

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Compiled by I. T. Maddern.

Volume 5.First Published in 1966.

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The Morwell Historical Society NewsProduced by I.T. Maddern.Volume 5.....First Published in 1966.THE HISTORY OF MORWELL HIGH SCHOOLChapter 1.....Secondary Education in Victoria.....(10/2/66).

Although Victoria, through the great Education Act of 1872, became the first state of any state or country in the world to introduce free and compulsory education, the education then provided by the State did not go beyond the primary level. It was not until 32 years later that the State opened its first secondary school - the Melbourne Continuation School - in February, 1905.

By 1910, there were ten such schools in Victoria, but they were called high schools and not continuation schools. In these ten schools, there were 52 teachers and 1,338 pupils, figures which are less than those for our biggest, single school today. By 1922, the numbers had increased slowly to 31 schools, 232 teachers, and 6,980 pupils.

The first State secondary schools in Gippsland were the Sale Agricultural High School established in 1909, and the Warragul Agricultural High School established in 1907. Entrance into the high schools was by examination - the Qualifying Certificate taken at the end of Grade VI, or the Merit Certificate taken at the end of Grade VIII.

The majority of pupils stayed on at the primary schools even in those localities where a secondary school was provided, leaving school on the completion of the Grade VIII year. In 1919, however, the change was made to our present system whereby most primary schools ended at Grade VI. This brought about a big increase in the secondary school enrolments by filling Forms I and II with all those pupils who had finished Grade VI.

In small townships like Morwell, where no secondary school was provided, the primary schools continued to hold Grade VII and Grade VIII classes. Morwell children who required secondary education had to enrol at a private boarding school, such as any of the big Melbourne public schools, or obtain private board in a town like Warragul and attend the high school there, or travel daily to Traralgon to attend the Traralgon Higher Elementary School.

Morwell remained a small, country town until after the Second World War, 1939-1945, its population rising slowly from 1365 in 1910 to 2,500 in 1945. In the meantime, Yallourn had been established about 1921, and by 1931, with a population of 3,000, it was twice the size of Morwell. A high school was established at Yallourn, and this school served Morwell also, until Morwell High School opened in 1956.

Morwell High School started with Forms I in 1956, and then increased the stages year by year with Forms II in 1957, Forms III in 1958, Forms IV in 1959, Forms V in 1960, until it reached full maturity with Form VI in 1961. Morwell children who had commenced their secondary courses at Yallourn prior to 1956 had to remain there because they were ahead of the years provided at Morwell. Even as late as 1960, there were Matriculation pupils from Morwell attending Yallourn High School.

Morwell High School opened on Tuesday, 7th February, 1956, in the old Higher Elementary School building at S.S.3584, Grey Street, Traralgon. A building at Morwell was not provided until the following year. At Traralgon, a high school had been established to take the place of the old higher elementary school, and the building of the new high school on a different site made the old quarters available for the use of the newly created Morwell High School.

In the first year the Staff consisted of Mr. H.J. Slattery (Headmaster), Mr. J.A. Mitchell, Mr. J.M. Murfett, Miss J.F.E. Goodwill, Miss B.R. Davies, Mrs. J.M. Fendley, and Miss K.M. Vickers (clerk). Apparently, during the year, one further teacher, Mr. A.A. Van Rossum was added to the Staff.

Secondary Education in Victoria.....cont'd.FIRST YEAR ENROLMENTS.

The School Register shows that the following 134 pupils enrolled during the first year, 1956, were the pioneer pupils of the school:

1. Alan Baillie	46. Joy Butler	91. Shirley Pedersen
2. Graeme Beaumont	47. Frances Cardwell	92. Susan Penney
3. David Bennett	48. Beverley Casley	93. Carol Poulson
4. George Benson	49. Nancy Catterina	94. Gae Quigley
5. Gregory Brinsmead	50. Jean Chapman	95. Fay Raggatt
6. John Broughton	51. Beverley Cope	96. Joan Ramsdale
7. Derek Clark	52. Valerie Cope	97. Lynette Radcliffe
8. Douglas Currie	53. Joan Cousins	98. Betty Robinson
9. George Doucas	54. Joan Crawford	99. Hazel Robinson
10. Richard Foster	55. Catherine Crawford	100. Terry Sheahey
11. Trevor Goldfinch	56. Beverley Derham	101. Judith Simpson
12. Kenneth Hall	57. Audrey Downie	102. Maree Snell
13. Phillip Higgins	58. Betty Duncan	103. Dorothy Stendt
14. Julian Land	59. Lesley Einsiedel	104. Wylma Stewart
15. Thomas McGregor	60. Anne Faulds	105. Robyn Tapscott
16. Dennis McKay	61. Eril Fletcher	106. Fay Temple
17. Jan Kopec	62. Angela Gilvear	107. Geraldine Troke
18. Neville Mackley	63. Valda Gittus	108. Allegonda Vrieze
19. Robert Mitchell	64. Rosa Costa	109. Fay Walsh
20. Terence Nicholls	65. Aileen Goldsworthy	110. Eva Warwick
21. James Norton	66. Hendrika De Groot	111. Glenda White
22. Geoffrey Padfield	67. Marion Gummer	112. Annette Williams
23. Victor Spinner	68. Helen Guy	113. Frances Williams
24. Wayne Stonehouse	69. Jillian Harrison	114. Deanna Yates
25. David Swainsbury	70. Brenda Hawksworth	115. Dawn Young
26. Robert Temple	71. Elizabeth Jensen	116. Susan Thompson
27. Leslie Trembath	72. Nannette Judge	117. Nina Debono
28. Trevor Turner	73. Elizabeth Kilgower	118. Errol Hart
29. Anthony Wells	74. Merle Knight	119. Marion Priddle
30. Noel Weightman	75. Maria Koppens	120. James Collins
31. Harold Williams	76. Wendy Lawson	121. Cherry Turner
32. Barry Wykes	77. Glenys Lester	122. Linda Fernee
33. Mary Alderson	78. Phyllis Lewis	123. Brenda Kelf
34. Mary Anderson	79. Sonja Little	124. Diane Cranston
35. Lorraine Angus	80. Robyn McKay	125. Marthie Waser
36. Rosemary Aslett	81. Elaine Mackley	126. Carol Parker
37. Cynthia Barnes	82. Heather McLean	127. Joan Emerson
38. Anke van Barneveld	83. Janette McLeod	128. Julie Taylor
39. Laura Bennell	84. Suzanne McPhee	129. David Turpin
40. Carolyn Bond	85. Isabel Millar	130. Francis Woodman
41. Ellen Bond	86. Isobel Milligan	131. Geraldine Hannah
42. Merrilyn Bond	87. Joy Mitchelmore	132. Michele Stock
43. Rosalie Bond	88. Rhonda Mortison	133. Roslyn Harris
44. Jeanetta Buckland	89. Robyn Mortison	134. Lesley Walton
45. Moreen Bushaway	90. Heather Murray	

GROSS YEARLY ENROLMENTS

The following table gives the figures for the gross enrolments year by year from 1956 to 1965:

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
1956 ...	37 ...	97 ...	134
1957 ...	86 ...	188 ...	274
1958 ...	132 ...	277 ...	409
1959 ...	220 ...	371 ...	591
1960 ...	274 ...	480 ...	754
1961 ...	311 ...	513 ...	824
1962 ...	342 ...	546 ...	888
1963 ...	343 ...	615 ...	958
1964 ...	316 ...	624 ...	940
1965 ...	331 ...	684 ...	1015

It will be noted that up till 1960, the yearly increase was well over 100, but that since then it has been round about the 60 to 70 mark, except for 1964, when there was a surprising drop of 18.

THE HISTORY OF MORWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Secondary Education in Victoria.... cont'd.

THE STAFF

The pioneer staff of 1956 consisted of the headmaster, Mr.H.J. Slattery and the following six teachers: Mr. J.A. Mitchell, Mr. J.M. Murfett, Mr. A.A. Van Rossum, and Miss J.F.E. Goodwill, Miss B.R. Davies, Mrs. J.M.Fendlay.

This staff of seven was increased to ten in 1957, when Mrs. Fendlay left but four new teachers were appointed - Mr. R. Doyle, Mr.R.G. Hayes, Mrs.L.M. Kellow and Miss M.I. Collins.

Space does not permit for the full lists of teachers to be given, year by year, from 1958 onwards. However, the following table lists those teachers who have held the more important executive positions during the school's ten years of existence:

Year	Senior Master	Senior Mistress	Sports Master	Sports Mistress
1956...	J.A.Mitchell	...Miss J.Goodwill	...J.M.Murfett	...Miss J.Goodwill
1957...	J.A.Mitchell	...Miss J.Goodwill	...J.M.Murfett	...Miss J.Goodwill
1958...	W.B.French	...Miss J.Goodwill	...J.M.Murfett	...Miss J.Goodwill
1959...	W.B.French	...Mrs.E.Campbell	...J.M.Murfett	...Miss J.Goodwill
1960...	L.G.Dale	...Dr.J.S.Bowden	...B.K.Johnson	...Mrs.E.Campbell Miss J.Goodwill
1961...	R.T.P.Hodge L.G.Dale	...Dr.J.S.Bowden	...J.M.Murfett	...Mrs.E.Campbell K.G.Maughan...Miss J.Goodwill
1962...	L.L.Young J.M.Murfett	...Dr.J.S.Bowden	...J.T.Synan	...Miss J.Goodwill K.G.Maughan...Miss W.Osborne
1963...	J.V.Griggs L.G.Dale	...Miss I.Graham	...J.T.Synan	...Miss J.Goodwill B.A.Foster ...Miss D.Robson
1964...	J.V.Griggs J.M.Murfett	...Mrs. W.Hammer	...J.T.Synan	...Mrs. D.Pryde B.A.Foster Miss Dalgleish
1965...	J.V.Griggs D.M.Schapper	...Mrs. E.McMaster	...B.A.Foster P.Molony	...Mrs. D.Pryde Mrs. H.Johnson

Mr. Murfett, one of the original 1956 members of staff, is now our senior master. His service is, of course, the longest of any of our teachers, since he has completed ten years and is starting on the eleventh year.

Other teachers of the present staff with more than five years service at this school are:

- Mrs. Kellow (appointed 1957) - nine years;
- Mrs. Lawrence (appointed 1958) - eight years;
- Mrs. McLaren (appointed 1960) - six years;
- Mrs. Stevens (part time, appointed 1960) - six years;
- Mrs. Duncan (part time, appointed 1960) - six years;
- Mr. Maddern (appointed 1961) - five years.

Miss Goodwill (1956-1963) was here for eight years; Mr.Doyle (1957-1964) eight years; Mr. Dale, five years, Mr.Meehan, five years and Mr.Peters, five years.

Our present staff, 1966, consists of Mr. Maddern, Headmaster, and Messrs. J.M.Murfett, A.Smole (Senior Masters); A.C.Warner, F.A.Withoos (Sports-masters), K.I.Clements, W.J.Traill, K.A.Maughan, B.A.Foster, P.M.Caplan, W.J.Waldron, P.M.Pickburn, D.H.Winkler, R.S.Edmondson, B.W.Newport, L.P.Patford, D.A.Poad, L.J.Cocking, B.E.Hirstgood, D.J.Newman, A.Romijn,

Mrs. E.E.McMaster (Senior Mistress), Mrs. V.J.Gardiner, Mrs. B.C.Waldron, Miss M.J.Harney, Mrs. D.A.Pryde, Mrs. L.M.Kellow, Miss D.M.Jones, Mrs.C.G.Yule, Miss I.M.Docherty, Miss A.F.Horley, Miss P.Hughes, Mrs. A.S.Lawrence, Mrs. I. McLaren, Miss L.Benjafield, Mrs. P.A.Craddock, Mrs. S.M.Doherty, Miss F.Dougan, Mrs. B.Hill, Mrs. M.J.Coulson, Miss R.A.Reuss, Mrs.M.H.Stevens, Mrs.I.Duncan. Mrs.B.L. Stuart, Mrs.J.L. Cafiso, Mrs. P.M. Price, Mrs. M.W. Dennis.

Clerks. Our first school clerk was Miss K.M.Vickers (1956-57) followed by Miss D.A.Owen (1958-59) and Miss M.McKenney (1960). In 1961, the size of the school warranted the employment of two clerks. Our present senior clerk, Miss E.G.Herbert was appointed then. Our second clerk has been Miss N.Debono (1961-64) and Miss R.Debono (1964-66).

THE HISTORY OF MORWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Secondary Education in Victoria....cont'd.

THE PUPILS AND LEADERSHIP

Since the school did not reach full maturity until its first Matriculation classes were held in 1961, we can count the Dux of the school only from that year. This position of honour and that of Proxime Accessit (or second place) is decided from the results in the University Matriculation Examinations. Here is the list:

Year	Dux	Proxime Accessit
1961	Jillian Harrison	Adrian Milner
1962	Phillip Higgins and Robert Holdsworth (Equal)	
1963	Dorothy Maddern	Roderick McLean
1964	Richard Benson and Michael Palmer (Equal)	
1965	Barbara Sharp, Manfred Krautschneider and Brendan Davey (Equal)	

The prefect system was inaugurated in 1959, when the school had reached the stage of taking Intermediate Certificate. The following pupils have been elected by their fellow prefects as Senior Prefects or Captains of the school:

CAPTAINS OF THE SCHOOL

Year	Boys	Girls
1959	Peter Tatterson	Nina Debono
1960	Fred Debono	Connie Vrieze
1961	Geoffrey Padfield	Linda Fernee
1962	Phillip Higgins	Suzanne King
1963	Stuart Dickson	Annette Budge and Dorothy Maddern
1964	Michael Lunan	Nola Higgins
1965	Philip Bowen	Jean Marlin

School Vice-Captains.

As the school grew bigger and as from 1962, vice-captains were appointed as well as captains.

VICE-CAPTAINS

Year	Boys	Girls
1962	Eddie Eshuys	Heather Tait
1963	Michael Lunan	Lorraine Andrew
1964	Tony Johnson	Marjorie Mills
1965	Albert Williams	Kaye Robinson

House Captains.

The present house system, with the four houses, Gipps, Latrobe, McMillan and Strzelecki, was introduced in the first year. Here is the list of House Captains from 1956 to 1965:

Year	Gipps	Latrobe	McMillan	Strzelecki
1956	Phillip Higgins	David Swainsbury	Robert Mitchell	Derek Clark
	Dawn Young	Anke Barneveld	Sonja Little	Joan Cousins
1957	Phillip Higgins	Dennis McKay	Robert Mitchell	Derek Clark
	Glenda White	Anke Barneveld	Sonja Little	Carolyn Bond
1958	Phillip Higgins	Dennis McKay	Robert Mitchell	Geoff. Padfield
	Frances Cardwell	Gae Quigley	Connie Vrieze	Heather Burn
1959	Phillip Higgins	David Swainsbury	Robert Mitchell	Geoff. Padfield
	Frances Cardwell	Gae Quigley	Connie Vrieze	Heather Burn
1960	Phillip Higgins	David Swainsbury	Peter Tatterson	Geoff. Padfield
	Frances Cardwell	Gae Quigley	Connie Vrieze	Helen Guy
1961	Phillip Higgins	David Swainsbury	Adrian Milner	Geoff. Padfield
	Frances Cardwell	Linda Fernee	Carla Vrieze	Josie Sturtz
1962	George Baklis	Eddie Eshuys	Peter Hinkley	Brett Wadley
	Annette Budge	Julie Stark	Rosa Debono	Ann Tyler
1963	George Baklis	Robin Baker	Stan Morgan	Bryan Quirk
	Anne Crilly	Julie Stark	Dorothy Maddern	Bev. McIntosh
1964	Michael Lunan	Joe Eshuys	Stan Morgan	Tony Johnson
	Marjorie Mills	Cheryl Butler	Barbara Brereton	Jean Marlin
1965	Philip Bowen	Albert Williams	Robert McDonald	M. Wetherall
	Joan Pickburn	Marg. Littlejohn	Lina Debono	Jean Marlin

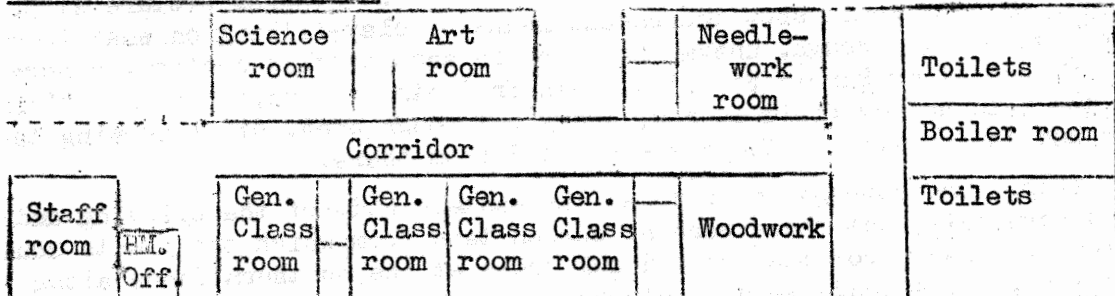
THE HISTORY OF MORWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Secondary Education in Victoria...cont'd.

BUILDINGS.

For the first year, 1956, school was conducted in four rooms of the old Higher Elementary School, Grey Street, Traralgon, our pupils being conveyed there by school buses. During that year, the first section of our permanent building was completed, ready for the beginning of the second year, 1957. Below is given a plan of this first section.

The First Section, 1957



This section can be recognized as the western end of today's central block. The science, art and needlework rooms of 1957 are our present science rooms, D3,D4 and D5. Notice that there is only one staff room(our present Ladies' Staff room), and that our present Library (C1) and rooms C2,C3, Sports store, sick bay and rooms D1,D2, and Men's Staff room did not exist in 1957.

- 1958. For this year, the additional rooms (Library, etc.) were added to the Central Block, making it as it is today.
- 1959. This was the year in which the Domestic Science block (the South Wing) and the Boys' Manual Arts Block were ready for use. The South Wing consisted of the Needlework rooms and the Art rooms (E1,E2,E3 and E4) and the Laundry, Demonstration room, Kitchen, Dining room, Front Entrance, a general class-room (F6), Commercial room (F7) and Music room (F8). The Front Entrance, never used, was partitioned off in 1961 to make the Girl: Prefects' room.
- 1961. Further additions had been begun in 1960 but were not ready until the middle of 1961. These rooms completed the Southern Wing with the Girls' Sports Store, the Second Sick Bay, and the class-rooms F9, E5 and E6.
- 1963. Four more class-rooms were added to the western end of the Boys' Manual Arts Block. These are the general class-rooms now numbered B5,B6,B7 and B8. The school also acquired the S.E.C. hut, which was positioned between the main block and the residence, and used as a gymnasium.
- 1964. Three portable huts were set up in the grounds, west of the main school building and north of the S.E.C. hut.
- 1965. One of the portable class-rooms was removed at the beginning of the year. Towards the end of the year the building of a new science wing (two large science rooms) was begun. They form a continuation to the west of the Boys' Manual Wing and class-room section (or Line B) and will be numbered B9 and B10 when they come into use sometime in April or May, 1966.
- 1966. Another portable class-room was erected near the remaining two old ones, and the three rooms together now form the temporary accommodation for the new school, Morwell East High School, which opened on Tuesday, 1st February, 1966.

Shelter Sheds and Canteen. In 1960, the boys' shelter shed which was behind the Manual Arts Block (that is, north of it) was brought closer to the girls' shelter shed (where the new science rooms are now being built) and then a small canteen room was constructed to join the two. In 1965 this section was moved to its present site, west of the school and north of the S.E.C. hut.

THE GROUNDS.

Much of the ground acquired about 1956 for the site of Morwell High School was low lying, requiring the bringing in of huge quantities of filling to build up the swampy area to the level of the higher ground. There were two or three houses on this higher ground, the last being removed by contract in February, 1961.

THE HISTORY OF MORWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Secondary Education in Victoria...cont'd.

THE GROUNDS...cont'd.

A road, known as Maryvale Road, ran through the grounds as a continuation of Hoyle Street to meet McDonald Street and continue then as the Maryvale Road we know today.

For the first four years, very little of the ground was usable for sport or large recreation, (1957-60 inclusive). The general picture at the beginning of 1961 would show tremendous heaps of clay-filling on what is now the cricket oval, a rough, uneven area to the east of this section, a boggy strip of land along Harold Street and Winifred Street, and, on the girls' side, where the main hockey field is now, a dry but rough area, still showing the debris and the remains of the house shifted from there.

There were some garden beds at the eastern ends of the building and along the southern wall, but there were no garden taps from which the plants could be watered. Apart from the two old gum trees at the northern fence along Holmes Road, the grounds were treeless.

In 1961, the filling clay was spread to make the cricket oval level. A top-dressing of loam was added in the same year, and during the next year, 1962, the grass was sown and the cricket pitch laid down.

The main hockey field was completed in 1963, and the second field and subsidiary areas were top-dressed, levelled and sown down in 1964. In the space of five years, this area of 17 acres has been converted from a waste into park-land and recreation grounds.

The tree-planting scheme began in August, 1961, encompassing in that first year the whole outer perimeter of the school grounds. In the succeeding three years, 1962-64, more trees were planted, this time to make an inner perimeter, close to the buildings, and to create several shady clumps in several areas away from the playing fields. We now have something like 250 trees, of many varieties, beginning to break the former bareness and ugliness, and to provide shade and shelter for the pupils.

OPERAS AND ENTERTAINMENTS.

This school has an unusual record in the cultural field in that, starting from the second year, 1957, it has produced a play, or opera every year as a public entertainment. These productions, started by Mr. R. Doyle and continued by him for eight years (to 1964 inclusive) have been:

1957 A concert, presented at the Morwell Town Hall, 30/10/57, the main items being a Physical Culture Display, a one-act play, "The Magic Snuff", and an operetta, "The Stranger".

1958 A concert, given on two nights, 31/7/58 and 1/8/58:

1. "The Copper Coin" (a one-act play)
2. "The Seasons" (a ballet)
3. "School and Crossbones" (an operetta).

1959 "H.M.S. Pinafore" (Gilbert & Sullivan).

1960 "The Sorcerer" (Gilbert & Sullivan). 7th & 8th July, 1960.

1961 "The Mikado" (Gilbert & Sullivan). Four performances.

1962 "H.M.S. Pinafore" (Gilbert & Sullivan). Four performances.

1963 "Miss Hook of Holland" (Light Opera). Five performances.

1964 "The Sorcerer" (Gilbert & Sullivan). Five performances.

1965 "Iolanthe" (Gilbert & Sullivan). Produced by Mrs. McLaren.

