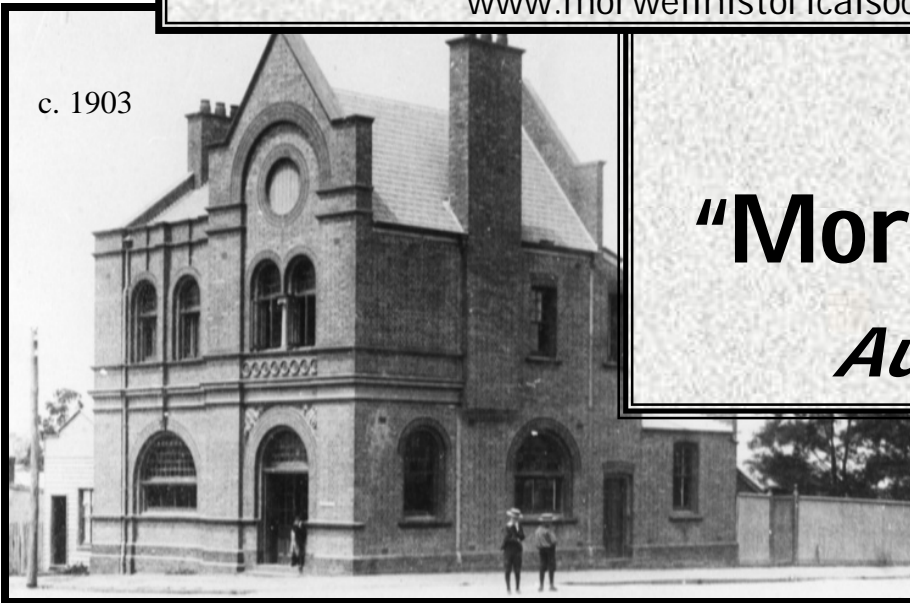


Morwell Historical Society Inc.

www.morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

c. 1903



AOO 16986 W

The "Morwell Post"

August 2013

Vol. 30 No.4

Secretary: Stephen Hellings
Post Office Box 1163
Morwell 3840 (0411 206 405)

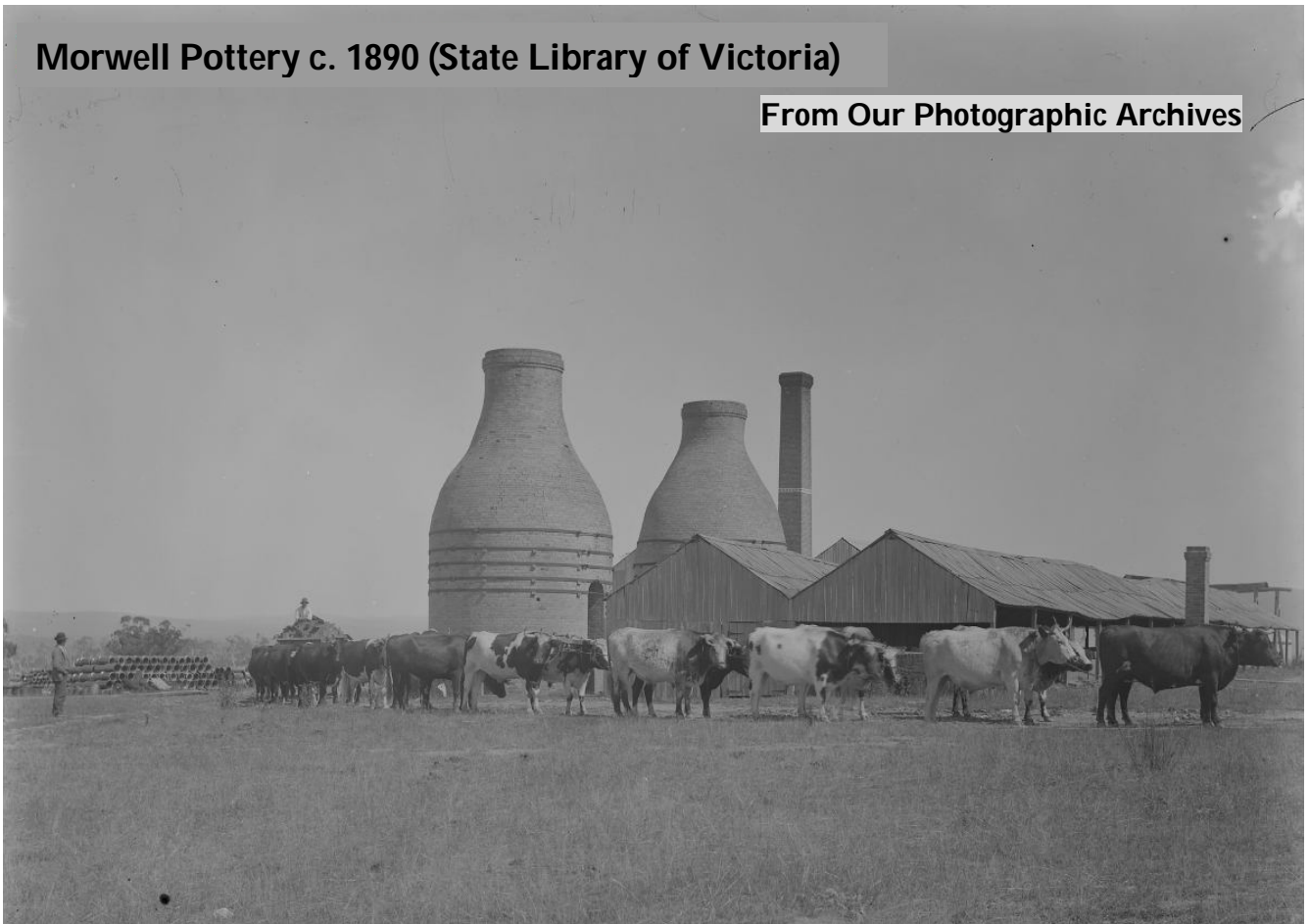
Please address all correspondence to the Secretary

