

Vol 4 No. 5

MAY 1988

The Morwell Historical Society News

Published Monthly (Except Dec)

Meets every 3rd Tues,
of the month at 7:30pm
Collins St. Primary
School.

Secretary Mrs. E. Mc Master.

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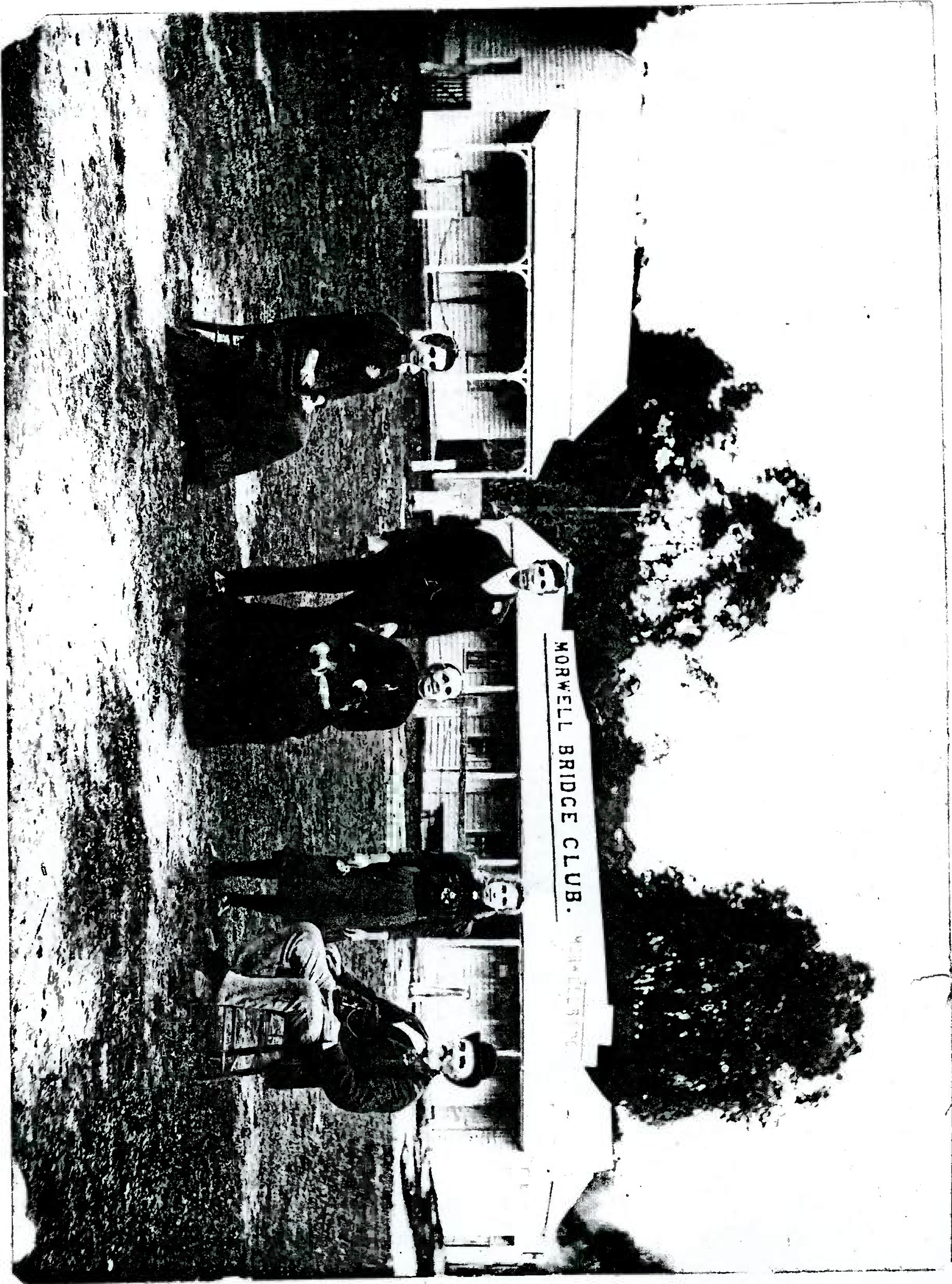
WELCOME TO THE MAY NEWSLETTER

For this newsletter, material concentrates on the Hazelwood Estate area - the area now largely under the S.E.C. Hazelwood Pondage. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Coleman and Eric Lubcke for the reports from the unveiling of the plaque at "Anzac Lookout".

