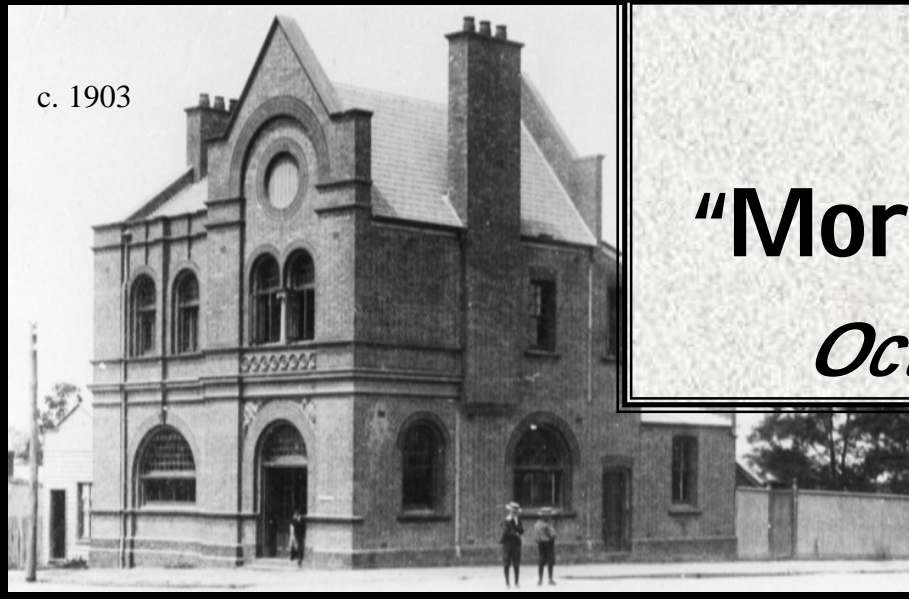


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

c. 1903



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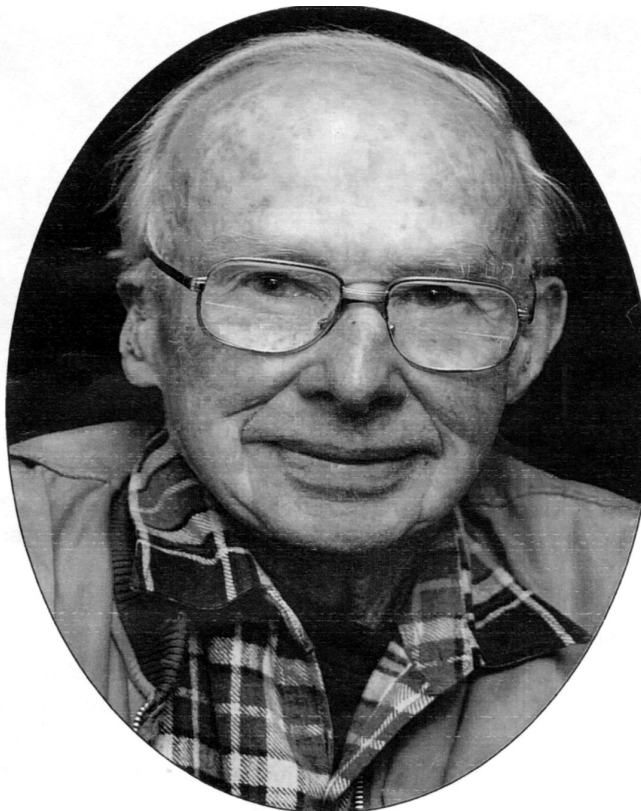
Please address all correspondence to the Secretary

Items for publication in the
"Post" are always welcome;
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contributions to the above
address

The "official" organ of the Morwell Historical Society Inc.
Published every two months: February to December

Mr. Tom Lawless

28th March 1924 –
11th September 2011

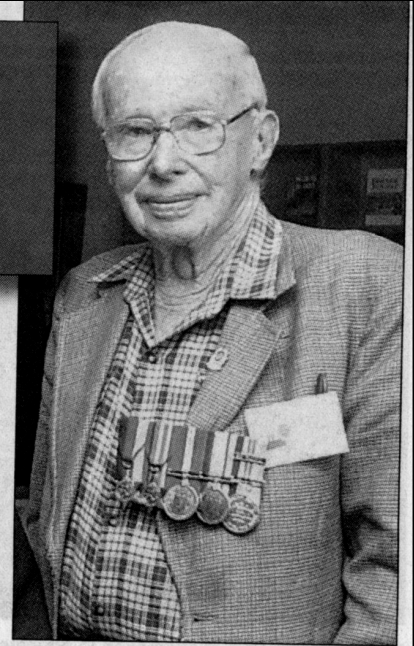


In this issue of "The Post":

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Information Page page 12

Ex-councillor will be 'greatly' missed



TOM LAWLESS

MUCH loved community member Tom Lawless passed away at age 87 on Sunday.

