

# The Morwell Post

Morwell Historical Society

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International Plaza Gardens c1985



See article page 4

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# Morwell Historical Society Directory 2023/2024

President:	Alan McFarlane Phone: 0448 430 394
Vice-President:	Shirley Prosser
Secretary:	Florence Butcher
Assistant Secretary:	Elaine Andrijczak
Treasurer:	Peter Butcher
Committee Members:	Rosalie Davey David McInnes Laurie Williams
Research Library:	12 Hazelwood Road, Morwell, Victoria 3840
Research Queries:	secretary@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au
Public Access:	1st and 3rd Wednesday and last Sunday of each month, 11.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. Open - February to November
Members' Gathering:	Every two months on the 3rd Wednesday - commencing 21st February 2024, then April, June, August, October, at 2pm (informal get-together and afternoon tea)
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:	email: morwellpost@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au
Newsletter Team:	Fay Thompson, Elaine Andrijczak, Florence Butcher
Research Fees:	\$10.00 per hour or part thereof, and prices for photo prints on application and postage where applicable.
Facebook:	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/morwellhistoricalsociety">https://www.facebook.com/morwellhistoricalsociety</a>
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 old Commonwealth Bank, corner of Commercial Road and Tarwin Street.

All photos, unless indicated, are from our archives

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another year begins with lots of things happening at the Morwell Historical Society.

Our 'Step Back in Time Conversation Cafe' will be commencing soon and Shirley Prosser is busy arranging the publicity for this. We look forward to members supporting this project and volunteering some time, when required.

The Power Industry display in our rooms has had a lot of positive comments. It will remain until the end of May and well worth a look.

Our Library shelving is now complete with the books being placed over the next couple of months.

As mentioned in my last report, our debt now stands at \$30,000. We have a lot of people to thank for their support over the years. We have just 12 months to finalise the debt, so I will be reaching out to our community to assist us in finalising this, providing a wonderful community asset.

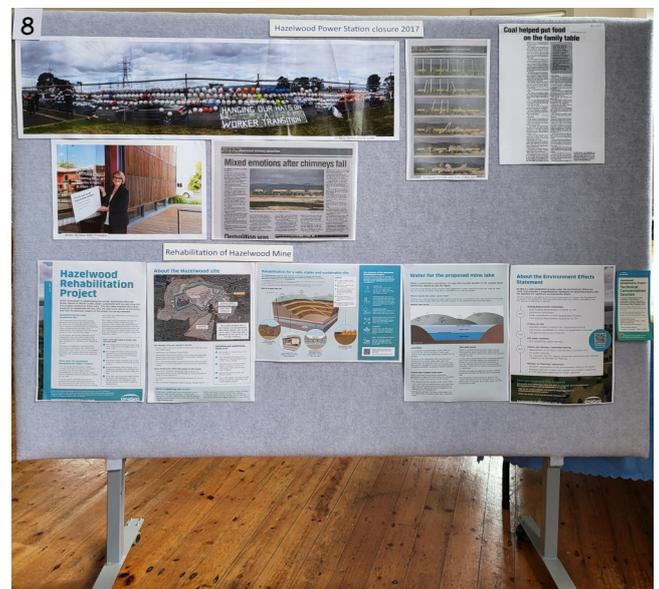
The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th April at 2pm. I encourage interested members to nominate for any of the committee positions and look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Best wishes

Alan



Two of the 15  
Power Industry  
display boards



## SOME OBJECTS IN OUR COLLECTION



Shire of Morwell Official Seal (1892-1990)



## INTERNATIONAL PLAZA



Mr Croft, Parks and Gardens Superintendent 1967

To mark the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Morwell Shire on Monday May 22 1967 it was decided to erect 37 flag poles in the parkland west of the McDonald Street bridge fronting Princes Highway. This area became known as the International Plaza and the flag on each pole would represent the country where Morwell's new settlers were born.

Incidentally, at this time, the War Memorial was removed from Commercial Road to the west of the flag poles and opposite Hoyle Street.

### Transcript of picture on the right

International Plaza, in a garden setting off the Princes Highway, Morwell, was officially launched yesterday. The flags of 37 Nations and States, representing the countries from which Morwell's settlers have come, were unfurled in an impressive ceremony.