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

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

Morwell Pottery c. 1890 (State Library of Victoria)

From Our Photographic Archives



In this issue of "The Post":

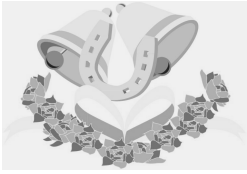
Wedding: Rintoull-Francis (1923) page 2
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Morwell Advertiser

Friday 16th. February 1923 (page 4)

RINTOULL-FRANCIS

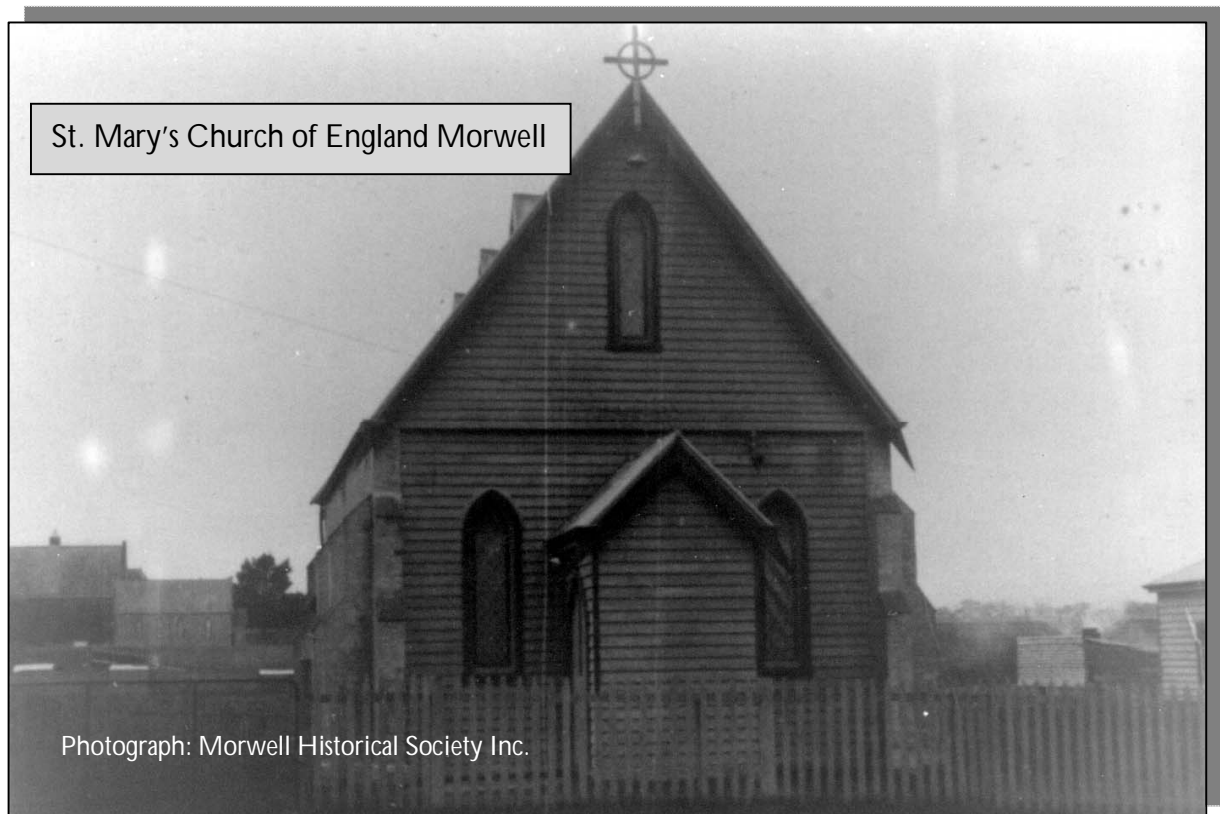


Another popular wedding was celebrated on Wednesday last, in St. Mary's Church, Morwell, when the marriage of Mr **W. R. Rintoull** second son of Mr **John Rintoull** of Morwell and Miss **Dorothy (Dot) Francis** took place in the presence of a large gathering of friends and well wishers, the **Rev. A. J. Smith** officiating.

