### Morwell Historical Society Inc.



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### The Post Office Turns 50!!!

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2005 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the official opening of the Morwell Post Office building situated on the corner of Princes' Drive and Church Street.

To commemorate this special occasion the Society will be organising an informative display to be held in our Church Street rooms. We will also be preparing hand-out materials for those interested in our township's postal heritage.

More on this closer to the event

### SOME INTERESTING POSTAL FACTS:

- 1. The first postal services in Morwell township operated from the railway station in July 1877.
- 2. The post office building situated at the corner of Tarwin Street and Commercial Road was opened in 1892. The building was a double-storeyed Gothic style structure (see above) built at a cost of 1,600 pounds.
- 3. In August1937 a clock was installed in the Post Office tower, the cost of the clock was donated by former state school pupils. Mr. Gerald Gilbert performed the official unveiling.

## Morwell Advertiser

### 16<sup>th</sup> April 1959

### "WALES" IN NEW PREMISES

AFTER seven years in temporary premises at Morwell, the Bank of New South Wales, Australia's oldest bank, today entered into occupation of its unusually designed modern banking chamber in Commercial Road.

The building completes the construction of new premises by each of the six trading banks in Morwell in the past five years – an expression of their complete faith in the future of the town and district.

In making the change, the Bank of New South Wales has transferred its banking facilities from the original site immediately adjacent to the west of the Advertiser office to the new location immediately east.

The Bank opened for business in Morwell in 1952 under the management of Mr. C. Giersch, who was succeeded on transfer to Inglewood in 1955 by the present manager, Mr. G. R. Davine.

#### **FEATURES**

The exterior design features a recessed forecourt flanked by walls of pale grey brick and spanned by exposed, white painted rolled steel joists to which dark green plastic lettering is attached.

The front wall of the banking chamber consists mainly of white wooden frames. Emphasis is given by means of a solid panel of dark green and gold mosaics with white lettering superimposed.

The Banking Chamber ceiling is divided into two sections, forming opposing slopes and based upon a scissors truss, with glazed sections for top lighting both ways to the centre of the Chamber.

White, marbled vinyl floor tiles are used throughout with the addition of a small percentage of russet red and green vinyl tiles echoing the main wall colours.

Partitions and fittings are of polished maple, and the light fittings are spun aluminium. Mr. Davine said he was certain that the new premises would provide both customer comfort and a speedy and efficient banking service.

# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette 11<sup>th</sup> April 1924

### Wedding

### GOODING - NADENBOUSCH

At "Enslin," Hazelwood, on Wednesday afternoon last, at the residence of the bride, Charles G. L. Gooding, of Tanjil South, was united in the bonds of matrimony to Hilda Nadenbousch, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alphonse Nadenbousch.

The room in which the wedding ceremony was celebrated was prettily decorated.

The Rev. E. L. Slade Mallen was the officiating minister.

Miss Emily Nadenbousch efficiently carried out the duties of bridesmaid, as also did Mr Clarence Gooding those of best man.

Afterwards the wedding breakfast was partaken of and the usual toasts honored.

The catering arrangements were splendidly carried out by Mr Wilson, of Morwell.





# Morwell Advertiser and Gazette 1<sup>st.</sup> July 1937 OBITUARY

### **DEATH OF MR ISAAC MATSON**

Another very old and most highly respected resident of the district, in the person of Mr. Ike Matson, of North Hazelwood, passed away on Sunday last, in St. Andrew's Hospital, Melbourne. The news of his death came as a shock to his many friends, few of whom were aware of the serious state of his health.

Deceased's parents were among the very early pioneers to select land close to Morwell, on the Morwell-Yinnar road. The property, which is now owned by Mr. John Ronald, was named "Sylva Grange" by the late Mr. James Matson, who was a staunch Presbyterian and a founder of the Morwell Presbyterian Church.

The late Mr. Ike Matson was born at "Sylva Grange" 59 years ago, and attended the Morwell State school for some years. He subsequently went to Melbourne and became an expert photographer.

About thirty years ago he returned to Morwell and followed farming pursuits. Later on, he purchased property on Tramway Road, North Hazelwood, formerly owned by the late Mr. John Flewin, where he resided and took a keen interest in the affairs of the district, and was held in high esteem by a large circle of friends.

He suffered a severe loss about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years ago, when his wife died suddenly from heart failure. His health soon after gave way and he suffered a good deal from an internal ulcer. About a fortnight ago he was admitted to St. Andrew's Hospital where he underwent a serious operation. Although the operation appeared to be successful he later on took a very bad turn and passed away as stated, on Sunday last.

The remains of deceased were interred in the Hazelwood Cemetery on Tuesday last, when the very large gathering that assembled at the grave side evidenced the high respect in which he was held by all sections of the community.

The burial service, conducted by the Rev. W. S. Laity, was an impressive one.

The mortuary arrangements were carried out by Messrs Drayton & Garson, of Melbourne.

Deceased leaves an only daughter (Miss Jean) and deep sympathy is felt for her in the great loss she has sustained in the death of both her mother and father in such a short period.

Deceased also leaves two sisters – Sister Jean Matson and Miss Maggie Matson, of Melbourne, to mourn the loss of an only brother.

