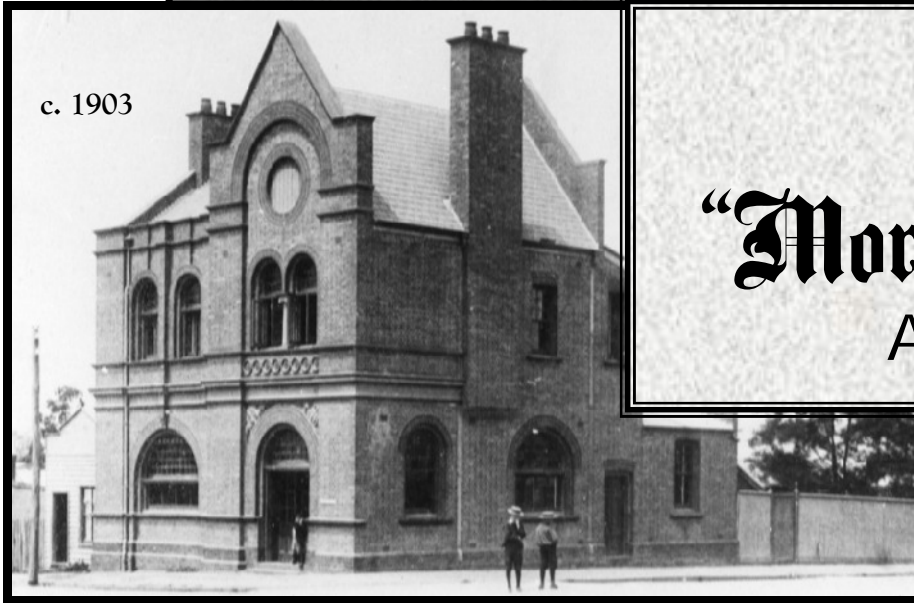


Morwell Historical Society Inc.



c. 1903

The AOO 16986 W “Morwell Post” August 2006

Vol. 23 No.4
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2 Harold Street Morwell
Tel: 5134 1149

Compiled by: Stephen Hellings

Published every two months



Proudly supported by Latrobe City Council

We've Moved But not very far!

Yes, we have new premises. Our new address is **44 Buckley St, Morwell** (next to the T.A.B.) and it's business as usual – we are open each **Wednesday** between **11am and 2pm**, or at other times by appointment. (Please contact our Secretary on **(03) 51341149**).

Our thanks go to those members and their families who helped with the move, and with cleaning and setting up the new rooms.

We now have extra space, which has enabled us to bring some more of our materials out of storage. These include a large set of blacksmith's bellows which, we believe, was used in one of Morwell's forges – but we don't know which one. Does anyone know anything of its origin?



Elsie McMaster

Reminiscences of Derham's Hill, Victoria

Towards the end of 1948, Herbert and Alice Tindall together with their family of Vera, May and Colin were living in North Melbourne. They lived with Herbert's brother Albert and family who had sponsored their migration from Birmingham, England in April of that year. Albert had tried to persuade Herbert to leave Britain and to live in Australia for several years, but WW11 had prevented an earlier move.

The family travelled to Melbourne on the S.S. "Empire Brent" which berthed at No. 13 South Wharf on 7th May. Their welcome was warm and soon they started to become accustomed to life in Australia particularly after the warning from the head of the house that "there is no turning back".

The job in Melbourne which was promised to Herbert fell through, but he quickly found employment at the Victorian Railways Newport Workshops as a Fitter and Turner. Vera found office work in the city, May attended University High School and Colin went to the local State school in Boundary Road, North Melbourne.

Alice stayed at home, but found little of interest except housework. She didn't enjoy dropping in to other houses, but looked forward to the weekly walk to Victoria Market with relatives so that they could buy produce for the following week.

Each Saturday night the family and their sponsors would walk along Racecourse Road to attend the session at the North Melbourne cinema. It was the custom of the hosts to have seats on a permanent booking in the front circle, and dressing in one's best going-out clothes seemed mandatory.

Of other social interest to the family was their attendance at meetings of the English Speaking Union in Errol Street in a room hired for the occasion. The organizers from the Union were volunteers, kindly and most helpful. They had introduced themselves on the boat when it docked with the intention of helping those settling in Melbourne.

Some of the new settlers were very negative in their outlook and after a few meetings, the family didn't attend any more lest they also became dis-satisfied with conditions in Victoria.

Most of the concern; even the anger was a result of the expectations which may have been set too high. The settlers assumed that a house would be allotted to them or that rental properties were easy to find.

Many, particularly the British, complained that they were misled by the Department of Immigration before leaving their homeland.

The fact was that everyone wishing for Housing Commission accommodation had to go on a waiting list. The list wasn't dealt with in order of application, but by ballot. The message was construed and passed on, in some instances even back to Europe; that one had to win a free raffle to be able to obtain a tenancy.