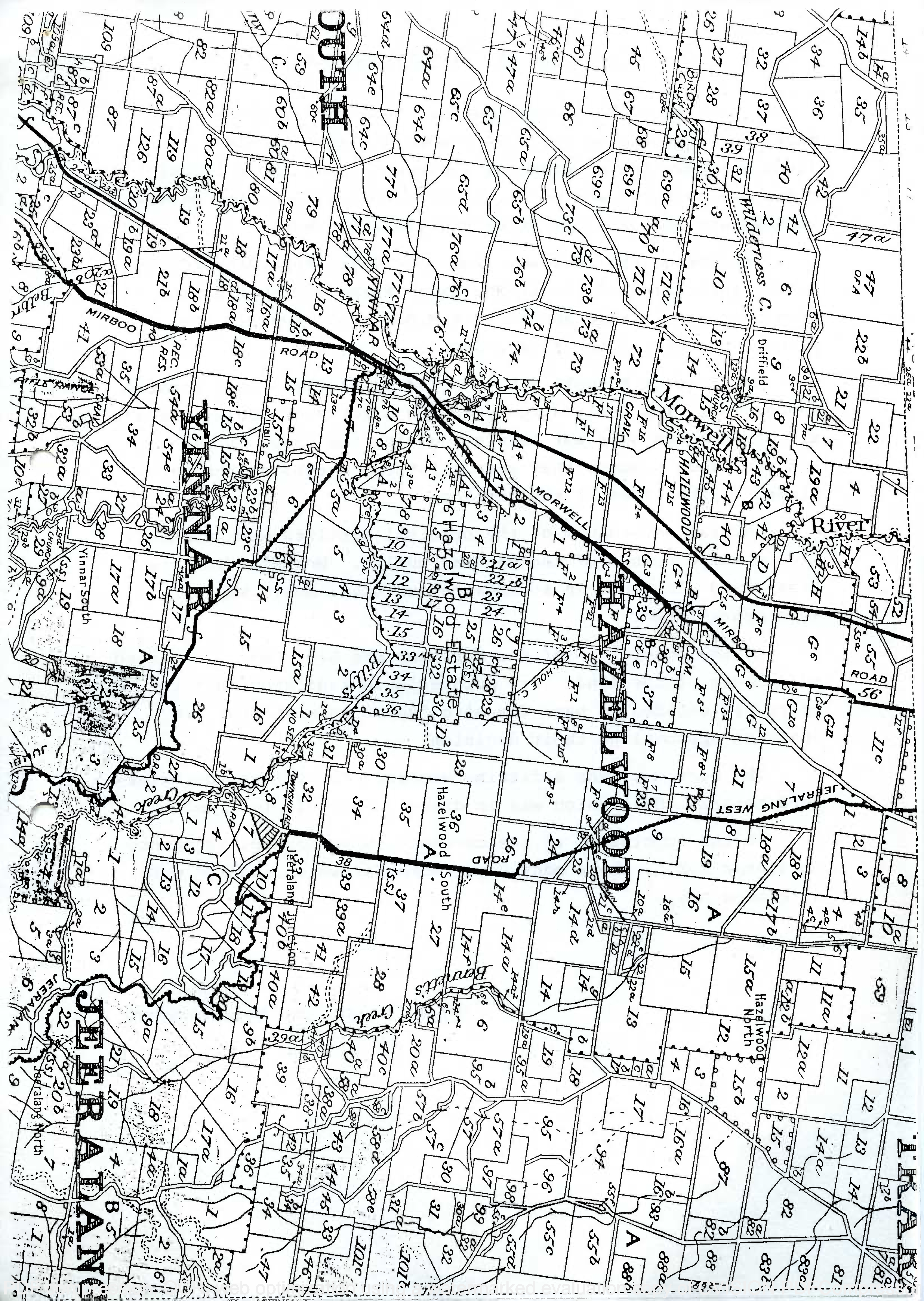
The map shows the area as it was divided amongst early landowners. Eric has also provides a list of names of early landowners and the numbers correspond with the map of the estate area. Hopefully the June newsletter will contain a more detailed map of the area.