The bride, who was given away by Mr **W. Applegate**, was attired in a tailored fawn gabardine costume with hat to match, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations. She was attended by Miss **Ida Rintoull** sister of the bridegroom, who wore a pretty dress of pink crepe-de-chene, with pink and black hat to match and carried a pretty pink bouquet. Mr **Jack Rintoull** acted as best man.

The happy couple retired from the church to strains of the Wedding March played by the organist (**Miss Rintoull**).

They afterwards left by motor car on their honeymoon amid a shower of rose leaves, confetti and good wishes.



St. Mary's Church of England Morwell

Photograph: Morwell Historical Society Inc.

Morwell's first police officer

Local historian Rob de Souza-Daw has an intriguing story to tell of Morwell's first police officer and how he came to hold Morwell's first constabulary post.

The opening of the Princes Bridge to Sale railway line on 2 April 1879 significantly impacted on rural communities located near the line, enabling their produce to become more accessible to the Melbourne markets.

As these new townships emerged, the needs of communities, such as Morwell, resulted in further requirements of police services.

As a result, in early 1879 the colonial government of Victoria agreed to establish a police station at Morwell. Morwell's first police station was a private building built on private land and initially leased to the Police Department for four years at 25 shillings per week. It was located on the road adjacent north to the railway station. On 13 August 1879, Superintendent Leopold Kabat of the Gippsland District, appointed Mounted Constable William Savage to be Morwell's first police officer and on the following day, William Savage opened Morwell's first police station.

William Savage

William Savage was born in Antrim, Ireland in 1844. Around 1857 he migrated to the colony of New South Wales. By 1869, he was a storekeeper at Narandera,

New South Wales and in that year he married Margaret Emily Jane Victoria Clark at Narandera. Their marriage resulted in nine children.

Soon after they were married, William and Margaret Savage moved to Melbourne and in 1870, William was sworn in as a mounted constable for the Police Department of the colony of Victoria. Initially he was based at the Richmond Depot and was paid six shillings and six pence per day.

At his own expense, he would have been issued with a Colt Navy revolver, baton and handcuffs. His initial appointments were to Kilmore, Whroo and Broadford police stations.

At Broadford he was transferred to the Gippsland district but was immediately appointed to the new

Morwell police station.

Enforcing the law

While stationed in Morwell, Mounted Constable William Savage played a secondary role in two major and dramatic police investigations. The first was in August 1879 when he assisted in the investigation of a homicide at Bennetts Creek, Hazelwood.

The investigation led to two charges of child murder and one of concealment of birth.

The second investigation was in November 1879 for two armed criminals who attempted to rob the Bank of Australasia at Moe.

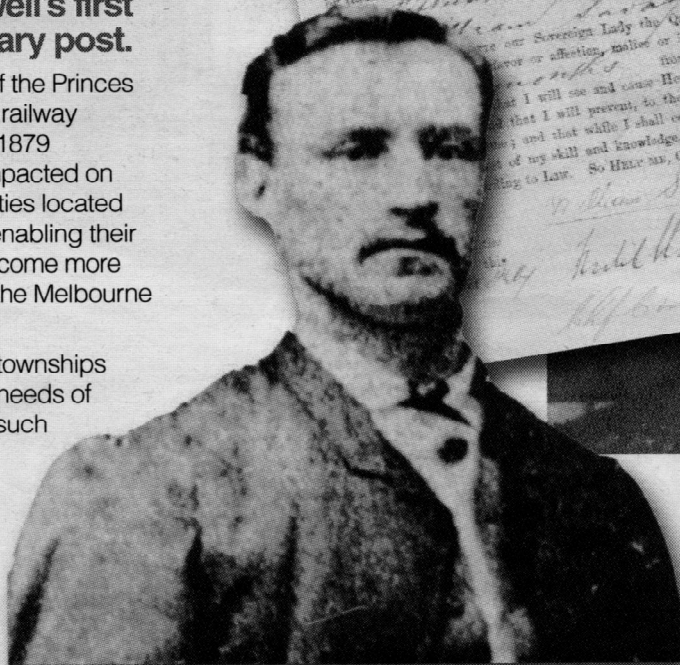
With Mounted Constable William Knox (from the Sale police station), Mounted Constable Savage travelled to Warragul by train and then rode to Jindivick by horse where they were able

to establish the identity of the two attempted armed robbers.

Mounted Constable William Savage left Morwell at his own request in July 1881. His next appointments were at Longwood, Cowes, Sorrento, Heidelberg and finally, the Richmond Depot.

While at Heidelberg, William Savage was admitted to hospital and on being discharged, returned to police duties. He was subsequently admitted to the Royal Melbourne Hospital where he died from cancer in March 1887, aged 42 years.

He was buried in the Melbourne General Cemetery and was survived by his widow Margaret Savage and seven children aged from 14 years to six months.



