

# The Morwell Post

Morwell Historical Society

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 <https://www.facebook.com/morwellhistoricalsociety/>



## A TRIBUTE TO OUR QUEEN

Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

From the first Australian stamp issued as the heir apparent, Princess Elizabeth in 1947, to the last stamp issued of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022



See page 3 for our pictorial history of the Queen's visit to the Latrobe Valley

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# Morwell Historical Society Directory 2022

President:	Alan McFarlane Phone: 0448 430 394
Vice-President:	Shirley Prosser
Secretary:	Florence Butcher
Assistant Secretary:	Elaine Andrijczak
Treasurer:	Peter Butcher
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Research Library:	12 Hazelwood Road, Morwell, Victoria 3840
Research Queries:	<a href="mailto:secretary@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au">secretary@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au</a>
Public Access:	1st and 3rd Wednesday and last Sunday of each month, 11.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. Open - February to November
General meetings:	3rd Wednesday February to November – 2.00 pm
Annual General Meeting:	3rd Wednesday of March each year
Membership Fees:	Due 1st July each year Single Member - \$25.00 Family Membership -Family living at the same address includes children under 18 years old - \$30.00  Application Forms available on our web site for you to print and send.  For a print copy of “ <b>The Morwell Post</b> ” - \$10.00 per annum
Editor:	<a href="mailto:morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au">email: morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au</a>
Research Fees:	\$10.00 per hour or part thereof, and prices for photo prints on application and postage where applicable.
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Postal Address:	12 Hazelwood Road, Morwell 3840 Victoria, Australia

Front page icon is of the old Post Office c1930 which was on the site of the now Commonwealth Bank, corner of Commercial Road and Tarwin Street.

All photos, unless indicated, are from our archives.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are grateful for the support of our members in assisting at the Bunnings BBQs.

This activity provides \$800-900 per BBQ which assists in paying the remaining \$80,000 off our building debt.

Interviews on our local radio station and participation in community days puts us out front in our community and has resulted in generous donations towards our building.

Of course grants are essential to our operations. We were successful with both a \$7,000 building maintenance grant and a \$2000 Births, Deaths and Marriage Certificates grant from Latrobe City and have a State Government application in for a kitchen upgrade.

Our collection continues to grow with individual donations on a regular basis. The LV Yacht Club has recently folded after 50 odd years of operation. We have now received papers, photos, trophies and other memorabilia from them which will enhance our collection.

The contribution of Committee and other members in welcoming visitors to our rooms 3 times a month, updating the Catalogue database with new photos and information, filing donated items, answering research enquires and maintaining the building is greatly appreciated.

We are very fortunate having our own building and located in the CBD in a near 100 year old building and look forward to continued regular use by our community.

Alan McFarlane  
President



Some of the beautiful gowns we have in our collection, made from exquisite fabric of the era



## QUEEN ELIZABETH II VISITS YALLOURN - 1954

In March 1954 the Queen and Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, visited Sale, Traralgon, Yallourn and Warragul by the Royal Train. They arrived at Yallourn at 2:50pm and left at 4:50pm after inspecting the open cut.

Mr JW Galbally, Electrical Undertakings Minister met the royal couple at Yallourn and escorted them throughout their tour.

Replicas of the SEC pylons stand each side of Broadway, opposite the Railway Station.

A banner of welcome is suspended between the pylons.



View along Broadway from the railway station towards the town centre



Yallourn Brass Band, Yallourn Hotel on the right, viewed along Broadway towards the town centre





View of Yallourn Town Centre  
from the Yallourn Theatre  
balcony  
Note Sir John Monash  
Memorial centre top of photo

Brownies eagerly awaiting the arrival  
of the Queen at the Yallourn Railway  
Station



Waiting for the  
Queen's arrival  
outside Yallourn  
Theatre





Mr RA Hunt, Chairman of the State Electricity Commission, escorting the Queen to a special platform to view giant dredgers rip at the coal face

Leaving Yallourn 'A' Power Station



The Queen being greeted at Traralgon Railway Station

## RINTOULL-ELSTON WEDDING 1924

A very pretty and popular wedding was celebrated in glorious weather on Saturday afternoon last, in the Morwell Presbyterian Church where the marriage of Miss Kathleen Rintoull, (daughter of Mr J. Rintoull of Morwell) and Mr John Elston (son of Mr and Mrs Elston of Sale) took place in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends, the nuptial knot being well and truly tied by the Rev. E.L. Slade Mallen.

