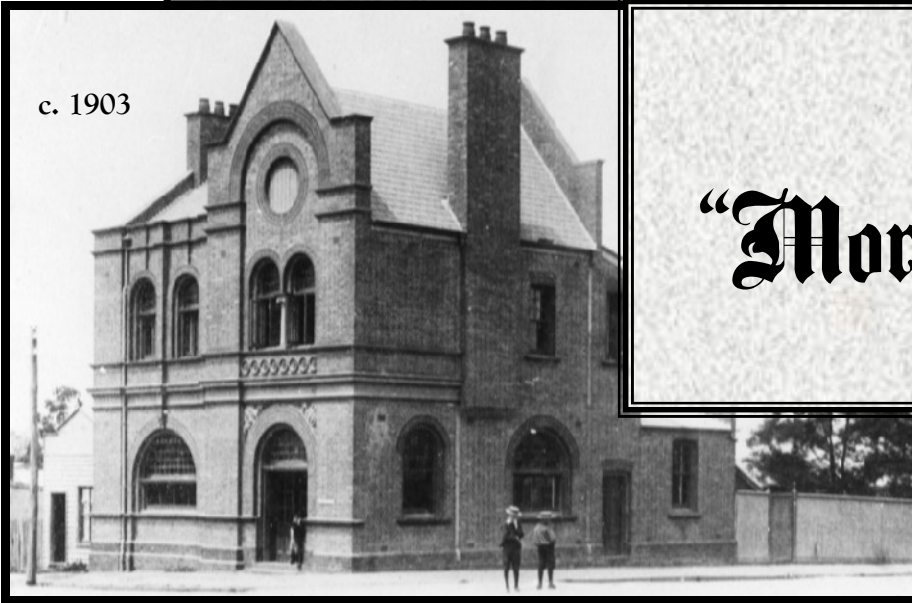


# Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

c. 1903



# The

AOO 16986 W

# “Morwell Post”

June 2008

Vol. 25 No.3

Secretary: Elsie McMaster  
2 Harold Street Morwell  
Tel: 5134 1149

Compiled by: Stephen Hellings



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## 2008... our 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday!!!

### GAAHS MEETING

Morwell Historical Society hosted the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Gippsland Association of Affiliated Historical Societies (GAAHS), which was held in St. Mary's Anglican Church hall, Morwell on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Around thirty delegates from the 24 member Societies attended. Highlights included an address by former Mayor of Morwell and Commissioner for Wellington Shire, **John Guy**, who spoke about the changes in local government brought about by amalgamation. He also gave an outline of the history of the **Arthur Boyd** mural “The Ascending Christ”, at present a feature of St. Mary's Church but soon to be moved to the Australian Centre for Culture and Christianity in Canberra.

### “The Post”

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Other Items discussed at the meeting included the establishment of a Gippsland History Trail, proposals for the establishment of a regional archive in Gippsland, and for a workshop on ‘Managing Our Collections’.

East Gippsland Historical Society has offered to host the 2009 meeting in Bairnsdale.

Elsie McMaster

## MURIEL ZENNA FEEHAN

Members were greatly saddened to learn of the passing last week of **Muriel Feehan**. Muriel was a foundation member of Morwell Historical Society and has been a staunch supporter over the years.

Muriel's grandfather, **John Rintoull** was a district pioneer-

- \* Morwell's first blacksmith
- \* Respected townsman
- \* Known as Father of Morwell.

