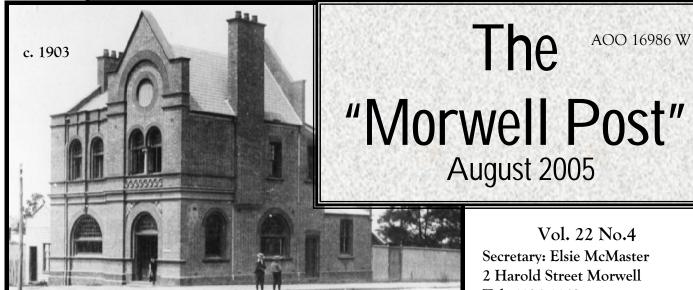
Morwell Historical Society Inc.



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"MAKING TRACKS"

Whether you are a railway buff of just an occasional train traveller, the "Making Tracks" exhibition, at present on display in Traralgon, is well worth a visit.

The exhibition celebrates 150 years of the Victorian Railways. It contains a wealth of information covering almost every aspect of the railway network and includes a strong local component, with models, photographs and artefacts contributed by historical societies, model railway clubs and train lovers from all parts of Gippsland.

Railways had a tremendous effect on the development of both primary and secondary industries throughout Gippsland, enabling rapid movement of raw materials and produce well before the advent of road transport.

Visitors to the exhibition are invited to write down their memories of rail travel for inclusion in a collection of reminiscences to be compiled at the end of the exhibition's tour.

"Making Tracks' is touring regional Victoria visiting Geelong, Ararat, Bendigo, Mildura, Wangaratta, and will be at the Latrobe Council Chambers, in Kay Street, Traralgon, until August 28th. The exhibition is open every day from 9am to 5pm, and admission is free.

Elsie McMaster.

Morwell and Yinnar Gazette 3^{rd.} April 1896

Honoring Cr. Kelleher

Cr. Kelleher was entertained by a number of gentleman friends and well-wishers at the Club Hotel, Morwell, on Tuesday last, the attendance being a large and representative one.

Cr. Vary was at the head of the table and Cr. Mulcare filled the vice-chair.

The chairman in his introductory remarks mentioned that the company had assembled to do honor to their old friend and host, Cr. Kelleher, on the occasion of his retirement from business.

They all knew how Cr. Kelleher had started in the early times in Morwell; that the building on the site where the present Club Hotel stands was not then a very pretentious one.

They all knew how that gentleman had by his energy and honest dealing advanced with the times, and had not only thoroughly established himself with the people as a businessman, but also taken a very prominent part in public affairs.

The chairman asked the company to charge their glasses to the brim and drink to the health of their late host, Mr. Kelleher.

The toast was received with much enthusiasm and musical honors.

Cr. Kelleher suitably responded, thanking the company for the manner in which his health hade been drunk. As the chairman had said, Cr. Kelleher remarked, he came to the district in the early days, and grew with the district.

He assured the company that in his predecessor, Mr Reidy, they would find a very worthy man.

Mr. F. Howlett proposed "Our late hostess, Mrs Kelleher".

The speaker expressed surprise at his being called upon to propose a toast on behalf of the ladies, particularly as he was not a ladies' man. However he had much pleasure in proposing the toast, as in Mrs Kelleher he had always found a lady, who was indeed a lady.

Their late hostess, as the company present would bear him out, had a good word, a pleasant face for everyone. A desire to do good was always foremost in their hostess' disposition. He thought he had said enough in a few words to move all present to drink to the health, prosperity and longevity of Mrs. Kelleher.

The company heartily responded.

Mr Edney endorsed the previous speaker's remarks. A better lady and a lady better suited to the position she occupied, they could not find. When he (the speaker) brought ladies to the house they were always well looked after by Mrs Kelleher, and he was sure that Mrs Edney would greatly miss her kind attentions.

Mr Rintoull said he was pleased to be present on such an occasion. He was sorry they were saying good-bye, in a sense, to their old friend and host Mr Kelleher, but it afforded him much pleasure to attend to do honor to such a worthy gentleman. Mr Kelleher had been a long time in harness, and well deserved rest and enjoyment.