The photo of the Godridge family at Morwell Bridge was given to our Society by the Traralgon Historical Society. Morwell Bridge history should be collected and saved in memory of an area now long gone.

Our newsletter thrives on the contributions from you, the member. Please do not feel afraid to make a contribution. There is so much to record.



MR. & MRS. HENRY GOODRIDGE AT MORWELL BRIDGE. THE
LITTLE COTTAGE WAS USED AS A SCHOOL - THE OTHER
BUNKER WAS THE HOTEL.
COAL WAS FOUND HERE BY HENRY GOODRIDGE.



DURAI

HAZELWOOD

MIRBOO

JERALANG

Wilderness C.

Driffield

HAZELWOOD

MIRBOO

JERALANG WEST

JERALANG NORTH

MORWELL

HAZELWOOD

MIRBOO

JERALANG WEST

JERALANG NORTH

MIRBOO

REC. RES.

VILLAGE

STATE

HOLE

JERALANG WEST

JERALANG NORTH

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87

119

188

177a

177b

177c

177d

82

87a

126

119

188

177a

177b

177c

80a

80b

180

180

180

180

180

180

81

17a

16a

18c

18e

15

14

15

79

16

13

14

15

16

17

18

77b

77a

77c

77d

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77f

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64a

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UNVEILING OF THE SETTLERS PLAQUE

A very noteworthy occasion was held at a site above the Hazelwood Cemetery on April 24th when a plaque set in a large stone was unveiled marking the achievements of the original fifty-one settlers who were the first to settle on the Hazelwood Estate and District after the 1914-1918 War.

Present at the occasion were the Shire President (Cr. Gloria Auchterlonie), Local MP. Barry Murphy, Yinnar R.S.L. president Merv Little and Mr. Jim Medew (who unveiled the plaque) one of two veterans present.

Mr. Bugg of Morwell R.S.L. acted as Chairman in a capable manner. Mr. Tom Lawless spoke of the efforts of those settlers all of whom had seen war service; giving the names of each and the block numbers they were allotted, stressing the part played by the wives of the settlers.

Several decendants of the original settlers were present. Also a large number of the general public. Morwell Citizens Brass Band also were in attendance and their music was very much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the Last Post was played by members of the Band. Cr. Auchterlonie indicated that the Shire had decided to name the site "Anzac Lookout" but are awaiting approval of their decision.

The occasion was a fitting memorial to replace the Hazelwood Memorial Hall-which was in despair and sold for removal.

At the conclusion of the ceremony those present adjourned to Yinnar R.S.L. where many happy memories were recalled over afternoon tea.

Report by Mr. and Mrs. Coleman.

NAMES OF THE EARLY SETTLERS ON THE
HAZELWOOD ESTATE.

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1. Frank Irving | 28. Ean Semmin | |
| 2. Len Rule | 29. J. Loyd | |
| 3. Harvey Waddel | 30. John Leviston | |
| 4. Roy Gravier | 31. Alex Bell | |
| 5. Fred Dietrich | 32. Steve Doyle | |
| 6. Bob McNair | 33. Bill Newton | |
| 7. Alex Shaw | 34. Stan Thomas | |
| 8. Don Shaw | 35. Wes Espie | |
| 9. Wilfred Trew | 36. W. Larkins | |
| 10. Dean Jones | | |
| 11. Bill Rintouell | 37. Chas. Payne | |
| 12. Alex Caldwell | 38. Tom Trimble | |
| 13. George Horsbough | 39. Alf Bruce | |
| 14. Alf Brooker | | |
| 15. Shane Ward | 40. Frank Gilfeather | |
| 16. Bill Budge | 41. Bill Sweeney | (on old |
| 17. Steve Unwin | 42. Charlie Hatfield | (McMillian |
| 18. Ned Hogan | 44. Ernie Lock | (Homestead |
| 19. Albert Dietrich | 45. Eric Johnson | (Block. |
| 20. Jimmy Wattman | | |
| 21. G. Bunston | 46. Tosh Vinall | |
| 22. L. Savige | 47. Gerald Atkinson | |
| 23. Doug McFarlane | 48. George McFarlane | |
| 24. Dave Williams | 49. Dave White | |
| 25. Percy Currie | 50. Murray Thompson | |
| 26. Ted Donavon | 51. Dick Thomas | |
| 27. E. Holmes | 52. Lochie Ross | |
| | 53. Jack Medew | |

SUBDIVISION
HAZELWOOD ESTATE
 (McMILLAN'S).

