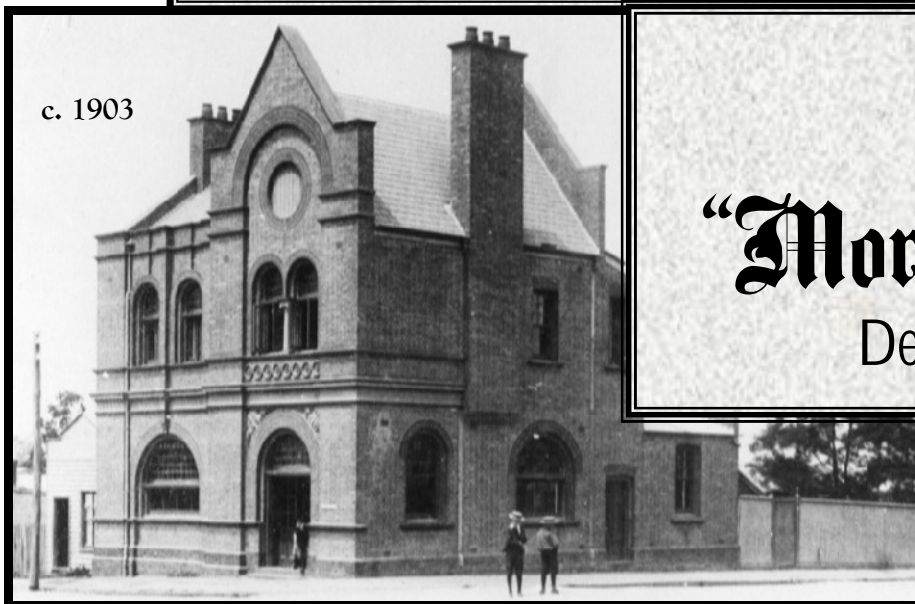


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.latrobeonline.com

c. 1903



The

AOO 16986 W

“Morwell Post”

December 2006



Vol. 23 No.6

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2006 A Brief Review

It has been, on the whole, a successful year for our society. A good deal of time and effort went into the move to our new premises in Buckley Street. We are now well settled in the new rooms and able to display items from our collection which had previously been kept in storage due to lack of space.

Members have participated in the planning and development of Legacy Place and the unveiling of a bust in honour of Sir Stanley Savige, and also in the development and enhancement of the facilities at the Town Common. We have also enjoyed visits to other local history Societies and have been part of the Latrobe Combined History Group and the Gippsland Association of Affiliated Historical Societies.

At our Annual Dinner in October guests Dianne and Graham Goulding gave us a fascinating account of their experiences while teaching in China, and we were pleased to co-host, with Traralgon Historical Society, a visit by the National Trust Photographic Committee.

A challenge which we face in 2007 is to increase our membership, which has fallen somewhat over past years, and to foster interest in and enjoyment of our activities by the general public. **Elsie.**

“The Post”

Derham’s Hill (final)	p. 2
Changing face of Morwell	p. 4
Starling Shoot 1929	p. 5
Church Street Motors (ad)	p. 6
Morwell Shire Presidents	p. 7
Burglary Gude’s Arcade	p. 8
Obituary (Mrs Kaye 1906)	p. 11
Quiz corner	p. 12

Reminiscences of Derham's Hill, Victoria –Final instalment

On Saturday mornings whilst shopping for the following week, the folk from Derham's Hill, mostly the men, chatted on the pavement along Commercial Road and many new friendships were made. Michael Guss stores were a must for drapery and manchester goods and the milk bar at the corner of Commercial Road and Hazelwood Road did as much trade as the local hotel.

New words had to be learned. Lamb's fry - liver; flaps (neck of mutton, not an air raid sortie). G'day mate; the bush – not a small tree. Bobbie pins – hair grips. Dag – something derogatory. Spencer – not a new boyfriend, but a vest with sleeves; and Dingbat – our stray adopted cat.

Occasionally, a rodeo would arrive and was set up next to the Morwell Advertiser on a large vacant block at the eastern end of Commercial Road.

On race days, buses would load up their passengers and head off for the races at Traralgon or Moe. Hats and gloves for the ladies were the order of the day and because of the expertise of the local shopkeepers; seldom did one see two garments the same.

There was some talk of the need for a local hall at Derham's Hill to serve the needs of the residents, but it wasn't built by the earlier part of the 1950's and perhaps there was a lost opportunity for the churches and service organizations from the surrounding districts to provide at least some activity and to increase their membership. I imagine that local Ministers of Religion visited residents individually as part of a pastoral care programme, but Ecumenical ideas were not in wide use then and perhaps opportunities were lost in that direction also.