Mr Lawless died peacefully at Maryvale Private Hospital Morwell surrounded by his family.

Morwell Returned and Services League chief executive Dennis Cleary said the returned serviceman and ex-councillor played a significant role in the community.

Mr Cleary said Mr Lawless received many medals serving in World War II, Australia, the South-West Pacific region

and Indonesia and would be "greatly" missed.

"He kept everyone honest, he was a great bloke, and I hear his reputation at the council was much the same" Mr Cleary said.

"He was a real story of the RSL, and was always here to help out."

Latrobe City expressed its condolences to Mr Lawless in a death notice in *The Express* to the community member.

"The mayor, councillors, chief executive officer and staff of Latrobe City Council extend their deepest sympathies and

sincere condolences to the Lawless family on the sad loss of Tom," the notice said.

"Tom made a significant contribution to our community as a councillor for the former shire and City of Morwell and we acknowledge with appreciation his valuable community involvement and contribution over many years to the community of Latrobe City.

"The thoughts of everyone at Latrobe City Council are with the Lawless family."



LAWLESS, Thomas
Service Member
RAAF
Number 55527

The President and Members of the Morwell RSL Sub Branch Inc. mourn the passing of their long serving and loyal member Tom. Deepest sympathy to the Lawless family.

LEST WE FORGET



LAWLESS, Tom.

The Committee and members of the Gippsland Branch, RAAFA, are saddened by the death of our esteemed President Tom, a great President, thorough gentleman and great Australian. We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

Lest We Forget



LAWLESS, Tom.

The Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and staff of Latrobe City Council extend their deepest sympathies and sincere condolences to the Lawless family on the sad loss of Tom.

Tom made a significant contribution to our community as a Councillor for the former Shire and City of Morwell and we acknowledge with appreciation his valuable community involvement and contribution over many years to the community of Latrobe City.

The thoughts of everyone at Latrobe City Council are with the Lawless family.

MEMORIES OF MORWELL TECH

At the start of 1961 I moved onto the next stage of my education – Morwell Technical School. It was a brand new building and was the first year of having a form three class. Having different teachers for different classes was a new concept, as was having the trade classes of woodwork, fitting and turning and sheet metal work.

Starting school at 8.30 and having to catch the bus at the top of Jane Street meant I was leaving home before eight o'clock to get there on time. That is where I met my first bullies of any type. One of them I never saw again after he left school a year before me, but he turned up again in a feature article in a magazine some forty years later. It seemed he preferred the excitement of a life of crime and had spent nearly twenty of the last thirty years behind bars.

Wearing of the school uniform was strongly enforced. Not wearing the school tie without permission to do so was frowned upon. In summer we still had to wear a tie if we never had the shirt with the approved 'summer collar'. If you turned up in the wrong jumper, without a tie, in jeans or in shoes that weren't the regulation black leather you had to line up adjacent to the main assembly so everyone could see you, as you had broken the school code of dress. If we were lucky the teacher may give us permission to 'loosen your ties' this didn't mean to take it off, but to loosen it a little and undo the top button.

Running in the corridors or on the asphalt or walking down the bank onto the school oval were also punishable offences. Double handers were regularly handed out for the slightest disturbance; victims who had been tripped or pushed over in assembly or in the aisles were not spared the wrath of some of the teachers.

While some teachers were memorable for the way they dealt out the strap, others were memorable for how they treated us and the curiosity they instilled in us. Mr. Watkins was our English and drama teacher. One year we concentrated on William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and Macbeth. Long class discussions revolved around how the plays were to be read. He was also instrumental in allowing us to use the library as a research tool.

As I had been a shell collector (still am) I got permission from Mr. Watkins to use my English book to take notes from Dakin's book on Australian Sea Shores. Mr Surman (Harry) was our sometimes maths teacher. He not only showed us the maths formulas, but a practical way to put it all to use. One of his favourite exercises was to have us calculate the amount of concrete in the water tower and how much water it would hold.