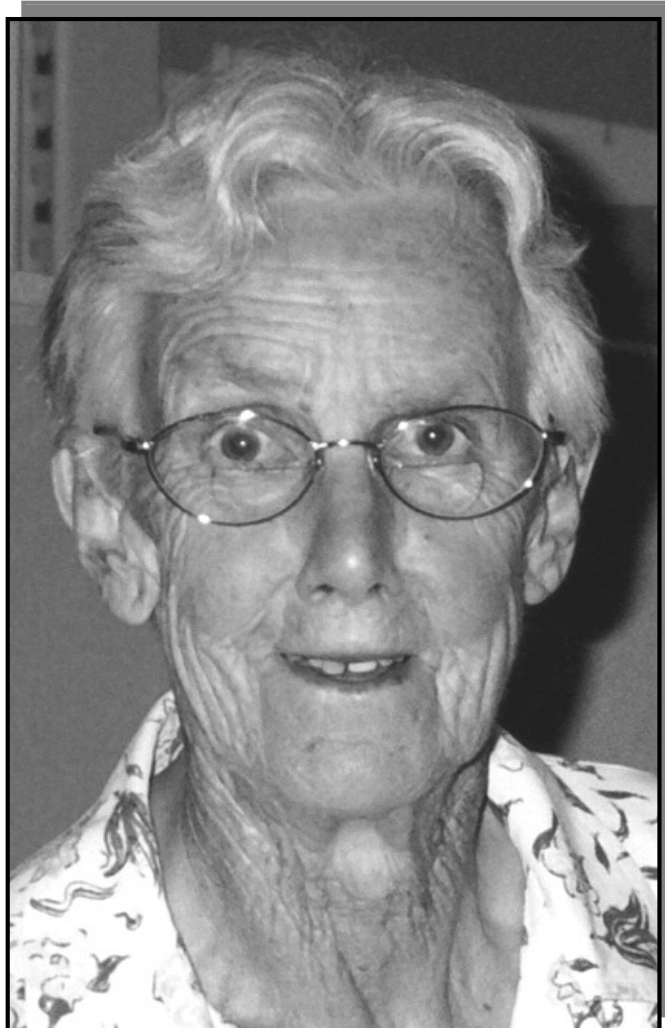
Her grandmother, **Zenna Rintoull** (nee McCrory) was the first teacher at Maryvale Ridge, first school in Morwell district.

Muriel's late husband, **Matt Feehan**, was a Morwell businessman for many years – had a tyre retailing business on corner of Princes Drive and Hoyle Street (where present chemist and medical clinic are now).

Muriel was a teacher – taught at a number of schools including Yallourn.

Muriel's cousins, **Nancy Gordon** and **Mary Ireland** are also longstanding members of our Society.

**Muriel Feehan**  
(nee Williams)



# Morwell and Mirboo Gazette

9<sup>th</sup>. February 1886

## OPENING OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND, MORWELL



The formal opening of the above Church took place on Sunday last, the Venerable Archdeacon Stretch preaching both in the morning and afternoon, the Rev. J. R. Walker, of Traralgon, reading the services.

Owing to the threatening appearance of the weather combined with the fact that the last few days have been very stormy, the attendance at the morning service was not so large as otherwise might have been expected. In the afternoon, however, there were a much larger number present, several of the congregation of St. James, Traralgon, lending their presence.

It may not be out of place at this juncture to give a brief account of the Church and the several events which led to its erection. Some two years since it was considered advisable by those who belonged to the denomination that a church should be built, and an effort was made to collect subscriptions. A number of promises were made, and for a time it seemed that everything was progressing satisfactorily.

The want of some responsible head to keep the movement alive had, however, the effect of deadening the efforts previously made, and for nearly 12 months matters remained much in the same state as when started.

The first permanent step was made by Mr. John Robb, contractor for the Mirboo line, who showed his liberality and earnestness in the cause, by presenting the committee with a sum of £25 in addition to sufficient metal for the foundation, and the foundation stone was laid by that gentleman on the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1885, and a silver trowel was presented to him on the occasion.

Arrangements were then commenced for the purchase of bricks, &c, and as soon as these were on the ground a contract was let for the building. The brickwork being finished, the floor and roof were quickly laid, and the Church made ready for the opening.

We are informed that the subscriptions amount to about £120, which added to a sum of £100 borrowed from the Diocesan Registry, makes a total of £220. The account for bricks came to £90, but Mr. Hickox, with his usual liberality made a donation of £10 to the church.

The contract price for the brickwork was £47, and for the carpenter's work £19 10s. (both labor only), the account for wood, iron and all other necessaries amounting to £180. It will thus be seen that the church has cost about £330, and that there is a deficiency of over £100, not including the loan from the registry.

There are still several improvements to be effected, viz., the plastering inside, seats, bell, &c., so that committee will have to work hard indeed to meet all demands. An organ has been procured through the instrumentality of some of the lady members of the congregation, who are deserving of much thanks, as this will in a measure relieve the committee of one source of anxiety.

A reading desk has also been promised, and is expected to be in position for next service. Now that the church is built we hope to see its members assist bodily to wipe off the debt, and to effect this we cannot suggest a better method than that suggested by Archdeacon Stretch, viz., to fill the church.