Picture shows (left to right): Second Secretary, British High Commissioner, Mr J.A. Bryan, unfurling the Union Jack; Federal Member for McMillan, Mr A.A. Buchanan, unfurling the Australian flag, the member for Morwell, Mr A. Tanner, unfurling the Victorian flag.



MORWELL

# ADVERTISER

Telephone 4-3006

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1967

Price 5 cents

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a newspaper.

## SHIRE OF MORWELL INTERNATIONAL PARK

The Council has decided to have erected in the area of parkland west of McDonald Street Bridge fronting Princes Highway the flags of all nationalities represented in this Shire as a permanent mark of appreciation of the great contribution made to the development of this municipality by people from overseas countries.

The known places of origin are:

- ENGLAND
- SCOTLAND
- IRELAND
- WALES
- NEW ZEALAND
- AMERICA (USA)
- AUSTRIA
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA
- GERMANY
- GREECE
- HUNGARY
- ITALY
- LATVIA
- LITHUANIA
- MALTA
- NETHERLANDS
- POLAND
- UKRAINE
- YUGOSLAVIA
- INDIA
- PAKISTAN
- CEYLON
- SOUTH AFRICA
- CANADA

It is known that there are at least 200 residents of Morwell Shire whose places of birth are in other European, African, Asiatic and South American countries.

The Council desires to complete the list immediately and information in this regard is requested.

We recognise and appreciate the desire by some individual citizens and Associations to make presentations of their flags and people wishing to do this are requested to contact the Shire Secretary as soon as possible.

This installation will be unfurled to mark the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Shire of Morwell on Monday, May 22, 1967.

R. J. LORD,  
Shire Secretary.

## 30 FLAGS WILL BE UNFURLED ON 'PLAZA'

Some 30 consuls in Australia will be invited to unfurl the flag of the country they represent at a ceremony on May 22 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Morwell Shire.

Following the example of Cooma in New South Wales, the flags of countries from which migrants have come to Australia will be flown from poles which it is proposed to erect in the gardens in Princes Highway, along with the War Memorial. This will be removed from its present site in Commercial-rd.

Thirty-five flagpoles will stretch for 200 ft.

The site of the flagpoles has previously been referred to in reports as International Park, but in reporting to Morwell shire council last week the shire engineer, Mr J. W. Connan, called it the International Plaza.

He said the council had decided that the War Memorial was to be moved to the gardens, and he did not see how there could be a park within a garden.

### 'No parking'

Cr Ron Liddicut did not agree with placing the Memorial opposite the police station where there were 'No Parking' signs. He said it should be sited further west opposite the Salvation Army Hall.

The matter will be discussed at the next council meeting.

The shire secretary, Mr Reg Lord, proposed that at the unfurling ceremony a few bars of all national anthems should be played by the Morwell City Band or from recordings.

Council decided that only the Australian National Anthem should be played.

Cr Ron Liddicut, who moved this as an amendment, said it was desirable that migrants should become fully assimilated, and the best way of achieving this was for them to divorce themselves from old ties.

Cr Wes Jones seconded and the amendment was carried.

## CAPAD'S COOPERATIVE COMPANY STORE FIRE MARCH 1927

The ringing of the local fire bell at 3am last Wednesday morning, disturbed Morwell residents from their peaceful slumbers and for some time much excitement prevailed. It was not long before there was a large gathering of folk and most of them were partially dressed.

It was soon discovered that the scene of the fire was the general store on the south east corner of Tarwin and George Streets and directly opposite the Mechanics Institute. This store was owned by "Capads" Co-operative Company.

The outbreak was first noticed by W Jenkins from his bedroom window. He was awakened by a crackling sound and on looking out the window he saw flames inside "Capads" Store. He immediately rushed to the fire bell which he rang vigorously for some time. There was an immediate response to the alarm by both townspeople and members of the fire brigade who with Captain Noy in Command were soon at work.

The building however was an old one and the fire had got a hold before the arrival of the brigade and there was no hope of saving the building or any of its contents. The pressure of water was also poor and there were leaks in the hose which added further difficulty to the task. Fortunately there was scarcely a breath a wind and as the building was somewhat isolated it was not difficult to prevent the fire from spreading.