BADGE AND MOTTO

Our badge, with the Phoenix as its central feature was designed by two of our pioneer teachers, Mr. J. M. Murfett and Miss B. R. Davies. The motto "Nihil Sine Labore" means "Nothing is achieved without effort", and not "No sign of labour" as translated by the would-be witty.

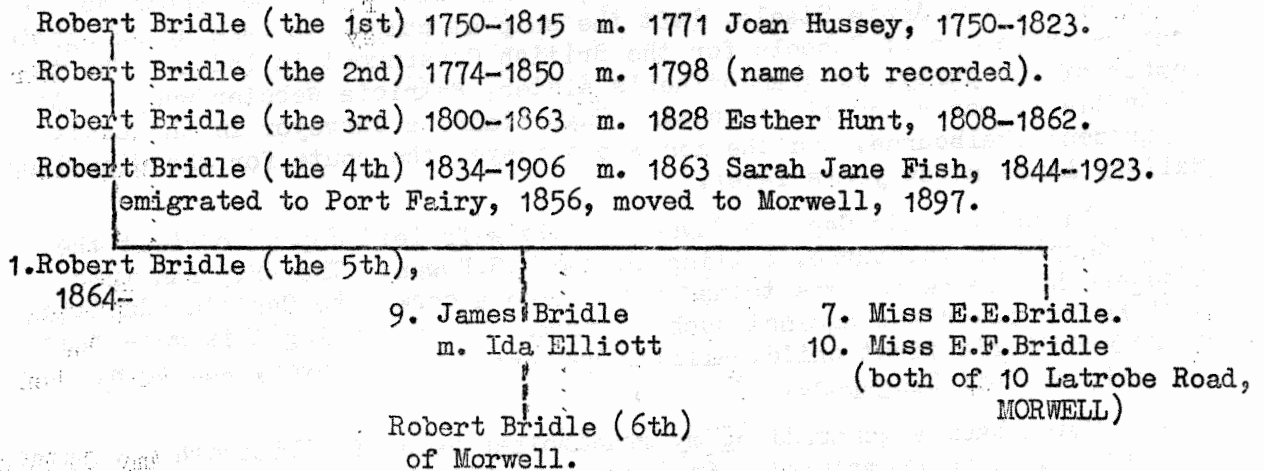
CHICKERELL, Dorset, England; and Morwell, Australia.

We have found with some surprise that two of our pioneering families in the Morwell district, Victoria, Australia, came from the same small village in England, independently of one another, and unknown by one another, to settle in this area.

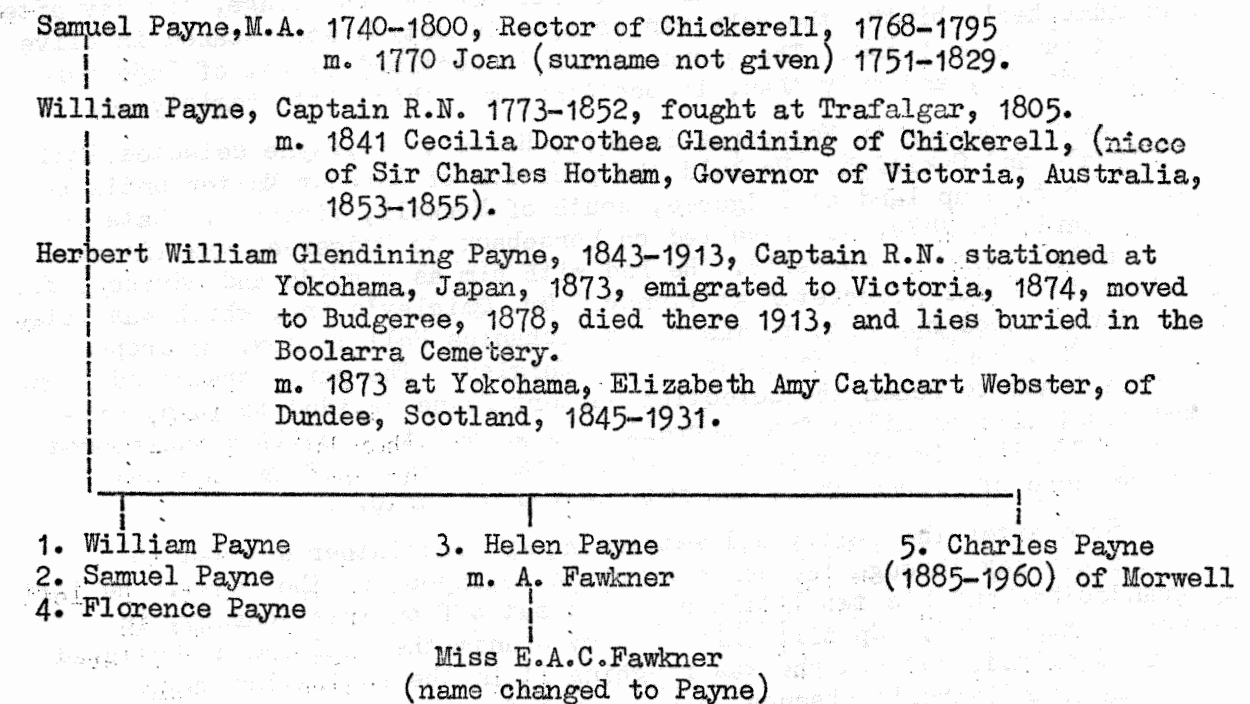
Robert Bridle (1834-1906) served in the Royal Navy during the Crimean War, 1854-56, and then emigrated to Port Fairy, Victoria, at the end of the war. In 1897, he came with his family to Morwell, and bought the property or farm which was known as Airlie Bank, and which was situated on Waterhole Creek, just west of Morwell township. This farm is now the Bridle Estate "suburb" of Morwell.

We are indebted to his daughter, Miss E.E. Bridle, of 30 Latrobe Road, Morwell, for a good deal of information about the Bridle family and about the early days of Morwell. We are also very much indebted to Mr. George H. Atkins, a present Churchwarden of Chickerell Church, who has carried out some very thorough research in the Chickerell records to find out for us the family story of the Bridle Family and the Payne Family, enabling us to draw up the genealogical tables given below. We have simplified these tables by taking only the direct lines from the earliest antecedents to the Morwell connections.

THE BRIDLE FAMILY



THE PAYNE FAMILY, (of Chickerell and Budgerie).



Again we are indebted to Mr. G.H. Atkins, and also to Mrs. Charles Payne of Morwell, and Miss E.A.C. Payne of East Hawthorn for the above information about this interesting family.

THE STORY OF BUDGEREE

(From notes supplied by Miss E.A.C. Payne, 6 Auburn Parade, East Hawthorn, E3, Victoria, grand-daughter of Captain H.W.G. Payne, the first settler at Budgerree, near Morwell).

My grandfather, Captain Herbert William Glendining Payne, was born 17/1/1843, in Chickerell, Dorset, England. His parents were Post-Captain William Payne R.N. and Cecilia Dorothea Payne, (nee Glendining), the latter being a niece of Sir Charles Hotham, Governor of Victoria, 1853-55. Cecilia Payne's mother was a sister of Sir Charles Hotham.

At the age of 12 years, my grandfather entered the Royal Navy and went aboard an ocean-going warship. The ship berthed at times in Mediterranean ports to take on supplies.

As a young man he attended a big naval ball on invitation from the reigning monarch, Queen Victoria, and it was at this ball that he met my grandmother, Elizabeth Amy Cathcart Webster, who, with her sisters, was also in attendance by invitation of Queen Victoria. Their father Francis Webster of Dundee, was a lawyer and "Writer of the Signet" for the British Crown in Edinburgh, Scotland.

My grandfather was posted Captain and sent out to Japan as Chief Navigating Officer for the British Naval Squadron there, stationed at Yokohama. Sometime later, my grandmother travelled out to Japan to marry my grandfather at Yokohama, 10/7/1874. Two other ladies of the Webster family accompanied her as far as Bombay, India. A cousin, Flora Webster, better known as the authoress, Flora Annie Steele, left the ship at Bombay to take up an appointment as Inspector of Schools for the British Government in India. The third member of the party, my grandmother's sister, Patricia Webster went on to Australia to marry her first cousin, Hugh Blair, a surveyor in the Lands Department, Melbourne, and the man who surveyed the route for the Gippsland Railway Line, a few years later.

In 1875, young Captain Payne and his wife left Japan to visit the Blair couple in Melbourne, sailing on the S.S. Bowen. The ship ran into a severe hurricane and was tossed about like a cork, the Captain admitting that he was powerless against such a storm. It was during this gale that my grandmother's first child, William Herbert Webster Payne, was born, when the ship was off Singapore.

Going back a generation, my grandmother herself, Elizabeth Amy Cathcart Webster, was born prematurely, in Tasmania, while her parents were on a visit to relatives, the Cathcarts, who owned a large sheep station in Tasmania. As the parents were booked to board ship for the return voyage, the day after my grandmother's birth, the baby was wrapped in cotton wool soaked in olive oil, and taken on board. The journey back to Scotland by way of Cape Horn took six months, and only then, in Scotland, was this birth registered.

After landing in Melbourne in 1875, Herbert W.G. Payne selected land at Lilydale and Oakleigh. He held the position of Harbour Master until he decided to take up land at Budgerree, south of Morwell, Victoria. Late in 1878 or early in 1879, he travelled on horseback to Budgerree, via Yinnar (seven miles south of Morwell). He had with him as a guide and adviser, Mr. Quigley, the hotel proprietor at Yinnar. Mr. Quigley's inn, which was later burnt down, stood opposite to where the Mechanics Hall is now, on property owned by Mrs. Bennett, a daughter of Mr. Quigley. The party travelled along a bridle track to reach the selection Herbert Payne decided to take, situated about fifteen miles from Morwell. My grandfather built a two-roomed hut out of split timber, with silver-top bark for the roofing, and had about an acre of ground about the hut cleared of scrub.

Soon after the family had settled in, my grandfather decided to navigate his way through the dense scrub to Welshpool on the coast. He left my grandmother and his two little sons and set off on this journey, in search of more land. Up till this time my grandmother had led a sheltered life in Scotland, but now she was roughing it in the Australian bush. During my grandfather's absence, a huge bush-fire broke out in the Budgerree area.

At the height of the fire, my grandmother with the two boys and a pet dog took refuge in a huge hollow log clear of the scrub, placing wet blankets over the entrance hole. Grandmother said she prayed that the hut would be burned down so that she could go back to Melbourne, but to her amazement, after being nearly smothered by the smoke, she looked out to find the hut still standing. Even the log where they were sheltering had caught alight

THE STORY OF BUDGEREE....Cont'd.

and she was indeed surprised to see that the hut had withstood such flames and such heat.

There were large packs of dingoes in the area in those days. I myself have heard them howling at night, when I was a child there.

Later, at the time of the big fires, 1898, Grandfather was on his way, with the aid of his compass, walking to the sea coast, to Welshpool. He had run out of food when he came across the den of a dingo containing three pups, one of which he took for food. Then, he met some settlers who helped him with provisions, and he found he was close to his destination.

Eventually, after years of toil, cutting, grubbing and burning, he cleared 365 acres, and had a nice home built. All the timber and accessories needed for it were carted by bullock waggon from Melbourne. This home was built near a small creek running into the Morwell River. (Note: Cr. Alan Hall would like to have this small creek named Payne's Creek, after this family).

Mr. Henri Louis Pettavel, with his family, was the second pioneer to arrive at Budgerree. He was Swiss born and his wife, Rose Cecile Marendaz came from the south of France. They, along with the third pioneering family, the Morrell family, became my grand-parents' closest friends. The Pettavels and the Morrells held blocks adjoining my grandfather's Mrs. C. Morrell was the sister of Mr. Walter Firmin of Yinnar. The Pettavel farm was on the south side; the Morrell property was on the east side of the Payne block. Grandfather's second bush block was on the north side of the first along with the holdings of the Tuckers, Elliots, Primroses and Polworths. My grandmother's brother, John Webster, had a block on the west side, near the Morwell River, which formed part of the western boundary of the Payne property. John Hall had property at the back of the Pettavel's selection further along the river from the Payne's. Mr. George Fox selected across the river from Grandfather's property and at the western end.

My grandmother's brother, John Webster was the first manager of the Bank of Australia in Melbourne. He married Dr. Martha Turner (Doctor of Divinity), who used to preach in the Unitarian Church, and who was a sister of Sir Giles Turner of Melbourne.

My grandparents were generous people, and as the land was taken up by more and more people, they used to invite the single young men for meals on Saturdays and Sundays. These young men were regular visitors until they had places for themselves, ready to bring their young brides to their blocks. Mr. Grange, who had come from New Zealand, bought a small piece of land from one of the settlers. He helped to build my grandfather's home and many of the other homes. Grandfather gave the land for the Church of England, the hall, and the school, the early teachers boarding at his home. We have a photo of the old school building at the time it was being removed, when a new school was opened on the same block of land. We also have a photo of the old school with the teacher and pupils, at the time my mother (Helen Payne) and uncles were pupils there.

My grandfather fattened bullocks, milked cows, kept sheep, pigs, goats, horses, ducks, turkeys, and fowls. He planted a large orchard of fruit trees of various kinds, and berry bushes which flourished well.

When the Kalgoorlie gold rush occurred, my grandfather and his second son, Sam, a lad in his teens, walked from Fremantle to Kalgoorlie (about 300 miles). They pegged out a claim there. However, there was a chronic shortage of water; disease broke out, and Sam was stricken with fever. Grandfather managed to get a ride for Sam on one of the horse drawn drays, but he himself had to walk. So ended the gold digging venture.

Another time, my grandfather walked to Sydney, a distance of 500 miles, over the Blue Mountains, to buy a horse. He had a cousin by the name of Payne, also, and he was the editor of the "Sydney Times". He called at the cousin's house, but the cousin was not at home and his wife was busy entertaining some ladies to afternoon tea. Grandfather was given a small cup of tea and a small sandwich, when he was hungry enough to have eaten a hearty meal. He missed seeing his cousin, bought the horse, which he called Paddy, and set off walking back to Budgerree.

My grandfather disliked riding horses and would rarely mount on one. On one occasion, when he was on horseback, his youngest son, Charles, who was then only a lad, put his stick across and under the horse's tail.

THE STORY OF BUDGEREE....Cont'd.

The horse clamped down on the stick with its tail and bolted. Grandfather managed to stay on and to regain control, but after that experience, he could not be persuaded to get on a horse again. He was a good walker and always walked when he had to go to the neighbouring townships of Boolarra, Yinnar and Morwell. He used to carry two sugar bags across his shoulders with provisions for the family.

In the first years, when there was no creamery or separators, my grandmother used to set the milk in large, flat dishes, after it had been scalded. The milk was scalded each day after the milking, and next day the cream was skimmed off, the skimmed milk being used to feed the calves, pigs, etc. The cream was made into butter and salted down in big, stone jars, with a thick layer of salt on top of the butter. It was then lidded down and exported to England and Scotland, taking six months to get there. However, it would arrive in good condition and the salt was then washed out of it ready for it to be eaten.

My grandmother made all the bread, butter, jam and preserves for the family. Grandfather built smoke-huts to cure their own bacon, and big softwood troughs to corn the meat in. They killed their own animals—bullocks, sheep, pigs, etc. for their meat, taking it turn about with their neighbours in sharing the carcasses.

When my mother was about 13 years old, (about 1893), or a little later, a creamery opened up on a piece of land at the back of Mr. Morrell's property and Llewellyn's Jones' farm, on the road known as Morrell's Road. Mother said they would take the milk there, wait for it to be separated, and bring back the skimmed milk for the calves and the pigs. The creamery bought the cream. This continued until the farmers could obtain their own separators. They used a sledge sliding over the grass and mud.

My grandparents with their son, Sam, and their daughter, Florence, are buried in Boolarra Cemetery. I remember that, as a child of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, I attended with my grandparents, the funeral of their daughter, Florence.

In their later years, my grandparents moved to their bush block opposite the school, the hall and the Church of England. The Church was burnt down in the bush-fires of 1944. In the early days, members of all denominations attended this church.

My grandfather started a black-coal mine in Boolarra. He built a cottage for the manager of the mine, but there was not sufficient demand for the coal, and it was unprofitable to keep the mine open. My uncles, Samuel Payne and Charles Payne, both selected land in Budgerie East on the Little Morwell River.

We have photos of my grandfather's first homestead, which is now almost demolished. The property is now owned by Cr. Alan Hall. The bush blocks owned by my grandfather, my step-father, Mr. Arthur Fish, and his uncles, William and Harry Wratten, adjoined one another. Sawmillers cut out timber from these blocks and so did the sleeper cutters for sleepers for the railway.

When my mother, Helen Payne, was a young girl, she used to go down to Mrs. Halliday's place (nee Primrose) to get a ride to Boolarra on her sledge. Mrs. Halliday had a big white bull harnessed to the sledge, and an armchair tied on to the sledge for her to sit on. She had no horse so she used the bull to pull the sledge, driving to Boolarra and back for household supplies.

The Pettavel Family of Budgerie.

(These notes on the Pettavel family have been provided by Helen Gladys Heyward (nee Jones) a grand-daughter of Henri Louis Pettavel, the second selector at Budgerie).

Henri Louis Pettavel, son of Henri Edouard Pettavel and Louise Pettavel, (nee Boillet) was born at Boudry, Neuchatel, Switzerland, 9/5/1852. At the age of 19 years, he came to Geelong, Victoria, to work in the vineyard of his uncle, David Louis Pettavel. He was naturalized 8/9/1873, shortly after his marriage at the age of 21 years, 19/5/1873, to Rose Cecile Marendaz of Duneed.

After a trip back to Switzerland with his wife and three children, he went to Budgerie in 1880, approximately six months after the Payne family, to become the second settler in that area. The family travelled from Geelong to Budgerie in a bullock waggon, which carried their goods

THE STORY OF BUDGEREE...cont'd.

and chattels as well.

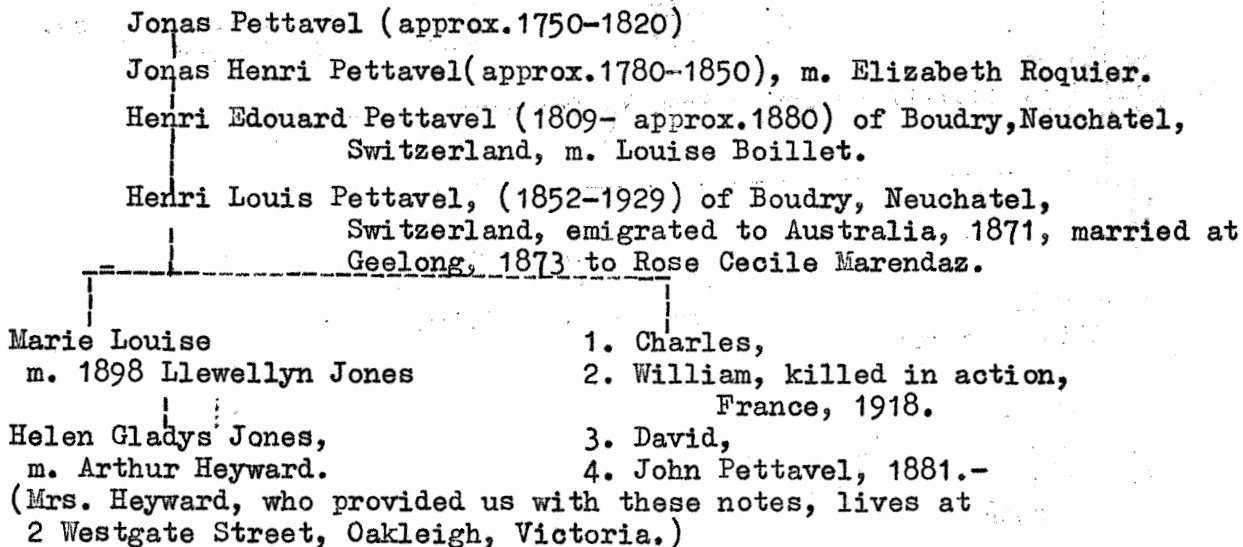
Their youngest child, John Louis Pettavel, was born in the following year, 10/12/1881. All five children attended the Budgerree State School, my mother, the eldest, being about 12 years old when the school opened in 1888. My two sisters, my brother, and I myself, went to this school in later years, being the second generation of pupils.

Grandfather made a good farm out of the dense bush. I well remember the orchard which produced wonderful fruit. A cider press was built to make cider from the apples. My grandfather sold out in 1912 and bought a property at Spring Vale, known as Elm Grove. He died in 1929 and is buried at Spring Vale.

The original Pettavel Property at Geelong was the Victoria Vinyard, situated where the railway station of Pettavel is now.

I have photos of grandfather, grandmother, their family, and the school. I also have copies (in French) of my grandfather's and my great-grandfather's birth certificates.

None of the four sons of my grandparents married, and only one of these is alive today. John Pettavel is perhaps the only person of that name in Australia. My mother, Marie Louise Pettavel married Llewellyn Jones of Budgerree in 1898. Below is given in brief the Pettavel family tree:



Budgerree School, No.2864, and Budgerree East School, No.2856.

Both of these schools were opened in 1888 as half time schools worked in conjunction with one another. The first teacher was Albert Affleck (1888-89), later teachers being George J. Bennett (1890), Gerald Gilbert (1891), an uncle of Mr. Jack Gilbert of Yinnar South, Martin Fox (1893), Frederick Rumpff (1895), John Cullinan (1896-97), James Rice (1897), Francis William Pilkington (1898-1904), Mary A. West (1905), Alan Savige (1906), G.B. Lockyer (1907), Florence M. Downing (1909-11), Ina Grose (1911-12), H.J. Collins (1912) and G.S. Williams (1913-26),

THE HALL FAMILY OF BUDGEREE

For the better understanding of the story of the life of John Hall, 1831 - 1916, as recounted by his grandson, Cr. Alan Hall of Budgerree, we give below the genealogical table of the Hall family.

William Hall of Swinton, Yorkshire, married Florence Armytage (approximately 1798 - 1870).

JOHN HALL, 1831 - 1916, emigrated 1857; married 1864 at Haddon, near Ballarat, Ellen O'Shannessy, born at Carrigeen, County Galway, Ireland, 1846, daughter of Jeremiah and Kate O'Shannessy (nee Murphy); died at Budgerree 1916.