The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Conspicuous among the decorations was a large "Wedding Bell" which hung suspended from a pretty archway at end of the church aisle. An interesting feature was that quite a number of the bride's former pupils in the local State School lined the approach to the church door and at the close of the ceremony when the bride was in motor car, three former pupils made presentations.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was very becomingly attired in a dainty frock of crème silk marocain finished at the waist with a cabochon of pearls and orange blossom. A pearl tiara was worn on the bridal veil and she also carried a pretty bouquet of white flowers.

The bridesmaids were Miss Ida Rintoull, (sister of the bride) who wore a charming frock of powder blue georgine charmante and Miss Rosie Elston, (sister of the bridegroom), who was frocked in shell pink georgine charmante. Both wore tulle veils and carried pretty bouquets of pink and blue flowers.

Mr H. Friday was best man and Mr J.K. Rintoull groomsmen.

While the register was being signed Mrs McCrory, (aunt of bride), sang a solo and also played the wedding march.

Subsequently the wedding breakfast was held at the home of the bride's father, at which the usually toasts were duly honored.

The happy couple left by the evening train amid a shower of confetti and good wishes. The bride travelled in a grey tailored costume and cinnamon hat.

The bride received a number of handsome presents and also several cheques. Mr and Mrs Elston's future home will be Toongabbie. Mr Elston having been recently appointed Head Master of Toongabbie State School.



Left to Right – Harold Friday, Ida Rintoull, Kathleen Rintoull, John Elston, Rosie Elston, Jack Rintoull

Source - *Morwell Advertiser* 19 September 1924 p2. Photo-our files 22718



## LEAVING SCHOOL - Kathleen Rintoull 1924

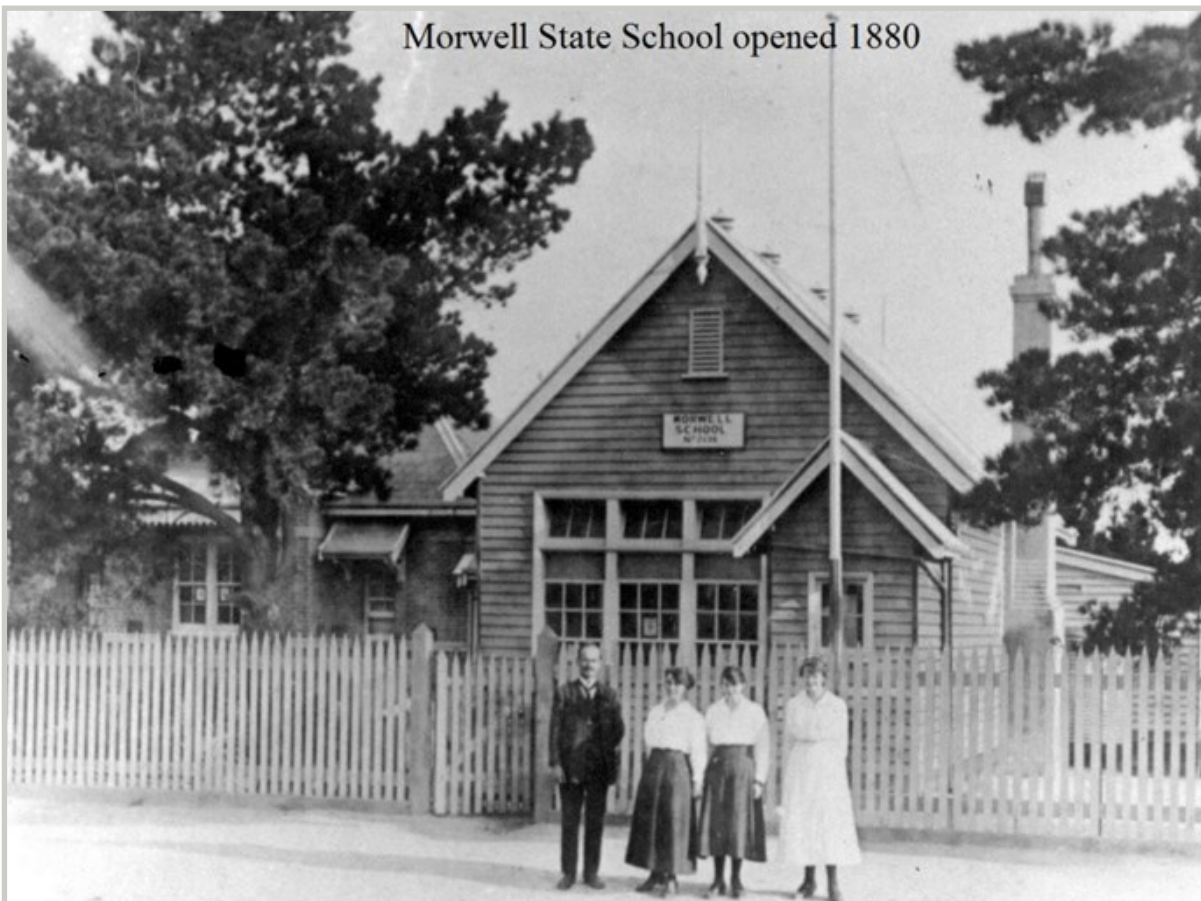
Miss Kathleen Rintoull, who has been a member of Morwell State School staff for some years past has resigned her position and severed her connection with the Education Department on Friday last, her reason for leaving the school being the old, old story of "leaving State service to enter state of matrimony". In her departure the local school is losing a splendid teacher who was most devoted to her work.