Whilst the needs for entertainment, other social activities and the fostering of friendships and caring for each other were important; especially for the women left in the home each day, uppermost in minds of most was the end of the rainbow and whatever was hoped for. For some, a house in Morwell or Traralgon, a promotion in one's job or in the case of Vera and May, a job at the Mill.

In the case of the couple who had made the best garden in Derham's Hill, it was a wish to stay a little longer to care for their plants and they must have been the last residents to leave and "put out the light".

What a tribute to them that they maintained a little garden of Eden dug from virgin bush and managed it all with a limited water supply.

In the case of the Powter's, it must have been a resolution to stay in business serving the region. This they have accomplished admirably with the business

keeping up with changing demands, and by the guidance of Mr Powter senior who when he visited U.S. with the Rotary Club had received advice in the early 1950's "get big or get out". It must be a matter of pride that they didn't get out.

Once the job of building had been finished, "Charlie" and his gang went off to other construction jobs, the timber camp broke up and the workers scattered to other work camps; or in the case of Jackie Love, to a house in Traralgon and marriage to a local woman.

Some became disillusioned with the Mill and life in the bush and went to other places. At least one British couple moved to another part of Victoria to manage a business and some went to the many construction jobs near by.

It is now over fifty years since the first residents moved to Derham's Hill and many will now have died.

However, there must be left many of the first children to have lived there. Should they have letters, photographs or other family papers to offer they could add to the story of a good chapter in the history of Victoria at a time when it was necessary to expand the workforce in the shortest possible time.

It is ironic that the same need has surfaced again in recent months. Will there be any more settlements like Derham's Hill?

Are people less willing in this day and age to move to new place of work without a package of four-star accommodation, transport, medical facilities and anything else not always immediately available to everyone else?

Where are you now?

A memorial to Alice and Herbert Tindall and Family is engraved on the Tribute Wall of the Immigration Museum in Flinders Street Melbourne.

Their family's appreciation of the hardships and sacrifices their parents made is without bounds.

This contribution was made by **Vera Goldsworthy**.

June 2006.

END

(Many thanks to Vera for this extremely informative account of life at **Derham's Hill**. S.H.)



The Changing Face of Morwell



**Justice Precinct
Commercial Road**

Morwell Advertiser and Gazette

25th. January 1929

GUN CLUB



STARLING SHOOT

(Abridged)

Dr. Mitchell Successful

The Starling Shoot conducted by the Yallourn and Morwell Gun Club on Saturday was well attended and some very fine shooting was witnessed, owing to the strong wind blowing across the ground making many of the birds very difficult to kill within the boundary.

The Club's President (Dr. H.W.F. Mitchell) was again in fine form and carried off local honors by winning the Champion of Champions Competition, after a keen contest in the final round with Norman Payne, of Traralgon, who incidentally was also runner-up last year.

Dr. Mitchell will now be the Club's representative at Tottenham on Foundation Day, when the Melbourne Gun Club have arranged a match between representatives of all gun clubs in Victoria, for which they are donating a very valuable cup for the winner.

Dr. Mitchell is without doubt the most consistent shooter of late, and if his form continues he can be expected to be in the money. His string of 25 kills straight in such a wind on Saturday was a very fine performance, and very rarely had he cause to pull his second barrel.