- | | | | |
|----|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | George, | 1865-1949..m. | Jane Hopkins |
| 2. | Kate, | 1867-1956..m. | Richard Hopkins |
| 4. | John, | 1871-1926..m. | Catherine Reid |
| 5. | Mary, | 1873-1946..m. | William Little |
| 6. | Edward, | 1879-1949.... | Unmarried. |
| 7. | Olive, | 1879-1949..m. | Alexander Ross. |
| 8. | Morton, | 1880-1906.... | Unmarried. |

3. William, 1869-1909 married Frances Truscott, 1879-1956.

- | | |
|----|---------|
| 2. | Morton |
| 3. | Edward |
| 4. | William |

Alan Hall
m. Alison Bracks

- | | |
|----|---------|
| 1. | Gwenda |
| 2. | Bruce |
| 3. | Ross |
| 4. | Alister |

Not the least interesting part of Alan Hall's account of his grandparents, the pioneers John and Ellen Hall, is his description of each, his pen portrait of their personalities. In John Hall we have the typical north countryman, competent, practical, honest, sturdy and even dour, but lacking perhaps the saving grace of humour, a quality which, however, we find in his wife, Ellen O'Shannessy of Ireland, with her wit and love of fun and of life. Maybe, it is from her that Cr. Hall has inherited his own imaginative outlook, and his gift for words which has made him the acknowledged orator of Morwell councillors.

In other respects, the family line given above, resembles that of many another Australian family, when it shows a mingling of people from the different countries of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and sometimes from other countries. The Pettavel family, neighbours of the Hall family at Budgerree, came from Switzerland. Perhaps this intermingling of peoples and races has given greater strength to the Australian character, adding resilience to sturdiness, liberalism to conservatism, imagination to stolid good sense. There is a mixture of religions also with John, the Protestant, marrying Ellen the Roman Catholic - and perhaps this is good also, giving us a more tolerant attitude, and paving the way for Christian unity. Notice also that two of John Hall's children married two members of the Hopkins family, a wholesale family association very common in sparsely settled areas.

John Hall, 1831 - 1916

John Hall was born at Swinton, Yorkshire, on 6th May, 1831, the son of William and Florence Hall (nee Armytage), parents whose families had been tenant farmers in Yorkshire for 250 years at least. He himself worked on his father's farm, until, at the age of 26 years, and without any hope of acquiring land in England, he decided to emigrate to America to seek a new life as an independent farmer.

When the ship was six days out from Liverpool, it was battered by a hurricane and foundered. John Hall, with five other people, managed to scramble on to a raft, from which they were picked up by a sailing ship four days later and taken back to Liverpool. Although the shipping company offered him another passage to America, John Hall decided to try Australia this time, and after a pleasant voyage round the Cape of Good Hope, he reached Victoria in 1857.

These were the days of the gold rush, so John Hall made his way to Ballarat, arriving there with a total capital of 2/6. At first, he worked in the mines, but he had no real liking for mining. For one thing, his height of 6 feet 3 inches was a handicap when it came to working in mining leads and shafts. He did labouring work until he had saved enough money to buy a little land and settle down to his real vocation of farming. By 1864, he had in his possession several scattered parcels of land at Windermere, Ballarat. He had some sheep and a few cows, the descendents of which can be seen today in the Ayrshire Stud at "Royston", the Hall property at Budgerie.

He also grew oaten hay which was sold at the Hay Market, Ballarat, at the site where the new Town Hall, opened in 1955, stands today. John Hall was a mighty man with a scythe, which he could handle with such effect that he could mow an acre a day.

In 1864, when he was 33 years old, he married Ellen O'Shannessy, a little Irish girl, fifteen years his junior.

The Windermere properties were small and scattered, and this made them difficult to run efficiently. In 1881, he left Windermere and selected 320 acres at Budgerie, being amongst the first group to select in that area. This particular property is now owned by the Beamish family.

In September, 1882, helped by his sons George (17) and William (15) John Hall began to build his home on the banks of the Sassafras Creek, Budgerie, and to clear the scrub on the homestead block. The first step to be taken in clearing the primeval forest was to ring-bark the forest giants, the blue gum and messmate trees. Sloggers or axes were then used to cut the scrub, which consisted of dogwood, tea tree, undergrowth, and saplings of all types. Finally, the dry trees and scrub were fired during early summer, and in the autumn grass seed could be sown in the ash-covered soil.

It took four years for sufficient of the block to be cleared to make dairying possible. In 1886, some of the Ayrshire cows that had been retained at Ballarat were sent down to make the beginning of a dairy herd. The first butter made by Ellen Hall, called the "Maypole" brand, was sold to a store in Morwell.

Some years later, a creamery was established on an adjacent farm, and this brought comparative prosperity to the district.

In 1893, John Hall built himself a more comfortable home which he called "Woodlands" on the same original Budgerie property, and situated near the road now known as Halls Road.

By 1902, he had acquired two other properties, the first, "Riverdale" of 200 acres, now occupied by the Haddon family, and the second of 300 acres at Boolarra South. He settled his eldest son, George or "Riverdale", his third son, John, on "Woodlands", and his youngest son, Morton, who had just returned from the South African War, on the Boolarra South property. The second son, William, had already started out for himself (in 1898) on the property first selected by John Webster.

John Hall, 1831 - 1916 (Cont'd)

In 1903, at the age of 71, and after having worked in Australia 45 years without a spell, John Hall decided to have an extended holiday and to revisit his homeland. He travelled on the Orient luxury liner of the day, the "Oratavo" and returned to Australia by the same vessel in the following year, 1904, on each occasion travelling through the Suez Canal. He had a second trip abroad in 1905, travelling to England on the "Ruapehu" which left from Lyttelton, New Zealand, travelling the Cape Horn route, and calling at Rio de Janeiro and the Bahamas. This time he returned via the Cape of Good Hope, on board the S.S. Essex. He enjoyed this travelling and took a third voyage to England, leaving from Melbourne on board the S.S. Essex, 18th June, 1907, and returning by the S.S. Dorset, in July, 1908.

In 1909, his second son William died at the age of 40 following a ploughing accident, and the old man, now 78 years old, took on the responsibility of assisting his widowed daughter-in-law to bring up the family of four young children, of whom Alan Hall, aged 10, was the oldest. Abandoning his travels and holidays and retirement, he became the pioneer farmer again. He died at the age of 85 years, the 17th November, 1916, and lies buried in the family grave in Boolarra Cemetery.

John Hall was a man of outstanding physique, tall and strong and healthy. He did not smoke, drink alcohol, or gamble. Though somewhat austere, taciturn and reserved in manner, he had a commanding personality. Unwavering in the pursuit of his objectives, and remarkably capable in everything he undertook, he also had great faith in the future of the Morwell District and of Australia. If there was any weakness in his make-up, it was a lack of humour, which sometimes placed him in awkward situations. He enjoyed good health, the whole of his long life, and never once consulted a doctor, not even when a log of wood fell on his foot, crushing the big toe to such an extent that the sinews were exposed. He merely wrapped some newspaper round the damaged toe and was back at his work an hour later.

Ellen Hall (nee O'Shannessy), 1846-1916

Ellen O'Shannessy was the second daughter of Jeremiah and Kate O'Shannessy (nee Murphy) and was born in 1846 at Carrigeen, Galway, Ireland. Her people too had been tenant farmers for many years. She left Ireland at the age of 16 years to join her older sister (a Mrs. Skow) at Haddon, near Ballarat. She arrived in Australia in 1862, after a journey of eight months, during which the ship was frequently becalmed. The unexpectedly slow time and long duration of the journey caused serious food shortages on board.

When she was 18 years old she married John Hall, and lived first at Windermere for 18 years and then, for the rest of her life, at Budgeree. There were eight children of the marriage.

Ellen Hall was fiercely maternal, and delightfully Irish, but the loss of her three adult sons was a blow from which she never really completely recovered. She became very attached to her grand children.

She was only 5 feet 2 inches in height, and when I knew her, she was almost as wide as she was high, but she was very active and enjoyed walking, gardening, and the music, poetry and songs of Ireland. She also loved dancing, even in her old age, something which her husband always referred to as "queer carryings on".

Ellen Hall also was happy to be in Australia. She would sometimes talk of the evils of landlordism in Ireland, or of the potato failure and the Irish famine. She never wanted to see Ireland again, because of the remembered misery, starvation and tyranny there. Australia gave her happiness and prosperity.

Before the days of creameries and butter factories, Ellen Hall had a district reputation for her good butter.

She died suddenly at "Woodlands", Budgeree, aged 70, in April, 1916 a mere eight months before her husband, and she also lies buried in the Boolarra Cemetery.

Early Budgeree Selectors

A survey map of 1885 shows the selector holdings stretching from near Boolarra in the west to Budgeree East in the east. Here is the list of names, roughly in the order west to east:

W.S. Guthrie,	E. Fairbairn,	John Moule,	W. Bryson,
F. Houghton,	Thos. Fairbairn,	Thos. Heesom,	L.D. Singer,
J.A. Falkner,	W. Thison,	- Bowen,	J. Brazil,
Thos. H. Feris,	A. Donaldson,	W.A. Firmin,	P. Walsh,
James Houghton,	John Hall,	James Elliott,	C. Clarke,
W.A. Duck,	T. Fairbairn,	N. Oldfield,	S. Kaye,
W.C. Amiet,	John Webster,	W. Hardy,	Alfred Hart,
F. Amiet,	E.W.G. Payne,	John ??	George Roy,
J. Howes,	H.L. Pettavel,	Llewellyn Jones,	C. Mulverne,
Alf Firmin,	David Jones,	- McGannon,	T. McGannon,
	John Grant,		J. McGannon,
	Lewis Jones,		D. Dwyer,
			D. Campbell.

and further east still :

Hugh Morris, Thomas Lawless, James Cahill, Andrew Walsh, John Lounds, Denis Cahill, Thos. Bolger sec., Thos. Bolger Jun., and Mick Bolger.

Boolarra. The First Township Survey, 1884.

The first survey of a township at Boolarra was made in 1884, the plan bearing the signatures of John Lardner, Assistant-Surveyor, 25/5/1884, and M. Callander, District Surveyor, 17/7/1884.

On the railway station side, that is, west of the line, the map shows a Police Reserve, and a block, whose allotments were held by R. McPhee, J. Fitzpatrick, J.C. Hutton, Bank of Australasia, J. English, P. Clarke, A. Norton, D.T. Latter, T. Bunstan, Thos. Scanlon, and H. & A. Heyman.

The rest of the township was laid out on the eastern side of the line. The most northerly, single, triangular block was held by W.H. Penaluna. The next two blocks, south of this one, shows Block C, with allotments taken by J. Maher, E. Kelleher, W.M.K. Vale, C.S. Bigelow, and a reservation for "public buildings"; and Block D, reserved for a Mechanics' Institute. Then come the following:

Block E: ...H.W.G. Payne, Church of England, W.E. Morris, and W.M.K. Vale.

Block F: ...W.M.K. Vale, Presbyterian Church, Jas. Kelly, J.E. Phillips; F.C. Sammer, and Robert Barnes.

Block G: ...Jas. Kelly, E.J. Coleman, Anna Maria Smith.

Boolarra. Stationmasters and Postmasters.

One of the earliest stationmasters was Mr. Gliddon, an active pioneer of the Methodist Church at Boolarra. The railway gates were kept by Mrs. O'Rourke. The railway station under Mr. Austin, who planted the trees now adorning the station yard, won the prize for the best-kept station, in two successive years, about 1910-1911.

Until 1908, the railway station was also the post-office, but at the request of the Progress Association, in December 1907, the P.M.G.'s Department decided to establish a contract office in Boolarra. Material from the old hall was used to build this office. Mr. T. Scanlon was the first postmaster at this office. In 1909, the Post Office was burnt down, and the present building was erected to take its place. Miss V. Ketels succeeded Mr. Scanlon and continued as post-mistress into the early twenties, when she was followed by Mr. R. Jones. Mr. Jones held the post for twenty-nine years.

The earliest controller of the mails for Boolarra was Mr. Bigelow, the part-owner of the first general store. Perhaps he conducted the little post-office business before the railway came through, and for some time afterwards. The list of persons holding the dual posts of post-master and station-master, stands at present as follows:

1895	W. J. Murphy	1898.....	Mrs. Emma L. Sutton,
1897	E. O'Rourke	1901-1906....	Frank Gliddon.

Then, the two posts were separated. Postmasters or mistresses from then were Mr. T. Scanlon (approx 1907-09); Fred Ketels, 1910; Miss Violet Ketels (Approx. 1911-24), and Mr. R. Jones, 1924-1953.

Boolarra State School, No. 2617

In June, 1883, Mr. E.M. Shead, using the address "Twelve Mile Peg, Morwell to Mirboo Railway Line", wrote a letter to the Education Department, asking for a school.

Inspector Hepburn, 25/4/1884, recommended a full-time school, but only a temporary one in a temporary building, since he did not consider the population would be permanent. Of the 32 children listed as being of school age, 31 were the children of railway workers. Hepburn added this interesting note: "The site where they have built their huts is that of a surveyed township as yet unnamed". However, by the end of the year, the name Boolarra was being used.

The school began in October, 1884, with John Irving transferring from Morwell to be the first teacher. In the period from 1884 to 1921 the school had only three head teachers, - John Irving, from 1884 until his death in 1894 at the age of 38 years; Miss Harriet Preston, 1894 till her death in 1898; and James Bell from 1898 until 1921 (See next page for list)

The school has had three locations. For nearly a year it had a miserable existence in a temporary hut on low ground. The floor was at ground level, so that in the winter, the stagnant water oozed up through the cracks. The approaches to the school were "a sea of mud" through which the children struggled kneedeep, and in which they sometimes lost their boots.

A fine Presbyterian Church was built at Boolarra in 1885, and when it was completed in August, the church committee allowed the school to transfer there for the time being. School was held there for over four years until, early in 1890, a permanent school, together with a four-roomed residence, was erected on the present site.

Hopes were high at this stage for the future of Boolarra. In 1889, John Irving, trying to assess the future enrolment of the school wrote: "Boolarra has one of the best coal seams yet discovered in the colony. The Boolarra coal mine (black) will shortly employ 18 men, and another coal mine (brown) 30 men. A sawmill is being erected within half a mile of the school and will employ 20 men. It is more than probable that a railway will connect Boolarra with the great southern line at Stony Creek. The timber trade is increasing here every year. Everything points to Boolarra becoming an important town within the next two or three years".

However, there was disappointment ahead. Four years later, in 1893, John Irving reported that work had stopped at the coal mine which had proved anything but a success. Still, the school enrolment did increase from 30 in the first year to over 90 in 1909, although the average attendance would have been rather less. Additions were made to the school building in 1911; the residence had already been enlarged in 1907.

Boolarra

Some of the first selectors shown to have holdings in the Boolarra area, according to early lands Department maps, were W.H. Penaluna, R. Irving, J. Hopkins, and W.F. O'Grady.

William Henry Penaluna, who emigrated from Cornwall in 1874, is said to have been the first selector at Boolarra. As well as engaging in farming, he built and conducted the first hotel in Boolarra in 1884. He was a member of the Morwell Shire Council, 1907-1912, and then, in the enlarged Council, he represented the Boolarra Riding, 1918-1924, being President of the Council in 1920. A son, Edmund K. Penaluna, was a member of the Morwell Shire Council, representing Boolarra Riding, 1944-1949.

Robert Irving was the father of the school-teacher, John Irving. It is said that, later, he conducted a bakery business in Boolarra. Robert Irving (1833-89), his son, John Irving (1856-94), and John's wife, Georgina Irving (nee Grant) (1859-1908) are all buried in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Boolarra (Cont'd)

The Hopkins family apparently came to Boolarra from Mt. Egerton in the Ballarat District. The family established a general store in Boolarra in 1889.

William F. O'Grady was also a member of the Morwell Shire Council, 1898-1906, and was President, 1903-04. It is obvious that O'Grady's Creek, which flowed through his property at Boolarra is named after him.

There is extant an account of Boolarra as it was in 1902. By this time, Boolarra had given up its hopes of becoming a busy junction, and had settled down to be the quiet township of a farming community. It had two churches, three hotels and a population of approximately 250 people. P.W. Heyman's butter factory had just been built, and was being managed by Mr. Svend Hartmann.

Mr. William Pattison Christian and his brother had bought Hopkin's store. W.P. Christian, before coming to Boolarra, had been a member of the Champion Essendon Football Team, 1891-92-93.

David T. Latter established a blacksmith's shop at Boolarra in 1886, but from 1891 onwards was more interested in the timber trade. He introduced the blackwood log to the Melbourne market, which meant an important new industry for Gippsland. He was a member of the Morwell Shire Council, 1912-18, and President, 1914-15.

Thomas Scanlon was the proprietor of the Club Hotel in 1902. He had come from Geelong in 1884 to select land about nine miles out of Boolarra.

Another interesting, but somewhat later Boolarra family, was the Kneebone family, who later moved to Whorouly, near Wangaratta. Eugene Kneebone represented Boolarra on the Morwell Shire Council, 1912-1918.

Letters to the "Historical Society News"

We have had several letters from people whose forebears had some connection with the Budgeree-Boolarra area. Unfortunately, we have insufficient space to publish all this material in this issue. Mrs. H.G. Heyward writes: "My old Uncle John Pettavel died suddenly and peacefully, 14th March. So has passed the last known Pettavel in Australia".

There is also an extraordinarily interesting letter from Mrs. W. Liptrot of 15 Eaglemont Crescent, Eaglemont, granddaughter of the school-teacher, John Irving. Her father, Wallace Irving, now 80 years old, attended Budgeree School in 1897, when the teacher was Mr. James Rice. Wallace Irving's uncle, John Grant, had one of the selections at Budgeree, and after John Irving's death in 1894, he helped his widowed sister, Georgina Grant with her family, taking two of the boys Reginald and later Wallace to live with him for a while. John Grant's property was called "Fairlea" and as can be seen from the list above, it was not far from those of H.W.G. Payne, H.L. Pettavel and the three Jones' blocks.

List of Head Teachers at Boolarra State School, No. 2617.

- 1884 - 1894...John Irving.
 - 1894 - 1898...Miss Harriet Preston.
 - 1898 - 1921...James Bell.
 - 1921 - 1930...William G. Dawson; John A. Tolliday.
 - 1930 - 1938...John A. Tolliday; William A. Gangell; James E. Hall.
 - 1938 - 1951...James E. Hall; Wm. M. Fair; H. J. Barnett; August Schmidt.
 - 1951 - 1954...August Schmidt; James D. Nankervis.
 - 1954 - 1957...James D. Nankervis.
 - 1958 - 1961...Eric W. Mitchell.
 - 1962 - 1963...Robert Philip Lowry.
 - 1964 - 1966...William McIntyre.
 - 1967 -Albert Victor Ainge.
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ROSEDALEThe Earliest Years

The explorer Surgeon George Bass, after whom Bass Strait is named, followed the coast line of Gippsland from east to west as far as Western Port Bay in 1798. From then on, sealers and whalers used this coast as temporary bases for their activities but there was no penetration inland until more than thirty years later.

By 1835 or perhaps a little later, some squatters had reached the borders of Gippsland from the north-east, the Monaro Plateau area of New South Wales, and it is probable that a few even penetrated some distance into Gippsland.

It was not till 1841, after the exploratory work of Angus McMillan in 1839, 1840 and 1841, and of Strzelecki in 1840, and of a group of squatters who arrived by sea at Port Albert in the same week as McMillan arrived there overland, in January, 1841, that the real rush to Gippsland began.

Even then, the general direction of settlement was easterly of Port Albert, towards Sale and Bairnsdale, with the cattle station at Sale being suitably called "The Heart", or the centre of settlement. Apart from McMillan's station at Bushy Park, 1840, and possibly two or three others on the outermost fringes of Gippsland, there were no stations in Gippsland until 1841, but from then on, the land was quickly occupied.

John Reeve occupied Snake Ridge Station, which included the present site of Rosedale in 1842, and George and Walter Curlewis took up the nearby station of Holey Plains in the same year. Lieutenant David Parry-Okeden was at Old Rosedale Station in 1844, and in that same year Edward Hobson arrived at Traralgon, Brodribb and Bennett at Hazelwood, and James Rintoull at Loy Yang.

It is probable that a small wayside village began at Rosedale soon afterwards, consisting of nothing but a little shanty at first. George Rintoull established the first blacksmith's forge at Rosedale in 1856. Charles Ignatz Du Ve, whose reminiscences on "Olden Rosedale" were published in this paper, Vol.4; No.4, 10/6/65, could not have known this earliest Rosedale, since he was born in England, 1835 and did not emigrate to Australia until 1853. Besides, his account is general and gives no dates. This leaves us with some questions still to be answered. Did this early village have any name at all? Was it called Snake Ridge, or perhaps Blind Joe's Creek after the little watercourse that flows past it into the Latrobe River? And who was Blind Joe?

The first cattle road from Gippsland to Melbourne was roughly along the coast, in South Gippsland. In 1848 the Commissioner of Lands in Gippsland, C.J. Tyers developed the track in North Gippsland, following approximately the route of the present main road, the Princes Highway. He built bridges over the streams, and though, in places, this road was nothing more than a bridle track, from that time onwards, it became the main connecting link overland with the outside world. The Rev. Francis Hales travelled this road in 1848, and Bishop Perry and his wife also, in 1849.

Rosedale found itself in a strategic site where the Port Albert-Rosedale Road met the Melbourne-Sale Road, and it became the most important centre this side of Sale. Traralgon was very much smaller and Morwell did not exist at all. Tyer's track was widened and improved to make a coach road, and in 1865 the regular coach service between Sale and Melbourne began. Rosedale became the shopping centre for people as far off as the Morwell area, 25 miles away. There, could be found the nearest doctor, the nearest clergyman and the nearest policeman. Port Albert declined somewhat in importance while Rosedale grew.

Finally, the railway from Sale to Melbourne was completed in 1879. At first glance this would seem to be another spur to the progress of Rosedale, but it did not prove so. Instead, it led to the rise of other towns, like Traralgon and Morwell, both of which eventually surpassed Rosedale.

The Rosedale School

(From notes supplied by Mr. R.M. McCaffrey, a head teacher of Rosedale State School).

Important information about the early days of any township can often be found in the records of the local school, because generally, whenever a few families found themselves together in a new settlement, they quickly applied for the establishment of a school.

The single authority, the Board of Education with its common schools, replaced the dual control of the National and Denominational Boards in 1862. Education, at this time, was not free nor compulsory. The State did not pay for the education of its young citizens; it merely subsidised local effort.

In November, 1862, the Rosedale people asked the Board of Education to assist them to build a brick school to cost £109 and to accommodate eighty-five pupils. Four blocks of land each 100 feet by 250 feet, bounded by Prince Street and Albert Street, had been purchased by a local committee in May, 1862. The idea was to erect a building which would serve as a school and also as a place of worship. The trustees were John King, James Peck and John Fowler Turnbull.

This school began in 1863 with sixty-five pupils, and with Mr. E.H. Huntling as the teacher. The Church of England and the Presbyterian congregations used the building for their services.