Above: Oath of Office of Mounted Constable William Savage, Number 2398, sworn 15 February 1870 at the Police Depot, Richmond.

Left: William Savage, 1844-1887.



Margaret Emily Jane Victoria Savage nee Clark, 1847-1908.



Morwell Advertiser

Thursday 6th. February 1936 page 1

Weddings



PERN-HORSFALL

The wedding of Elaine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs **F. A. Horsfall**, of Shire Hall, Morwell, and Ian Gordon, younger son of Dr. and Mrs. H. **Pern**, of Leongatha, was celebrated on Saturday afternoon at the Yallourn Presbyterian Church. Massed hydrangeas in pastel tones decorated the chapel, and the Rev. **H. Brodie** performed the ceremony.

The bride, who was attended by Miss **Linda Bailey**, was given away by her father. She wore a graceful gown of magnolia-tinted chiffon, made on simple lines with high neck and triple Peter Pan collar, with wide bishop sleeves caught in at the wrists. The train was cut in one with the centre panel on the back. The tulle veil, lent by the bride's sister-in-law, **Mrs Robert Horsfall**, of Tasmania, was held in place by a chaplet of orange blossom and extended to a long train. The bride's bouquet was of frangipani.

The bridesmaid's frock was of cyclamen ninon cut on Grecian lines. A shirred bodice with wing-like draperies surmounted a flowing skirt. A chaplet of flowers worn on the hair toned with the colour of the bouquet of hydrangeas and gladioli which she carried.

The best man was Mr. **Graham Pern** brother of the bridegroom.

After the ceremony the reception and wedding dinner were held at the Yallourn Hotel, where the decorative colour scheme was carried out in the colours of the Geelong Grammar School, the bridegroom's old school.

Mrs Horsfall received guests in a dusty pink gown of suede crepe, with large sleeves of silk net embossed with georgette flowers. She wore a matching cape and hat, and carried a posy of blue and pink hydrangeas.

A becoming frock of navy blue crepe matelasse with touches of scarlet, and hat to match, were worn by the mother of the bridegroom. Her posy was of scarlet carnations.

The travelling frock of the bride was of ciel blue sandara cloth with shirred bodice, fringed slit sleeves, and folded collar, together with navy sash lined with yellow.

The bride and bridegroom's home will be at Dandenong.

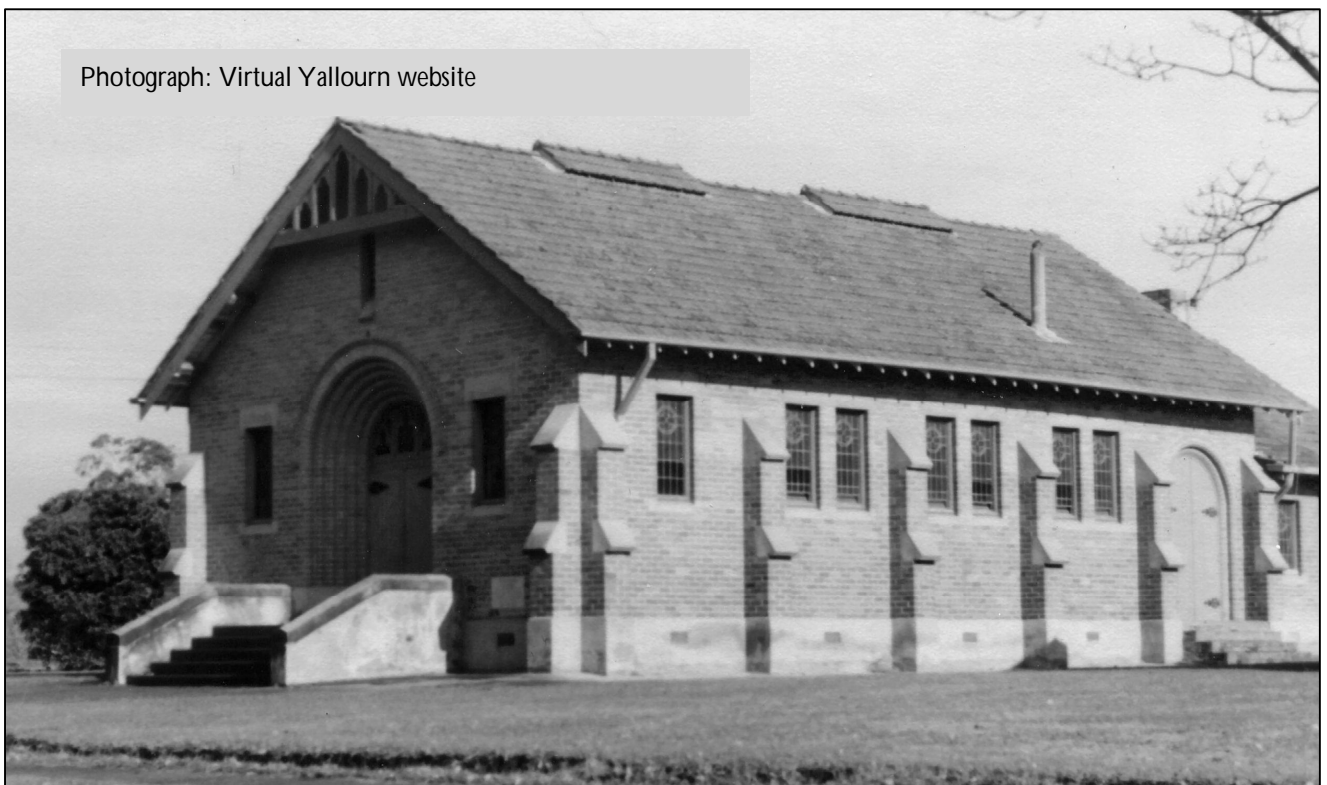
The bride, who is a sister of Mr. **J. C. Horsfall**, of Cambridge University, the international runner and former champion sprinter of Victoria, is herself widely known in golfing and tennis circles throughout Gippsland.