She has had charge of 5th and 6th grades in the school and no other teacher in the history of the school has gained such excellent results in the said classes. At the last examination 17 out of 18 of her pupils gained their Qualifying Certificate and at the previous exam 19 out of 19 qualified. In fact by the time Miss Rintoull took charge of the classes there was a marked improvement and the record she has put up during the past few years is equal if not surpasses the accomplishes in any school in the state. It is no doubt unfortunate for the children under her charge that she is about to "take a husband" but in doing so she will carry with her the best wishes of all the school children for her future happiness and especially those who have been under her charge, (present and past).

We understand that a token of esteem and appreciation from the children, staff and school committee is to be presented to Miss Rintoull at an early date.

Source - *Morwell Advertiser* Friday 1 August 1924 p 2

Until 1956 Women teachers in Victoria had to resign if they married.



Morwell State School

North-east corner of Chapel Street.

Head teacher – Mr HC Hart, Miss Ridgeway, Miss K Rintoull and Miss L Peterson

C 1919



## ROBERT BRIDLE 1834 - 1906

Robert Bridle was born in England in 1834 at Chickerell in Dorset, England and when quite young he joined the Navy and fought in the Crimean War. He retired from the Navy and migrated to Australia on the "Rolling Wave". He arrived in Adelaide in 1856. Initially he was a gold prospector and eventually settled down on a farm Koroit. In 1863 Robert Bridle married 19 year old Sarah Jane Fish the daughter of Robert Fish and Mary nee Murphy, a Port Fairy family.

From Koroit they rented a farm at Alvie near Colac till 1897 when they purchased Dave Ogilvy's property "Airlie Bank", a farm of 250 acres on Waterhole Creek, Morwell. On this property he was the first in the area to successfully grow onions.

Robert and Sarah had 10 children

Robert born 1863 Moved to Yarragon to begin farming, died Warragul 1945

Mary Jane born 1866 she did not come to Morwell because she had married

William born 1868 died 1872 at Yarpturk near Warrnambool

John born 1871 Moved to Yarragon to begin farming

Charles born 1874 died 1875 at Yarpturk near Warrnambool

Henry (Harry) born 1877 died 1939 at Morwell, buried in Hazelwood Cemetery

Emma born 1879 at Yangery near Koroit died Traralgon 1969 buried in Hazelwood Cemetery

Laura born 1881 Koroit, died Yallourn 1953, buried in Hazelwood Cemetery

Herbert James (Jim) born 1884, died Morwell 1967, buried in Hazelwood Cemetery

Hester (Essie) born in 1888 at Tower Hill, died Morwell 1967 buried in Hazelwood Cemetery

The Bridles were members of the Church of England and when the new St Mary's Church was built in Latrobe Road in 1959, Emma was given the honour of laying the foundation stone. (Now the Parish Hall)

Robert died in 1906 and Sarah died in 1927. They lie buried in the Tower Hill Cemetery, close to where they began their married life with their 2 sons William and Charles.

In Row A of the Old Anglican Section of the Hazelwood Cemetery are the Bridle siblings' graves.