Although two inspectors of the Board of Education, Mr. A.B. Orlebar (Feb. 1863) and Mr. J. Geary (April, 1863) had recommended the granting of aid, the Board would only agree to do so on the conditions that the building must become the Board's property, that no church services could be conducted in it, and that the teacher must submit to the Board's examination.

Aid was finally granted as from January, 1865, and the school became Rosedale Common School, No.770. The teacher appointed was John A. Gregory, who came to Rosedale from Yackandandah Common School, No. 692.

In October 1871, it became necessary to build a new school. The Board planned to build on a block of land set aside for a school in the original town plan. This block was on the north-west corner of the intersection of Hood and Queen Streets. However, it was eventually decided that the site of the existing school would be retained, and accepted as the local share of the cost of a new building. The Department of Lands revoked the reservation and sold the block to the head teacher of that time, Mr. J.W. Beattie, 1875.

The new building, 40 feet by 20 feet, costing £422 was completed in 1871, and constitutes today the central brick section of the present school.

The following is the list of teachers at Rosedale :-

1865-1867	John A. Gregory	1935-1936	F.F. Morter
1867- ?	J. Dunne	1937-1940	Alex J. Cathro
1870-1900	{ John W. Beattie	1941-1944	W. Hoy
	{ Edwin Baillie	1945-1947	G.R. Evans
	{ William White	1948	Charles S. McCallum
	{ John G. David	1952-1954	Jack K. Greer
1901-1910	Henry White	1955-1958	Seymour Treloar
1910	Horace Fenton	1959-1962	W.P. Tobin
1910-1914	Edwin Cox	1962	Ronan M. Caffrey
1915-1920	John Matthews		
1921-1925	H.D. Willis		
1925-1934	A.M. Savige		

Apparently there was a private school being conducted in 1867, as well as the common school, for we are told that in 1867, the sewing mistress, Miss Nicholson, seceded from the common school, taking half the pupils with her to establish a second private school. However, a

deputation from the school committee prevailed upon her to close her school on consideration of her fare to Melbourne, by coach, being paid. It may be that the word "second" merely refers to a second school, and not a second private school. It is difficult to believe that Rosedale could support two schools at that stage, let alone three.

Inspector Hopkins Letter, 5/3/1859

We find an interesting description of Rosedale as it was in 1859, from a report sent to the National Board of Education in that year dealing with the advisability or otherwise of starting a national school there. The report was made by Sub-Inspector Hopkins and reads :-

"I beg to inform you that I have visited the township of Rosedale in Gippsland, to which the Chief Inspector had directed my particular attention.

The township of Rosedale is situated on the main line of road from Melbourne to Sale, distant about 25 miles from the latter. The Latrobe River runs close by but a dense scrub renders its banks unapproachable. The stations of Messrs. King and Crook bound the township on the east and west.

The situation is important from its centrality. The adjacent land is fertile and lightly timbered, and the area of really good agricultural land is considerable. On the northern side of the River Latrobe, the rich plains on the runs of Messrs. McFarlane and Pearson are being surveyed, and a bridge across the river will soon connect both districts. The prosperity and advancement of the district, therefore, await the sale and development of the lands and the erection of the bridge to which I have alluded.

Among the permanently settled population, I found only 23 children (14 boys and 9 girls), of whom only 13 (8 boys and 5 girls) were of age fit for school. Throughout the surrounding bush, I found some families temporarily squatted in rude 'gunyahs' but these cannot be taken into account. The fathers of these families are engaged in putting up fences and will probably move elsewhere when their tasks will have been completed.

On Mr. King's station which is distant about three miles, there are about six children fit for school, but their attendance would be impossible throughout the greater part of the year on account of the intervening swamp and river.

The insufficiency of population therefore, precludes the possibility of establishing a school at present, nor will an opportunity of doing so offer for a period of at least a year and a half.

W.T. Hopkins, Sub-Inspector.

It seems as though Hopkins was pretty accurate in his report, and that the area soon developed and prospered sufficiently to maintain a school of satisfactory size.

Municipal Government at RosedaleThe Rosedale Road Board

In Victoria, quite early in our history, there used to be a Roads and Bridges Department, whose functions were very similar to those of the Country Roads Board of today. This body was established to maintain and to develop the roads and tracks outside the areas of the local governing bodies.

The first municipal governing body that incorporated the Morwell area in its district was the Rosedale Road Board, which was set up in 1869, and which, in less than two years, became the Shire of Rosedale, carrying out very similar duties. The vast area controlled by this body extended from the Borough of Sale in the east to the Shire of Avon to the north and the Shire of Alberton to the south.

In summary form, the changes in municipal control affecting the Morwell district were as follows :-

Before May, 1869	The Roads and Bridges Department of Victoria
1869 to 1871	The Rosedale Road Board
1871 to 1880	The Shire of Rosedale
1880 to 1892	The Shire of Traralgon (severed from Rosedale)
1892 onwards	The Shire of Morwell (severed from Traralgon)

The Rosedale Road Board held its first meeting at the Police Office, Rosedale, 19th May, 1869. The elected members of that Board were Donald McLeod, James Smith, William Essington King, John Wilson, Samuel McWilliams and Edward Sproule. Donald McLeod was chosen as the President and retained that office till 1871, when he became the first President of the Shire of Rosedale.

Mr. J. Hargrave filled the position of clerk (or secretary) for the first meeting or two, until a permanent clerk, Samuel R. Dawson, was appointed with a salary of £150 per annum. Mr. G.T. Jones was appointed surveyor (or engineer) and his salary was fixed at £225 per annum. Mr. R. Bushe of Sale became the official solicitor for the Board.

Later members elected to the Board were George Gibson, H. Luke and W. Henderson (1870), and later officials appointed were Dr. E.L. Simmons as Health Officer (5/10) and Mounted Constable O'Connor as Inspector of Nuisances (£20).

All the members of the Board were men from the Rosedale township or from the near-by cattle stations. The remote Morwell River area received little attention, the only interest of the Board in this direction being the main road to Melbourne, which passed north of our present town, crossing the Morwell River at Morwell Bridge (or Morwell West, as we now know it). In 1870, it was reported that both the road and the bridge at Morwell Bridge were in need of repair.

It must be remembered that the Board received very little income from rates from this sparsely settled, largely undeveloped area. In 1869 Morwell did not exist and Traralgon was a tiny township of ten houses, a hotel and a school.

The Shire of Rosedale, 1871 to 1880

In 1871, the Rosedale Road Board was replaced by the Shire of Rosedale, which held its first meeting in the Shire Office (two upstairs rooms in Mr. H. Luke's store) on Thursday, 2nd March, 1871. Donald McLeod was elected the first President of the Shire, and when he resigned two months later, William Essington King became President in his place. The list of Presidents of the Shire of Rosedale from its beginning in 1871 until the severance of the western section into the Shire of Traralgon in 1879-1880 is as follows :-

1871	Donald McLeod	1875-76	Robert Watson
1871-72	William Essington King	1876-77	John Sykes
1872-73	John Simmons	1877-78	John King
1873-74	John Simmons	1878-79	John King
1874-75	John Simmons	1879-80	John Mooney

Municipal Government at Rosedale (Cont'd)The Shire of Rosedale, 1871 to 1880 (Cont'd)

The first members of the Council were Donald McLeod, William Essington King, Henry Luke, James Smith, George Gibson and William Henderson. Later members, with their year of election in brackets were Denis O'Brien (1871), John W. Simmons (1871), James W. Hagen (1872), P. Cansick (1872), Archibald Macdonald (1873), Robert Watson (1874), Thomas Anderson (1876), Dugald Campbell (1876) and Robert Buntine (1876).

For the first seven years the Shire was not divided, the six members representing the whole Shire. In 1877, the Shire was divided into four ridings and the number of councillors was increased to twelve. The following councillors were elected, 9th August, 1877, under the new system:

Rosedale Riding

Patrick Murren.....159 votes
James Flint.....149 votes
George Steadman.....137 votes

Denison Riding

John King.....75 votes
Patrick Mangan.....74 votes
Peter Pederson.....61 votes

Toongabbie Riding

Christian Christensen...144 votes
John Buntine.....133 votes
Jonathah Bassett.....107 votes

Traralgon Riding

Robert Mill.....157 votes
Henry Breed.....147 votes
Dugald Campbell.....117 votes

It can be seen that no-one up to this year, 1877, had been elected to the Rosedale Council from the Morwell area, our nearest representatives being the three men from Traralgon. Other members elected to the Council later were John Fisher (1876) and S. Skeels (1879).

It was in 1877 that the first section of the railway line (Sale to Morwell section) was completed, the connection with Melbourne not being made until two years later, 1879. Morwell still did not exist, except as a railway station, terminus of the Sale-Morwell line. Traralgon had grown a little, with a few more houses, two or three more hotels, a Mechanics Institute, a bank (the Bank of Australasia) and preparations for the building of the first church, the Presbyterian Church in 1878, were being made.

However, it was on the completion of the railway line that both Morwell and Traralgon made rapid progress, particularly in the decade 1880 to 1890.

The Early Squatters

There is always some reason for the beginning of a township, and the general reason is the need for some centre of trade, and service and communication for the people living in that area. When a squatter or group of squatters took up the land in a particular district, the first requirement was a track or road to the nearest port or major centre from which they could obtain supplies and to which they could send their products. Inevitably, small villages sprang up at strategic points along these tracks, always beside a watercourse because fresh water was the first requirement for man and beast.

The first building or house was almost always a hotel or shanty to provide accommodation, no matter how rough, and food and drink, no matter how limited in variety. So we find the Woolpack Inn at Flooding Creek (Sale), the Drovers' Rest at Shady Creek, Peter Smith's shanty at Morwell Bridge, Henry Scott's inn at Moe, and James Widdowson's place at Rosedale.

The second need at each of these settlements was for a blacksmith's shop, which was the garage or service station in the days of the horse era. The first tradesman's shop at Morwell was John Rintoull's smithy, and the first at Rosedale was that of his father, George Rintoull, who opened for business there in 1856.

Let us deal briefly with the first squatters and their stations in the Rosedale area, in the period before the beginning of Rosedale. From west to east and south of the Latrobe River, starting from Traralgon Station, were the stations of Traralgon, Loy Yang, Snake Ridge, The Holey Plain, Tanjil, Glencoe and Dutson. North of these stations, along the Latrobe, were Scarne, Rosedale, Snake Ridge (the only one in this part to extend north and south of the Latrobe), Kilmany Park, and The Heart (Sale). South again of Snake Ridge was Merton, which is of separate importance in the story of Rosedale.

The Heart Station (Sale)

It is impossible to fix the exact date when these early stations were first occupied and claimed. Official records did not begin until the first Commissioner of Lands, C.J. Tyers arrived in 1844, and even then, the lag in correspondence meant that the record was made long after the occupation had taken place. A squatter by the name of McLennan was the first to take up The Heart, so named because it was the centre or heart of the first squatting area extending between Port Albert and Bairnsdale. John Foster held this station, 1843-1858, having William Montgomery as the Manager there for the greater part of that time.

Snake Ridge Station

Snake Ridge Station was of an immense area, extending about an equal distance north and south of the Latrobe River, so that the village of Rosedale, which grew up on the south bank of the Latrobe was centrally placed as far as the north and south boundaries were concerned, but it was nearer to the eastern than the western boundary. John Reeve was the first holder of Snake Ridge, (1842), remaining there until 1844. John King had this station at the time the village of Rosedale began,

Loy Yang Station

James Rintoull, one of three brothers who were early pioneers of Gippsland, occupied Loy Yang in 1844, as Manager for the Turnbull Brothers of Port Albert.

Merton Station

Edward W. Bayliss was at Merton, at least as early as 1843. This man claimed that he was the first squatter to enter Gippsland. Certainly he was at Gelantipy at 1838. The locality where he built his Merton Homestead on Merriman's Creek is now called Willung.

The Holey Plain

First occupied by George and Walter Curlewis in 1842, this station was taken over by Edward Croke in 1844, and is still owned by the Croke family.

Rosedale Station

Rosedale Station, from which the township of Rosedale gets its name, was taken up by Lieutenant David Parry-Okeden, an officer in the British Navy, in 1842, and sold to John King in 1852. The station was so named after Lieutenant D.P. Okeden's wife, who was formerly Miss Rose Dutton, a member of another well-known family of Australian pioneers.

The taking up of other stations in the area is summarized briefly below:-

- Kilmany Park.....William Pearson and his mother Helen Pearson, 1841.
- Heyfield.....James McFarlane in 1841.
- Fulham.....Francis Desailly in 1841.
- Glencoe.....John Fraser Campbell in 1843.
- Dutson.....John King in 1844.
- Traralgon.....Edward Hobson in 1844.
- Hazelwood.....William Bennett and A.E. Brodribb in 1844.
- Maryvale.....Thomas Gorringe in 1845.

The First Tracks or Roads

The first main track in Gippsland was that between Port Albert and Sale and Bairnsdale. The main contact with the outside world was through Port Albert by ship. The quickest mail route to Melbourne seems to have been via Tasmania, so that the new area of settlement in Gippsland seemed to be more part of Tasmania than of the Port Phillip District or New South Wales.

Some sort of overland communication was established with Melbourne by 1848, although the road was no better than a rough bridle track for long stretches and the absence of bridges made the crossing of streams a hazardous adventure. Still, the Church of England minister, Rev. Francis Hales, travelled along it in 1848, and a year later, 1849, Bishop Perry and Mrs. Perry, with an escort of aboriginal troopers did likewise.

The first survey of the Rosedale area was made by Surveyor Penrose Nevins in 1848, when the track was marked in from Traralgon to Blind Joe's Hut. From Hobson's place at Traralgon Creek there is no further sign of habitation along the track until Blind Joe's hut is shown a hundred yards or so east of the present eastern limit of Rosedale. We do not know who Blind Joe was but we might guess that he was only blind in one eye and that he was a station hand employed by the squatter of Snake Ridge to look after the sheep and cattle on the south side of the Latrobe, cut off from the station homestead by the Latrobe and the morass.

The next surveys were made by Malcolm Campbell, 1853 and William Tennant Dawson in 1855. They give us for the first time the name of Rosedale Village (at Blind Joe's Hut). Unfortunately, these survey maps have been spoilt by the additions from later surveys, so that we cannot be sure of what was the actual situation in 1855. It does show the track coming from Melbourne to Blind Joe's Hut and continuing on to "the punt", which, according to C.I. Du Ve was "Gerrand's Punt", the crossing place of the Latrobe River, south of Sale and beyond the junction of the Thomson and the Latrobe Rivers. A journey of about three miles along "Punt Lane" and following the bank of the Thomson River, brought the traveller to Sale. At Blind Joe's Hut, another track is shown diverging to the south to Port Albert.

The map provided by the Lands Department shows 14 blocks laid out for Rosedale, but obviously this was not done in 1855. Probably Campbell and Dawson were satisfied to mark out the first six blocks in their first surveys.

These surveys indicate that the township of Rosedale began in that year, 1853, or possibly a little earlier. Mrs. Dorothy Rogers in her account of the King Family mentions that John King married Mary Ann Peck, at Rosedale, 20th January, 1853, but the Rosedale mentioned is more likely to have been the station rather than the township.

James Widdowson's shanty must have been the beginning of the Rosedale village. He may have served travellers before 1855, though we have no record of this. It must have been about 1855 that Widdowson's place became a stopping stage for the postal service, which had begun in 1848.

The Early Years of Rosedale

C.I. Du Ve in his little booklet "Olden Rosedale" tells us of the beginnings of the village with James Widdowson's shanty. It was a primitive hut with wattle and daub walls, earth floor, bark roof, and small, square loopholes in the walls fitted with shutters serving as windows. The one, large, homemade bedstead consisting of forked sticks fixed in the earth floor, supporting crossed saplings overlaid with bark, could accommodate six men who had their own blankets and used their saddles as pillows.

The overland mail service first began in July, 1848, for mail to be carried from Melbourne to Port Albert (and vice-versa), via Oakleigh, Dandenong, Mt. Ararat, the Tyers' Cut and Flooding Creek. Rosedale was not mentioned. As late as March, 1856, the "Gippsland Guardian" which preferred a sea mail service, stated that the only intervening places where mail was delivered were Oakleigh and Dandenong.

However, according to Du Ve, the mails were passing through Rosedale by 1855. It was a weekly mail-service with the postman "Jerry" from Port Albert, staying the first night at Sale, the second night at Jimmy Widdowson's, Rosedale, and the third night at Moe, where he met the mailman "Mat" from Melbourne and interchanged mails, returning the way he had come during the next three days. Unfortunately, Mr. Du Ve did not give the surnames of the two postmen. Apparently, the postman changed his horse at Rosedale (as he probably did at the other depots), for change horses were kept in Jimmy Widdowson's paddock.

George Rintoull started his blacksmith shop in Rosedale in 1856.

By 1859, the place was still small. Inspector Hopkins reported against starting a common school there because the child population was insufficient. He counted 23 children in the area, only 13 of school age, so that, assuming that there was an equal number of adults, the total population of Rosedale and the surrounding area would be less than 50. Hopkins, however, expected the township to grow, when the projected bridge over the Latrobe was built. The nearest bridge across the Latrobe up till 1862, when the Rosedale Bridge was completed, was at Longford, a few miles from Sale.

In 1858, the great Rosedale builder, William Allen, built the Rosedale Hotel for Mr. Paul Cansick, and this was the first brick building there.

The decade from 1860 to 1870 was a time of great progress for Rosedale, which became, after Sale, the most important centre for 25 miles around. It was situated at a vantage point where the Port Albert Road met the Sale Road to Melbourne. The bridge of 1862 had given access to the area north of the Latrobe River. As the roads were improved, the prospects of the township grew. Coach services to Port Albert and to Sale began to operate and then in 1865, the coach service, Sale to Melbourne, was inaugurated.

In 1861, agitation began for a police station at Rosedale, and on the 5th August, 1862, Mounted Constable Feeley, previously of Tarraville and Sale, came to Rosedale as its resident officer.

In March, 1862, and from then onwards, a Court of Petty Sessions sat regularly at Rosedale, and in the same year, a branch of the National Bank was opened.

Early in 1863, gold was discovered at Stringer's Creek (Walhalla), and Rosedale saw miners pouring through the town on their way from Port Albert to the gold fields.

In March, 1867, a telegraph office was opened and a telegraph officer appointed. In the same year, the "Gippsland Guardian", which had started at Port Albert in October, 1855, moved to Rosedale, but 18 months later, September 1868, it transferred again, this time to Sale.

The first medical man to take up residence in Rosedale was Dr. George Bull, 1862, and he was followed by Dr. Edward Lambourne Simmons, 1865-1881,

St. Mark's Church of England was built in 1866-67, the Presbyterian Church in 1872, and the Roman Catholic Church in 1875.

Rosedale People

From the various church, civic, and other records, and from newspaper articles and reports, we learn some of the names of the people who lived in Rosedale in the early years.

The earliest account and the most interesting is that of Charles Ignatz Du Ve in his booklet, "Olden Rosedale", but unfortunately he sometimes does not tell us enough. He mentions "Sam the Snob", which we take to be Sam, the bootmaker, but does not give us the surname. From other sources, we deduce that it was Sam Jones, the bootmaker.

Similarly, he mentions Joe Treader and the kindly Mr. Timbs, without telling us their occupation. One old man, who used to be a "governor's coachman" was buried by his two sons, one of whom was called Peter. We think the surname, in this instance, was Smith. Before Henry Luke opened the first proper store in Rosedale, John Rowley used to keep a stock of the more common articles for sale. Billy Morris, a dealer in cattle, must have lived in Rosedale before 1858, since, in that year, his house was demolished to make way for Paul Cansick's new, brick hotel. William Watt was a dealer in horses, and when he married a local birl, she rode his pet mount, "Blackie" to the wedding.

Charlie Walker conducted a dairy out in the direction of the cemetery; Bill Creighton, the bullock driver, was a very benign old fellow; Mr. Maloney lived opposite the present school; and Bill Munday worked for John Rowley.

John McMahon was the first local butcher, and also started the first Sunday School in Rosedale, in a bark hut next to his butcher's shop. Later, a Mr. Robinson who came from Melbourne, started the first saddler's shop in that same old bark hut.

John Shiel, before retiring to Rosedale, was the manager for Mr. Edward Croke of the Holey Plain. Blackfellows were numerous enough and found employment at the cattle stations. One, simply called Billy, was a hut-keeper at the Holey Plain. John King employed Chinese Shepherds on his station.

Mr. Edward Bayliss used to drive to Rosedale in his dogcart, drawn by a pair of good horses, harnessed tandem fashion, to collect his mail from Jim Widdowson's place. Other visitors from the nearby stations were John Turnbull of Loy Yang, and his friend Dr. Jamieson; Edward Hobson from Traralgon, and then Duncan Campbell; the Bennetts from Hazelwood and the Gorringes from Maryvale; as well as John King from Snake Ridge, and James McFarlane from Heyfield.

In the 1859 to 1861 issues of the "Gippsland Guardian", there is practically nothing about Rosedale, either news or advertisements, indicating its relative unimportance then. But by January, 1868, when the paper was being printed in Rosedale, we find trade advertisements for the following :-

W. Weller...Painter, Plumber	W. Moore....Cabinet Maker, Funerals
Dr. E.L. Simmons.....Surgeon	Thos. Toone.....Blacksmith
Bull & Sons.....Saddlers	H. Powell.....Butcher
J.C. Linney.....Drapery	H. Luke & Co.....General Store
Thomas Dixon.....Butcher	J. Williams.....General Store
George Ross.....Bootmaker	Poa Nine.....Bakery

There were also three hotels - the Rosedale Hotel, established 1858, and conducted by Paul Cansick; the Royal Hotel, conducted by Mrs. Clark, late of Sale; and the Bridge Inn, conducted by Thomas Dixon. Also advertised was Peter Sinnbeck's Horse Bazaar, adjoining the Royal Hotel.

The principals in an inquest held on a drowning fatality at Rosedale in September, 1867, when mailman Frederick Stratton lost his life, were the Coroner, Dr. Arbuckle from Sale, witnesses, Mounted Constable O'Connor, Messrs. Loan, Trood, and Philippe, James Jenkins, groom, Thorburn and a lad named Ware, or Weir; and finally the jury, which consisted of Henry Luke (foreman), John C. Linney, Thomas Dixon, George Ross, Joseph Ball, Thomas Toone, Thomas Trood, George Davis, Matthew Ford, John Varney, John Williams and John Gorman.

In the same issue, there is mention of a lecture by Rev. G.D. Macartney, and letters were printed from C.I. Du Ve and Frank Liardet.