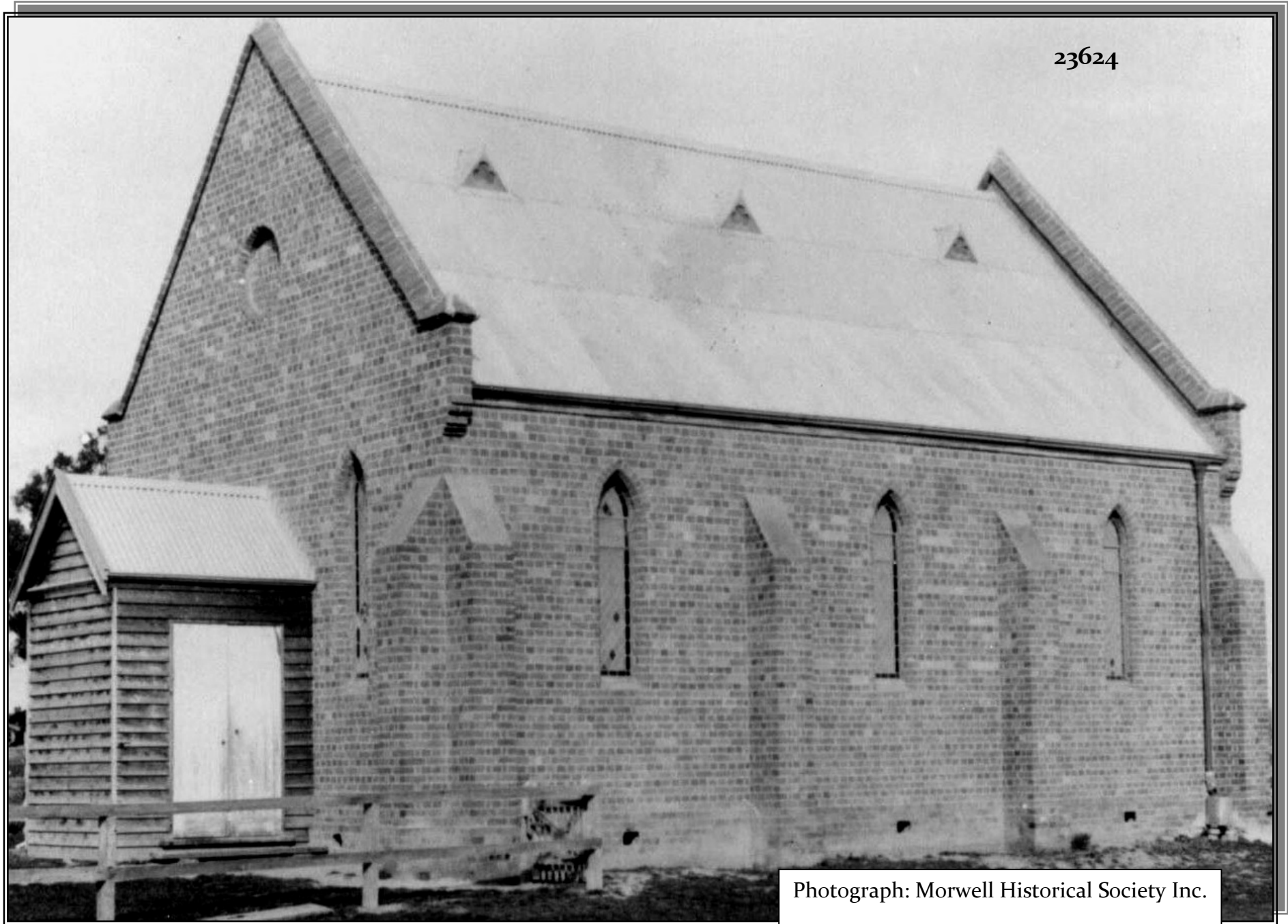
At the morning service the Archdeacon took for his text the fifth verse of the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospels of St. Luke: - "For he loveth our nation, and hath built us a synagogue," upon which a most excellent discourse was rendered.

The collection in the morning amounted to £4 6s. 9d., and in the afternoon to £4 7s. 6d.

On Thursday the tea meeting and concert will be held, and with favorable weather there should be a large attendance. Seeing that the church is so deeply in debt we have every confidence in the residents of the district assisting to reduce it by giving their presence at both the tea and concert.

In addition to the local talent, we are informed that Herr Joseph, of Warragul, has kindly consented to assist, and that several other lady and gentlemen amateurs have promised to lend a helping hand.

23624



Photograph: Morwell Historical Society Inc.