Mr. Sibbison was our sheet metal teacher, Mr. Warren (Bill) was our woodwork teacher and Mr. (Dick) Bishop was our art teacher. It was in form three I think we filled in the year by understanding various Australian artists from the previous 200 years. I could never paint then, still can't even though I have recently joined an art group I still very much enjoy visiting art galleries.

These teachers had a major influence on my school days and I always remember them with gratitude and perhaps a little affection. Having a passion for something was important, having respect for elders and superiors was important. So was honesty and integrity. I recently visited the old school site to get some photos of the outside for my own use. I was examining the concrete slab where the bike sheds used to be. This was where we had some of our carpentry and woodwork sessions.

While I was having a quiet time reminiscing I was approached by the present tenants who asked me what I was doing, and after explaining to them they invited me inside for a grand tour.

I saw the old wall murals that our art teachers Messrs Bishop and Smith so patriotically painted in a state of deterioration with some very well meaning attempts at restoration.

It is sad when your schools are shut down or pulled down. Part of you goes with it too. I have no way of showing my grandchildren where my school was let alone my desk. If the tangible aspects of our lives are discarded then all we have left is the intangible which we far too often keep to ourselves.

EDDIE BEULKE

5 July 2011



*Mr. M. E. Davidson
First Principal (1959-1963)*

Photograph: Morwell Historical Society archives

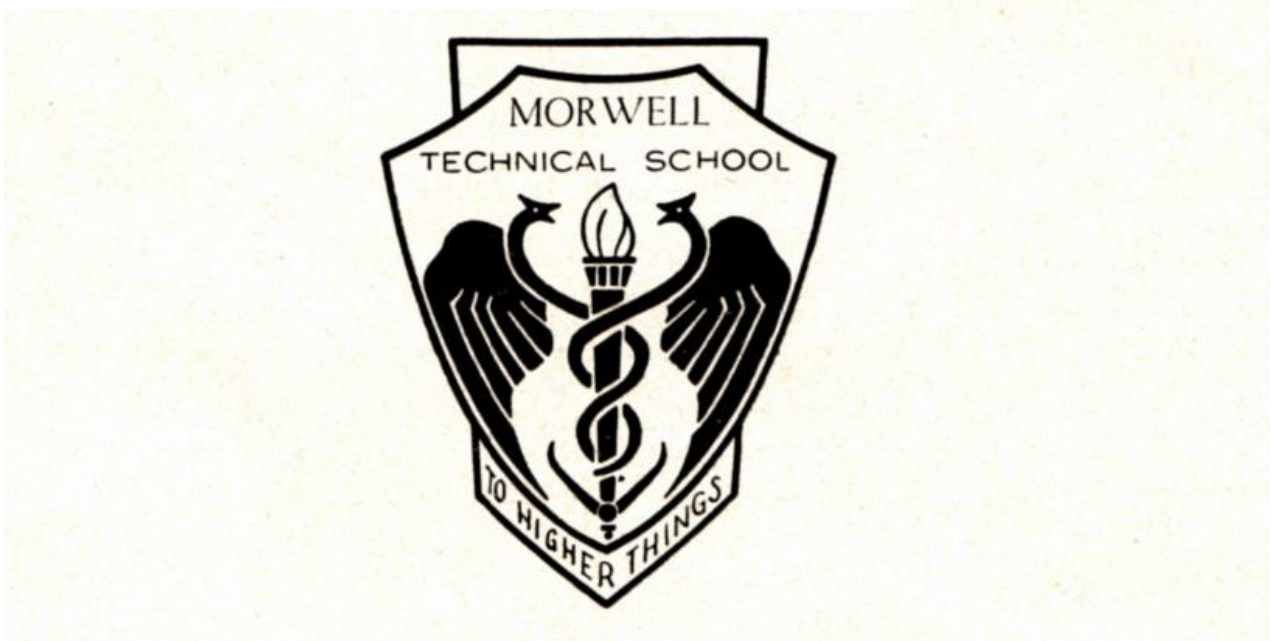


STAFF

Back Row: Mr. A. Sharrow, Mr. L. Smith, Mr. V. Wojtkiw, Mr. R. Cugley, Mr. N. Watkins, Mr. R. Dunlop, Mr. J. McGrath.
 Centre Row: Mr. J. Kenworthy, Mr. W. Warren, Mr. R. Froomes, Mr. R. Sibbison, Mr. R. Bunn, Mr. R. Bishop, Mr. H. Mason.
 Front Row: Mrs. de Beer, Miss B. Cranwell, Mr. D. Miller (Senior Assistant), Mr. M. Davidson (Principal), Mrs. B. Hanlon, Mrs. Baylis.