Another assumption was that public transport ought to have been as frequent and efficient as it had been in the big cities in Europe, especially with regard to weekend and late night services. Whilst these grumbles were fermenting, little was known about fellow immigrants who were housed in Quonset huts such as those at Holmesglen or rough camps such as Bonegilla in North-eastern Victoria.

Because facts and circumstances did not meet their expectations, many new settlers were disappointed by lack of immediate housing and work opportunities. Some went home within weeks of starting a new life. Of course, when the reality set in, most of those returned to Australia, thus proving that they did have enough money to make a modest start in a new country and that Australia was a better place to find a future.

Immigrants returning in less than two years had to repay the Government for the cost of the journey to Australia.

The Tindall family were as anxious as anyone else for separate accommodation and the opportunity to map out a future for themselves. That seemed a grim prospect because the family already had temporary shared accommodation and what could have been permanent employment, but late in 1948, Herbert's plan was to approach the Immigration Department to seek permission to go to South Australia where he thought prospects for the family were better.

It is possible that someone who worked with him had made the suggestion, or he may have read about something more appealing over the border. Alternately, he may have heard good things about South Australia from someone on board ship and who had disembarked in Adelaide.

The result was disappointing.

He was told that he would have to repay the cost of the journey out and the journey to South Australia. To save the day, he was offered alternate employment in Gippsland where housing was provided. The job of Fitter and Turner at the Maryvale Mill of Australian Paper Manufacturers sounded most attractive and he and Alice were taken to Maryvale to view the accommodation and to be interviewed for the job which was accepted.

Moving day dawned and it was time to try out the railway system.

All was well and the family were met at Morwell station by a driver in a Mill vehicle. The luggage and household goods were sent on to the house at Derham's Hill.

The household goods were the same meagre package as had been brought out on the ship.

After five years of war and rationing there was little else to bring except a wooden trunk, a tin trunk and a tea chest. As thousands of other immigrants, who had been welcomed to these shores before us; we looked forward to a future unencumbered by possessions, arriving with a suitcase and abundant hope.

Once more, we were all told “no turning back” so there was quite a lot of exploring and improvising ahead of us.

One early incident which I believe will live in our memories for ever was the first time Alice ventured outside and smelled something nasty. Quickly, disinfectant was spread around the drains, but to no avail. The smell seemed even worse until the wind changed and then clean air blew over.

For those who know the Mill of the fifties and early sixties, you will now have worked out that it was the Mill which had the peculiar odour and not the house drains.

Much has been done since then to clean the Gippsland atmosphere.

The family were delighted with their new house and Alice in particular was now able to spend her days turning the house into a home.

Settling in brought fresh experiences almost every day. Neighbours were met and many questions were asked and answered regarding shopping, buses, medical facilities, food deliveries and so forth.

It was quickly discovered that a bus would travel to Morwell where one could find shops for food, clothing, furniture and most other necessary items. The return journey was sometimes by shared taxi.

The first items purchased were beds, a table, chairs, a kitchen cabinet and an ice chest. Before the Melbourne stay, the two last named items were unknown. Since the cottage was small, and there were only three bedrooms and a kitchen, no sitting room furniture was required and so the kitchen became the hub of the house.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

25th. February 1937

Post Office Clock



The fund for the purchase of the Post Office Clock is growing satisfactorily and the amount in the bank at the present time is £54. This amount will be considerably increased when all donations promised are to hand. Hopes are also entertained that the Postal Dept. will make a grant, in view of the very commendable efforts that have been made locally.

Among those who have contributed so liberally to the fund are Mr. E. Porter, of Timaru, N.Z., one of the old boys of the school. Mr. J. D. Morris, resident of the early days, now living in Dalby, Queensland, and Mr. Cam Read also left cheques whilst in Morwell recently. Accompanying many of the contributions were letters commending the old boys for the public spirit displayed by them, and wishing the movement success.

It is expected that the full amount required will be raised in the near future, though it can readily be understood that the collection of a large amount from people so widely scattered is a lengthy process.

The following is a list of those who so generously contributed to the fund:

R. Applegate, T. Alexander, F. Amiet, F. Bruton, R. Brinsmead, F. S. Brinsmead, S. Brinsmead, U. Billingsley, T. Derham, W. Davey, W. W. Gay, H. W. Gay, Mrs. E. Greening, Miss Gay, P. A. Gilbert, A. A. Hone, Mrs. Hone, Mrs. A. L. Hare, Mrs. Harwood, F. Haywood, H. Howlett, S. Hall, A. Junier, Mrs. Jolly, Gomer Jones, M. Jones, J. P. Kaye, T. C. Kleine, M. Law, I. Matson, Misses Matson, J. D. Morris, Miss A. McKay, Mrs. F. McKay, D. McDonald, J. McInnes, R. Noy, J. Nuttall, J. Nadenbousch, A. Porter, E. Porter, A. Ronald, E. G. Rowell, C. Read, J. K. Rintoull, B. Samuels, Miss Samuels, Mrs. C. Shaw, Tulloch Family, A. Vary, E. Waldon, G. Watson.