Photograph: State Library of Victoria (Campbell collection)

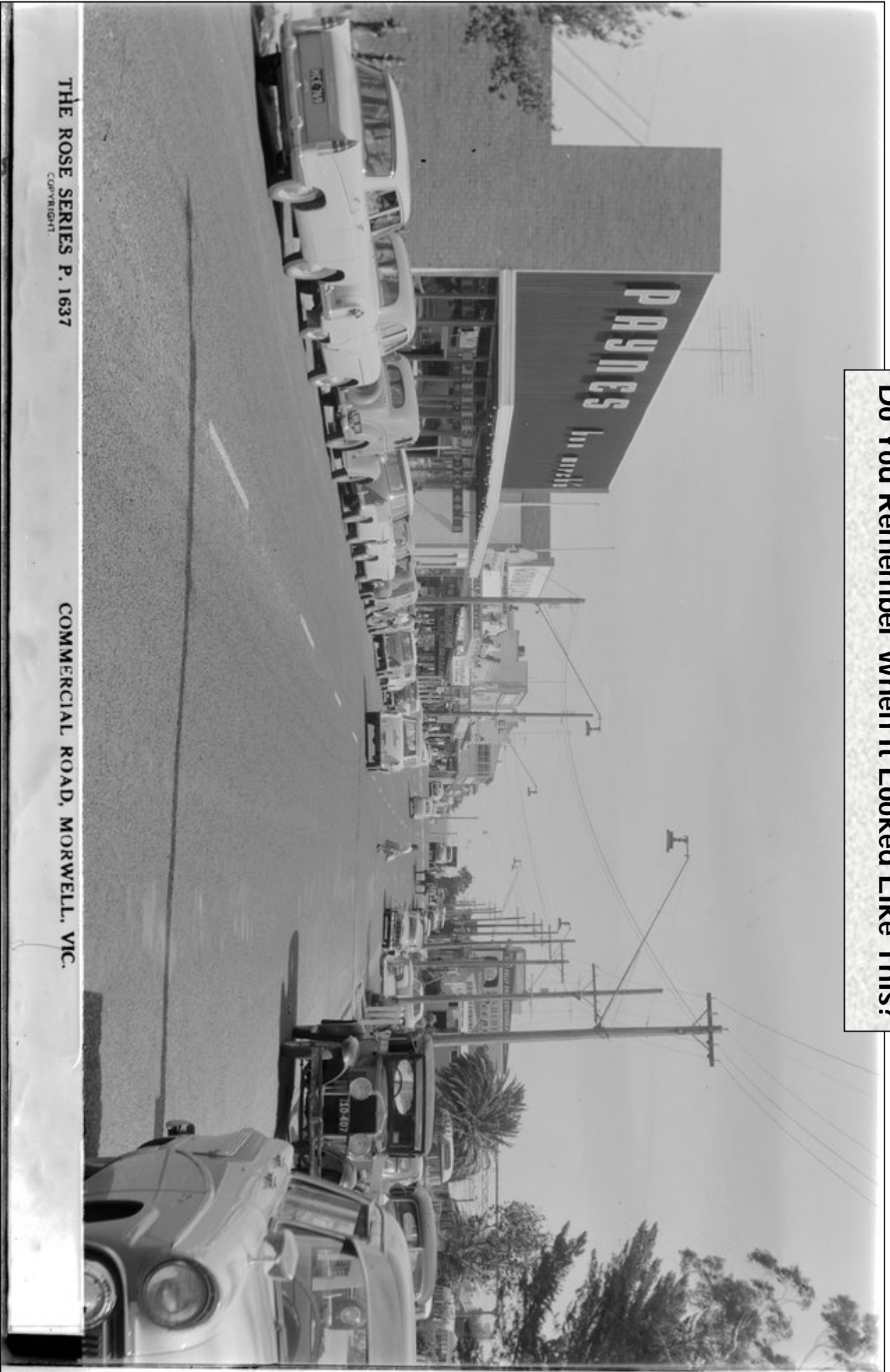


St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Yallourn

Photograph: Virtual Yallourn website



Do You Remember When it Looked Like This?