Parish of Hazelwood.
 SCHEDULE OF LOTS.

Lot.	Parish.	Area.	Capital Value	Remarks.
			(not including improvements, buildings, &c.).	
		ACRES.	£	
1 & 1A	Hazelwood	132	2,250	Possession October, 1923
2 & 2A	"	104	2,100	" "
3	"	51	2,300	" "
4	"	53	2,450	" "
5	"	53	2,450	" "
6	"	51	2,300	" "
7	"	37	2,400	" "
8	"	54	2,500	" "
9	"	52	2,500	" "
10	"	51	2,450	Possession part immediately, balance October, 1923
11	"	30	2,400	Possession immediately
12	"	51	2,450	" "
13	"	49	2,350	" "
14	"	51	2,300	Possession October, 1923
15	"	51	2,300	" "
16	"	53	2,450	" "
17	"	50	2,300	Possession immediately
18	"	50	2,350	" "
19	"	50	2,350	" "
20	"	50	2,350	" "
21	"	55	2,300	" "
22	"	53	2,350	" "
23	"	53	2,150	" "
24	"	52	1,950	" "
25	"	57	2,450	Possession part immediately, balance October, 1923
26	"	55	2,500	Possession immediately
27	"	68	2,050	" "
28	"	68	2,100	" "
29	"	80	2,000	" "
30	"	62	2,500	" "
31	"	55	2,500	" "
32	"	54	2,450	" "
33	"	50	2,400	" "
34	"	51	2,350	" "
35	"	54	2,400	" "
36	"	50	2,250	" "
37	"	182	1,850	" "
38	"	153	1,850	" "
39	"	93	2,500	" "
40	"	118	2,100	" "
41	"	105	2,100	" "
42	"	79	2,150	" "
43	"	76	2,100	" "
44	"	76	2,000	" "
45	"	80	2,100	" "

Subject to alteration when survey completed and improvements adjusted, also to any easements that may be required, and to the excision of a school site in a suitable position, if necessary.

TERMS, CONDITIONS, ETC.

Applications must be made on the prescribed form and lodged with the Secretary, Closer Settlement Board, Public Offices, Melbourne, or with the officer conducting the Inquiry Board. No fee or deposit is necessary. An applicant may apply for more than one allotment, but only one can be granted to any one person.

The capital value, including interest at 5 per cent. per annum, repayable by half-yearly instalments of 6 per cent. per annum over a term of 36½ years.

Improvements must be effected to the value of at least two instalments of the purchase money before the end of the first year from the date of lease, and 10 per cent. of the purchase money before the end of the third year, and a further 10 per cent. before the end of the sixth year.

The lessee must reside on his allotment until the land becomes freehold. A Crown grant may issue after twelve years, provided the full amount of the purchase money is paid, if the conditions of lease have been complied with.

Advances to a maximum amount of £625 may be made for the purchase of stock and implements, erection of buildings, fencing, &c.

The lessee cannot transfer, assign, mortgage, or sublet the whole or any part of his allotment within the first six years of the lease, but in case of sickness or adverse circumstances can transfer with the consent of the Board.



Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts.

SUBDIVISION
 or
HAZELWOOD ESTATE
 (McMILLAN'S).

Applications are invited by the Closer Settlement Board from Discharged Soldiers holding Qualification Certificates to take up land for Farm Allotments on this Estate.

Applications should be lodged at the Crown Lands Office, Melbourne, or with the Land Officer, Sale.

The Inquiry Board will be held at Court House, Morwell, on Thursday, the 25th May, 1922, at 9.30 a.m.

PLANS AND PARTICULARS WITHIN.

JAS. W. BUTLER,
 Secretary, Closer Settlement Board.

SHIRE OF MORWELL.

481

Contractor Larran Bros.