Morwell Technical School Staff - 1962

Photograph & School logo: Morwell Historical Society archives



One from the Archives



September 1953

Commercial Road c. 1908

Morwell Advertiser

7th May 1959

Don't try to rob a bank!

INTENDING bank robbers please take note. They'd be wise to keep out of Morwell, not because of any lack of money but because local bank tellers are pretty quick on the draw.

What's more, when they shoot they don't miss – a fact brought into prominence last week when local bank staffs had a practice shoot at Hazelwood.

And here's another point.

Anyone contemplating raiding a Morwell bank shouldn't disregard the girls who work behind the counters.

Take for example, Miss *Judy Palmer*, of the Bank of New South Wales. She joined in the teams' shoot between the five banks, and the way she handled a pistol left no doubt as to her prowess.

Here are the results of the shoot –

Teams event.

Commonwealth	97
'Wales	97
Nat Bank No. 1.	67
Nat Bank No. 2.	38
State Savings	13

Manager's Contest -

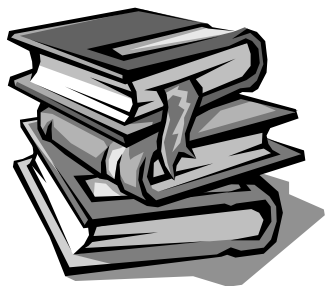
State Savings	47
'Wales	30
National C'wealth	16

Accountant's Contest -

State Savings	31
Wales	24
C'wealth	21
National	21

Does anyone have an interesting story regarding the subject matter of this article?

S.H.



Morwell – Facts, Figures & Dates

Coles Variety Store

In March 1950 G. J. Coles & Company announced their intention of opening a store at No. 3 Tarwin Street. The company had secured the premises previously owned by Rogers & Brereton. Coles placed their first advertisement for Morwell staff in the Morwell Advertiser edition dated: Thursday, May 25th. 1950.

The store was officially opened at 9 am on Thursday, 10th. August 1950. The first manager was Mr. Norman Cornall.

In November G. J. Coles & Co. purchased an adjoining property which had been owned by the long established (circa. 1879) drapery firm of J., later to become A. A. Green. The purchase extended the frontage of the Coles store by approximately 40 feet. The extensions were opened with a promotional sale on August 16th. 1951.

Gude's Arcade

Gude's shopping arcade was located directly opposite the railway station on the Princes' Highway. The arcade carried right through to Buckley Street.

Construction work began on the site in February 1955. The first phase of the project provided for the erection of eight shops, with a construction cost of £16,000. A total of twenty-seven shops would be available by the project's completion. Rest rooms and conveniences were provided for shoppers.

Car parking was also available.

The arcade was owned by Mr. Stan Gude, and was built by local contractor Mr. Wes Jones. Several other local firms were also involved with the project.

Mr. Gude placed an advertisement in the local newspaper on 8th. September, inviting everyone to attend the opening day activities.

Stage one of Gude's Arcade was officially opened at 2.45 pm on Thursday, 15th. September 1955. Morwell Shire President Cr. *Alan Hall* performed the opening. At Cr *Hall's* invitation, Mrs. *J. W. F. Connan* cut the ribbon to the main entrance. Free afternoon tea was made available to the general public at the completion of the festivities.

The first businesses to operate from Gude's Arcade were:

Jim Johnston – Florist

Glamorelle – Ladies Fashion

Gippsland Bon Marche – Deli.