THE ROSE SERIES P. 1637
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COMMERCIAL ROAD, MORWELL, VIC.

The Morwell Advertiser

Friday 23rd. July 1897 (page 2)

Morwell Bicycle Club



On Saturday evening a meeting of members and intending members was held at **Reidy's** hotel, when there was a good attendance.

Mr. **Hall** was voted to the chair, and explained the objects of the meeting, and after some discussion the following office-bearers for the ensuing year were appointed:-

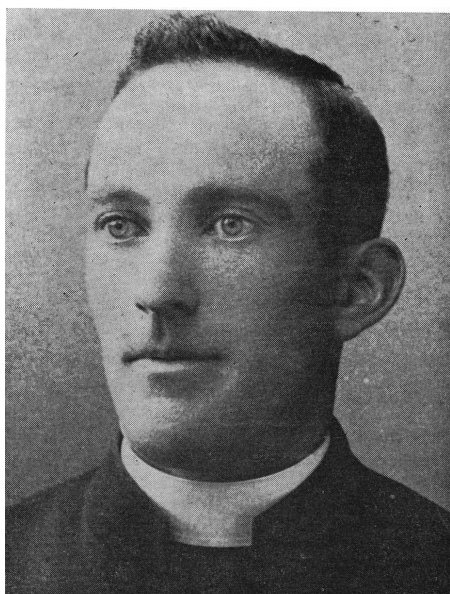
Patron Mr. **T. Walker**; President, Rev. Father **Colman**; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. **S. Cooper**, **C. King**, **E.T. Batty**, **J. B. Hoyle** and **T. Slattery**; Captain, Mr. **D. Cooper**; Vice-Captain, Mr. **G. Wright**; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. **R. Hodges**; Chairman, Mr. **J. Hall**; Bugler, Mr. **C. E. Miller**; Auditors, Messrs. **Hoyle** and **Batty**; Committee, Messrs. **Jno. Crough**, **O. Johnston**, **C. E. Miller**, **C. Vary** and **E. Francis**.

The advisability of opening a Club track was discussed, and on the motion of Messrs. Hodges and Hoyle, the matter was left in the hands of the committee.

During the evening the prizes won in the recent road race were presented to the winners by the chairman, who complimented the riders on their performance.

Several new members were proposed and, the business terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

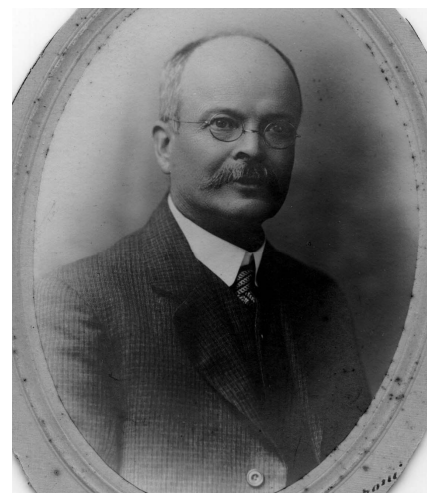
Photos: M.H.S.



Rev. Father Colman



John Hall



John Barton Hoyle

The Gippsland Times

Wednesday 28th. November 1877 (page 3)

THE FIRE AT COBB'S STABLES, MORWELL

The inquest begun on 20th inst touching the origin of the fire which resulted in the destruction of **Robertson, Wagner** and Co.'s stables at Morwell, together with seven horses and a quantity of forage, - was resumed yesterday by Dr. **Reid**, deputy coroner, and a local jury, at Morwell.

The fire was first seen between 3 and 4 a.m., on 9th inst., by **William Smith**, a farmer residing near the Morwell, who immediately roused up the grooms, who slept in a hut 1½ chain away from the stables. With Smith's help, nine horses were rescued, but the flames raging across the second partition by the time this was effected, rendered any effort to get the seven others out hopeless.

This witness testified to previous gross acts of carelessness in the use of lights at the stable. There was one lamp between three stables. **John Farley** and "Old Mat" were the grooms on duty this night. Their lantern was anything but a safe one, and it was not an uncommon thing to see the candle in it placed often on the seed bin whilst they went to wash the horses at the river, and burnt down so low as to melt the tin and cause the solder to drop.

The grooms were asleep when called, but the evidence generally was in favour of their thorough sobriety.

Joseph Smith deposed that on the evening before he saw two candles burning on the feed bin, in the division of the stable where the fire began. The premises, which belonged to **Mary Smith**, a widow, and which were not insured, had been let to Cobb and Co. for 16 years. Mrs Smith's daughter saw a light in the stables at half-past eleven on the night before, but apparently thought nothing of it. **M. Cooney**, who was in charge of the stables, however, said that, at the usual time, he put out the lights on the evening of the 8th. It seems that application had been made for fresh lanterns by the grooms, and also that they had been cautioned by persons who had happened to witness the recklessness before referred to, of the danger of leaving lights while absent from the stables.