# **Morwell Advertiser**

**20<sup>th</sup> March 1958**

## ***NEW CHURCH OF ENGLAND WILL BE READY ON SCHEDULE***

It is being suggested that the new Church of England building will not be ready in time for 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 29. One is even lead to believe that in some quarters modest odds are being offered one way or the other!

But in fact the work is well in hand, and all will be ready.

Next Friday and Saturday morning there will be need of some willing workers. Further details will be given in next Thursday's paper.

Last Thursday's bumper crop of workers completed the kneelers for the new church – and there remains only a couple of hours' work to complete those for St. Phillip's. This has been a long and arduous task, and the men have responded splendidly.

The next mass production effort is that of the preparation of new choir robes. These will be ready in time, and the matter is in the capable direction of Mrs. J. Embleton.

### **SEATING**

The position regarding seating arrangements needs some clarification. There is only a limited number of seats within the church. A number of official guests have been invited; seats have been reserved for elderly parishioners. This has left only a few seats, and these have been distributed among the regular worshippers.

However, there will be ample standing room, and there will be ample accommodation for many people at the glass north wall. Open doors will enable those outside to hear as well as see the proceedings.

If the weather is wet, arrangements have been made to cover in the pergola with tarpaulins.

Tea and biscuits will be available to everyone after the service.

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# Seven Grand Building Sites.

## MARYVALE CRESCENT.

### MONDAY NEXT, SEPT. 22.

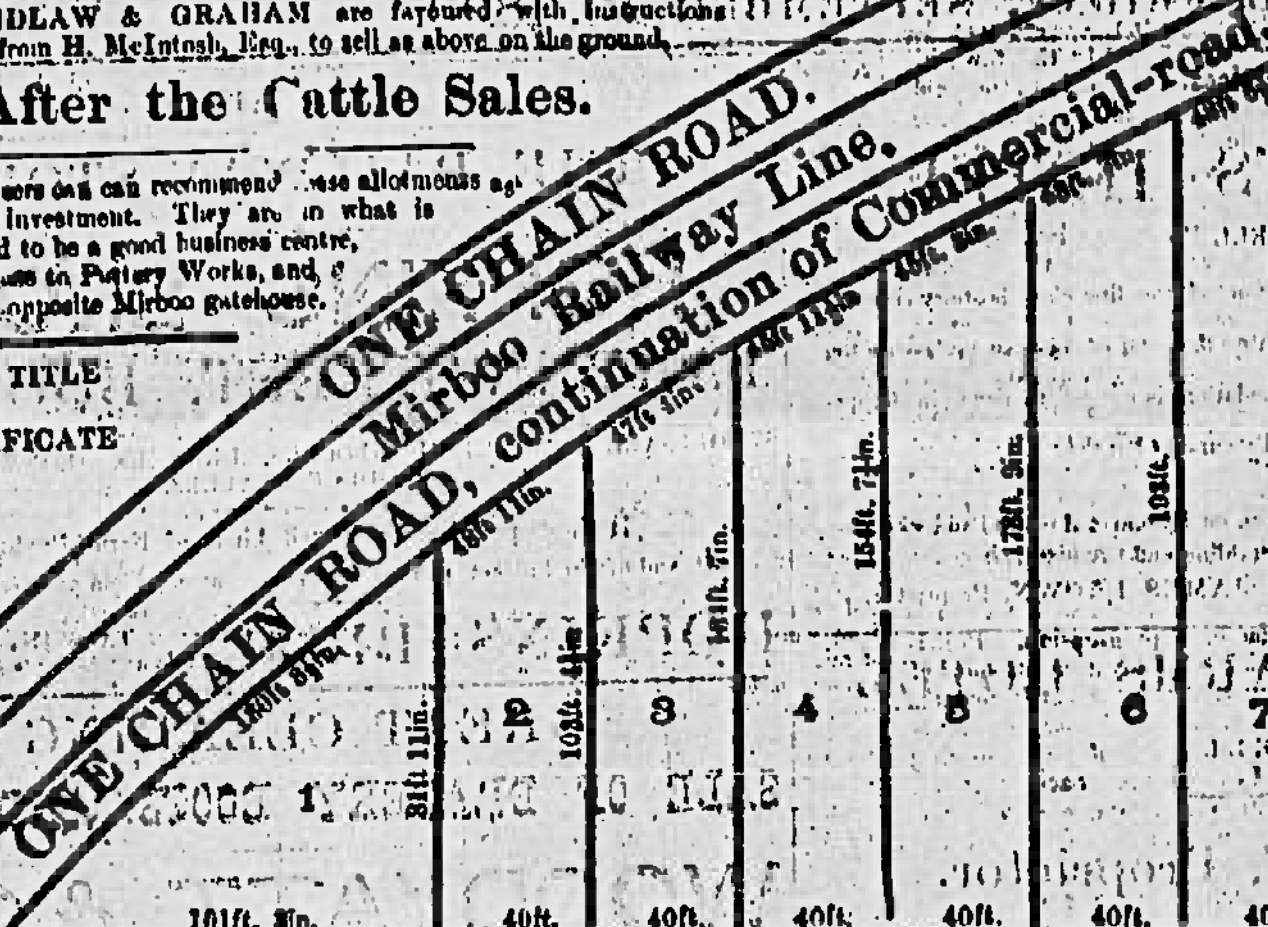
LADLAW & GRAHAM are favoured with instructions from H. McIntosh, Esq., to sell as above on the ground.