A Church CentenarySt. Mark's Church of England, Rosedale, 1866-1966

The first minutes of a church meeting held in Rosedale were recorded in March, 1866. It was a subscribers' meeting, called to raise funds, to select a site, and to effect the actual building. By the end of the year, sufficient money had been raised (October, 1866), and building material had been delivered, so presumably the work was finished by the end of 1866 or the beginning of 1867.

Names recorded in these early minutes were William Essington King, John King, Dr. Simmons, Messrs. R.C. Lethbridge, Wm. Allen, Phillips, Linney, Grant, O'Connor, Buntine, Colgate, G.N. Gregory, and Bacoa.

There had been some difference of opinion as to the best site for the Church. It was suggested that two acres of land at the intersection of the Port Albert Road and the Sale Road be chosen but the final decision was for the present site at the corner of Hood Street and Albert Street.

In 1871, two acres of land next to the Church, were given by William Essington King for the building of a parsonage. Previously, John King had given a corner of his property at the Ridge, 104 acres, for a Glebe. When the parsonage was erected at Rosedale, this Glebe, three miles away, on the north side of the main Sale-Melbourne Road, became the home of the Archdeacons of Gippsland - Ven. Henry Langley, 1890-95, and Ven. T. Armstrong, 1895-1899.

No doubt, services had been held in Rosedale before a Church was built. It is recorded that John King, like many another squatter of those days, used to read the service in his own home. It will be noted also, that according to the school records, services were conducted in the school room, 1863-65, until this was forbidden by the Board of Education.

The incumbents of St. Mark's Church, Rosedale, have been:

1866-1869	Dr. G.D. Macartney	1908-1915	Rev. R.E. Walker
1869-1873	Rev. A.W. Cresswell	1915	Rev. H.J. Harvey
1873-1881	Rev. G.W. Kelly		Rev. J.N. McEvoy
1881-1888	Rev. C. Thomas	1915-1941	Rev. G.H. Devlin
1888-1890	Rev. H.J. Howell	1942-1944	Rev. C.D.H. Pilkington
1890-1895	Ven. H.A. Langley	1944	Rev. F.H. King
	Rev. R.D. Newton	1944-1945	Rev. A. Gamble
	Rev. W.C. Ward		Rev. W.H. Graham
	Rev. A. Brain	1945-1947	Rev. W.A. Tyler
	Rev. W. Cooling	1947-1954	Rev. D.E.W. Green
1895-1899	Ven. H.A. Langley	1954-1958	Rev. W.L. Leathbridge
	Rev. F. Lynch	1959-1963	Rev. F.W. Hipkin
1899-1901	Rev. A. Gamble	1963	Rev. P.F. Taylor
1901-1908	Rev. H. Hitchcock		

Amongst the early members and adherents of the Church may be mentioned the builder, William Allen, 1829-1923, who worked on the erection of the Church, and whose grandson, Mr. T.A. Duck, has been mainly responsible for the recent restoration work on the Church.

The Sunday School was founded by Mr. C.I. Du Ve and Mr. J. Williams in 1863, Mr. Du Ve being the Superintendent for many years.

The first incumbent of St. Mark's Church of England, Rosedale was a remarkable man, if somewhat controversial. He began his career as a teacher in Ireland, but in Australia turned to the ministry, and took out a Doctorate of Divinity. He was at Rosedale for the three years 1866 to 1868 inclusive, and then gave up the Church for law and politics. He represented South Gippsland in the Legislative Assembly, 1869-71 and again from 1877 till his death in 1878.

St. Mark's Church of England, Rosedale, 1866-1966 (Cont'd)

Amongst the memorials in the Church is one for Miss Jessie Evelyn Robinson, who, it appears, had been a teacher in a private school at Rosedale. Miss F.M. Cairns, mentioned in the notes on the Presbyterian Church, was a Sunday School teacher both at St. Mark's and at the Presbyterian Church.

Another memorial is to Frank Liardet, and he and his family are separately interesting. He was born in 1822, in Sussex, England, and was brought out by his parents in 1839. His father had the first licence of the Pier Hotel at Port Melbourne (then known as Sandridge). The name, "Liardet's Beach" for their section of Port Melbourne, was once quite common. The Liardets put up the first pier there, and constructed the first road from there to Princes Bridge. Frank Liardet came to Rosedale in 1868 to conduct a hotel, but later became Secretary to the Shire Council. He died in December, 1889.

The Presbyterian Church, Rosedale

A brief history of the Presbyterian Church at Rosedale was written, in 1927, by the Rev. Robt. Mitchell and Miss F.M. Cairns. It reads as follows :-

"The first Presbyterian service in Rosedale was held in the blacksmith's shop of Mr. George Rintoull, by the Rev. W.S. Login of Sale. The anvil, with a cloth over it, served as a pulpit. Later the congregation met in a loft or room over a stable at the Rosedale Hotel. The Rev. Wm. Souter stated that he held a service there in 1862, the ascent to the room being by ladder. Later again, services were held in the first school house for a short time. The Rev. W.S. Login, who was the first Gippsland Presbyterian minister, and who was stationed at Sale from 1854 to 1886, used to conduct a service at Rosedale, every six weeks.

The Church was built in 1872, and the Manse beside it, soon afterwards. The first minister appointed was the Rev. James Cameron, whose charge included Denison and Walhalla as well as Rosedale. Public service was conducted at Rosedale and Denison on the one Sabbath, and at Walhalla the next Sabbath, alternately. Towards the Minister's stipend, Walhalla contributed £150, Rosedale £100, and Denison £50 per annum.

The first two ministers, Rev. Cameron, and then the Rev. Robertson, did not stay long. Their successor was the Rev. J. G. Wilson, who served for 11 years before transferring to Traralgon, when a new charge was established there, and where he stayed, a much respected Minister, for 21 years.

The Committee of Management in 1873 consisted of the Rev. James Cameron, J.W. Beattie (Secretary and Treasurer), Thomas Anderson, Nicol Campbell, John Green, Kenneth McCrea, John McMahon (who had started the first Sunday School), John McMillan, George Rintoull, James Rintoull, and John Wright."

The two writers of these notes on the Rosedale Presbyterian Church both served the Church for a long time, the Rev. Robert Mitchell as Minister for 25 years, and Miss F.M. Cairns as a Sunday School Teacher for 70 years.

The Roman Catholic Church

The Roman Catholic Church was built in 1875, but has always been served from the Sale Presbytery. Those most active in campaigning for funds to build the Church were Messrs. P. Murran and J. Teeling. Indicative of the absence of bigotry amongst our pioneering forebears is the fact that at Rosedale, as well as at Morwell a little later, Protestants as well as Catholics gave generously to the Church building fund. The first service was conducted on Sunday, 20th June, 1875, by Father M. Hayes. William Allen, who built the Church of England, also built this Church.

Private Schools in Rosedale

It is difficult to get precise information of what schools flourished in Rosedale at what periods and for how long. Apparently, most townships, even the small towns, had private schools as well as the state schools. In our last notes on Rosedale there was mention of a Miss Nicholson, a teacher at the Rosedale Common School, who, after some dissension with her employers, the Common School Board, set up a private school, taking about half of the common school pupils with her. The "Gippsland Guardian" in its issues of September and October, 1867, reported the matter, and it seems the main point of dissension was the salary of the teacher. This school was of short duration, lasting no more than a few days, since the teacher was "bought out" as one report expresses it, with the payment of her coach fare back to Melbourne.

The next year, the "Gippsland Guardian" reported some dissatisfaction with the teaching at the Common School, and one parent stated that he had taken his children away preferring the Rosedale private school. Unfortunately, no details were given as to the size of this school, the location or the teacher, but the fact remains that there was another school in Rosedale, other than the Common School.

We are grateful to two correspondents who have written in to us about Rosedale, and who have added, without any prompting from us, further information about private schools.

Mrs. Wardrop of Berrigan, N.S.W. (formerly Amy Stephenson) spent some of her childhood at Rosedale, and she mentions that Miss F.M. Cairns was her teacher. This would be the same lady who served the Presbyterian Church as organist and Sunday School teacher, and St. Mark's Church of England, as Sunday School teacher, for so long.

Mrs. Wardrop's father brought his family to Morwell in the 1880's and set up business as the first saddler here. This man, Richard Stephenson, was a relative of the famous locomotive engineer, George Stephenson who built the first great locomotive, the "Rocket". There is a street in Morwell named after Richard Stephenson.

The second writer is Dr. H.C. Disher of Strathfieldsaye, who also spent some of his boyhood in Rosedale. Since his letter is of general interest also, perhaps we should quote Dr. Disher directly:

"I can remember going to what was evidently a kindergarten school in an old building on the corner, diagonally opposite to the Mechanics Hall. This was for only a short period. I do not remember the teacher's name, but she was a nice, kind lady. The year would be about 1897 or 1898.

For many years, the mail was handed out at the Post Office, through an opening in the wall, which was about nine inches thick, and the opening itself about one foot square. There were two of these, and from time to time, one or the other would be used. This was obviously for protection, either of the mail, or the postmaster, or both.

My grandfather, W.H. Disher, built and opened a branch store in Rosedale in the early days. A Mr. Williams was manager, and later, he bought the business and ran it for many years. It was a general store, a branch of our main store in Tarraville. In 1869, my grandfather saw that Port Albert was going to decline on account of the railway line to Sale being about to be built. He sold out, therefore, and bought Strathfieldsaye Station. He kept the Rosedale Store for some time, as it continued to prosper, being what he called the advanced depot on the road to the gold fields, and the last port of call for miners going there.

My home at Rosedale, four miles out towards Flynn's Creek was named "Locksley", but was originally known as "Middle Creek", being situated on the banks of that creek. It was a subdivision of Snake Ridge, on the Sydney Cottage portion of the run."

Two Families of RosedaleThe Du Ve Family, Rosedale

Charles Ignatz Du Ve was an important figure in the history of Rosedale, as an early resident, an officer of the Shire Council, and an officer of the Crown Law Department. He is also an important early historian of the township. The Du Ve family came originally from Poland to England, and then Charles Ignatz Du Ve emigrated to Australia in 1853 at the age of 18 years. At first, he was a pastoralist, managing Gelantipy Station. In 1863, he married Agnes Adamson Buntine, a member of another interesting family, and a little later, perhaps in 1865, settled in Rosedale where he lived for the rest of his life. We are indebted to his youngest son, Mr. Wentzel Du Ve, of Echuca East, for the family tree, given below :

Carl Augustus Du Ve, 1770-1811, born Prussia, 1770, aide-de-camp to General Kalkreuth, with the Prussian army, when the French besieged Warsaw, 1807. Died at Berlin, 1811.
Married 1801, Caroline Concordia Hanke, 1777-1864.

2. Carl Augustus Ferdinand Du Ve,
1806-1873, born 1806 in Poland,
married 1834 in England,
Joanna Hall Cray, 1814-1884.

1. Amelie, 1804-1887,
m. George Lambert.
3. Jeanetta, 1808-1832,
4. Joanna.
5. Augusta, 1811-1896,
m. 1832, Dr. F. Wentzell.

1. Charles Ignatz Du Ve, 1835-1915,
m. 1863 Agnes Adamson Buntine,
born Bruthen, 1845, died 1915.

2. Caroline Amelia Joanna,
of London, 1839-1889.
3. Francis John Du Ve,
of London, 1845-1866.
4. Augusta Mary, 1855-?
m. 1893, Karl Berent.

1. Joanna Agnes, 1865-
m. John Hayter Reed.
2. Charles Augustus Ferdinand,
b. 1867, Flynn's Creek.
3. Isabel Caroline, b. 1869 at
"The Wattles", Rosedale,
m. Cave Fahie Wilson.
4. Augusta Elizabeth, b. 1871,
m. Thomas Farmer.
5. Grace Lois, 1873-1875.
6. Hugh Francis, 1875-1944.

7. Ethel Maud, b. 1876,
m. Henry Thomas Langley.
8. Florence Cray, 1878-?
9. Leopold Denis Eugene, 1880-?
10. Francis Ignatz, b. 1882.
11. Wentzell, born 1883,
m. 1914, Adela Emily Cox.
12. Merle Lois, 1887-1934,
m. Oswald Grainger Biggs.

The Buntine Family

Two of the earliest burials in the Rosedale Cemetery are those of father and son, Hugh Buntine, 1804-1867, and Hugh Buntine, 1836-68. The older man emigrated from Scotland in 1838, with his young family and his first wife (nee Mary Symington, who reached Australia but died in Sydney Quarantine Station, 1838). He was the manager of a sub-station at Bruthen Creek, but later, possibly due to ill-health, retired to Flynn's Creek and Rosedale. About 1840 he remarried, this time to Agnes Davidson, a woman who became famous throughout Gippsland as an outstanding bullock-driver. It seems she may have been forced to work like this to support her young family. Raymond Paull in his book "Old Walhalla" has this to say about her, when the Walhalla Gold Rush began in 1863: "In the packers' vanguard went a redoubtable Gippsland woman, Mrs. Buntine of Rosedale, one of Australia's rare women "bullockies".

Two Families of Rosedale

The Buntine Family, (Cont'd)

Her supplies, shipped from Melbourne to Port Albert, were hauled to the Bald Hills by her bullock teams and broken down there into pack-horse loads for onward delivery. Mackay described Mrs. Buntine as an 'active, enterprising and strong woman'. It was at Toongabbie on Black Monday, 2nd February, 1863, that Mrs. Buntine nearly lost her life fighting to save her possessions from a bushfire which engulfed most of the township."

One of her step-sons became a doctor, another the Principal of a Melbourne School, and her daughter, Agnes, married Charles I. Du Ve.

Rosedale Cemetery

The records of the Rosedale Cemetery have been kept very well indeed. The Cemetery Trust was set up in 1872. There was a praiseworthy attempt made sometime later to mark and list the interments that had taken place before then. Hence, the names at least of a few have been recorded though details of ages and dates of death had been forgotten. In a few instances, headstones, or more generally, headboards of red gum had been erected giving more precise information. If an inscription had been painted on a headboard, it has long since been obliterated by the weather, but there are three, where the wording has been chiselled in the wood, and still remains clear. These three are the graves of :

Hugh Buntine of Ayrshire, Scotland, 7/6/1867, 63 years.
 Patrick O'Brien, of Cork, Ireland, 17/5/1868, 19 years,
 killed by his horse.
 John Stack, 26/9/1870, aged 84 years.

The records of those burials that took place in the first few years of the Trust include :

William Essington King,	12/ 1/72, aged eight days.	
Rosamund Slater,	30/11/72.	
W.K. Howard,	26/ 2/73.	
Mrs. Coleman,	26/ 2/73.	
Adam McPhee,	June, 1873.	
Mrs. Cansick,	May, 1873,	42 years.
Arnold Edward Jones,.....	Feb. 1874.	
Essington H. King,	Aug. 1874,	9 years.
E.H. Rowley,	Dec. 1874.	
John Little,	Mar. 1875.	
Grace Du Ve,	21/ 4/75,	2 years.
Mrs. J. Hickey,.....	1875,	32 years.
Ernest Vincent,	May, 1875.	
Laura J. Beattie,	May, 1875.	
Albert Edward Green,	June, 1875.	
Ellen Weir,.....	Oct. 1875.	
William R. Farley,.....	1875.	70 years.
Langley Ostler,	Aug. 1876.	
Robert Timbs,	Sept. 1876.	
Thomas Young,	April, 1877.	
Philip Essington Rintoull,	April, 1877.	1 year.
Elsie Rintoull,	1877.	3 years.
Walter Rintoull,.....	1877.	4 years.

Graves of Special Interest

Julia Costella Brown, died Shady Creek, 8/4/1860, aged 35 years.
 Isabella Brown, died Shady Creek, 3/12/1860, aged 4 years.

"This stone is erected by Nicol Brown, late of Shady Creek and Scrubby Forest, to the memory of his first wife and their daughter".

Nicol Brown, first squatter-holder of Scrubby Forest Station, and keeper of the Shady Creek inn, "The Drovers' Rest", served 19 years imprisonment, 1868-1887, for the murder of William Laughton, mailman. His first wife and their daughter were buried in the Shady Creek Cemetery, but were exhumed and reburied at Rosedale, 19/7/1895.

Mary O'Malley, relict of the late James Manton Flinn, died at Rosedale, 28/6/1876, aged 53 years.

Geraldine Brown, wife of William Henry Brown, surgeon, died 8/8/1885, 14 days after her marriage, aged 19 years.

Rev. Robert Mitchell, 12/10/1935, aged 87 years. Presbyterian Minister at Rosedale for 25 years.

Paul Cansick, 4/12/89, 65 years.

William Allen, 22/12/1923, 94 years. (He built the Rosedale Hotel 1858)

Some Tragedies of 1867-1868Frederick Stratton, 27/9/1867

Mail Coach Driver, drowned in the flooded Latrobe River.

James Tyrell, 1/1/1868

"At the races at Maffra, on New Year's Day, Mr. Pearson's favourite jockey, James Tyrell was thrown and fatally injured".

Catherine Ferguson, 11/1/1868

Killed when a dray overturned, was buried at Rosedale, Saturday, 11/1/1868, aged 63 years.

Master Weir, 12/1/1868

A boy, the son of a widow, was buried at Rosedale, on Sunday, 12/1/1868. The paper gives no cause of death but comments on a funeral occurring on each of successive days.

Mr. Timms, 25/2/68

Died at Rosedale, 25/2/68, a sufferer from cancer for seven years.

Mrs. Jane Ross

Wife of George Ross, bootmaker, lost in the bush, 16/3/1868. Despite an intensive search, she was never found.

Patrick O'Brien, 17/5/1868

Thrown from his horse while hunting kangeroos, two miles from Rosedale. Aged 19 years.

Hugh Buntine, 13/8/1868

Killed when thrown from his horse, while returning to Rosedale from Sale. Aged 32 years.

Rosedale and the Gippsland Newspapers

The first newspaper in Gippsland was the "Port Albert Guardian", which began in October, 1855. The paper moved to Rosedale for a few months, from 2/1/1868, and finally to Sale, 17/9/1868, when it began at Sale in 1865. Sale, therefore, had two newspapers for many years - the "Guardian" and the "Times". A paper known as the "Rosedale Courier" was established at Rosedale, about 1882, and operated for many years.

We may fairly assume from this, that Rosedale reached its hey-day of importance about 1868, when it was the commercial transport junction, where the coaches on the Sale-Melbourne run, the Rosedale-Port Albert run, and the Walhalla-Rosedale run connected. It must have retained this advantage of position throughout the seventies, until the construction of the Gippsland railway line, completed in 1879, killed the coach traffic, or a large part of it.

Rosedale hardly figures at all in the "Guardian" of 1860, but by 1867-68, it was supplying the bulk of the advertisements and news - or at least a fair proportion of the whole.

Here are the traders who advertised in the issues for the year, 1868, "printed and published by A.P. Shaw at the Office of the Gippsland Guardian, Prince Street, Rosedale, Victoria":

- Rosedale Hotel (est. 1858).....Paul Cansick, Proprietor.
- Royal Hotel, Rosedale.....Mrs. Clark (late of Sale).
- Bridge Inn, Rosedale.....Thomas Dixon.
- Rosedale Horse Bazaar (adjoining Rosedale Hotel).....F. Stubbick.
- Rosedale Forge.....Thomas Toone.
- Rosedale Bakery (opposite School House)...Poa Nine.
- Central House, Prince St. (draper and outfitter)....J.C. Linney.
- Rosedale Tannery.....Paul Cansick.
- Central Store (opposite Telegraph Office).....J. Williams.
- Commercial House (opposite Post Office).....J. Williams.
- Teacher of Pianoforte and Tuner, Rosedale.....W.H. Dunne
- Painter, Paper-Hanger, Plumber, Rosedale.....W. Weller.
- Surgeon, Prince Street, Rosedale.....Edward L. Simmons.
- Bootmaker, Lyons Street, Rosedale.....George Ross.
- Butcher, Rosedale.....H. Powell.
- Butcher, Rosedale.....Thomas Dixon.
- Cabinet-Maker and Joiner, Rosedale.....W. Moore.
- Saddlers, Rosedale and Stratford.....Bull and Sons.
- Rosedale Store, Prince Street.....H. Luke and Co.
- Tailor (at Royal Hotel).....James Smith (late of Sale).
- Wanted - dairyman who thoroughly understands cheese-making -
P.C. Buckley, Prospect.
- Wanted - firewood for the Thomson River Smelting Works, 150 tons
a week.....F. Richards, Mining Manager.

Paul Edmund de Strzelecki, 1797-1875.

Strzelecki was born in Poland of parents who were poor but of good family. He was an intelligent man, well educated, interested in the sciences of mineralogy and geology, and he was a popular figure in society. Little is known of his early life, except that he left Poland as a young man, perhaps for personal reasons, perhaps for political reasons, or perhaps for both. He lived for a time in Russia, and then in North America, South America, and New Zealand, before coming to Australia. He spent only four years in Australia, 1839 to 1843, before going to England where he spent the rest of his life.

In the United Kingdom he continued to distinguish himself in public service, notably as a most efficient officer of the Food Relief Organization during the "hungry forties" in Ireland, when two million Irishmen died through the failure of the potato crop in successive years. For this work and for other services he received several honours, including a knighthood.

In Australia he is remembered as one of the early discoverers of gold, and for his exploring work, mainly in Gippsland, but also in Tasmania and in the Bass Strait islands. We mispronounce his name as "Strezlecki" whereas the true pronunciation is more like "Stcheletski".

There has been a tendency, particularly in recent years to discount Strzelecki and to criticise him, but this is unjust to a very great man. The two points of criticism levelled at him are that he claimed for himself, to the exclusion of Angus McMillan, the honour of discovering Gippsland, and that he had no claim to the title of "Count". The truth is that neither McMillan nor Strzelecki discovered Gippsland, but both were first to explore certain large areas of it. Besides, McMillan was looking for pastures for himself and his employer squatters, and was reticent about his discoveries lest rival squatters jumped his claims. Strzelecki was seeking to widen our knowledge of the Australian continent, and naturally enough, made his discoveries public as soon as he could.

As for the title of "Count", it seems that it delighted the Australian public and society more than it did the Count himself. In any case, the troubled politics of the time in Poland, and its state of subjugation to foreign powers made the question of right to titles somewhat ambiguous.

The Expedition of 1840.

Strzelecki joined an expedition organized by a squatter, James Macarthur of "The Vineyard", Parramatta, and was quickly acknowledged as the leader, which he was in every way. He seemed to be able to bear the privations of a terrible journey much better than his colleagues, and he encouraged, helped and protected them. The other members of the party were Macarthur himself, James Riley, who was only 19 years old, a fine aboriginal character, Charlie Farra, and Strzelecki's personal servant. James Riley's friend, Philip King was invited to join the party with his man, but was unable to do so, and the final number of the small group remained at five.