The jury returned the following verdict:- "We are of opinion that the fire originated in Matthew Cooney's division of the stable: that a light was left burning in the stable after the grooms had retired to the hut on the night before the fire; that gross carelessness has been carried on for some time on the part of the grooms in charge; and that the inspector was decidedly wrong in not seeing that the grooms had sufficient lanterns for use in the stables."

The Gippsland Times

Wednesday 5th. December 1877 (page 3)

CORRESPONDENCE

THE FIRE AT COBB & CO.'S STABLES, MORWELL

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GIPPSLAND TIMES

SIR,- We have no desire whatever to question the right of any jury to find a verdict in accordance with the evidence which may be placed before it, but we consider that when a matter is of importance enough to necessitate a magisterial inquiry, it should be the duty of the parties instituting the inquiry to see that all evidence likely to throw any light on the subject under notice should be procured.

Now, we submit this course was not followed in the case of the fire at the Morwell coach stables. There were several parties, including the two coach drivers, a driver of Mr **Hammill's** waggon, and others who could have given important evidence, and who were not summoned, although the evidence was easily procurable.

It could have been proved by the drivers, for instance, that no demand was ever made for lamps or anything else required at the stable that was not immediately complied with; that it is the custom for all grooms at the stables along the road to indicate their wants to the drivers, when upon the return of the coach the following day the necessary articles are provided.

It could have been proved that there were more than one safe and good lamp for the use of the grooms. There were two good and safe lamps, and as there were only two compartments in the stable, surely two good lamps were sufficient, and if more were necessary they could have been procured without any trouble.

It has been sought to throw most of the blame on to one groom, **Matthew Cooney**, but evidence could have been forthcoming to prove that this man was not at all to blame, or, at least, not more so than the other. Cooney has been in the employ of Cobb and Co. for many years, always a night groom, and no charge of carelessness has hitherto been made against him.

It could also have been shown that Mr **W. Smith**, who lives within one chain of the stables, not, as stated in the evidence, "residing near the Morwell," took no more active part than others in rescue of the horses, or in extinguishing the fire.

Altogether, the mode of producing evidence in this case is one altogether very unsatisfactory, and it is with the object of preventing discredit falling upon parties in reality blameless that we write this letter.

We have little doubt that if all the evidence obtainable had been produced the fire would have been shown to be the result of pure accident instead of gross carelessness. The reference to the inspector seems to have been prompted by some cause not exhibited in the evidence.

If, in compiling juries, more respect were paid to the selection of jurors whose age would not entitle them to be classed as mere boys, more respect might be paid to the juries' verdicts.

We are, Sir, yours, & c.
THE DRIVERS.

[We willingly insert this letter, but why was the evidence referred to not tendered to the deputy coroner? It might have been prepared during the week's adjournment from the first sitting of the inquest – Ed. G. T.]