### After the Cattle Sales.

The auctioneers can recommend these allotments as a good investment. They are in what is bound to be a good business centre, close to Pottery Works, and opposite Mirboo gatehouse.

TITLE

CERTIFICATE



Right-of-Way, 12ft wide

8-Inch Reserve

Terms--Third cash; balance, 6 and 12 months at 6 p.c.

## Morwell Advertiser

19<sup>th</sup>. September 1890

# Morwell Advertiser

24<sup>th</sup>. April 1952

## Two Fatalities in House Fire

Two men died when a fire destroyed a 70 year old four-roomed weatherboard house in Commercial road at about 1.30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Both were burnt beyond recognition and all efforts by the Morwell Police to establish identification have so far failed.

The house, which was owned by the estate of the late Mrs. Dusting, had been officially unoccupied for the past three years, but apparently had been used by itinerant workers for some time. Police believe that the two men were of this type, and would appreciate any description from any member of the public who may have seen them in or about the house during the previous few days.

The alarm was given at about 1.25 a.m., and Morwell Fire Brigade under Lieut. Jack Hughes, were on the scene within ten minutes, but the house was well ablaze and the roof had collapsed. Firemen concentrated their efforts on preventing the fire from spreading to the Rowell home next door.

When the remains of the first man were discovered just inside the front door Morwell police were called and a search by First Constable T. F. Morgan revealed a second body in the fireplace of a rear room.

Both bodies have been removed to the City Morgue, Melbourne, for an examination by the Government Pathologist, Dr. Bowden.





# Morwell Advertiser

16<sup>th</sup>. June 1958

## Karma Theatre Saved by T.V.

MORWELL'S Karma Theatre came near to destruction by fire last night.

Only the fact that neighbouring residents had sat up late watching television saved it.

Mr. Jimmy Blackford, of 15 Buckley Street, was preparing to go to bed at about 10.35 p.m. when he saw flames from an out-house at the side of the theatre.

The building contains the theatre's heating equipment. A prompt call to the Morwell C.F.A. Brigade, and volunteers with Sub-Station Officer W. Hicks in charge saved the fire from reaching the main building.

"A small area of the rafters had already caught alight", Mr. Hicks told The Advertiser.

If Mr. Blackford had watched T.V. for a few minutes more, very serious damage might have been done to the theatre."

The Morwell Brigade attended the scene for nearly an hour.



**Not so lucky this time! Karma Hall destroyed by fire in  
2005**

One from our archives...



21520

Commercial Road December 1912

# Photo Quiz



**This well-respected Morwellite passed away in 1983 can you identify him?**

Answer will appear in our next issue

## **Next Meeting:**

**Please note change of meeting day and time.**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>. June at 2.30 p.m.**

**44 Buckley St. (next to T.A.B.)**

**Morwell Historical Society  
Inc.**

**Annual Subscription Rates:**

**Single: \$17.00**

**Family/Double: \$20.00**



**Local History On-Line**

**Our Internet Address is:**

**[www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au](http://www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au)**



**Bond, Louis W.**

## **Who's Who:**

**Louis W. Bond: (1909-2003)**

**Shire Councillor: 1949-1981**

**Presidential Chair: 1960-1961, 1967-1968, 1968-1969**

**Long association with Morwell Football Club.**

**Life Member of Morwell Historical Society.**

**Associated with many community organisations.**