Before beginning the journey proper, the party climbed the highest mountain in Australia, and Strzelecki named it Mt. Kosciusko after a famous Polish patriot. This was on the 7th. February, 1840.

From Walwa on the Murray, the party travelled by way of Cudgewa Creek, Benambra, Mt. Gibbo, the Mitta Mitta River and Lake Omeo to the Tambo River and McMillan's Ensay Station, which they reached, 27/3/1840. Matthew Macalister directed them along McMillan's track to the Latrobe River. From then on, it was entirely new territory for the explorers and soon they entered the very difficult terrain of the Jeeralangs. The scrub was so thick that at times they could progress only by felling trees and scrambling along the trunk over the scrub, occasionally making only two miles a day. They were forced to abandon their horses and baggage, to reduce rations drastically, and to head for Westernport, instead of Corner Inlet, in the hope of reaching an out-station. They reached the site of what is now Corinella on Western Port Bay, 12th. May, 1840. Cairns erected at a point on the Princes Highway, near Traralgon, at Koornalla, Nirboo North and Korumburra indicate roughly the party's track.

The Strzelecki Expedition.James Macarthur.

James Macarthur, born 1813, at "The Vineyards", Parramatta River, was the son of Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur (1788 - 1861), nephew of Captain John Macarthur, the pioneer of Australia's wool industry. His mother, Anna Maria Macarthur, (nee King) was the grand-daughter of Captain Philip Gidley King, Governor of New South Wales (that is, Australia) 1800-1806. He was, therefore, a descendant of two famous early families, the representatives of whom arrived in Australia with the first and the second fleets, 1788 and 1790. The dry years in the late 1830's prompted James Macarthur to look to the south for better watered country, and to prepare for the 1840 expedition which Strzelecki joined and led.

James Riley, 1821-1892.

James Riley arrived in Sydney, 17th. October, 1838, as a seventeen years old youth. From his letters home to his mother in London, we learn a great deal about him and his early years in Australia. Apparently he had letters of recommendation to important people in the colony, such as the Macarthurs and the Kings, and he seems to have spent much of his time with members of these families. He was well advised to gain experience in the country for a year or two before becoming a squatter himself. His first report on the country is about the drought conditions then prevailing; "There are sad complaints from the country for want of rain. There has been no rain of consequence for two years and cattle are dying in all directions. If we do not have it soon, we shall have a famine; things are terribly dear and likely to be higher."

In 1839, he visited Melbourne and was suitably impressed. "Melbourne is a truly astonishing place for its age, when you come to think that three years ago there were only two huts to be seen on the banks of the Yarra Yarra, and that there are now from four to five hundred houses, many of them three and four stories high."

Three or four months later he was preparing for the journey through Gippsland, giving these details: "We are to proceed with two pack-horses and three servants, two of which are blacks of this country, and the third an African." (In fact four pack horses were taken, - and abandoned in the Jeeralangs, and there were probably only two servants - Charlie Tarra and another).

He also mentions the reception the party received in Melbourne after their arduous journey: "We are at present the lions of the town, and nothing is talked of but our expedition and starvation."

After two months' rest in Melbourne, James Riley with Charlie Tarra went back into Gippsland in an attempt to recover the horses and equipment. They travelled a route approximating to that of the Princes Highway, finding only one of the horses alive.

It is interesting to learn that the late Russell Mockridge, the champion Australian cyclist was a great grandson of James Riley.

Charlie Tarra.

In three exploring expeditions during 1840-41, the aboriginal Charlie Tarra played a very important part. It was he who kept the members of the Strzelecki expedition alive by finding food for them, W.A. Brodribb has this to say on the matter: "Fortunately, they had with them an aboriginal from New South Wales, a rare character who procured for them their animal food, by climbing the large gum-trees and catching the Australian monkey or sloth. These animals are nocturnal and live on the leaves of the trees and sleep in the branches all day".

The second journey was the return into Gippsland from Melbourne, with James Riley.

Finally, in February, 1841, a group of squatters coming from Melbourne by sea, explored the coast line of Corner Inlet. They discovered two rivers which they named the Albert, after the Prince Consort, and the Tarra, after their aboriginal friend and helper, Charlie Tarra. A group of the squatters travelled back to Melbourne overland, and again it was Charlie Tarra who kept them alive with monkey bears (koalas) and pheasants (lyre-birds).

The Rintoull Family of Rosedale and Morwell.The Late Mr. Jack Kelso Rintoull, 1893 - 1966.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Jack Kelso Rintoull on Friday, 17th. June, 1966, at his home, 23 Hazelwood Road, Morwell, and we express our sympathy to Mrs. Rintoull and her two daughters.

Mr. Rintoull's grandfather, George Rintoull established the first blacksmith's shop in Rosedale, 1856; his father Mr. John Rintoull was the first tradesman in Morwell, when he opened a blacksmith's shop in Morwell, perhaps as early as 1877; and Jack Rintoull himself was the third generation Australian blacksmith in the Rintoull family.

In 1879, John Rintoull married Miss Zenna McCrorey, the school-teacher at Maryvale Ridge School, the first teacher in our first state school. The first seven children of the marriage were all girls, and consequently when a son arrived (Jack Kelso Rintoull) 25th. April, 1893, the township really celebrated the event. Flags were strung across the main street; Mr. Fred Rollason was engaged to beat the big drum, and the editor of the local paper, Mr. Turnley, composed and printed the following verses:

Bang the drum and blow the horn;
 Away with every care;
 Fill your glass and drink the health
 Of Rintoull's son and heir.
 The town can go insolvent;
 The banks may have a run,
 And cattle may go down in price,
 But Rintoull's got a son.

You may talk about inventions
 Of flying in the air,
 Of gallant expeditions
 To find the Polar bear.
 They may be very startling,
 But this must take the bun,
 Jack Rintoull is the father
 Of a noble, little son.

God bless his tiny offspring;
 And when he grows a lad,
 We'll often hear his cheery voice,
 As now we hear his dad.
 Tug the blooming joy bells
 For well they may be rung;
 Hoist the flags aloft, Fred,
 For Rintoull's got a son.

Home Rule can go to Jericho;
 Let Gladstone go to pot;
 The Ulstermen can go to war,
 And most of them be shot.
 Jack Rintoull's gained a conquest.
 The victory is won,
 And now he is the daddy
 Of a sturdy little son.

The world may end for what we care,
 Since we have lived to see
 Jack Rintoull with a baby boy
 A'dangling on his knee.
 What matter now how soon for us,
 This earthly race is run,
 The blooming universe can bust,
 FOR RINTOULL'S GOT A SON.

Three Rintoull brothers came out to Australia from Yetholm, Roxburgh, Scotland, and settled in Gippsland, in the vicinity of Rosedale. James Rintoull occupied Loy Yang Station as the manager for Turnbull Bros, 1844; Henry Rintoull was a carpenter and builder at Rosedale, 1857, and George Rintoull was the blacksmith there in 1856. He had practised his trade at Kelso, Berwickshire, and no doubt that is how Jack Kelso Rintoull got his second name, "Kelso".

The Rintoull Family of Rosedale and Morwell (cont.)

John Rintoull, 1851-1936, Blacksmith.

John Rintoull was only five years old when his father, George Rintoull, (1815-1896), having emigrated from Yetholm, Roxburgh, Scotland, set up the first blacksmith's shop at Rosedale in 1856. John Rintoull also became a blacksmith and, as a young man, travelled the old coach road between Rosedale and Brandy Creek, shoeing horses for Cobb and Co. at the various staging places. Then, he opened a blacksmith's shop at Morwell, about the time the railway station was built there, 1877. We think he was the first tradesman to establish a business in Morwell, and of the early traders, he stayed here the longest - for the rest of his life. His son, the late Mr. Jack Kelso Rintoull carried on the business after him.

The first smithy was set a little distance back from the road, but when it was burnt down, a larger one was erected on the street frontage, and remained there till 1940, when it was replaced by three other business premises, now occupied by C. Davey, Chemist, Wardrop the Tailor, and Malvern Star Stores.

John Rintoull was a fine townsman, a colourful personality, and a mighty blacksmith. There is a report in a newspaper of September, 1874, when he was 23 years old, of his successful attack on the horse-shoe-making record. He made 36½ horse-shoes in an hour. As a result of the wide publicity given to this exploit, some Rintoulls in America claimed kinship, and contact between the two branches of the family was maintained for some time.

One of the highlights of the year in Morwell used to be the annual stallion parade in Commercial Road, organized and conducted by John Rintoull. First prize went to the best cared-for, the best groomed stallion. This annual parade was conducted for 30 years. Another activity in which Mr. Rintoull took a keen interest and a leading part was the Annual Show held at the Morwell Showgrounds, which were situated south of Wallace Street, at the westerly end - beyond the present tennis courts in Hazelwood Road.

In April, 1879, John Rintoull married the village school-teacher, Miss Zenna McCrorey (1860-1901). Mrs. Rintoull was a devout member of the Presbyterian Church, and a very popular citizen of Morwell. She died in January, 1901, about three weeks before her 41st birthday.

The Village Blacksmith.

The world of eighty years ago was a very different one from the world of today. It was the horse age with no cars or tractors to suit the travel and power needs of the farmer or citizen. When motor-cars displaced horses, the blacksmith's shop disappeared, as well as the saddler's, the chaff and grain merchant's, and the livery stable, to make way for the garage, the petrol stations, and taxi services. Perhaps the decade, 1920 to 1930, was the central part of this transition period, which began with the arrival of the motor-buggy about 1910, and ended with the complete triumph of the motor-car. With the passing of the saddler's shop and the blacksmith shop, something of the warm sociability of country life has gone.

Children were inevitably attracted to the door of the smithy to see the furnace fanned to white heat by the bellows, to watch the shower of sparks struck from the hot metal, to gaze with awe at the big smith and his men, protected by their leather aprons, their faces blackened with the grime of their charcoal fires, or to hear the ring of hammer on anvil, and the hiss of steam as hot iron was plunged into butts of water for tempering the metal. Perhaps a horse was being shod, and the smith would hold the great, bent leg of the horse between his knees as he hammered the iron shoe onto the upturned hoof.

The smithy was the workshop of the district. Horses were shod; carts, waggons, harrows and ploughs made. Special paling splitters made by Rintoull and Son cost 25/- each and were well worth the money. Rintoull's patent churn was so sound in design that the same principle was adopted for the Yarragon Butter Factory.

The smith was sometimes called a farrier, which is a word derived from French (le fer = iron), meaning a worker in iron.

The King Family of Australia and Gippsland.

(Acknowledgement... "A Saga of Two Hundred Years" by Mrs. Dorothy Rogers, published in the "Victorian Historical Magazine", Vol. XXXIII, No. 4, 132nd Issue, May, 1963.)

Governor Philip Gidley King, 1758-1808.

Philip Gidley King was born at Launceston, Cornwall, 13/4/1758. Governor Arthur Phillip thought highly of him as a naval officer and brought him to Australia in 1788 in the First Fleet, almost immediately sending him off to establish a subsidiary settlement at Norfolk Island, which he administered very capably. Later, he was to succeed Hunter as Governor of New South Wales (Australia), 1800-1806. He had married in England his cousin, Anna Josepha Coombe, daughter of Captain Coombe, and their eldest son, Phillip Parker King was born at Norfolk Island in 1791. Their second child, and eldest daughter, Anna Maria King, born in 1793, married Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur in 1812.

After six years as Governor of New South Wales, Governor King resigned in 1806, for health reasons, and returned to England, where he died in 1808.

Mrs. King, with her family, eventually returned to Australia, where she received a grant of land.

Phillip Parker King, 1791-1856.

Phillip Parker King, named Phillip after Governor Arthur Phillip, has the distinction of being the first Australian to reach the rank of Admiral in the Royal Navy. He did valuable service in Australian waters, when he circumnavigated Australia three times, to finish the charting of the coast-line begun by Matthew Flinders.

One circumstance here is of particular interest. In 1818, he named one of his discoveries on the North coast (Northern Territory), Port Essington, "after my lamented friend, Vice-Admiral Sir William Essington". Since then, the name Essington has been given to several members of the King family. He, himself, called his third son William Essington King, and the latter, in turn, gave the same name to one of his sons. This son lived only eight days and is buried in Rosedale Cemetery. The name seems to have spread to other families, for we find also in Rosedale Cemetery, the grave of an Essington Watts.

John Lewis, the father of the famous industrialist, Essington Lewis, was the first white, civil settler at Port Essington.

Phillip Parker King married Harriet Lethbridge of Launceston, Cornwall in 1817, and there was a family of eight children, the first seven of whom were boys. The children were Philip (1817-1904), John (1820-1895), William Essington (1821-1910), Robert (1823-1898), Charles (1824-?), Frederick (1825-?), Arthur Septimus (the seventh, 1827-1899) and Elizabeth (1829-1872). The four who spent some time in Gippsland, in the Rosedale area, were John, William Essington, Charles, and Arthur Septimus.

In his letters home, James Riley mentions spending some time in New South Wales with the eldest son, Philip King, and calling upon some of the others at their cattle stations.

John King, 1820-1895.

After beginning his career as a pastoralist in New South Wales, John King took up Fulham Station in Gippsland in 1842. Later, he acquired other stations either for himself or for a company, but more importantly for us, held Snake Ridge Station for many years. He married Mary Ann Peck there in 1853. He was prominent in Church of England activities at Rosedale, and was also President of the Rosedale Shire, 1877-1879.

William Essington King, 1821-1910, and Arthur Septimus King, 1827-1899.

These two brothers were partners in a stock and station agency in Melbourne from 1859 onwards. Both went to Gippsland for a time, working with their brother, John King. William Essington King was a member of the first Rosedale Road Board, 1869, and was the second President of Rosedale Shire, 1871-1872.

Death of Mr. Arthur Porter.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Arthur Porter of Boldings Road, Hazelwood, 10th. July, 1966, aged 84 years. Mr. Porter was born in Morwell, in 1881, the youngest son of the late Robert and Margaret Porter, who selected land here in 1874, amongst the first group of farmers to do so.

Mr. Porter was a member of our Historical Society. We knew him as a kindly gentleman, a good citizen, and one with a pride in the history and development of Morwell.

The Porter Family.

The first of the Morwell line of Porters, Robert Porter, 1839-1926, came to Morwell in 1874 and selected land on the eastern side of the old Ridge Road to Yinnar. His wife's people, the Tolmie family, selected adjacent land on the western side of the Ridge, their property including all that part of Morwell, south of McLean Street. It would have been more fitting perhaps to call Wallace Street, Tolmie Street, because it is within the boundaries of the original Tolmie selection. Within the last ten years, the State Electricity Commission has taken over the whole area occupied by the two farms - the Porter selection, and the Tolmie selection. The Porter family had to shift further out to their present place in Boldings Road.

Robert Porter was born in Donegal, North Ireland, in 1839, and emigrated to Victoria as a young man of seventeen in 1856. At first he was employed in farming and in contract work at Kyneton. Then he did further work by contract with the Victorian Railways, carting stone ballast for the Sandhurst (Bendigo) railway line, then under construction. After that, he had ten years of farming in the Malmesbury district before he came to Morwell in 1874. He had married at Malmesbury, in 1863, Margaret McPherson Tolmie, (1844-1886) and they had a family of seven sons and four daughters - William, Margaret, Harry, Robert, Alexander, Agnes, James, Zilda, Ernest, Arthur and Fannie.

The names of Robert Tolmie and Robert Porter both appear in early documents relating to the history of Morwell, and their properties are shown on the early maps.

In November, 1877, Robert Tolmie's name headed the list in a petition for a school to be established in Morwell Village. He indicated that he had two children of school age.

In January, 1877, Robert Porter, knowing that a school was likely to be opened at Maryvale Ridge, wrote a reference for Miss Zilda Graham, a teacher at a private school which his children were attending, but the appointment eventually went to Miss Zenna McCrorey. It is interesting to note that one of the Porter children was given the name "Zilda", probably a tribute to the respect in which this early teacher, perhaps Morwell's first teacher, was held by the family.

In the first pages of the Commercial Road State School Register, 1879, the names of the older Porter children are listed as pupils - George (known as Harry) 12; Margaret 10½; Robert 9½; Alexander 6; and Agnes 5. The oldest boy, William, had apparently finished his schooling; James and Zilda were too young; and Ernest, Arthur and Fanny were yet unborn. No doubt, the older ones had attended Miss Graham's private school, and then the Maryvale Ridge School from 1877 till it closed in 1879. Indeed, all five of the children shown as pupils of the Commercial Road School in 1879, are recorded as having transferred from the Maryvale Ridge School.

Of the girls in this family, Margaret became Mrs. J.D. Morris; Agnes, Mrs. C. Nelson; Zilda, Mrs. Robert Tulloch; and Fannie, Mrs. W. Harrison.

Mr. Arthur Porter married Miss Jean Copeland of Traralgon. Their family consisted of Isabel, Robert, Alexander, Jessie and Heather. The only son of this family, Robert Porter, is the third generation of Porters to carry on farming in the Morwell district. This third Robert Porter married Elizabeth Gilmour of Traralgon, and their family consists of Lorraine, Elizabeth, Arthur, Philip, Rosalind and Myra.

Early Schools in Early Gippsland.

The beginnings of State education in Gippsland occurred at Sale and Port Albert in the year 1854, twenty-five years before the first state school was established at Morwell, 3/4/1879.

In the fifties and sixties, and for most of the seventies, Morwell township did not exist, the district being a remote satellite area of Sale, forty miles away. From Port Albert and Sale, the first Gippsland townships, development spread gradually westward to Rosedale, Traralgon, Morwell and Moe. From 1865 onwards, Rosedale began to replace Sale as the trading centre for Morwell people. Then it was Traralgon's turn in the seventies and eighties. From 1880, Morwell was a part of the Traralgon Shire, until, in 1892, it became a separate municipality.

Hence, the nearest government school for the people of Morwell was first, the National School at Sale, opened in 1854; then the Common School at Rosedale, opened in 1866, followed by the Traralgon Common School, 1869, which became the Traralgon State School, No. 1328, in 1873.

This does not mean that the people in the Morwell area patronised schools as far away as those at Sale and at Rosedale. Only the squatters could afford the cost of boarding out their children, and it is quite obvious that they, although they generously subscribed money for these schools and served willingly on the local boards or committees of control, did not regard such government institutions as schools for their children. They taught their own children, or employed private tutors, or sent their children to the recognized boarding schools of Melbourne, Sydney or Van Diemen's Land. (It was not until November, 1855, that the name "Tasmania" officially replaced the name of "Van Diemen's Land".)

Rev. Francis Hales in the diary which he kept during three months travelling in Gippsland in 1848, recorded that the Lucas family at Bruthen Creek, and the Buntine family near Port Albert employed private schoolmasters to educate their children; that the Bennett children at Hazelwood on the Morwell River were being taught temporarily by Mrs. Bennett's father, Mr. W. A. Brodrigg Senior; but that the Davis family at Woodside had sent their three children to school in Van Diemen's Land.

In the minds of the squatters, government schools were in the nature of charity schools, and it was beneath their dignity to accept such charity. However, they did recognize it as an obligation to see that the children of their employees and of other families in their community should receive the benefits of an education subsidized by the State and supported by them. This assessment of their attitude is no disparagement of the squatters. Indeed, they were simply carrying on the traditional pattern to which they had been accustomed as the squires in England and the lairds in Scotland. To us, it seems rather patronising and undemocratic, but to them, in those days, it was simply a natural acceptance of the civic and patriotic duties imposed upon them by virtue of their position as the most important men, and also the wealthiest men, in the district. Perhaps the very name of the first school committees, the "Board of Patrons", unconsciously reflected the general community acceptance of this attitude.

We can be certain that no children from the Morwell River area attended either the Sale School or the Rosedale School, though it is possible that one or two enrolled at Traralgon School. In any case, there were few children in the area during the squatting period (before 1872), and those few, perhaps, could sit at the desks at the squatter's homestead, and receive his gracious permission to learn from the tutors of his children. Sale, Rosedale and Traralgon were different from Morwell. They were townships with tradesmen and workmen; there were more families and there were more children requiring an education. There may even have been private schools there.

Fifty years later, something of the same situation developed (without the squatter complication) when secondary education was provided by the State, beginning with the Melbourne Continuation School in 1905. Sale Agricultural High School opened in 1907. Warragul Agricultural High School (1911), Traralgon Higher Elementary School (1915), and Yallcurn High School (1945).

The Morwell Historical Society News.....10/8/66.

The children of Morwell, if they wanted State secondary education, had to board in these centres or travel daily to them, until Morwell High School opened in 1956. Indeed, travelling continued for another year, but this time by school bus, because, for that first year, 1956, Morwell High School was conducted in Traralgon, in the rooms of the old Traralgon Higher Elementary School in Grey Street.

The records of the early schools in Gippsland provide in themselves a short history of Gippsland. In every instance, in the first petitions for a school, we find the signatures of the first pioneers there, of the people historically important to each locality.

It is useful at this point in our story to look briefly at the history of Gippsland, which began as a separate pocket of settlement, enclosed and bounded by mountains, by the sea, by swamps and morasses, and by almost impenetrable bush, remote from Melbourne and often inaccessible from Melbourne by land, in its first years of existence.

The first squatters to penetrate into the outer areas of Gippsland came, perhaps as early as 1835, from the Monaro Tableland in New South Wales. They came through the Alpine highlands and along the Tambo River.

Angus McMillan in 1839, 1840 and 1841, carried out a series of explorations which took him to the heart of Gippsland, to the present sites of Sale and Stratford, and to Port Albert on the coast. Strzelecki made his epic dash through the rugged South Gippsland ranges to Western Port in 1840, and a group of squatters came by sea in 1841, and found Port Albert. By a remarkable coincidence, Port Albert, which was to be the main gateway of Gippsland for the next forty years, was discovered twice in the one week, in February, 1841 - by Angus McMillan travelling overland, and by the group of squatters travelling by ship from Melbourne.

Hence, Port Albert, with its sister townships of Tarraville and Alberton, became the first township area in Gippsland, 1841. Within three years, there were forty cattle runs occupied between Port Albert and Bairnsdale, with Sale the inland centre, and destined to become the most important town in Gippsland for the next one hundred years. Settlement extended further to the west, with Traralgon Station and Hazelwood Station occupied late in 1844, and Maryvale Station (which included the present site of Morwell) in 1845. Incidentally, Hazelwood and Maryvale were named after two members of the Bennett family - Hazelwood, after Mrs Hasell Bennett (formerly Brodribb), and Maryvale after her eldest daughter, Miss Mary Bennett. Mother and daughter were the first white women to live in the Morwell district.

Still the virtual isolation from Melbourne continued. There was more sea traffic between Port Albert and Van Diemen's Land than with Melbourne. It was quicker to send mail via Van Diemen's Land than direct to Melbourne.