Evans – Authorised News Agency

Ronmau Beauty Salon

The Arcade Shoe Salon

Fay's Jewellery (5th. Dec '55)

Montague's Pharmacy (Feb. '56)

National Bank (Receiving Centre only)

St.Luke's Methodist Church - 1883

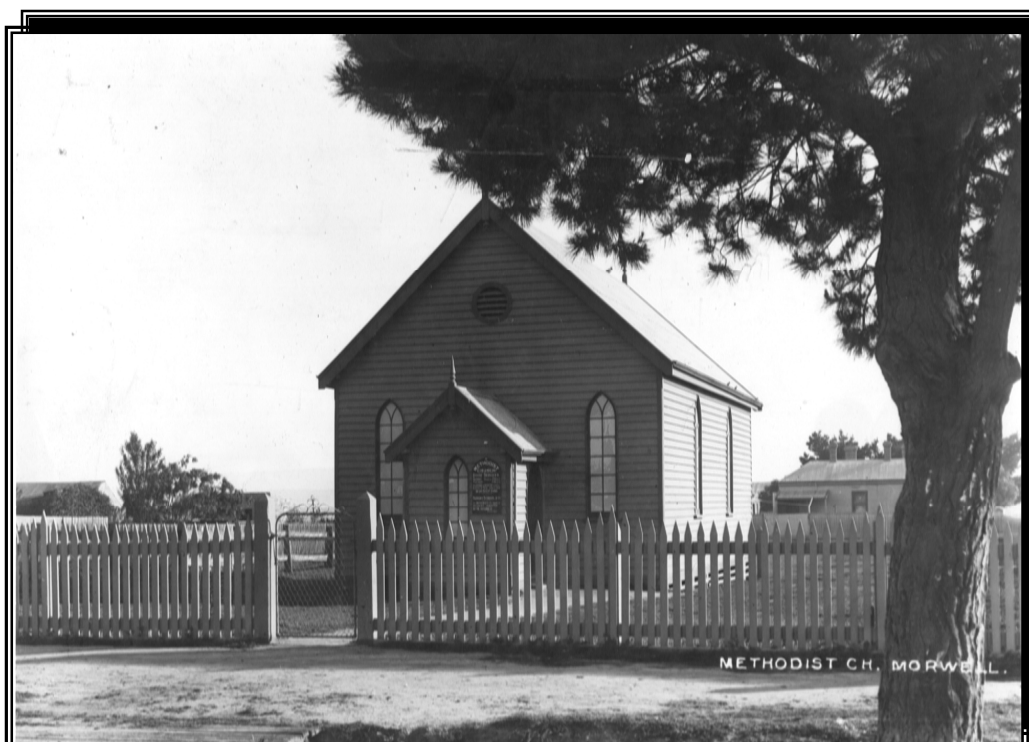
The first St.Luke's Church was situated at the corner of Station and Church Streets. The building was established c. 1883. The site was sold to a consortium of developers in May 1950.

The final service at the site was conducted on Sunday 17th September 1950.

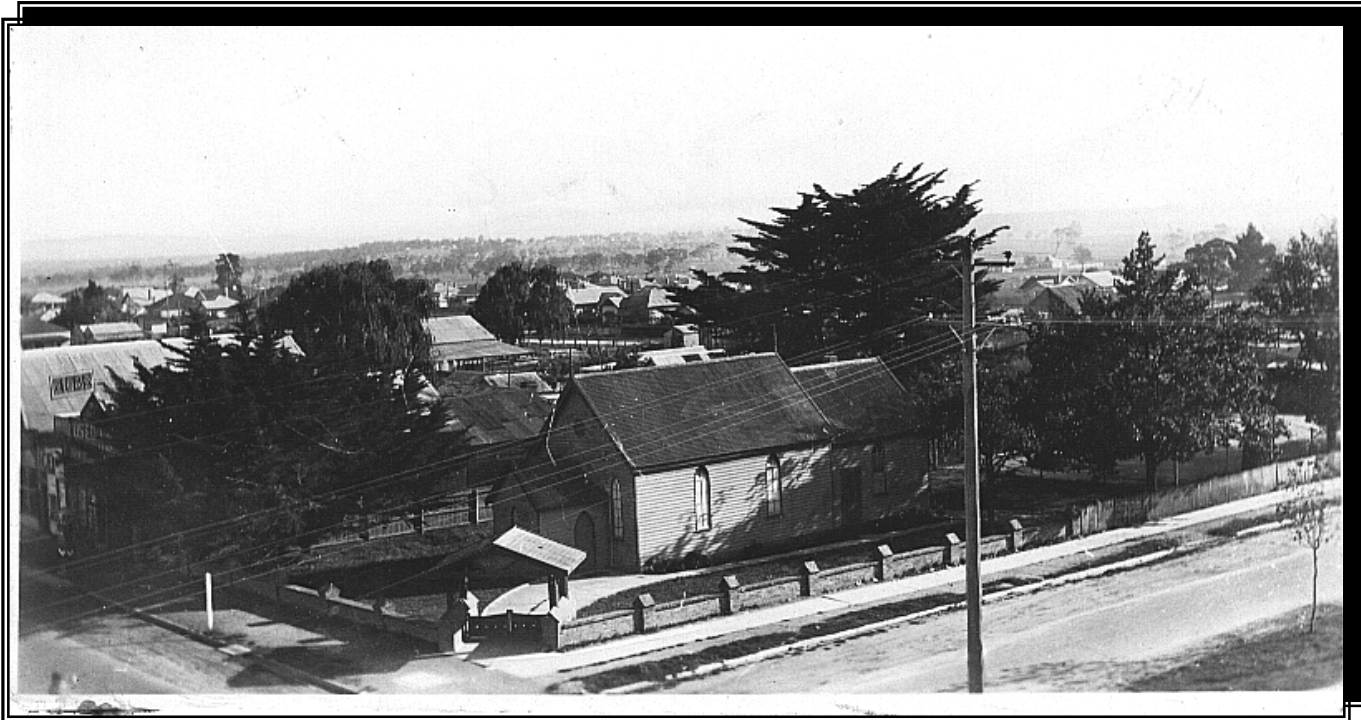
A new one- acre site, approximately one kilometre further east along Princes Drive was purchased from Mr. R. J. Hill for the re-establishment of the church. The old church building having been re-located at the new site was officially re-opened on Sunday, November 26th. The service was conducted by Rev. A. A. Lyons, a former minister of the Morwell circuit.