Further donations may be left with the Secretary (Mr. H. W. Gay) and a full list of contributors published on completion of the fund.

From The Pages Of Our Past...

D. C. MILLS & CO.
PTY., LTD.

WINE, SPIRIT and
GENERAL MERCHANTS

Wish to notify the Public that the alterations
to Store are now completed. We are now
Opening Up New Season's Goods.
Large Assorted Stocks of Australian, English, Continental
and American Delicacies.

Your Inspection of Our Display Cordially Invited.
ORDERS CALLED FOR and DELIVERED.

DISTRICT AGENTS for—
The Famous **MALVERN STAR CYCLES**
FOWLER'S Jars, Rings, Covers and Clips

THE CORNER STORE

Phone 4

MORWELL

Box 12

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette
27th June 1935

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

29th. October 1936

OBITUARY



DEATH OF MRS O'DONOGHUE



Residents of the town received quite a shock on Tuesday evening, when news came to hand that Mrs. O'Donoghue, wife of Mr. J. D. O'Donoghue, manager of local National Bank, and sister of Mr. Les Tormey, of Morwell, had passed away suddenly at Epworth Hospital, Melbourne.

The deceased lady, who was in the prime of life, had been undergoing treatment in the hospital and had improved to such an extent that it had been arranged for her to return home at the end of the week. She, however, took a very bad turn on Tuesday evening and passed away suddenly.

Deceased was a lady held in high esteem by a large circle of friends. She was a faithful church worker, also an energetic member of Baby Health Centre, Blind Auxiliary and Croquet Club.

She was a loving wife and devoted mother and much sympathy is felt for the bereaved husband, and her two sons and daughter, who are left to mourn their loss.



A Picture From Our Past...



**Commercial Road - 1934
H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester and Cr. G.**

EPITAPH

Tune "Sing a Song a Sixpence"

Sing a song of Morwell
Town without a hall,
Never sees a picture
Never has a ball.

When the darkness gathers
Stars begin to peep,
All good folks in Morwell
Soon will be asleep.

Shadows gather round her
All her joy has fled,
Miserable Morwell
City of the dead.

Carve her little tombstone
Pen a mournful line,
Dear Departed Morwell
Cut off in her prime.

By—MARY HALL-MUDDLE.

13th June 1935

A Recipe from Granny's Cook Book:



FRICASSEE SHEEP TONGUES

6 tongues
1 pint milk and water
Chopped parsley

1½ oz. Butter
1 tablespoon flour

Method –

- (1) Wash tongues to remove some of the salt.
- (2) Put them into warm water and cook till tender – about 2½ hours.
- (3) Lift and skin.
- (4) Put butter into saucepan.
- (5) When melted add flour.
- (6) Stir till smooth, and gradually add the milk and water.
- (7) Stir till it thickens and boils.
- (8) Add tongues, and, when thoroughly heated again, serve on hot dish with sauce poured over.
- (9) Garnish with chopped parsley.

Look for more mouth-watering recipes in future issues.

Thank You Leonie
S.H.

**Another photograph from our Heritage
Collection**



21520

Commercial Road 1912

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 15th August.

44 Buckley Street. (Next to T.A.B.)

Commencing at 7.30 pm.



Will it be another tricky one?



Quiz Corner

The answer to our June question was:

Zenna Rintoull

(Nee McCrory)

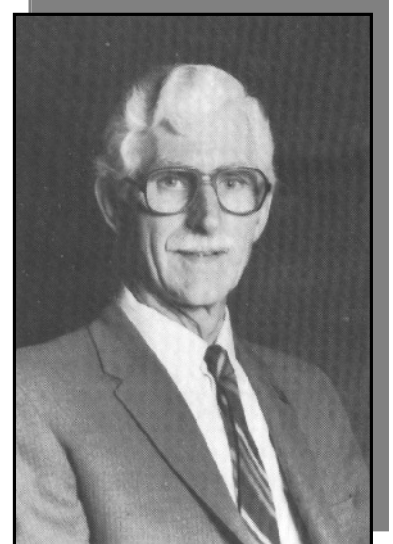
Your question for this issue is:



Morwell Historical Society
Inc.
Annual Subscription Rates:

Single: \$17.00

Family/Double: \$20.00



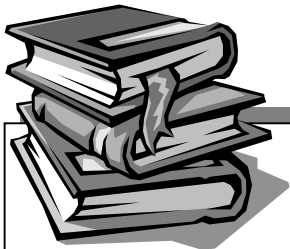
Our Internet Address is now:

www.latrobacityonline.com

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

Who am I?

Claassens Computers



Did You Know That:



- ✱ The Australian Natives Association established their branch in Morwell on Tuesday, 16th. August 1892.
- ✱ The E.S.&A. Bank opened their Morwell Branch in 1957; the first Manager was Mr. Colin Birrell. The branch was located at 13 Church Street.