For Works of Forming & reforming Paragon Road

Contract No. 1307

Amount of Contract	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 50: 5:
Deposit Lodged for Due Fulfilment of Contract	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 2: 10:
Total							£ 52: 15:

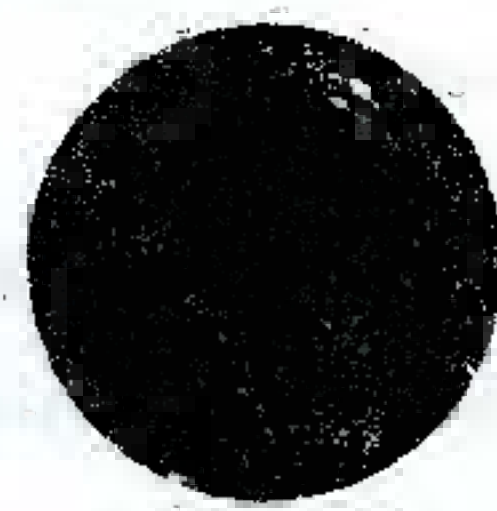
This Contract made this 18th day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and six

Between Larran Bros of Morwell in the State of Victoria Contractor of the first part and the President Councillors and Ratepayers of the SHIRE OF MORWELL of the second part hereinafter and in the Specifications and Conditions of Contract called respectively the Contractor and the Council.

Witnesseth that the Contractor for himself his heirs executors and administrators covenants with the Council to Execute and Perform the Several Works and Provisions and supply all material and Labour and everything of every kind respectively named shown described and referred to in the Plans Specifications Conditions of Contract Schedule of Quantities and Rates hereto respectively annexed to be executed and supplied by and on the part of the Contractor in conformity with the said Plans and Specifications and under and subject to the Conditions of Contract also hereto annexed at the Rates set out in the said Schedule of Quantities and Rates and that the said Contractor for himself his heirs executors and administrators hereby covenants with the said Council and the Council hereby covenants with the said Contractor to perform observe and fulfil all and singular the Conditions Stipulations and Requisitions expressed and contained in or to be inferred from the said Plans Specifications and Conditions hereunto annexed together with the Tender of the said Contractor and Schedule of Quantities and Prices upon which such tender was based or calculated and by and on the part of the Contractor and the Council respectively to be performed observed and fulfilled.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered by the above-named Larran Bros in the presence of

Larran Bros



Contractor.

Witness.

The Common Seal of the said Council was hereto affixed in the presence of the undersigned two Members of the said Council on the day hereinbefore named—

John Manning President.

James Ross Councillor.

NEWS AND NOTES.

OFFICE - BEARERS 1988-89:

President: Mr. L. Bond

Vice - President: Mr. E. Lubcke

Secretary: Mrs. E. McMaster

Treasurer: Mrs. D. Taylor

Newsletter Committee: Mr. L. Billington, Mrs. J. Cafiso, Miss C. Wood.

GUEST SPEAKER at the Annual Meeting held on April 19 was Matthew Nickson, manager of the "Private Lives - Public Heritage" project which aims to make people aware of family snapshots as history. Matthew explained how the project team obtained the photographs and indicated the great amount and variety of historical data which can be discovered from them. A great deal of interest was aroused among members by the fascinating selection of photographs he brought with him.

REGIONAL MEETING:

On Saturday, May 7, the annual Regional meeting of Gippsland Historical Societies was held in Foster with the South Gippsland Historical Society as host.

Bruce McMaster attended as our delegate. Items on the agenda included the appointment of a regional delegate to the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, suggestions for a joint publicity brochure and societies' involvement in the Bicentenary travelling exhibition. More of this in later newsletters.

A copy of the Morwell Historical Society's report to the meeting is presented in this newsletter.

PUBLISHER'S WHISPER:

Patrick Morgan, of Gippsland Institute, is compiling an Anthology of Gippsland Literature for publication this year as a Bicentennial project. He has requested the Society's permission to use the poem "The Morwell Severance", which was first published in the Morwell "Advertiser" in July 1890, and was reprinted by Mr. Ivan Maddern in one of the Society's earlier Newsletters.

***** NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! NB! *****

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE.

\$5.00 single member

\$7.50 couple or family

MORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REPORT TO REGIONAL MEETING OF GIPPSLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES - MAY 7, 1988.

The past twelve months have been busy and satisfying ones for the members of Morwell Historical Society.

Meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday, at Collins St. State School, membership has increased to 37, and the Society is in the process of becoming incorporated.

A monthly newsletter contains news, notes and items of interest and reminds members that their presence at the next meeting would be appreciated.