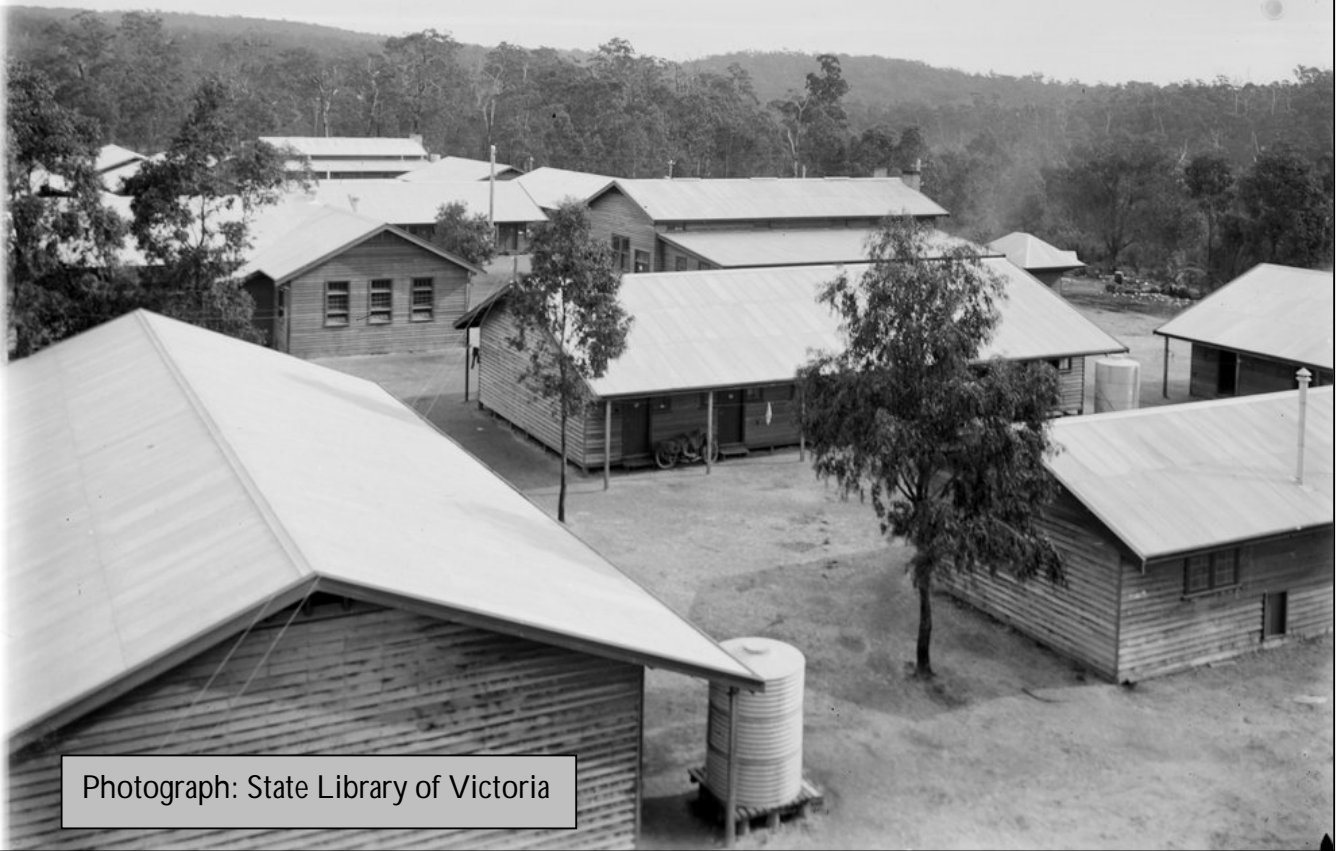


A Cobb & Co coach photographed at the State Library of Victoria in 1935.
Photograph: State Library of Victoria website

From the Back of the Filing Cabinet!



Yallourn West Camp (date unknown)



Photograph: State Library of Victoria

Morwell Gazette 1900

DENTISTRY.

MR. FRENCH,

(REGISTERED)

SURGEON DENTIST,

With h. Wonderful System of

PAINLESS DENTISTRY,

will visit MORWELL

ON

Tuesday, Nov. 13th.

Teeth stopped and sealed.

Artificial teeth a Speciality

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

May be consulted at MILL'S HOTEL.

WALTER BRUTON,

BEGS to intimate having started Business as a

Stationer, - -

Tobacconist, etc.,

IN

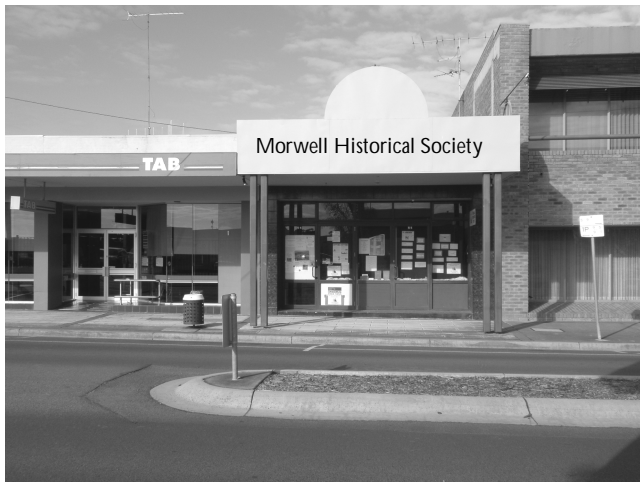
COMMERCIAL ROAD,

MORWELL.

And hopes by civility and attention, with Moderate Charges, to merit a share of Public Patronage.

Information Page:

Please note that the next meeting will be on 21st. August 2013 at 2.00 p.m.
At 44 Buckley Street (Next to T.A.B.)



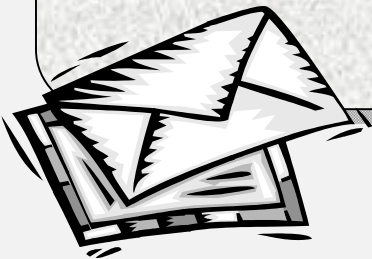
Meeting dates for 2013:

August 21st.
September 18th.
October 16th.
November 20th.

Annual Subscription Rates are as follows:

Individual membership \$15.00
"Family" membership \$20.00

Please deliver me to:



If undelivered please return to P.O. Box 1163 Morwell 3840

From Our Fact File:

The Panoramic Drive-In situated in Latrobe Road (today's Sunday Market) on a 12 acre site was officially opened to the general public on Thursday 30th August 1956. The price of admission for the first night was £1 per vehicle, irrespective of the number of occupants carried. Children were provided with free lollies and balloons. The opening night's proceeds were donated to local community groups. Amongst those to benefit were: Morwell Red Cross, Morwell High School, Latrobe Legacy Group, the Benevolent Society, and the Morwell and District Hospital.

The next edition of the "Post" is due out in October.

*I would like to thank all those members who have recently provided such positive feed-back in relation to certain articles within "The Post".
Your comments are very much appreciated. S.H.*

Stephen