# Morwell Advertiser 5<sup>th.</sup> September 1913 MORWELL SHIRE COUNCIL

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3

Present. – Crs. Dunbar, Buckley, McDonald (Morwell Riding); Falla, Fraser, English, (Hazelwood Riding); Heesom, Scanlon, Edney (Yinnar Riding); Latter, Kneebone, Radburn (Boolarra Riding)

#### **Election of President**

Prior to the ordinary business being proceeded with, the Secretary (Mr. Sinclair), who occupied the chair, said it was necessary to elect a president for ensuing year, but before doing so the allowance would have to be fixed.

Cr. McDonald said the allowance last year was £40, and he moved that the same allowance be made for ensuing year.

Seconded by Cr. Heesom and carried.

Cr. English said he had much pleasure in moving that Cr. Edney be elected President for ensuing year. He thought it right that they should institute the custom of allowing the presidency to go round the ridings. There were many reasons in favor of Cr. Edney being elected President.

Cr. Falla seconded the proposition.

Cr. McDonald said he had much pleasure in supporting the nomination of Cr. Edney for presidency. He thought it only right that the office should pass round.

Cr. Edney was one of the prime movers in having the Shire divided into ridings, and although he (Cr. McDonald) was opposed to the movement at the time, he now believed it was a good thing. He felt sure Cr. Edney would fill the office of President with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The motion was carried unanimously.

In responding, Cr. Edney said that when he left home he had not the slightest idea that he would have such an honor conferred upon him. He thought it right the office should go round the ridings, and fully expected it would have gone to Hazelwood riding on this occasion.

He admitted having taken a good deal of interest in the movement to divide the Shire into ridings, and was now quite satisfied that the right thing had been done. He considered they had to climb the biggest hill the first year, and now they had got over it, he felt sure the ratepayers as a whole had reason to thank those who had been instrumental in having the Shire divided.

He did not expect to fill the Presidential chair as ably as Cr. McDonald had done, but he would do his best and hoped, with the assistance of fellow councillors and Secretary, to carry out the duties pertaining to the office to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Cr. Scanlon was congratulated upon his re-election, and also Crs. English, Kneebone and McDonald, who were returned unopposed.

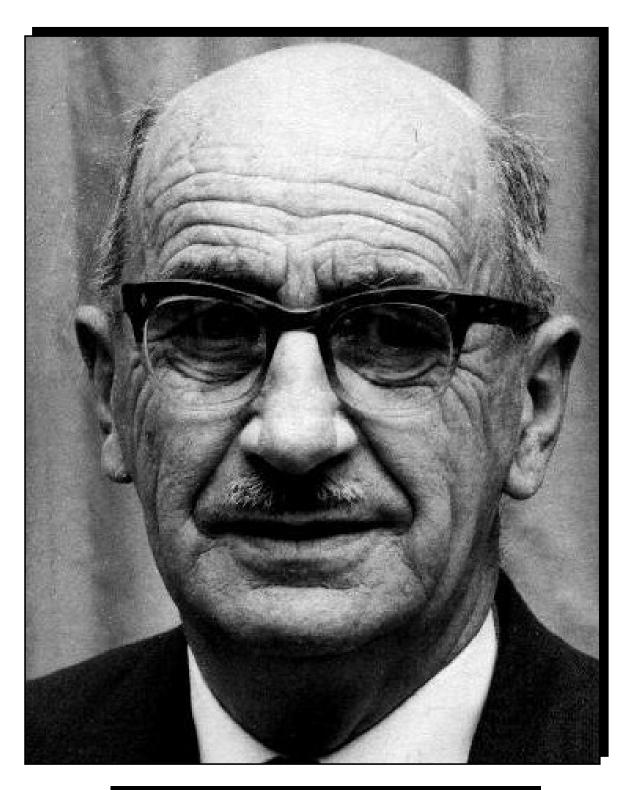
In responding, Cr. Scanlon said he thought it a mistake that the Shire was put to the expense of an election on this occasion. The money would have been better expended in filling up holes on the road.





Photograph: Historical Society archives

## Morwell Shire Presidents:



Councillor W. J. Pettigrew:

1956/57, 1963/64, 1972/73, 1976/77

### Next Meeting:

Our first meeting for 2005 will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th.</sup> February at 7.30 pm

> 21 Church Street. Everyone most welcome!





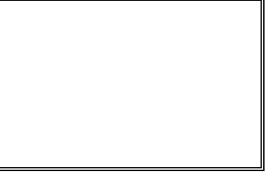
The answer to the last brainbuster for 2004 was:

### Mr. Richard NOY.

Our Puzzler for this issue is:

In which year was the Mechanics' Institute Hall destroyed by fire?

Morwell Facts & Figures





## More from our Morwell Fact File:

- 1. The Hazelwood Railway Station was closed to all traffic in September1953.
- 2. La Mode Industries opened their Morwell plant on Friday 13<sup>th.</sup> July 1945.
- 3. The first Methodist Church building in Morwell was constructed in 1883.
- 4. Morwell's first town band was established on 9<sup>th.</sup> July 1897.
- 5. The Morwell Co-op opened in 1955.

# Having trouble finding our website?

Things have changed over the last couple of weeks regarding access to our internet site.

Our new Website Address is now:

www.Latrobecityonline.com