The Commissioner of Lands, Charles James Tyers, developed the first track to Melbourne and built bridges over some of the streams in 1847, but in the worst places, it was only a bridle track and could not take a vehicle. Rev. Francis Hales, the pioneering Church of England clergyman, used this track in 1848, and so did Bishop Perry and Mrs. Perry in 1849, travelling by buggy over the better parts, but taking to the saddle from Bunyip to Moe. It was not until 1865 that a road was constructed good enough to take vehicular traffic all the way from Sale to Melbourne, and it was only then, from September 1865, that a coach service could begin. It took nearly 25 years, therefore, to end the comparative isolation of Gippsland.

Politically, Gippsland was a part of New South Wales until 1851, when the Colony of Victoria was established, separated from the Colony of New South Wales. There is no evidence that the New South Wales government had attempted to establish any schools in Gippsland, and in fact there had been no need. An early doctor at Sale, Dr. Robert Ewing, recorded in his list of patients that he had treated a schoolmaster in March, 1849. This man may have been conducting a private school there, or possibly more likely, he was a tutor employed by one of the local squatters.

The townships of Port Albert and Tarraville were established in the same year that the port was discovered, 1841. Tarraville may have had the first school in Gippsland, a private school opened in 1850 by Mr. James Hart and his wife, with an average attendance of 36 children. This school closed towards the end of 1852.

The first Government-aid school in Gippsland was also at Tarraville. It was a Roman Catholic School subsidized by the Denominational Board of Education, and opened in March, 1853, with a total of 37 pupils and with Maurice J. Moore as the teacher.

A denominational school was established at Port Albert in November, 1853, this time, a Church of England school. Mr. James Hart was the teacher and there were 27 pupils enrolled at that school in the first year. It was apparently a different Mr. Hart from the one who had conducted a private school. The full name of the first Mr. Hart was James George Hart, and that of the second was James Johnston Hart. Probably they were father and son.

The first national school, in Gippsland, subsidized by the National Board of Education, was the Sale National School which opened at the beginning of 1854, with Mrs. Marianne Carpenter as the teacher, and with an enrolment of approximately 30 children.

Sale.

It is impossible to pin point the exact year that the village of Flooding Creek (Sale) began or when the first school (a private school) was opened there. In 1844, the Commissioner of Lands, Mr. C. J. Tyers, recommended that a police station should be established there, and this recommendation was adopted. Therefore, Flooding Creek was probably a village in 1844 or even earlier, and certainly police were stationed there by 1844 or 1845. However, it remained a tiny place for the next fourteen or fifteen years.

In 1850, about 70 people lived there; in 1853, the village consisted of thirteen huts, and even in 1858, it was "confined practically to the one thoroughfare, Foster Street, which contained only a few houses, with little habitation anywhere else".

The first plan of the village was laid before the Executive Council of New South Wales in March, 1850 (the year before the separation of Victoria from New South Wales) and the name of Flooding Creek was changed to Sale, in honour of a British soldier, General Sir Robert Henry Sale. This man had fought a heroic and successful action at Jellahabad, Afghanistan, in 1841, but was mortally wounded in 1845, in a battle at Moodkee in the Punjab, India.

We can assume that in a population of about 150 people in a township, there might be as many as 70 or 80 children, of whom perhaps 40 could be of school age. It is surprising, therefore, to find a school committee of 1853, estimating that a school for 245 children (131 boys and 114 girls) was needed at Sale. The only explanation is that a count had been made of all the children in an area extending for a distance of up to 40 miles from Sale, and including children from as far away as Morwell. It was a decidedly unrealistic estimate. The private school operating in that year, and the national school when it opened in the next year had enrolments of only 30 pupils.

A Summary of the Early Gippsland Schools.

- 1850-1852..Tarraville Private School conducted by James George Hart and his wife.
- 1853.....Tarraville Roman Catholic School, opened in March of that year by Maurice J. Moore.
- 1853.....Sale Private School, conducted by Mrs. Marianne Carpenter and her daughter. This school may have begun earlier than 1853.
- 1853.....Port Albert Church of England School opened in November by James Johnston Hart.
- 1854.....Sale National School, opened in January, 1854, by Mrs. Marianne Carpenter.

The Early Schools of GippslandSale State School, No. 545.

There was a private school in existence in Sale in 1853, and it had an average attendance of thirty children. Education did not become free or compulsory until the beginning of 1873, so that some of the children of the township would not attend at all, and others would attend irregularly or briefly, and only long enough to secure the rudiments of writing, reading and arithmetic.

This was possibly the first school at Sale, but we cannot be sure of that, nor do we know how long it had been in existence. No doubt the squatters in the area employed private tutors at their stations to educate their children, long before 1853.

This private school at Sale was conducted by Mrs. Marianna Carpenter, assisted by her oldest daughter. She seems to have been a good, successful teacher, giving every satisfaction to the parents of her pupils. In 1853, Mrs. Carpenter's own family consisted of four children, the youngest of whom was only four years old. Presumably, the daughter assisting her would be no older than fourteen, and was probably less. Mrs. Carpenter was forced to take up teaching to support her family, because her husband, formerly "Colonial Architect for Van Diemen's Land" was incapacitated through epilepsy or some mental illness.

When separation from New South Wales took place in 1851, Victoria set up a similar system of education to the one New South Wales had been operating. This was a system of subsidising local communities to conduct schools, with overall control vested in two Boards of Education, the Denominational Board in charge of church schools, and the National Board in charge of secular schools. For a small place like Sale, the only possible type of school to provide an education for all was a National School.

A public meeting was called at Sale on the 1st July, 1853, to consider this matter of establishing a national school. The Board of Patrons elected at this meeting were Charles James Tyers, the Government Commissioner of Lands; Robert Thomson, of Clydebank Station; Patrick Coady Buckley, of Coady Vale Station; John Johnson, of Mewburn Park Station; and William Mein, of Sale, with Henry B. Marlay, the Clerk of Courts at Sale, as Secretary of the Board. W. Mein left Sale in 1854, P. C. Buckley resigned in 1854, and their places were taken by William Montgomery, of The Heart Station, and Robert Morrison.

It was decided to raise an initial sum of £200 towards the building of a school estimated to cost £600, and to promise £200 a year towards the payment of a school-master and a sewing-mistress. The National Board was asked to provide the balance - £400 for the building, and an annual grant of £200 for the salaries of the teachers. Children paid a weekly sum in those days to go to school, the amount varying from place to place, but usually being 1/- or 1/6d.

A land grant of two acres for a school was received from the Lands Department, consisting of allotments 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Block V on the plan of Sale.

In October, 1853, the Patrons wrote to the National Board requesting that Mrs. Carpenter be appointed for the new school, since she was qualified and satisfactory, and suggested that the National School should open on the first day of 1854. In the meantime, Mrs. Carpenter would carry on her private school, and the accommodation she was using would serve as a temporary national school until the new school could be built.

The new school, made of corrugated iron walls and roof over a wooden frame work was finished some time during 1854, but not without some difficulty. Expenses exceeded the estimate by about £200, partly due to the cost of cartage from Melbourne. Tyers also mentions that there was a scarcity of labour in the district, due to the Omeo gold fields.

A plan of the school shows that it was 34 feet long by 16 feet wide, with a dividing wall making two rooms, 24 feet by 16 feet, and 10 feet by 16 feet. A residence built on to the end also consisted of two rooms, 11 feet by 12 feet, and 11 feet by 10 feet. The total cost of the school building and the residence was £838, and the National Board agreed to increase its initial grant by another £200.

School fees collected for the first half-year, 1854, amounted to £28/10/-, and it was expected that they would bring in £39 for the second half. In October, '54, it was reported that 26 children were attending.

In a letter to the National Board, written on the 21st January, 1855, Mr. C. J. Tyers stated that the living quarters for the teacher were at least completed. Mrs. Carpenter preferred to continue living in her own, private house, as well she might, since the two small rooms comprising the school residence would seem hopelessly inadequate in these days at any rate, to

accommodate a family of five. But housing was generally poor. People did not expect much and did not get much. A two-roomed residence was the usual thing for a teacher and his family, and probably this was in line with the standard living conditions of the times. Indeed, these two rooms "of iron" and with floors, may have been considerably sounder and more weather-proof than the floorless slab and bark huts frequently offered. The school residence remained unoccupied, waiting for the first school-master the Patrons were now asking for.

John Hughes was appointed Head Teacher of Sale National School, on the 9th July, 1854. He was 28 years old, unmarried, and had emigrated to Victoria in 1852. He was born in Chacewater, Cornwall, and had had some teaching experience at St. Buryan, Cornwall and Rye, Sussex, before coming to Australia. An interesting reference he produced at this time was headed Warringal (now Heidelberg), Victoria, 22/6/1853, written by Rev. Francis Hales, Minister of St. John's Church of England, and stating that John Hughes "had conducted a private school for some months past at this village". It was not a very glowing reference and probably revealed more by its reticence than its actual words. The interesting thing is that this Rev. Hales is the same pioneering Anglican minister who spent three months in Gippsland in 1848, travelling from place to place, conducting the first services held in many Gippsland localities.

Despite his references, his experience and his training, John Hughes was not a very good teacher. Everyone speaks well enough of his character, but successive reports on his teaching - in England, in Sale, and later in Wodonga, are generally unfavourable. In fact, Inspector A. B. Orlebar has this to say after inspecting Hughes' school at Belvoir (Wodonga) in 1862: "A very inferior teacher and I do not think that he will ever teach well. It would be well if he could find some other employment".

He was decidedly inferior to Mrs. Carpenter, and although the main reason for appointing a man to be in charge was to impose a stricter discipline, he does not seem to have been any more successful in that than in his teaching. Inspector Hopkins reported completely unfavourably upon him in June, 1857, but was well satisfied with Mrs. Carpenter's work with the girls.

John Hughes left Sale in 1857, took a teacher-training course in Melbourne, and was appointed to Belvoir School (Wodonga) where he stayed from the 10th May, 1858, to the 30th September, 1862. He remained in the State teaching service, retired in 1887, and died in 1892.

His successors at Sale were L. Wood, 1857-1858, and J. J. English, 1858-1865, both of whom were excellent teachers.

There is an interesting list, dated 21st January, 1855, giving the names of those people who had subscribed towards the upkeep of the Sale National School. The district was scoured far and wide, for, of the 43 men listed, quite a number were squatters on stations many miles away from Sale. William Bennett, of Hazelwood Station (Morwell), forty miles away, was one of the subscribers. The most notable name on the list is that of Angus McMillan, of Bushy Park Station, the famous explorer in Gippsland.

Other squatters on this list were Isaac Buchanan, of Sandy Creek; Patrick Coady Buckley, of Coadyvale; John Campbell, of Glencoe; Edward Crocke, of Holey Plains; Robert Cunninghame, of Red Grass Hills; John Johnson, of Mewburn Park; Frederick Jones, of Lucknow; James McFarlane, of Heyfield; William Montgomery, of The Heart; W. Odell Raymond, of Strathfieldaye; John Scott, of Delvine; John Digby Smith, of Lindenow, and Robert Thomson, of Clydebank.

Others were prominent Government officials, such as Commissioner C. J. Tyers, H. B. C. Marley, Clerk of Courts, and William Tenant Dawson, Government Surveyor.

The rest of the list would include the more prominent business men in the area, and probably other squatters and station managers now forgotten. The remaining names were James Aitken, William Bryant, James Duncan, James Davison, John Denham, R. Fitchett, Robert Fairlie, William Greenwood, J. W. Jones, J. Lightfoot, John Lovell, Archie McIntosh, A. McArthur, P. H. McArdle, A. McRae, James McDonald, Mrs. Mein, A. W. Moore, Norman Nicholson, William Orr, J. Roffe, John D. Stratton, William Warrenner, J. Wheelton and William Wood.

Archie McIntosh, said to be the first resident of Sale, had his cottage beside the track that led from The Heart Station to South Gippsland, and carried on the trade of making and mending bullock wagons. P. H. McArdle built the first steam-mill, a saw-mill, and the first steamer to be used at Sale. James Aitken used to work the punt across the Latrobe River at Longford. William Warrenner was a builder and helped to build the school and the residence. The National Board was slow to pay him for his work, and in May, 1855, he wrote

to the Board asking for the account to be settled, saying "I am a poor man, and have to support a numerous family of helpless children". Nevertheless, he contributed £2 towards the school fund.

The donations ranged from £1 to £20 and altogether £185 was collected in this particular drive. There was some talk of starting a boarding house for pupils, with Mrs. Carpenter in charge, but if any such scheme eventuated, it must have been on a very small scale. Such a scheme could serve only the wealthy, and the wealthy were not interested in national schools, at least not as educational institutions for their children.

From other sources we learn the names of other people in Gippsland at this time. Purchasers of the first town allotments put up for auction were Patrick and George Turnbull, of Port Albert (6/9/1850), R. Fitchett, G. F. Belcher and John Orr (17/9/1851), and the Turnbull Brothers again, James McLaren and James Smith (15/10/51).

Mr. James Douglas mentions the names of McIntosh, Fitchett, Green, Weldon (perhaps the J. Wheildon given above) and Dr. Ewing as residents in 1850. John Foster, a member of the Tasmanian Parliament, owned The Heart at this time, and no doubt Foster Street is named after him. The Foster family still lives at the old Boisdale homestead.

Mrs. Marianne Carpenter (1853-1876 inclusive).

As we have seen, Mrs. Carpenter first conducted a private school at Sale, 1853, which then became the Sale National School, as from 1/1/1854, with Mrs. Carpenter as the first head teacher. She herself thought that there should be a man appointed to take the boys, and accordingly John Hughes came to Sale and held the position of head teacher of the school from July, 1855, to September, 1857, with Mrs. Carpenter as his assistant and the teacher of the girls. She remained at the school until the end of 1876, when she retired. In an item of news in the issue of the "Gippsland Times" dated 18th January, 1878, there is an account of a social evening given in honour of Mrs. Carpenter, when she was presented with 70 sovereigns by Messrs. English, Topping and Abbott, to mark the community's gratitude for her 24 years of good service at the school. This comment seems to confirm that Mrs. Carpenter began teaching at Sale at the beginning of 1853, that her 24 years of service covered the years 1853 to 1876 inclusive, and that she was a successful and respected teacher.

Head Teachers at Sale State School, No. 545.

1854-1855	Mrs. Marianne Carpenter
1855-1857	John Hughes
1857-1858	Leonard Wood
1858-1865	John James English

There is a break in our information at this point until 1893, when the list continues as follows, the dates being approximate only. A full and more accurate list will be published later.

1893-1896	John Fairhall Thomas Brown
1896-1905	Peter Dial Richard Rail
1905-1911	Sidney W. Hunt John H. Refshauge
1911-1914	Charles Daley
1914-1920	William Dixon Andrew P. S. Lennie
1921-1930	Beaumont T. Pearse Robert A. Curlett
1931-1938	Alfred H. Thompson John T. Warriner George J. C. Marshall
1939-1944	Henry B. Gallagher
1944-1961	Joseph P. Loughman
1962-	James Douglas

Charles Daley (January, 1911 - April, 1915).

Charles Daley is the most famous of the teachers at Sale State School. His book, "The Story of Gippsland" provides an excellent introduction to the history of this area, and particularly of Sale.

Charles Daley was born 17th March, 1859. He joined the Department of Education, 12th August, 1878, and retired 17th March, 1924. Comparatively late in life, in April, 1914, he took out a Bachelor Arts degree. He was the head teacher of Sale State School from January, 1911, to April, 1915.

Rev. William Spence Login, 1819-1903.

(Most of the material for this article was obtained from the "History of the Presbyterian Church, Sale," prepared by the late Rev. David Seymour Broughton, Minister at the Church, 1950-59, on the occasion of the erection of the new Church.

Rev. Login arrived in Sale in January, 1854, as the Presbyterian Minister, not only for Sale but for the whole of Gippsland. For example, it was he who officiated at the wedding of the young Morwell couple, the blacksmith, John Rintoull, and the school-teacher, Zerna McCroroy, in April 1879, and the ceremony took place at the Rosedale Hotel, Rosedale. Rev. Login was the Minister at Sale from 1854 to 1880. His reminiscences and those of his daughter, Mrs. Jessie B. Harrison, are invaluable source material for the early history of Sale.)

William Spence Login was born at Stromness, Orkney Islands, 26/7/1819, one of a large family which eventually scattered abroad to North America, India and Australia. His father was a ship-owner. After his early schooling in his home-town, he went to Edinburgh University in 1834, where he trained for the Ministry. Due to ill-health, his course of training was interrupted for a period, during which he took a position as tutor to the family of Sir William Jardine of Applegarth.

He was licensed as a Probationer for the Holy Ministry by the Free Presbytery of Scotland, 1/11/1843, the year of the Disruption. It was a time of acute ecclesiastical upheaval and re-organization, resulting from the division of the Church of Scotland on the question of patronage - the right of persons other than the Congregation to nominate a minister to be inducted by the Presbytery into a vacancy. Mr. Login wrote: "Though anxious to be in work in the south, I was constrained by Dr. Candlish and others to offer myself for service in my native islands, where the want of preachers at that time was greatly felt. I was accordingly transferred to the Free Church Presbytery of Orkney and received my first appointment to the Island of Papa Westray. Though containing a population of 366, it had never had a resident minister, but formed part of the Charge of the Minister of Westray, who was required to conduct Divine Service in the Parish Church of Papa Westray, once every three weeks. As the proprietor of the island and all of the inhabitants had now joined the Free Church, it was determined to form a Ministerial Charge there, to which, after ordination, I was inducted, 1844".

Mr. Login worked in Papa Westray for nine years until, after a difference of opinion with the Laird over the latter's responsibilities to his tenants, he resigned and offered his services to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church, and was appointed to Gippsland, Australia.

Mr. Login, his wife and his four children, travelled to Australia on board the 'East Lothian', a sailing vessel of 500 tons, which left Leith in Scotland, 11/8/1853 and reached Melbourne, 25/11/1853. At Melbourne (or rather Williamstown) there was great consternation on board when the Captain discovered that, during the night, his whole crew had disappeared. They had gone off to the gold fields.

After a few weeks in Melbourne, the family went by ship, the "Meg Merrilies" to Port Albert. Here is Mr. Login's account of his early days:

"I spent my first Sunday in Gippsland, 15/1/1854, preaching in the forenoon, in the large room of what was then known as the Royal Hotel, at Tarraville, owned by an Edinburgh man, Mr. J. Nelson. On Friday, 20/1/1854, I started for North Gippsland, travelling on horseback, and reached Flooding Creek the following day. The next day, Sunday, 22/1/1854, I rode to Angus McMillan's station, Bushy Park, and conducted a service there in the evening.

My first service in Sale took place on the next Sunday, 29/1/1854, in the largest room in the township - the public room of the Woolpack Inn. My congregation consisted of about 50 adults, many of whom had come from the surrounding cattle-stations. The second service, three weeks later, was also at the Woolpack Inn, but the third was held in an iron structure in course of erection for a National School. Then, a weatherboard Court House was built and we had the use of that for a time.

By the middle of 1854, my congregation had built the first church - a bark hut, neither lined nor floored, and with a woolpress as a pulpit. The Church of England used this building also, until they built their own church in 1856. A new Presbyterian Church was built on the present site in 1859, at a cost of £2,000."

Obituary.....Mr. Arthur Green, 9/4/1966.

We feel that we should record, in these pages, the passing of a fine, old, pioneering citizen of Morwell, in the person of Mr. Arthur Green of 53 Elgin Street, Morwell. Mr. Green came to Morwell in 1898, from Rosedale, to manage the drapery business in Tarwin Street, Morwell, a branch of his father's Rosedale store.

He was keenly interested in history and was a member of our Morwell Historical Society. We are grateful for the fund of information he has given us from time to time, and we are both proud and glad to have been associated with him.

Latrobe Valley Historical Societies' Activities, 1966.

Briefly, we record below the main activities already carried out or programmed for the remaining part of the year, by the Latrobe Valley Historical Societies - those of Traralgon, Morwell, and Moe:-

- Sunday, 6/3/66....Excursion to Goodwood, Greenmount, and Tarraville, organized and guided by Mr. and Mrs. L. O'Callaghan, Yarram.
- Sunday, 17/4/66...Excursion to Budgeree and Boolarra.
- Sunday, 15/5/66...Excursion to Rosedale, and Rosedale Cemetery.
- Sunday, 29/5/66...Excursion to Kilmany Park, one of the earliest Gippsland Cattle Stations.
- Sunday, 10/7/66...Cooperation with the Latrobe Valley Polish Society, at the unveiling of new memorial plaques on the Strzelecki cairns at the Princes Highway (two miles east of Traralgon) and at Koornalla, ten miles south of Traralgon.
- Sunday, 31/7/66...Unveiling of the Strzelecki plaque at Strzelecki State School.
- Sunday, 16/10/66..Excursion to Shady Creek Cemetery (Dr. Haddon's Grave)
- Sunday, 20/11/66..Excursion to Boolarra.
- Saturday, 15/10/66..Commemorative Dinner at Traralgon to mark the building of the first Traralgon Shire Offices in 1881. This building has recently been demolished, and the bottle of documents set in the foundation stone, recovered.

The Shire of Traralgon from 1880 to 1892.

The Traralgon Riding, or western section of the Shire of Rosedale, was severed from that Shire, 20th. October, 1879, and became the Shire of Traralgon, including Morwell in its area.

The new Council met for the first time on the 26th. January, 1880. There were six councillors - Dugald Campbell, Henry Breed, Thomas Mattingley, Edmund Kelleher, Patrick McGaurin, and George Firmin, the last three coming from the Morwell area.

Below is the list of the Presidents of the Shire of Traralgon during the thirteen years that Morwell was part of it:-

1880....Edmund Kelleher.	1886-87...John Bodycomb.
1880-81..Henry Breed.	1887-88...Edmund Kelleher.
1881-82..Dugald Campbell.	1888-89...John Peterkin.
1882-83..John Bodycomb.	1889-90...John Peterkin.
1883-84..Edmund Kelleher.	1890-91...Frederick Howlett.
1884-85..George Firmin.	1891-92...George Varney.
1885-86..John Peterkin.	

At first the Shire was undivided, but in May 1885, three ridings were formed, of which Morwell was the West Riding, and the number of councillors was increased to nine. In the elections that took place in August of that year, the voting for the candidates in the West Riding was: E. Kelleher..224; G. Firmin..188; D. Forsyth..150; W. Murdoch..150.

Mr. D. Forsyth was elected to the third vacancy on the casting vote of the Returning Officer, Mr. E. Gadd.

Later councillors to represent the West Riding (or Morwell area) were Donald Shaw (1881); John English (1886), Charles Sommers (1887), and Robert Turnley (1892).