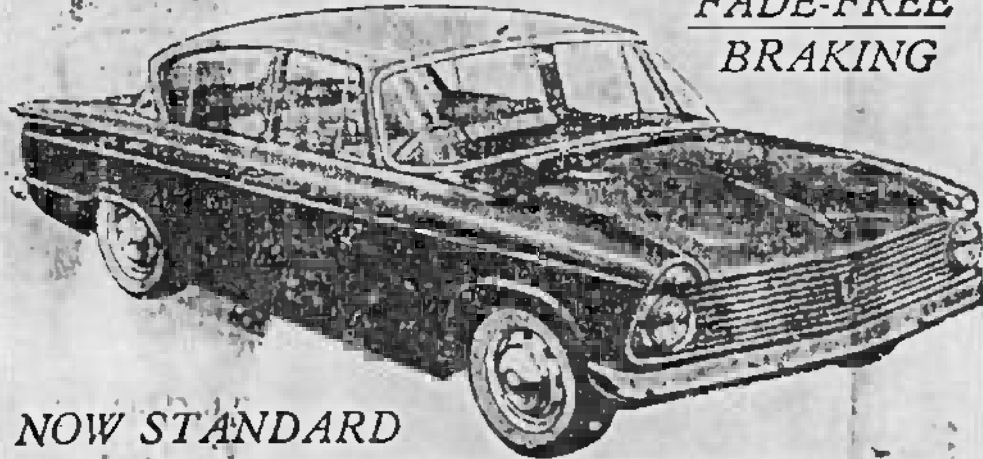
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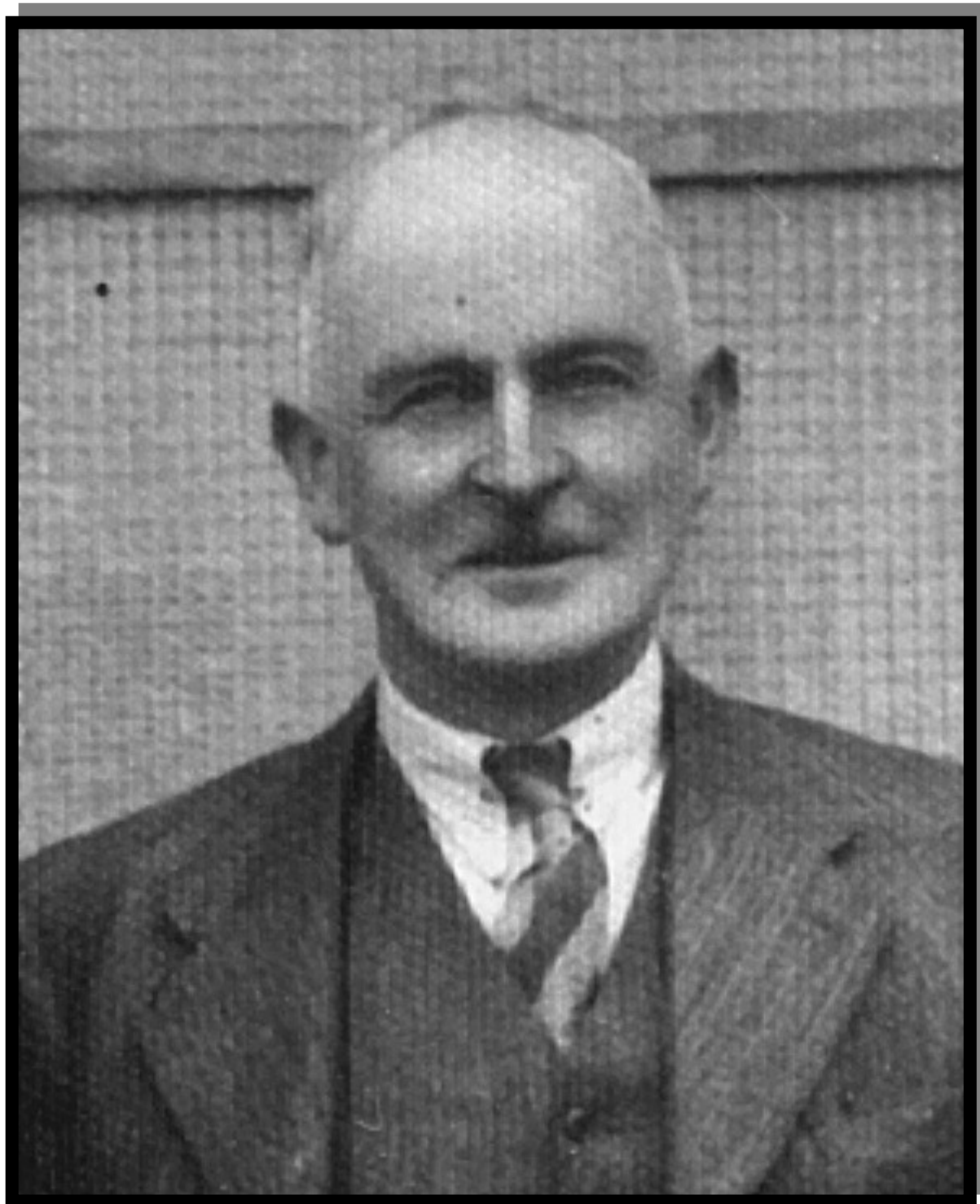
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MORWELL
TED SIMPSON—Manager

PHONE 3141
(After hours 3236)

“The Advertiser” 28th March 1963

From Our Gallery of Morwell Shire Presidents



Cr. A. Coleman 1941-1942

Latrobe Valley Advocate & Advertiser

26th. August 1968

HELD AT BAY BY GUNMAN

A gunman held police at bay for 15 minutes on Friday night, after he had broken into a sporting goods store in Gude's Arcade, Morwell.

The man positioned himself in the far corner of the shop behind a counter, where he had 15 shotguns and knives, and 2000 rounds of Winchester high powered ammunition at his disposal.

Morwell Police and CIB detectives gathered outside the shop, but gunfire prevented them rushing the building through a smashed glass door – the only entrance to the premises.

