage area has been completed and the "Compactus Shelving System" that was donated by "ENGIE" from the Hazelwood Power Station has been installed and is now in use. The construction of the new office area is well underway and should be completed in the next couple of months. These alterations would not have been possible without the support of Latrobe City Council with grants and a donation from the Morwell Bowling club.

Many records were received from the three primary schools, Commercial Rd., Tobruk St., and Crinigan Rd, which closed at the end of 2017. Effort is now required by volunteers to record and store these and other records so that they can be retrieved easily for future research.

A list of priorities for future building maintenance has been prepared and research is being carried out to find out what funding may be available. Two "Sausage Sizzle" events were held at Bunnings with very good funding results. Funding is still required to pay members who loaned the funds to purchase our site in Hazelwood Road.

Most research queries are for family history information and our holdings of some student registers and Water Board records are a great assistance to the public.

President

Bruce McMaster

OFFICE BEARERS for 2018-2019

President – Bruce McMaster

Vice President – John Willis

Secretary – Florence Butcher

Assistant Secretary - Elaine Andrijczak

Treasurer – Carolyn Schopp

Membership Secretary – Shirley Prosser

Committee – 3 positions - Kellie Bertrand, Rosalie Davey, Shirley Prosser

Editor, *“The Morwell Post”* – Florence Butcher

IT Manager – Florence Butcher

Archivist and Collections Librarian – Bruce McMaster

Assistant Archivist – Fay Thompson

Volunteer Coordinator – Fay Thompson

Web Page Manager – Florence Butcher

From the General Meeting

Name of Shops in Commercial Area of Morwell - Eddie Beulke advises that he intends to resume his project. **‘Code of Conduct’ and ‘Vision and Values’** – the Society has adopted a ‘Code of Conduct’ and ‘Vision and Values’ following participation in Latrobe City Council’s ‘Welcoming and Age Friendly Program’ which will be displayed on our Notice Board.

Thank you to Leo Billington

Thank you, Leo, for the three years you served as Editor for *“The Morwell Post”* and the many historical and interesting articles you managed to “dig up” and research for so many issues. Our members have enjoyed reading your wide variety of articles.

Recent Changes

Notice two changes, namely the email address for items for the *“The Morwell Post”*
morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

AND

...the cost for a print copy of *“The Morwell Post”* is now \$10.00

Morwell Cricket Club

The Morwell Cricket Club was formed in 1884 when Morwell was a small town of 300 people based around the Morwell Railway Station. The first recorded game was against Traralgon in 1885 and Morwell was defeated by an innings and 41 runs.

The photo below is the oldest cricket photo that we have in our collection



If you have an interest in cricket you are welcome to come into our rooms and browse through the book entitled [The History of Morwell Cricket Club 1885-1991](#) by John White

Incidentally, there was great excitement at Keegan Reserve Oval a couple of weeks ago when the Morwell Cricket Club A,B and C grade teams won the grand final. Congratulations to the 3 teams. A wonderful way to finish the 2017-2018 season.

The Methodist Church



Morwell's first Methodist Church was built in 1883 on the corner of Church Street and Station Street (Princes Highway). Later the site was occupied by Jephcotts the Jewellers, now Adroit Insurance Group (McNair Hurle). Initially the Church of England and Presbyterian congregations also used the building until they built their own church.

The lower image was taken from the Fire Station tower. To the bottom right (out of the picture) is the site of the current Post Office.



The Methodist Church (continued)

In 1953 a Methodist Church, which is now known as St Lukes Uniting Church, was built on the Princes Highway between McDonald and Fairfield Streets.

The following is from *The Morwell Advertiser* Thursday 15th Oct 1953 page 13

“The Methodist community of Morwell have magnificently met the challenge implied in its relationship between the rapid intake of new population at Morwell over recent years and the need to bring into line facilities required for the ever increasing number of adherents seeking accommodation at divine services.