Henry 1877-1939

Laura A 1881-1953

Herbert James (Jim) 1884-1962

Emma Eliza 1879- 1969

Hester Florence 1967

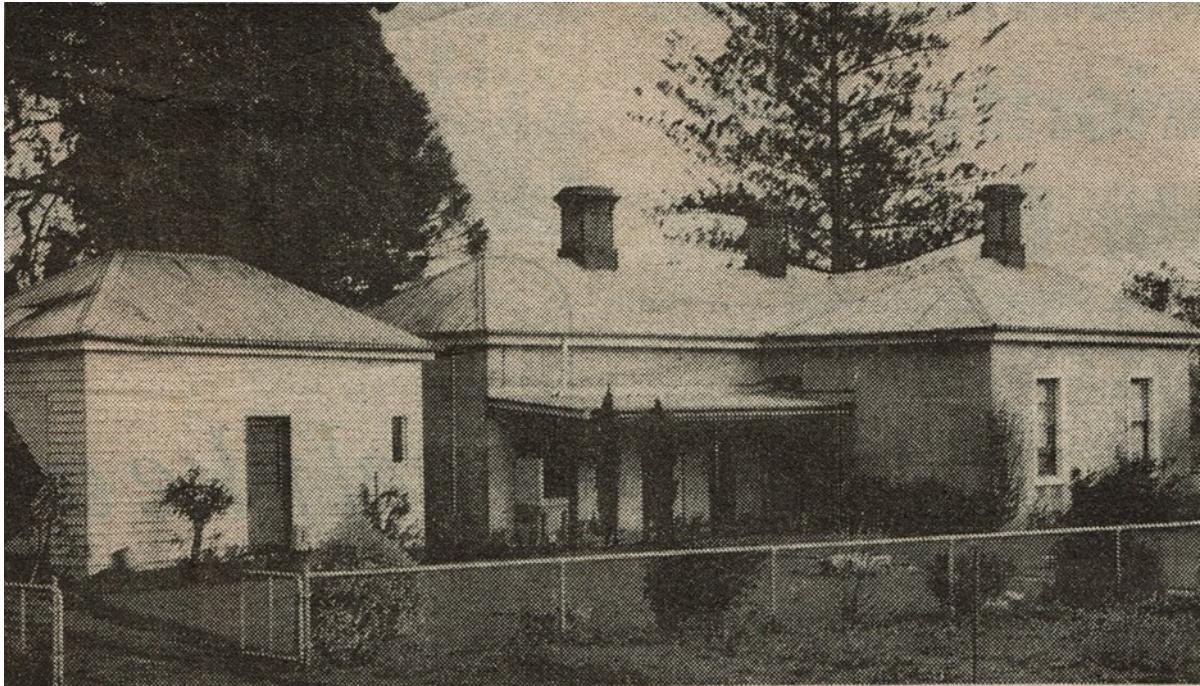
Jim had married Ida Elliot who died in 1994



The Bridle headstone at the Tower Hill Cemetery

## AIRLIE BANK HOMESTEAD

The Bridle Homestead –Date unknown



The Bridle Family



Standing - Emma, Hester (Essie), Laura

Sitting -Jim, Sarah and Jack

Photo taken before 1927 because Sarah died in 1927

The father, Robert, had died in 1906



Airlie Bank Homestead was bequeathed to Local Government in 1959 by the Bridle family. It sadly fell into disrepair, but it was restored by members of Advance Morwell, with the support of the *Work for Dole* program, grants from Heritage Victoria and the Latrobe City Council. There were donations from Morwell RSL Sub-Branch, Morwell Rotary Club and the Morwell Lions Club together with generous assistance from many community minded people and businesses. Their contributions made the project possible. Since January 1 2018, Latrobe U3A has occupied Airlie Bank Homestead.

Airlie Bank Homestead official opening after restoration 2001



Left to right – Glen Auchterlonie, David Kneebone, Max Williamson, Bob Bridle (September 12 1933-September 20 2022), Lynne Landy (wife of John Landy), Gloria Auchterlonie, Mal Bugg RSL, Betty Williamson, Paul Buckley Latrobe City, Moira Bugg, Judy Brownbill.

*“Dad’s War Stuff” - The Diaries, by Gloria Auchterlonie* was the first exhibition in the Airlie Bank Homestead  
The story of George Auchterlonie, a Gippsland Lighthorseman during World War 1



Modelling the Lighthorseman uniform



*Bev’s World of Dolls* was the second exhibition



**Robert 'Bob' Bridle September 12 1933 - September 20 2022**

Bob played 133 senior games with Morwell. He played in the 1952 and 1961 Premiershp teams. Played full back and was noted for his long kick, pace and excellent skills. Bob was selected at full back of the 1950s team of the decade at Morwell.