The year's programme has been varied and interesting and has included guest speakers, excursions and joint meetings with neighbouring historical societies.

In keeping with our aim of preserving and recording local history, the Society has contributed financially to the Latrobe Valley Regional Library's project of microfilming copies of the Morwell "Advertiser", 1886-1920.

Discussions have been held with the Road Construction Authority over the fate of two historic palm trees situated close to the new freeway development to the east of Morwell and an assurance has been received that the trees will either be preserved on their present site or moved to another location.

The Society also supported the "Save Mathison Park" Committee in its successful bid to retain Mathison Park, Churchill, as a passive recreation area, in the face of a proposed housing development.

On May 31st, 1987, a memorial to the late Ivan Maddern, educator and historian, was unveiled. The plaque records Morwell Historical Society's appreciation of the contribution made by Ivan Maddern to the Society and of his work in researching and recording the history of the Morwell area.

The main project during the past twelve months has been the copying of photographs of historical significance to the Morwell Shire. A Bicentennial grant allowed the purchase of a copy stand and film, and it is proposed to produce a selection of the photographs in book form next year. The compilation of this pictorial history, in addition to the Society's normal activities, seems likely to keep most of the active members fully involved for the next 12 to 18 months.

Elsie McMaster,
Honorary Secretary.

10th May, 1988.

Dear Member,

The processes by which our Society will become incorporated are now under way.

A Statement of Purposes and a set of Rules (Constitution) have been prepared by Mr. John O'Callaghan of Slater and Gordon.

These documents will be circulated among members at the May meeting and you are asked to read them carefully and make suggestions as to possible alterations and/or amendments. If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to read the documents, please contact me.

It will be necessary for a majority of members to attend the meeting at which the resolutions for incorporation are passed. In our case, this means 19 members. Since our attendance is usually considerably less than this, I urge ALL members to try to attend at least this one meeting, which will hopefully be held on Tuesday, July 19. The date will be confirmed in the next Newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Elsie McMaster,

Hon. Secretary.

'phone (051) 341149

1988 BI-CENTENARY YEAR

MORWELL AND DISTRICT

1938-1948- This decade and the next were such momentous ones for our area that we should have no trouble in obtaining reminiscences from members and friends.

War, of course, was the main factor of the period. Its affect on the Latrobe Valley was perhaps more marked than any other area in Victoria. Even by 1938 industry was showing signs of becoming more important to Morwell than agriculture but the war brought the need for a greater utilization of local coal reserves to increase electricity production so the 40's and 50's saw an extra-ordinary industrial expansion and town growth.

But here we want the personal memories of those who lived through these decades.

For example 1938 was a memorable year for Mr. and Mrs. Roy Olver. On the 24th April 1938 they would be celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary. So while the unveiling of the plaque at Hazelwood Estate on the 24th April this year, was proceeding, Mrs. Gladys Olver was probably thinking of her wedding day 50 years ago. But 1938 was also important to this couple for another reason. That year they bought a grocery shop in Commercial Rd., Morwell. Who remembers it? They did not have it for long. When Mr. Olver enlisted in 1940 they sold this business and Mrs. Olver went back to work at the newsagency. She continued to work there until 1975, with the exception of two fortnights when she was 'lent' out by her boss - once to Rintoull's Hardware Shop (Mrs. Nancy Gordon, nee Rintoull, remembers this) and once to Les Linlay's shoe shop.

The Yallourn power station installations made this area very vulnerable to any enemy attack. This meant extra precautions. Who remembers the air-raid shelters, the sand bagged work buildings and the air-raid wardens checking the black out measures? And who remembers the drama of the R.A.A.F. planes on 24/2/1045? Fourteen planes trying to

return to Sale ran into a thick fog. Some got hopelessly lost and crashed. But two through the efforts of Ida Billingsley; air force personnel, Thomas Burley and others, eventually landed safely on a paddock at the corner of Old Melbourne Rd. and Latrobe Rd. at 3 A.M. The light occupants of the planes rested for the remainder of the night at the homes of Leonard Trigg and George J. Billingsley.

The war brought other problems, of course, like the shortage of farm workers. Many had joined the industrial work force of the city and local power production. The inevitable burdens of war were of course felt here as they were throughout the world - ie - loss of life, disruption of families, displacement of families, etc. Peace was followed by that great influx of migrants to the Latrobe Valley that brought growth, changes and problems.