After several minutes and a number of attempts, First Constable Gapes, managed to get through the door. Using counters and sporting goods display racks for cover, he rushed the gunman and disarmed him. The police did not fire any shots during the siege.

Police believe the man entered the shop, Sportsman's Roost, by smashing the door with a large rock he had taken from nearby municipal gardens.

They found the rock on the floor, several feet inside the door.

Alarm Given

A group of teenagers reported the break-in to police, after they had heard the burglar alarm sounding.

Within minutes, police and detectives were at the scene.

Owner of the store, Mr. J. Gude, was returning to the shop to switch off a radiator he accidentally left on in his office, when he was caught in the midst of the action.

He waited outside with police until the man was overpowered.

Cartridges

He found 20 fired cartridges on the floor where the man had been standing. Several shots lodged in the ceiling, counters and sporting equipment within the shop.

Mr. Gude estimated the damage at about \$400.

Very game

“The policeman that overpowered him was very game,” Mr Gude said. “He had to dodge bullets as he rushed the gunman.

“I wouldn’t have even gone near the building while the gunman was firing shots,” he said. “How the Constable managed to overpower him I’ll never know,” Mr. Gude said.

Police charged a man on Saturday morning with shop breaking, using a firearm with intent to resist arrest, unlawfully and maliciously damaging a shop, and having been armed with a rifle with felonious intent.

He was remanded to Sale Prison, and will appear in Morwell Court tomorrow (Tuesday).



**Constable N. Gapes, the hero of Friday night's shooting incident.
He is pointing to a bullet hole in a showcase.**

Morwell Advertiser

11th. May 1906

OBITUARY



DEATH OF MRS. KAYE



It is with feelings of very deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of a very old resident of the district, in the person of Mrs. S. Kaye, of Morwell Bridge, which sad event took place on Sunday last, after an illness extending over twelve months.

Deceased was born in Carlton, Melbourne, in 1859, but soon after being married she removed with her husband to Morwell – nearly 30 years ago – and remained in the district until the time of her death. She always enjoyed good health till about twelve months ago, when she suffered from a complication of diseases. About five months ago she was admitted to the Melbourne Hospital, but after remaining there for four months the doctors stated they could do her no good, and at her own request she was brought home, returning to Morwell on the 24th ult.

She suffered severely from dropsy and heart disease, and for several days her death was almost hourly expected. She was a lady most highly esteemed and respected by all with whom she came in contact, and much sympathy is expressed for Mr. Kaye and members of the family in their sad bereavement.

On Tuesday the remains of deceased were interred in the Hazelwood Cemetery, Mr. Blanchard officiating at the grave. Prior to the funeral cortege leaving, a short service was held at the house, when one of deceased's favourite hymns, "Abide with Me," was sung. "Safe in the arms of Jesus," was also sung at the grave.

The neighbours and friends of deceased were very kind during her illness, for which the bereaved ones feel very grateful. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. Tulloch.

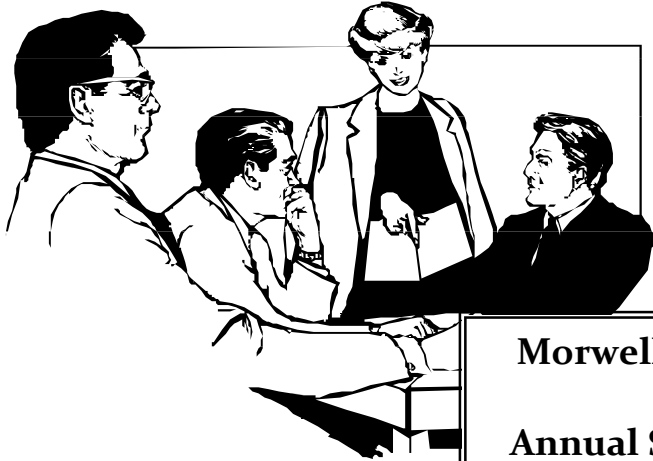


Next Meeting:

Tuesday 15th February 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

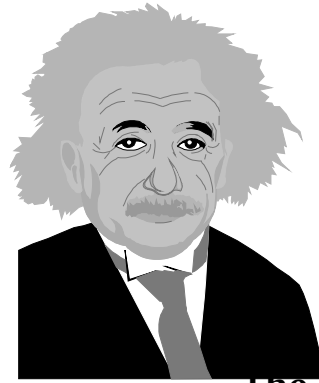


Our Internet Address is now:

www.latrobacityonline.com

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

Claassens Computers



Quiz Corner

The answer to our
October question was:

The Governor of Victoria
Lord Huntingfield.



Your question for this
issue is:

Which of the following
three schools was the
first to be established
in the district?

Hazelwood Ridge

Maryvale

Morwell