Mr Kelleher was one of the speaker's first friends in Morwell. No one knew better than himself the many acts of kindness performed by Mr and Mrs Kelleher, who were always ready with a helping hand.

Cr. Mulcare also expressed pleasure at being present on the occasion. He contended that there were very few hotel proprietors in the colony who conducted a house as well as Mr Kelleher. The hotel had indeed a very high reputation. It was always a nice quiet place, and going in to it was like going into a private house. They were all very sorry to lose Mr Kelleher, who would be greatly missed, but he was sure that in Mr. Reidy Mr Kelleher had a worthy successor.

Cr. Firmin stated he had sat at the council table with Mr Kelleher as far back as 16 years ago, and had always found in him a very fair and just man. He (the speaker) had been in many hotels in his time but had never found one in which he was better treated than in host Kelleher's.

The chairman then read a wire from Mr P. P. Serjeant regretting his inability to be present.

Mr Howlett said he was drawn to his feet again after hearing the remarks made about Mr Kelleher being an old resident of the district and an old councillor. As an old resident and councillor himself, and having sat with Cr. Kelleher he would say that he had always found that gentleman a thoroughly just and honorable man. They had always worked harmoniously together, and had never had any opposition from Cr. Kelleher in any movement that was just and fair.

Cr. Shaw said he was acquainted with Mr Kelleher ever since he came to Morwell, and had known him for twenty years. He was always a most generous man, and as an hotel-keeper, he knew none better. His liquor was always of the best, his table likewise. Another feature he noticed was, that those who paid or those who did not pay were equally welcome at host Kelleher's hotel and there were many poor people who would miss him greatly.

Mr Marshall added that Mr Kelleher was one of the best hosts in the colony, the hotel being always excellently conducted. He was sure that Mr and Mrs Kelleher had the best wishes of everyone in the district.

Mr McDonald also eulogised the good actions of Mr and Mrs Kelleher and wished them well wherever they went.

Mr. P. Walsh had found Mr and Mrs Kelleher full of acts of kindness from the first time he came to Morwell, and he wished them from his heart always the very best success.

Mr Nadenbousch had known Mr Kelleher for 20 years. He had had many dealings with him, and always found him a very straightforward and generous man.

Mr Macmillan said he had travelled east and west, but had never gone into a house where he felt he was more at home than at Mr Kelleher's. He asked the company to charge their glasses and drink to the prosperity of the children.

Mr Kelleher again responded.

He did not think he was worthy of all the good things that had been said concerning him. Mrs Kelleher, however, was quite worthy of the appreciation they showed.

He never anticipated being honored in such a manner by such a representative gathering, where there were present gentlemen of all professions. He returned thanks on behalf of Mrs Kelleher and the family. Probably at some future time he would be amongst them again, but as his health had been failing for some time past, some little respite was necessary.

Mr Rhodes, in proposing the toast of "The New Host and Hostess," stated his belief that Mr Reidy was a gentleman who was ready made for the business. He felt sure the new proprietor would give the same general satisfaction in the future as the past proprietor had done in the past.

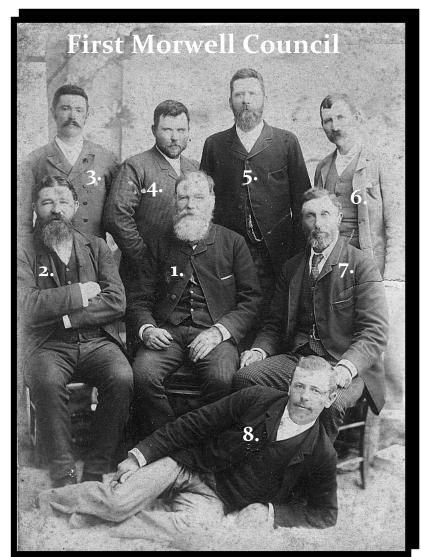
Mr Reidy suitably responded. As to their guest, he was a man he liked remarkably well, being straight and fair in his dealings. The speaker was pleased to be among such a fine class of people as he had met in Morwell. Messrs Hudson and McRea also spoke in complimentary terms of Mr Kelleher and his successor.