In about half an hour the building and the contents were reduced to ashes and everyone returned to their beds. When the store had closed the previous evening everything appeared in order. The building was partly covered by insurance and was rebuilt before the year ended.

Unfortunately, there are no known photographs of Capad's Cooperative Company. Of interest, the RACV occupied this site from 1957 before moving to Traralgon in 1994.

21 May 1926

NEW COMPANY

VICTORIAN REGISTRATIONS

Capads, Ltd., factors, brokers and general agents. Registered office, Tarwin Street, Morwell. Formed to acquire the business of the City and Country Buying Service, Ltd. Capital: £55,000 in £1 shares. Directors: Ernest Herbert Howlett, James Alexander, George Auchterlonie, James Orr Whyte, Francis Amiet and Ernest Thedphilus Scott Elmore.

4 February 1927

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Mechanics' Hall on Tuesday next, February 8th, at 10 a.m., to consider means of accepting a contract to supply The Retail Dairyman Association with milk for twelve months. All interested are asked to attend as this affords a golden opportunity for local dairyman to secure a guaranteed market for the product.

G. L. BURKETT, Sec.

Capads Ltd., Morwell.

13 May 1927

"Capads" purchased a portion of road frontage between Morwell-Mirboo railway line and overhead bridge, on west side of Morwell railway station, on which it was proposed to erect a milk depot. (Now the north side of the Morwell Rose Garden).

October 1931

*But, sad to say, although "Capads" took possession of the land and made a start on the foundations of the building for factory, the bottom, top and everything else, including promises about the factory, fell through, due to the fact the "Capads" simply went "bung."* according to local resident, Mrs Grundy.

In November 1934 "Capads" went into liquidation.

Source: Prue McGoldrick *Steam Horse to Power* page 75

Various articles from the *Morwell Advertiser*

## HAZELWOOD SOUTH STATE SCHOOL No 3350

Hazelwood South State School was originally known as the No.3350 Eel Hole Creek State School and opened on 22 January 1900. The half-acre school site was where the two mature Radiata Pines are located near the Churchill Hotel.

A second Hazelwood South State School was built on a four-acre site and opened in June 1925. This school was located about 400 yards south, near the junction of Glendonald Road (and the Jeeralang West Road, now named Monash Way). A Head Teacher's residence was built later and first occupied in February 1951.



With the opening of Churchill State School in February 1968 (and re-named the Churchill Primary School in the same year), Hazelwood South State School closed on the 17 December 1967.

Back left, Joy Boldiston, Temporary Sewing Mistress. This role is known today as a Teacher's Aide and she assisted with the infant grades and with music lessons.

Back right, Charles Boldiston, Head Teacher from 4/2/1958 to 6/2/1961 inc.

Back – Peter Lawless, Bill Rowley, Wayne Farley, Kevin O'Connor, John Walker, John Woodbridge, Robert Boldiston

Middle – Margaret Northway, Helen Leslie, June Higgins, Jennifer Fox, Pauline Ashford, Lee Morley, Wendy Fox, Margaret Rowley, Jeanette Thornton

Front – Peter Fox, Patrick Lawless, Ann Lawless, Clare Miller, Sean Dobbin, Chris Woodbridge Alan Leslie, Pat Dobbin, Daryl Leslie. Absent Carol Saltmarsh.

Photo courtesy of Robert Boldiston

His sister Phyllis was older and was a prefect at Morwell High School in 1959

## RIDING TO SCHOOL

Two interesting photos from the Society's archives



Violet, Arthur and Annie Coleman riding to the Jumbuk School c1910



Hazelwood Ridge School students. Maybe the lady at the back is the teacher. C1936



## GREEN STREET AND GAY STREET

John Green was born in Pembroke, Wales and married Eleanor Grey in 1876.

John and Eleanor had 4 children – Arthur Albert, Florence Mary, Ida Helen, John Reynish, Gordon and Augustus Ian.

Arthur married 30 year old Catherine Katie Stamp, an Amhest girl, in the Maryborough Methodist Church in 1902.



Back -Mr Schrender (Norwegian Consul), Marion Stamp, Arthur Green, Catherine Stamp, John McKee (John married Marion in 1905)

Front -E Furnell, Annie Stamp, Marie Schrender, Elizabeth Stamp, Rob Stamp

Katie had a brother Robert but he died in 1881.