Builder - Wes Jones

Outer walls - Yallourn blue bricks

Internal walls - Traralgon silica bricks

Roof - Terra cotta tiles

Accommodate - 240 people

Minister - Robert Hunt.”



The second Methodist Church in the 1960s

Morwell's First Swimming Pool

Morwell's first swimming pool was opened in 1925 in Alexandra Park beside the Bowling Green and the Band Hall. It was about where the Skate Park is now located. This pool closed in 1954 when a new Olympic Swimming Pool was built in Sir Norman Brookes Park in McDonald Street on land donated by APM.



This lovely photo shows seven bathing beauties enjoying the water. Date and names are unknown

The following article was in the **Morwell Advertiser**, Thursday 15th Oct 1953 page 2

Old Pool is Dangerous

The Morwell Branch of the National Safety Council will ask the Morwell Shire Council to take action to fill in the old swimming pool in Commercial Road.

The branch considers that as there is a drop of six feet from the unguarded edge of the pool to the concrete floor, it is dangerous for children.

The matter was brought to the notice of the branch by Alfr. Mortimer of McLean Street, and was considered by a meeting of the branch last week.

What's happening at the Society?



Peter Gitsham and Bruce McMaster removing the floorboards to lower the floor.

Chris Roads 'rendering'



Chris working on the office ceiling

Bruce, Peter and Eddie Beulke putting the compactus together

A mega huge thank you to all our members who volunteer their time.



Then and Now

These cattle were being driven by Reg Davey from Tyers to Applegate Road in Hazelwood. We do not know the date but the bridge was on the Princes Highway and the creek was called Bridles Creek.



Now the road is called Princes Drive and the creek is called Waterhole Creek. There are two footpaths under the bridge. The east footpath goes towards Bunnings and the west footpath to the Immigration Park beside the lake.

Thanks to Rosalie Davey for the top photo. Reg is Alan's Father

ODDS AND ENDS

Without your contributions, it is left to the editorial committee to make decisions on your behalf on what goes in to “*The Morwell Post*”. So ... if you have something you think others may want to read about or a subject that hasn't been covered, please consider sending it to us for inclusion in the newsletter.

Email: morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

If you have an email account, consider receiving “*The Morwell Post*” via email as there are many full colour photos and articles that you will miss out on if you only receive the newsletter by post. You can continue to receive the print edition as well.

Looking for

We are looking for someone who was at school in 1954 and went by train from Morwell to Traralgon to see the Queen. Would you please consider writing a story about your experience and sending it to us.

We are looking for any photos of Mid City Plaza in George Street.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

We are an affiliate member of “The Royal” and we encourage you to investigate and browse the society's web site.

www.historyvictoria.org.au

Have a look around and see “What's On”, “Events Calendar” and listen to some “Podcasts” under the EVENTS tab.

More interesting things can also be found under the EXHIBITIONS and COLLECTIONS tabs.

DID YOU KNOW ...?

FOPDOODLE – A fool; an insignificant wretch

SALMAGUNDI – A mixture of chopped meat and pickled herrings with oil, vinegar pepper and onions

(from “Fopdoodle and Salmagundi - Words and Meanings from Dr Johnson's Dictionary That Time Forgot”. First published 1755 in his Dictionary of the English Language)



OPEN DAYS 2018

7th February / 21st February / 25th February
7th March / 21st March / 25th March
4th April / 18th April / 29th April
2nd May / 16th May / 27th May
6th June / 20th June / 24th June
4th July / 18th July / 29th July
1st August / 5th August / 26th August
5th September / 19th September / 30th September
3rd October / 17th October / 28th October
7th November / 21st November / 25th November

Please deliver me to:

Articles and contributions to the Morwell Historical Society “The Morwell Post” are welcome from any source without liability, and accepted subject to editorial approval. The editors reserve the right to amend/edit all contributions. The editor of “The Morwell Post” cannot be held responsible for the quality and accuracy of all information supplied to us. Readers should always check with originators of material published, with any queries relating to accuracy of information. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise without the prior consent of the publisher.