The Parsonage, located behind the church at number 6 Doherty Avenue was officially opened on Saturday, 20th. September 1952. The ceremony to lay the foundation stone for the new St. Luke's church took place on Saturday 2nd. May 1953.

The new church building was officially opened on Saturday, 17th. October 1953. Construction costs amounted to £7,643.



St.Luke's Methodist Church – Station and Church Streets



St. Luke's Morwell at original location: corner of Station Street and Church Street



**Church Street Morwell
c. 1987**

**How things have changed in so short a time!
Do you remember when it used to look like this?**

In late 1953 Latrobe Joinery Works-Morwell (Mr. K. Rice) constructed five shops on the western side of Church Street, next door to "Latrobe Meat Supply". The owner, Mr. Eric Gude prepared the design specifications. Mr. Rice's company took only 7 weeks and 3 days to complete the work. The five shops had a combined frontage onto Church Street of 108 feet; each shop had a uniform depth of 43 feet. An easement ran along the rear of the property. Cream coloured Traralgon bricks were used in construction. All five shops had large plate-glass display windows.

By the second week in December the building was ready to receive its first tenants. The following businesses opened for trading on Monday, 21st. December 1953:

- Faulkner's Self – Serve Grocery (Morwell's first)
- Uthank & Gude Shoe Store
- Morwell Fruit Supply
- Golden Fountain – Soda Bar and Grill Room
- "Lawree" Home-Made Cakes

Information Page:

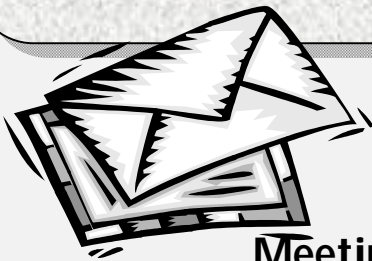
Please note that the next meeting
will be on 19th. October at 2.00 p.m.
At 44 Buckley Street

Membership Fees:
Per Annum
\$20.00 per Member
(Payable March each year)

OPEN DAY SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Come along to our open day on 30th October and view our displays of Collins Street Primary School and Morwell Soldiers' Memorial. There will be plenty to look at. Records of Morwell Technical School and Morwell High School will also be available for viewing. Hope to see you there!
We will be open from 10 am until 2 pm.

Please deliver me to:



Meeting Dates for Remainder of 2011

19th October
16th November

Quick Quiz (Answer to question from last issue): Mr. Laurence A. Kelly

The question for this issue is:

When did '**Latrobe Meat Supply**' open their premises in Church Street?

You will find the answer concealed somewhere within these pages – happy hunting!