The Society had the below photo and often wondered which team. A few years ago after showing the photo to many people Bob Bridle was able to write out the names of the 1948-49 Morwell United Churches team. RIP Bob.



Tom Bowden    Stan Irvine    Norm Brinsmead    Bruce Clark    Lindsey Oliver    Alan Robin    Robin Bain    Leo Tusch    Norm Matthews  
 ?    ?    ?    ?    ?    ?    ?    ?    ?    ?  
 Umpire    Les Bell    Norm Abbott    ?    Jack Vinnall (Capt)    The Trainers?    Don (Toby) Philips    ?    Umpire Jack?    Take?  
 Seated    Mac Dalgleish    Colin Collins    Ian Holt    Ron Jordan    Robert (Bob) Bridle    Ruben Brinsmead (Pres)?

Col Collins drowned as a naval cadet in The Rip at Port Phillip Bay Melb. at 18 years

Norm Brinsmead married Ron Jordan's sister Margery

?  
 1948-49 Morwell United Churches. originally played on Brinsmeads paddock then on the old Showgrounds at the south end of Hazelwood Rd.

Norm Abbott  
 Jack Vinnall  
 Bob Bridle } only ones still living as close as can estimate.



# Council's Parking By-Law

In Force Next Wednesday

MORWELL Shire Council's parking by-law will become law on Wednesday, September 17th, and will be enforced immediately all signs and street lines have been completed. The motoring section of the community will be allowed a brief period to familiarise itself with the new procedure.

Sgt. C. A. Derham, of the Morwell Police, stated on Tuesday that immediately all arrangements by the Shire Council had been completed, local police would co-operate fully and conduct an all out "blitz" to make certain that the by-laws were observed.

He made particular reference to the conditions that would be operating on Commercial Rd.; to the fact that "buttons" would be placed on the Princes Highway at the intersection of Church Street and opposite the overhead bridge and that motorists would have to make a complete right hand turn; that speed limit signs of 25 m.p.h. would be placed at the western and eastern approaches to the built-up areas.

Parking areas for motor cars are:

In brief, the main provisions of the new regulations are:

**COMMERCIAL RD.:** On southern side, from the police station to the "Advertiser" office longitudinal parking will apply - no car to stand for more than half-hour between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.: in this section a bus stop is provided in the vicinity of the post office and a taxi-stand adjacent to the A. & N.Z. Bank; on the northern section, longitudinal parking is provided opposite the Waterworks Trust Office and further west; right-angled parking from the Waterworks Trust Office and east to the western railway gate; reservations are provided for five buses between the western and the eastern railway gates; longitudinal parking over the small section from the eastern railway gate to the "No Parking" sign in the vicinity of the billiard room; no parking from that point to the railway line or on any of the three sides of the Memorial

**HAZELWOOD RD.:** Western side - longitudinal and centre of the road parking for full length except for the short section between the horse trough and Commercial Rd.: eastern side, longitudinal parking.

**TARWIN ST.:** On western side longitudinal parking for full length except for reservation of taxi stands in the vicinity of D. C. Mills' premises; centre of road parking, except for reservations for six taxis opposite D. C. Mills' and no parking, north of most northerly tree; on eastern side longitudinal parking for full length, except for reservation, north from opposite existing post office to its corner with Commercial Rd.

**GEORGE ST.:** Section between Hazelwood Rd. and Tarwin St., longitudinal parking; between Tarwin St. and Chapel St., longitudinal parking both sides and centre of road right angled parking.

Other points to be borne in mind by motorists are:

- (1) trucks to be parked outside car areas;
- (2) all car parking at kerbside must be parallel thereto;
- (3) no motor trucks to park in Commercial Rd. or Tarwin St. between Commercial Rd. and George St.
- (4) no car to stand in taxi rank, within 30 ft. of intersection, within 15 ft. of fire hydrant or petrol pump or in front of private driveway or opposite any street, excavation or obstruction.