Messrs Edney and Keys contributed songs.

The toast of the chairman having been proposed and responded to, the company dispersed.

1.Donald Shaw

- 2. Michael Mulcare
- 3. William Murdoch
- 4. Edmond Kelleher
- 5. John English
- 6. John Murphy
- 7. John McCoull
- 8. A. E. Arney (Engineer)



Photograph: Courtesy of Morwell Library



From Our Heritage Collection



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Morwell Advertiser 30^{th.} January 1956 SETTLEMENT TO GO FROM DERHAM'S HILL

THE demolition of the Derham's Hill settlement is under way and houses were being offered for sale for removal, as and when vacated.

Morwell Shire Council was informed of this last week by the A.P.M. Resident District Manager, Mr. J. W. Thorpe.

Mr. Thorpe, in a letter to Council, stated that this was being done to fulfil an assurance that as soon as possible after the completion of the mill's construction programme, the A.P.M. would commence the task of removing dwellings from the area.

However, Mr. Thorpe reported that the fact that 4 of the houses occupied by public tenants (other than A.P.M. employees), were presenting a serious problem.

He stated that at this stage, no serious steps were being taken to recover possession of the cottages, except where flagrant breaches of the tenancy agreement occurred.

He felt that the satisfactory re-housing of these public tenants would require the assistance of the Council, and other bodies, if A.P.M. were to honor its obligation to clear the area.

He also stated that:

- * The public hall had not been used for meetings, etc. for some months and would shortly be offered for sale for removal.
- Extensive drainage work in the area was being carried out.

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette 2^{nd.} November 1923 Obituary

DEATH OF MR JOHN ENGLISH

It is with feelings of deep regret that we record the death of a very old and highly respected resident of the district in the person of Mr. John English, who passed away at his late residence, Traralgon, on Tuesday last, after an illness extending over some months.

The deceased gentleman, who was 62 years of age, was one of the most progressive men in the district and his circle of friends extended far and wide.

It is just about forty years ago since Mr. English came from Geelong to this district and selected land in the Jeeralang hills. He came into some prominence almost at once as a runner by beating Jack Blair (at that time one of the champions of Gippsland) in a contest. As a ped he had few equals in his day and until a few years ago was always open to take on anyone his age for 50 yards.

He was a man of many parts and behind it all there was energy, force, ability, geniality, uprightness as well as "faith, hope and charity" and many other virtues. He was one of those rare men who are never downhearted and it did one good to meet.

He had his "ups and downs," but whether "up" or "down" he was always genial and hopeful. If he met with reverses he did not let it worry him and was just as cheerful as when dame fortune smiled upon him.

He did not remain long on his selection at Jeeralang, which he sold. He then opened a general store in Morwell, which he carried on for some time.

He afterwards acquired land at Narracan and spent a good deal of money in laying down a tramway from his place there.

The venture however, proved a failure. He subsequently commenced business in Morwell as an auctioneer in which he was very successful. He took a keen interest in municipal and parliamentary affairs and became a Councillor of the Shire of Morwell and served the ratepayers faithfully and well for some years.

He gave up the auctioneering business and started a dairy farm on Pratt's flat which he carried on successfully for some time. Later on he acquired property at Sth Hazelwood and demonstrated what might be done in the way of cultivation and sheep raising on what was considered poor land.

He subsequently removed to Traralgon and acquired a considerable amount of land at Flynn's Creek, Gormandale, North Hazelwood and other places. At the same time he conducted an extensive business as a land agent, and while he enjoyed good health was regarded as the most successful land seller in Gippsland.

He was induced to re-enter the Morwell Shire Council as a representative of Hazelwood Riding and was a member of Morwell Waterworks Trust. He filled the presidential chair and was one of the most able members of the council, and as a mark of respect the Union Jack was hung half-mast at the Shire Hall when his death was announced.