In the late 1870s John Green, who had a drapery store in Rosedale, recognised that Morwell was a “coming place” and resolved to open a branch in the town. A block of land in Tarwin Street was secured and Mr W Allen, one of the first builders to enter Gippsland, was engaged to erect the shop.

A galvanised iron building, afterwards known as the “Iron Store” was duly erected and in those days was considered a first class place. Mr Andrew Gay, his reliable assistant in Rosedale, was appointed as manager with Gay sleeping in the premises. Business however speedily increased and the managers sleeping apartment was required for stock.

### **A.A. GREEN**

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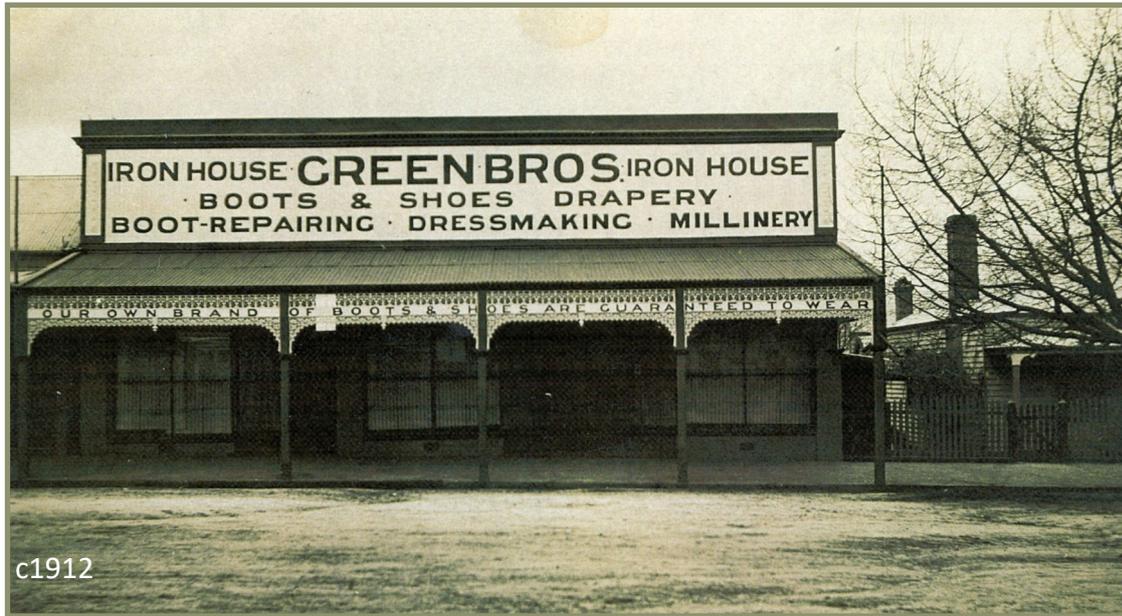
30 April 1926

Mr Allen was again sought to build rooms at the rear for Gay. Years later more rooms were required for more stock and Mr Green had a house built close to the shop for the manager and his family.

Unfortunately, Gay, who was very popular with all sections of the community passed away due to cancer in 1898. His son Mr Andrew Gay Jr., who was also employed in the shop, succeeded his father as manager of the Morwell branch of Green's Drapery.

However Andrew Gay Jr. enlisted and went to the Boer War and John Green's eldest son Arthur became the manager.

Mr Allen was again sought to build a new premises. The work was so planned that the drapery business was able to carry on as usual without any inconvenience to customers.



c1912



Arthur and Katie had 5 children – Eleanor born in 1903, Kathleen born in 1904, Jean born in 1906, Arthur (Burras) born in 1909 and David Ian born in 1911. Captain Ian Green, the son of Arthur and Katie was killed in action in WW2 at Benghazi in Libya and is buried in the Halfay Sollum War Cemetery, Egypt.

**Gay Street was named after Andrew Gay 1837-1898**

**Green Street was named after Arthur Green 1877-1966**

Source - *Morwell Advertiser* Friday 12 April 1907 page2 and Friday 16 May 1902 p3  
- photos from our files



## OPEN DAYS 2024

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

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Please deliver me to:

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