## AREAS WHERE PARKING PROHIBITED

- (a) On any of the roads or any part of a road connecting Commercial Rd. with the Princes Highway;
- (b) on the south side of Princes Highway between Church St. and the entrance to the Morwell Railway Station;
- (c) on the north side of Commercial Rd. between the road connecting Commercial Rd. with Church St. and a point 337 feet west around the kerb or gutter from the intersection of the said connecting road with the Sale to Melbourne Railway Line;
- (d) on the north side of Commercial Rd. between the entrances to the Railway Goods Yard which part is reserved for the parking of omnibuses;
- (e) on the north side of Commercial Rd. along the southern boundary of the triangular reserve upon which is the Memorial commemorating the 1914-1918 war;
- (f) Commercial Rd. north side; opposite parking area refer to in Item 1 Schedule 1 in this By-law;
- (g) Commercial Rd. south side between Tarwin St. and point 70 feet east therefrom (bus stand);
- (h) Commercial Rd. south side between points 240 feet and 280 feet west from Tarwin St. (Taxi stand);
- (i) Tarwin St. east side between Commercial Rd. and a point 130 feet south therefrom Tarwin St. west side between Commercial Rd. and a point: 127 feet south therefrom (taxi: stand);
- (j) centre of Tarwin St., between Commercial Rd. and 112 feet south therefrom (taxi stand);
- (k) centre of George St. between Hazelwood Road and Tarwin St.

# MORWELL SHIRE OFFICES

The Rosedale Road Board became the first municipal governing body to incorporate the Morwell area; set up in 1869, in less than 2 years it became the Shire of Rosedale. From 1877 to 1880 Morwell formed part of the Traralgon Riding of the Rosedale Shire Council. This riding severed from the Rosedale Shire on 20 October 1879 to become the Shire of Traralgon which included Morwell Town and district. The new Shire Council met for the first time in January 1880.

Morwell, an area of 259 square miles, was proclaimed a Shire on 27 May 1892.



The first Shire Office in the west end of Commercial Road. Written on the roof is WEST END. The second Shire Office that was built on the site of the first Shire Office. When the third Shire Office and Town Hall on the corner of Commercial Road and Hazelwood Road was opened in 1937 the Morwell Water Trust took over the building until it was demolished in 1961.

Recently a member of the Society purchased through eBay this small plate and donated it to the Society.

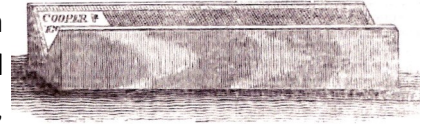


Source –*Steamhorse to Power* By Prue McGoldrick pp 33 and 45



## THE HUMBLE PENCIL SHARPENER

In 1828 the French Mathematician Bernhard Lassimonne patented the first pencil sharpener. The sharpener had small flat files set at 90 degrees in a block of wood and it grinded the edges of the pencil's tip. This method wasn't any easier or faster than sharpening with a knife, so it didn't become popular.



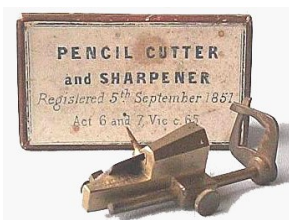
Thierry des Estivaux, also from France, improved this design and made a sharpener that had one blade in a conical housing – a design that we still use today and called a “prism sharpener”.

Next improvement came in 1851 from an American man called Walter K Foster.

He improved Estivaux's design so it could be mass produced.

These inventions had only one flaw. They all demanded the user to hold the sharpener steady and turn the pencil or vice versa. The first sharpener to fix this problem was A B Dick Pencil Pointer invented in 1896. It had 2 milling disks that rotated around their respective axis as they revolved around the tip of the pencil as another axis. This system was encased and stood still while the crank of the sharpener was turned.

In 1904 the Olcott Climax Pencil Sharpener improved on this design by replacing milling disks with a cylindrical cutting head with spiral cutting edges in the same planetary mechanism that was used in Pencil Pointer. The first electrical sharpeners appeared in 1910 but were not commercially available until 1940. Since then pencil sharpeners didn't change much except in the materials used in their production.



The Society owns a collection of pencil sharpeners. The one on the end is a carpenter's pencil sharpener.



The Society owns the Velos Empire 3401 three holes pencil sharpener that is made of heavy gauge material. The sharpener was screwed to a table and many class rooms or offices had one.



## OPEN DAYS 2022

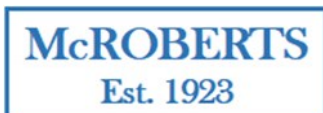
Please check the current Covid-19 restrictions before attending.

2nd February || 16th February  
2nd March || 16th March; AGM || 27th March  
6th April || 20th April || 24th April  
4th May || 18th May || 29th May  
1st June || 15th June || 26th June  
6th July || 20th July || 31st July  
3rd August || 17th August || 28th August  
7th September || 21st September || 25th September  
5th October || 19 October || 30th October  
2nd November || 16th November || 27 November

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We sincerely thank Harriet Shing, Member for Eastern Victoria and staff for printing our Newsletter