Then there was the trauma of the 1944 fires. It is evident that we'll need space in more than one or two newsletters to cover all your reminiscences for these two decades. This is only an introduction for we'll be looking forward to contributions from all those people who would like to share this journey along memory lane.

HAZELWOOD ESTATE COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY
HELD AT (ANZAC POINT) THE HAZELWOOD PONDAGE
LOOKOUT POINT BETWEEN HAZELWOOD CEMETERY
AND HAZELWOOD POWER STATION ON 24-4-1988 at 2.00 p.m.

On Sunday April 24th, 1988 a large attendance of our 100 people gathered at the lookout point, overlooking the Hazelwood Cemetery and the Hazelwood Power Station, to commemorate the men of the 1st World War (1914 - 1919), who returned and took up blocks of land on the McMillian blocks being part of the original McMillian Selection, and taken over by the Closer Land Settlement Commission for returned Soldiers.

Among those present were the President of the Morwell R.S.L. Mr. Mal Bugg, Yinnar R.S.L. President Mr. M. W. Little, Mr. Tom Lawless, who was the main organiser of the gathering, who's father Mr. Jim Lawless was one of the early settlers who took up blocks on the McMillian Estate, Mr. Barry Murphy Member of Parliament, Mr. Ron Waters Executive Officer of the Morwell Shire, and Mrs. Gloria Auchterlonie Morwell Shire President.

Mr. Tom Lawless opened proceedings, by introducing Mr. Mal Bugg President of the Morwell R.S.L. who spoke of the reason for this Commemorative Ceremony, which was to have some lasting memorial, of the early pioneers, who farmed the Closer Settlement blocks on the old McMillian Estate.

The Memorial Hall that was erected in the early days of the Settlement, (1924), for the use of the pioneers, is now no longer there, as it had deteriorated to the stage that it had to be pulled down, so this stone, that has been put here today with a plaque, commemorates the work, these pioneers did for the district.

Mrs. Gloria Auchterlonie, President of the Morwell Shire, spoke of the work of the Morwell Yinnar and Boolara R.S.L. members who worked with the Morwell Shire Executive Officials in arranging for the procurement of a suitable stone and plaque and the suitable position on the Ridge, overlooking the surrounding settlements, where those pioneers settled.

The Shire Council has decided that they will call this point "Anzac Lookout" in commemoration of these early settlers.

Mr. Tom Lawless then spoke of the hardship these early pioneers had to contend with; no roads, no fences, no good pastures, swampy areas, and no water in the summer time for stock, they having to drive their cattle to several creeks in the area, some having to travel a few miles.

He also mentioned the hardship of the wives of those early pioneers, who had to help their husbands with the milking and the other outside work, besides doing their housework in rough conditions, and rear families. These children often had to help with the milking, before and after school, plus other chores that were needed to help to keep these farms viable.

Many of these final occupants failed, and left the farm, which gave the chance for some other returned soldier to try and carry on. Some such farms were split up and divided between neighbouring farms, which helped to make them more viable.

Mr. Tom Lawless read out the names of the first settlers who were allotted from blocks in the Hazelwood Estate.

There were forty-five returned soldiers who were allotted farm blocks in the first settlement. As some of these did not stay long, their blocks were allotted to other soldiers, or divided among others who carried on.

There were other soldier settlers who took up land in close proximity to the other settlers, there being eighteen total, amking fifty-three in all.

Mr. Mal Bugg then asked Mr. Jack Medew who is over ninety years now, he being the only original living settler to unveil the flag from the Commemorative Memorial.

Also at the function was Mr. Marcus Brady, veteran of 1st World War, (over 90 years) although not an early settler. He came into the area in 1940 and worked around the area for some time and knew a lot of the early settlers.

Also present for the occasion was Mrs. Sis Shaw, (also over 90 years now) she being the wife of Mr. Don Shaw one of the early settlers, with her daughter Eva (Mrs. Warrick).

After the ceremony was over Mr. Mal Bugg invited all those present to go to the Yinnar R.S.L. Club rooms for afternoon tea, and also to view old maps of the area and photos.

Compiled by Eric T. C. Lubcke.