A few years ago his son-Mr Gerald English joined him in the land agency which was carried on most successfully until owing to ill health he was obliged to relinquish business and all other activities.

For some months past he was confined to his bed and despite all that medical skill could do, he gradually became worse, and passed away as stated death being due to heart failure and complications.

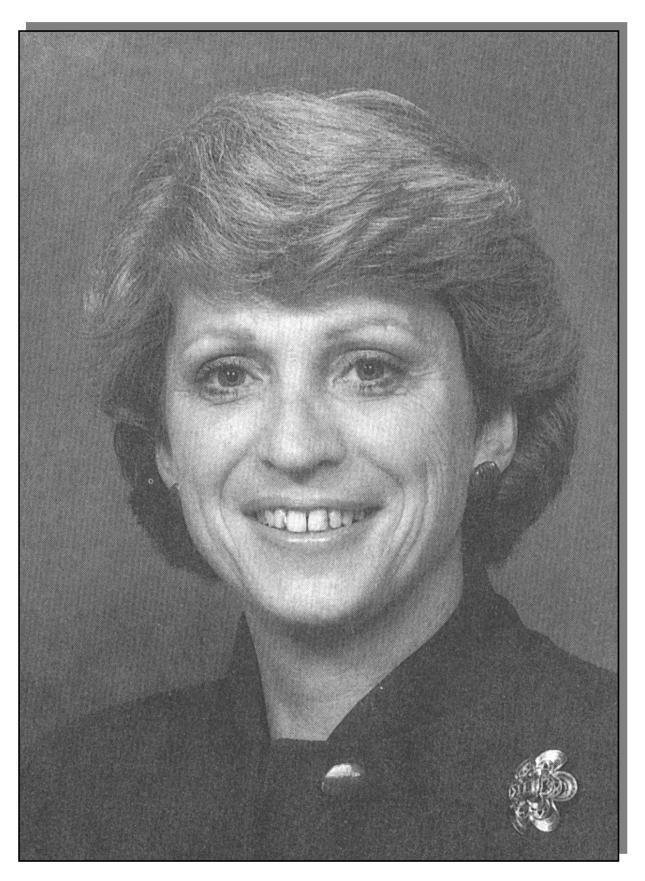
He was a man of irreproachable character and a faithful member of the R.C. Church. He was held in high esteem by all sections of the community and his passing away removes a striking and worthy personality from our midst.

He leaves a widow, one son (Mr. Gerald English, manager for A. McLean & Co., Traralgon) and three daughters to mourn their loss and much sympathy is expressed for them in their sad bereavement.

The remains of deceased were interred in Traralgon Cemetery on Wednesday, when the large gathering that followed the mortal remains to their last resting place was a further tribute to the respect in which deceased was held.

The Bishop of Sale (Dr. Phelan) conducted the burial service and was assisted by Rev. Fathers McLaughlin, Shannahan and Nolan.

Shire Presidents:



Cr. Gloria Auchterlonie 1987-1988

"La Mode" Industries Morwell officially opened on 13th July 1945.

The factory remained in production until c. 1965



A MODE INDUSTRIES PTY. LTD. HEAD OFFICE & SHOWROOMS, 13 - 43 VICTORIA ST., FITZROY. BRANCHES IN ALL STATE

1 "S and " Committee Linderwear for Men. Warden and Children, and Fine Silk Lingerie for Women and

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 16^{th.} August at 7.30 pm.

21 Church Street. Everyone most welcome!





The answer to our photographic puzzler last issue was:

Cr. Joe Buckley

For this issue I think we'll try to identify another of our early "celebrities". I've made it a bit harder this time.

Who am I?

Did You Know That:

- Alexandra Park was officially opened in August 1904 by Shire President Cr. O'Grady.
- Purvis' supermarket opened in Buckley Street in August 1958.



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Local History on the Internet:

Our new Website Address is now:

www.latrobecityonline.com

Thanks to Ben and Mary for their continued support and technical

More from our archive files:

The Woolworths store at 202-204 Commercial Road opened for trading on Thursday, 25^{th.} August 1955.

The first store manager was Mr. R. V. Zuccala.