The Original Shire Offices at Traralgon.

In Traralgon this year, the interest of historians has been turned towards the history of the old Council Offices, built in 1881 and demolished in September, this year, 1966. The Apex Club has decided to preserve as much as possible of this piece of Traralgon's history by re-erecting this building on another, suitable site and to use it as the nucleus of a local historical centre or museum. It was known that a sealed bottle containing contemporary papers and information had been placed beneath the foundation stone at a ceremony in 1881. Not without trouble, for no-one knew in 1966, exactly which stone was the foundation stone, this bottle was eventually discovered, and then it was formally handed over to the Mayor of Traralgon, Cr. Dunbar, before a representative group of councillors, members of the Apex Club, and members of the Historical Society, on the evening of Monday, 28th. September, 1966.

In turn, the Mayor presented this bottle and its contents to Dr. Trevor McLean, President of the Historical Society for safe keeping. At this ceremony, Miss E. West, one of Trafalgar's oldest citizens, and Shire Secretary, 1934-1946, was asked to extract the first paper.

The remaining papers will be removed during a special dinner to be held on Saturday, 15th. October, to celebrate the 85 years of existence of the old Shire Office building, and to mark the removal of the building from its present site.

At the handing-over ceremony, Dr. McLean read the account of the laying of the foundation stone, as reported in the newspaper, "The Gippsland Independent" in its issue for the 21st. July, 1881. Here are some extracts from that report:

"The township of Traralgon wore a very animated appearance on Tuesday last, when the ceremony of laying the memorial stone of the new Shire Hall was performed by the President of the Shire, Cr. H. Breed Esq. J.P. The principal business places were gaily decorated with bunting, and from the scaffolding around the new building flags of various nations were also displayed, marking an important event in this newly constituted municipality.

A large assemblage of spectators was present to witness the ceremony, and the children attending the State School in the town were also present. Shortly after three o'clock, the President, accompanied by the Shire Secretary, J. Campbell Esq. reached the site of the building. The President was received by Mr. Mitchell who presented him with a handsome silver trowel mounted in ivory, on which was inscribed:

'Presented to H. Breed Esq. J.P. President of the Shire of Traralgon, in commemoration of his laying the foundation stone of the Shire Hall, 19th. July, 1881.'

Mr. Campbell then stated that a bottle containing a copy of the Argus, Punch, Gippsland Independent, Mercury and Times, would be placed in the cavity beneath the stone, and also a document bearing the names of the Councillors and Officers of the Shire, the name of the bank with which the Council conducted its business, the information that the building was erected at a cost of £375 by Messrs McKerrow & Waters of Sale; that the Shire numbered 512 ratepayers and had an estimated revenue of £4,929; that the area of the Shire was 750 square miles, and that the annual value of rateable property was £17,825. Finally, there was a short and interesting account of the various townships within its limits.

Mr. Breed in his address to the assemblage mentioned his pleasure to see the children there, saying that they might be able to tell their children's children of the Traralgon of 1881.

Cheers were then given for the Queen, the President and the Shire of Traralgon.

The ceremony was closed by the singing of the National Anthem, after which the official party adjourned to Mitchell's Hotel for the official luncheon."

The Morwell Shire Council.

This year, 1966-67, is also a historic year for the Morwell Shire, since it will be the 75th year of its existence, three-quarters of a century since its establishment in 1892, and because the Council has been enlarged from 12 councillors to fifteen by creating two ridings, North Riding and East Riding out of the one former riding, East Riding.

Agitation for the severance of the West Riding from the Shire of Traralgon to form a separate shire, the Shire of Morwell, began in 1890. A petition was presented to the Governor in November, 1890, and this was followed by a deputation to the Minister of Public Works in February, 1891. Crs. Kelleher and Firmin of the West Riding spoke in support of severance, and Crs. Peterkin and Bodycomb, representing the Central and East Ridings opposed it. This Petition was refused, but a further Petition in 1892 was successful, and the new Shire was proclaimed, on the 27th. May, 1892.

The first meeting of the Morwell Shire Council took place on Wednesday, 14th. September, 1892, at the Morwell Mechanics Institute. There were six councillors - Donald Shaw, who was elected the first President, John English, William Murdoch, Michael Mulcare, John Murphy and Edmund Kelleher.

In August, 1912, twenty years after it was first established, the Morwell Shire Council was reconstituted, and the number of councillors was increased from six to twelve members, three members representing each of four ridings into which Morwell Shire was now divided.

The 1911-12 Council had consisted of Dr. J. S. McLean, who was President, Angus McDonald, Duncan Dunbar, Joseph Buckley, William Peneluna and John Stone. All seats were declared vacant and the elections for three councillors from each riding resulted as follows:

Morwell Riding.

(elected unopposed)
Joseph H. Buckley.
Duncan Dunbar.
Angus F. McDonald.

Yinnar Riding.

John H. Edney.....160 votes.
Edmund Heesom.....158 votes.
William J. Scanlon.120 votes.

Hazelwood Riding.

John Falla.....137 votes.
Douglas Fraser...123 votes.
John English.....100 votes.

Boolarra Riding.

David T. Latter.....232 votes.
James Radburn.....225 votes.
Eugene Kneebone.....210 votes.

Now, this year, and fifty four years later, the Council has been enlarged again, consisting after the August elections of fifteen members.

All seats for the changed East Riding were declared vacant. Of the three retiring councillors, Mr. V. Hourigan elected not to stand again, and Crs. J.W. Jones and A.L.Hare offered themselves as candidates for the reformed East Riding.

The elections in these two new ridings resulted as follow:

East Riding.

J. W. Jones.
A. L. Hare.
E. Grinpukel.

North Riding.

F. W. Hall;
L. Simister.
W. F. Parther.

The creation of new municipalities and the enlargement of Councils from time to time have been made necessary by the growth of the community in both population and wealth. Morwell has grown from a population of three or four in 1877, the year of its first building, to more than 17,000 people in 1966. Here are the census figures over the years:

1881...75 people.	1911..1080 people.	1947.. 2951 people.
1891..301 "	1921..1122 "	1954.. 9040 "
1901..587 "	1933..1102 "	1961..14,833 "

Shire Severance, 1890-1892.

The following verses appeared in the "Morwell Advertiser", 18th. July, 1890, early shots in the war for severance of Morwell from Traralgon Shire. They were probably written by Robert Turnley, the editor of the paper, and a man gifted with a facile pen. He was a member of the Traralgon Shire Council, representing the West Riding (Morwell) when severance took place.

"There is some talk of the West Riding going in for severance from the Central and East Ridings of the Traralgon Shire. We will suppose them to be three sons, and that the 'West Riding', the biggest and ugliest, is appealing to 'Daddy' Traralgon.

Dear Father, listen to the prayer
Of your ever grateful boy,
For all that you have ever done
To fill his heart with joy.
Your dear, old face will always shine
Before my life for ever,
But Daddy dear, I've come of age
And you and I must sever.

You're getting old and feeble, Dad;
You've lost your youthful dash;
I cannot bear to see you plunge
In speculation rash.
Calignee trams are right enough,
But pay you they will never;
I cannot face insolvency,
So you and I must sever.

My wayward brother, Central,
Will cling to you through life,
And with his weaker brother, East,
May help you face the strife,
Whilst I, your West, your biggest son,
Am straining at the tether.
God bless you, Dad; I wish you luck,
But you and I must sever.

Father dear, I won't complain;
Let past injustice rest;
You could not help it, but you know,
You loved your Central best.
You shielded him from sleet and cold
In wet and muddy weather;
You gave him money meant for me,
So you and I must sever.

Our dear old tutors - Jim and Mac -
'Twould cruel be to scold,
Because, you know, my darling Dad,
They did what they were told.
They made the boot to fit the foot
Regardless of the leather,
But since I've grown, I've dropped to this,
And you and I must sever.

I've got the pluck, the wealth, the dash;
I'm broad and stout and hearty;
I'll constitute myself a shire,
Without respect to party.
Abuse me not, Oh, Daddy dear,
For now, I'm in high feather;
I'm 'jack' of loans and trams and lords,
So you and I must sever."

The Cemeteries of Gippsland.

Cemeteries provide valuable source material for the research historian, despite the fact that frequently the earliest records have not been kept, or have been lost, or destroyed. The records for Sale and for Rosedale are excellent, having been faithfully, carefully and efficiently kept from the time the Cemetery Trusts were appointed there. Besides that, in each instance, a praiseworthy attempt has been made, to find out and record what burials were made in these two cemeteries, when they were merely community burial grounds, and before any Cemetery Trust was appointed.

Greenmount Cemetery.

Greenmount Cemetery is of interest not only because it is old, but also because it is one of the two consecrated Catholic cemeteries in Victoria, the other one being at Kilmore. Both were consecrated by Bishop Gould, the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Melbourne.

A further point of interest is that it was given as a cemetery by Edmund Buckley, one of the very early squatters in Gippsland, and possibly the first. He bought Greenmount Station in 1850, and some time later made 3½ acres of the property available as a Catholic cemetery. He himself was buried there, 27/4/1859, aged 77 years.

Greenmount is close to Yarram. Edmund Buckley was the father of Patrick Coady Buckley, who was the last squatter holder of the Maryvale Station.

Sale Cemetery.

From the historian's point of view, the Sale Cemetery is the most interesting in Gippsland. Many of the early explorers and pioneers of Gippsland, including Angus McMillan, Patrick Coady Buckley, and Dr. Arbuckle are buried there. Some records are:

June, 1872..P. C. Buckley.	20/6/1883..Thomas Coto, (52).
21/4/1874..Isabel Montgomery, (1).	19/9/1884..James Peck, (51).
26/7/1874..John Rowley, Rosedale.	11/6/1886..John Napper, (81).
9/9/1874..Dr. A. Arbuckle, (64).	15/3/1889..Dr. A. McLean (31).
11/11/'77..John Cobain, (83).	25/1/1890..Samuel Skeels, (55).
22/11/'78..Thos. Downward, teacher.	15/11/'92..Angus McLean, (78).
15/3/1879..Dr. G. D. Hedley, (63).	31/1/1893..Charles Peck, (39).
29/6/1882..John McMillan, (77).	6/9/1901..Wm. Montgomery, (80).

Since the first chronological and systematic records begin in 1862, we may assume that the Cemetery Trust was set up in that year. However, entries inserted later, show burials made in the fifties, one being as early as 1851. (David Holland, Sept. 1851, aged 28 years).

The Rosedale Cemetery.

We have dealt in part with this cemetery in earlier issues of the "News". The Cemetery Trust was set up in 1872, but burials had taken place there, "in the bush", perhaps for many years before. For example, Frederick Stratton, the mail coach driver, drowned in the flooded Latrobe River, was buried there, 30/9/1867, and there were burials on two successive days in 1868 -- Catherine Ferguson, 11/1/68 and David Weir, 12/1/68.

The Traralgon Cemetery.

The first burial area used at Traralgon was the rise overlooking the Traralgon Creek, near the present railway yards. About twelve people were buried here, including Mr. Charlton John Kinchant, overseer of Tyers Station, and the infant daughter of Mounted Constable William Smythe. This latter grave is the only one marked by a memorial - a red-gum tablet. About 1870, another site, part of Traralgon Park, was reserved as a cemetery, but it is doubtful if any burial took place there. Finally, in 1872, the present site on the Bluff became the official Traralgon Cemetery.

The Hazelwood Cemetery (Morwell.)

The records kept for this cemetery are very poor. Presumably no cemetery was provided for Morwell until the township began in 1877, or until it achieved some importance as a centre. The records give us no indication of when the first burial took place. The earliest death and burial according to tombstone evidence is that of Grace Donaldson, killed 1/1/1881, when thrown from her horse.

The Lonely Graves.

Scattered throughout Gippsland, and indeed throughout Victoria and Australia, are the isolated graves of those who died in the early pioneering days before cemeteries had been established in this or that area. In the early squatting days, for example, when a member of the squatter's family died, or one of the men employed on the station, it was a common enough practice to bury the body in some quiet spot on the station.

In the Wimmera District, there is a child of the Wilson Family, Longerenong Station, buried near the homestead; at the adjoining station of Brighton, near Dooen (Horsham), the graves are marked of two Carter children, aunt and niece. For years, in a paddock within the boundaries of the old Blackheath Station, there were three wooden crosses marking three unnamed graves, but the area has now been ploughed over, and no-one can tell exactly where the place is.

George Bolton Eagle, 30/7/1846.

The first death in this part of Gippsland was that of George Bolton Eagle, a young squatter who died 30/7/1846, at Hobson's Traralgon Station, and was buried on the eastern bank of the Traralgon Creek at its junction with the Latrobe River. He was with Henry Meyrick, and the two were wintering their flocks at Hobson's Station on their way to the Glenmaggie area. Eagle took ill and died the same day. The Traralgon Historical Society marked the grave recently with a memorial stone.

Henry Meyrick, 9/5/1847 and Mrs. Desailly, 1847.

Strangely enough, the second death was that of Bolton Eagle's friend, Henry Meyrick, who was drowned in the Thomson River, near Sale, 9/5/1847, less than a year after Eagle's death. Mrs. Desailly, the wife of the squatter there, was dangerously ill, and Henry Meyrick, who was a guest at the station at that time, insisted on going for medical help. The Thomson River was swollen with flood waters, and as Meyrick attempted to cross the river on horseback, he was swept away and drowned.

Mrs. Desailly died a few days later and both were buried on Mr. Desailly's Station, Fulham, about half a mile from the river.

These tragedies indicate the difficulties and the dangers these early pioneers faced. There were more tragedies to follow.

Hugh Reoch, 28/8/1864.

Hugh Reoch, also apparently known as Hugh Reoch Mitchell, was drowned in the Tarra River, between Port Albert and Tarraville, 28/8/1864. His grave would not, strictly speaking, be one of the "lonely graves" since this area was the first township area of Gippsland (1841) and must surely have had a cemetery by 1864.

This Hugh Reoch is the same man who travelled into Gippsland in 1844, with the Hobson-Bennett party in the journey described by Mrs. Hazel Bennet in her diary of 1844.

Charlton Kinchant, about 1864.

Mr. Charlton Kinchant was overseer of the Tyers Station. At this time, there was no bridge over the Latrobe River connecting Tyers with Traralgon. He attempted to cross the Latrobe on a log, but was drowned, and was buried in the original Traralgon Burial ground, on the hill overlooking the Traralgon Creek and near the present railway yards.

William Hillier, Billy's Creek, Scrubby Forest.

William Hillier, co-holder with Nicol Brown of the Scrubby Forest Station, lived in a hut on the banks of Billy's Creek, named after him. We do not know the date of his death, but since he was buried near his hut, we presume it was comparatively early, probably in the sixties.

Tom Sutton, Merton Rush Station.

The late Mr. Llew Vary in his reminiscences published in the "Morwell Advertiser" of the 27th. August, 1942, has this to say:

"When my father bought Merton Rush in 1870, there was one bay horse there, branded T.S. on the shoulder. It had been owned by Tom Sutton, who had died at the station, and was buried between the old stock yard and the homestead"

The Lonely Graves.

Saffon, A Pioneer's Grave, Blanket Hill, Licola Road.

On the road that leads north from Rosedale, through Heyfield, past the Glenmaggie Reservoir and on to Licola, or rather, beside this road, is a grave, simply marked by a fence enclosing it and a notice reading, "Saffon, A Pioneer's Grave". Few people know the circumstances of how this grave came to be there. Two years ago, the Morwell Historical Society asked for the assistance of the A.B.C. regional broadcasting station, 3GI, in seeking information about this piece of Gippsland's history.

Mr. L. De Prada of Myrtlebank, via Sale, heard the appeal for information, and put us in touch with Mrs. G. A. Quirk, 31 Foster St. Maffra, whose husband was a grandson of the man buried at Blanket Hill, William Saffon.

William Saffon lived at Tarraville, possibly in the first decade of that township's existence. During the gold rush days, which means sometime after 1851, he went prospecting for gold in the ranges north of Heyfield. When he did not return, a search party was sent out to look for him, and found him dead at the spot where he is now buried. His faithful, old dog was guarding the body, and had to be shot before the search party could recover it. Since there were no roads, and the country side was very rugged, the party decided it was impossible to carry the body back to civilization. They wrapped the remains of William Saffon in his blanket, and buried him there. The place is still known as Blanket Hill.

Mrs. Quirk was able to produce for us her mother-in-law's marriage certificate, which authenticates her story and adds further valuable information. Here are the details given in the marriage certificate.

Thomas Quirk, 22, was married to Hanna Saffon, 16, at Sale, according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church, 6/10/1862.

Thomas Quirk, bachelor, of Sale, was born at Borrisokane, Tipperary, Ireland, in 1840, the son of Daniel Quirk and Catherine Quirk (nee Reiley).

Hanna Saffon, spinster, of Tarraville, was born at Stratford, Gippsland, the daughter of William Saffon and Ellen Saffon (nee Ford). Since she was a minor, only 16 years of age, she had the written consent of her mother to the marriage.

The officiating clergyman, was Father John McGirr, and the two witnesses were Thomas Shean and John Murphy.

The first goldfield in Gippsland was that at Omeo, 1852. Since it was the mother of Hanna Saffon who gave the written parental consent to the marriage in 1862, we might assume that the father had died before then, or sometime between 1852 and 1862.

William and Ellen Saffon had two other children besides Hanna, another daughter, Catherine, who became Mrs. M. Clarke, and a son, James, who was killed in a wagon accident on the Waltham Road. The widow, Ellen Saffon, later remarried, her second husband being a man named Pender.

There do not seem to be any descendants of William Saffon bearing that name, but through Hanna Quirk, we now have fifth generation descendants still living in Gippsland. The Quirk family has produced notable sportsmen, particularly in football, with representatives in the teams of Morwell and other towns. Bryan Quirk, who now plays for Carlton in the Melbourne League, is a great-great-grandson of William Saffon, the man buried at Blanket Hill. Here is a brief family tree:

William Saffon (perhaps 1810-1854), married about 1840,
Ellen Ford, 1812-1899.

Hanna Saffon (1846-) married 1862, Thomas Quirk, born
Borrisokane, Tipperary, Ireland, 1840.

William Quirk, 1876-1946, married Grace G. Alford.

Francis Alford Quirk, married Jean Duncanson. Hannah (Mrs Shingles); John; George; Bessie (Mrs. Scantlobury) Charles.
Barry; Bryan; Richard.

Shady Creek Cemetery.

We do not know how many people were buried at Shady Creek Cemetery - perhaps as many as twenty, perhaps only half a dozen, but we do know the dates of death of four people who were buried there. They are:

- 8/ 4/1860..Julia Costello Brown, aged 35 years, wife of Nicol Brown;
- 3/12/1860..Isabella Brown, aged 4 years, daughter of Nicol Brown and Julia Brown;
- 29/10/1868..William Laughton, mail-driver, aged 23 years, murdered by Nicol Brown;
- 29/ 5/1869..Dr. Henry Hadden, aged 41 years, Walhalla's first doctor.

Nicol Brown was one of the first co-holders of Scrubby Forest Station, taking up that run, about 1850, with William Hillier, (after whom Billy's Creek is named). He also conducted the hotel, or inn, "Drovers' Rest" at Shady Creek.

A track had been surveyed from Melbourne to Sale as early as 1847, but for long sections it was no more than a rough, bridle track. Bishop Perry and Mrs. Perry travelled along that track in 1849, escorted by black troopers. A proper road was not constructed until 1865, when coaches could do the full journey in 35 hours. Perhaps it is an exaggeration to call it a "proper road" since horses sometimes sank to their bellies in it, coaches were often bogged, and one section was known for years as "the glue-pot".

Shady Creek reached its peak as a township in 1871, when, in addition to its hotel and sheep yards, it acquired a post-office and police station. This glory was short-lived, since the railway, which was put through in 1877-1879, followed a slightly different route, more to the south, and Shady Creek, along with its sister townships along the Old Coach Road, Brandy Creek, Whisky Creek and Buln Buln, became isolated and sank into oblivion or insignificance.

It is probable that the extreme limit of the life of Shady Creek Cemetery (if a cemetery can have a life) was from 1850 to 1880, with a shorter period, 1860 to 1880 being more likely.

William Laughton, (or Billy, the Postman).

In those days, the mail was brought from Melbourne by coach travelling the Old Coach Road to Sale. Shady Creek was one of the stopping places, where passengers could take a meal, or even spend the night. The mail for places off the beaten track, places like Walhalla, was carried to and from these staging places, by postmen on horse-back. Billy the Postman was such a mailman, serving the Shady Creek - Walhalla line of communication.

Nicol Brown became jealous of the attentions he imagined his second wife was paying to this young postman, and particularly resented his wife, one morning, pinning a favour to Billy's hat as he set off on the mail run to Walhalla. When the postman returned that evening, and while he was grooming his horse, Nicol Brown appeared at the door of the stable with a gun, and with some such remark as "Say your prayers, Billy", shot the young man, who died from his wounds a few hours later.

Brown was arrested by a policeman brought from Rosedale by one of the drovers, Ted Rowley, and at a court held in Sale, early the next year, was sentenced to life imprisonment (20 years). He was released after serving nineteen years, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, 1887. It is said he went gold-mining in Western Australia, made his fortune there, and returned to live at Rosedale with his wife and son. In 1895, he had the bodies of his first wife and his daughter taken from Shady Creek and reinterred at Rosedale.

A copy of the death certificate of William Laughton shows that he was born at Liverpool, England, that the registrar of deaths was Charles Gadd (District of Russell's Creek, Colony of Victoria), that the coroner was Henry Luke of Rosedale and the undertaker was George Barker. John O'Connor of Rosedale, mounted constable, was the policeman who handled the case.

Mrs. Julia Costello Brown.

In the "Gippsland Guardian" for the 20th. April, 1860, occurs the following obituary notice:

"On the 8th. inst. at Shady Creek, Gippsland, Juliet, the beloved wife of Nicol Brown, aged 30 years."

The cause of death is not indicated. There is also a discrepancy between the age given here (30) and that inscribed on the tombstone (35), erected much later in the Rosedale Cemetery. The Rosedale Cemetery records show that the re-burial took place, on the 19th. July, 1895, thirty-five years after her death. It is a coincidence that this period, 35 years, happens to be the same as the age given on the tombstone. It is said that the re-burial was not at all a private affair, but a public ceremony carried out with all the pomp and trappings, dignity and solemnity of such occasions in those more ceremonious days.

Isabella Brown.

The "Gippsland Guardian" of the 1th. November, 1860, tells us of the tragedy of this little girl. The obituary notice reads:

"On the 3rd. November, 1860, Isabella Brown, aged 4 years, from the effects of being scalded by the overturning of a bucket of hot water."

A further note in the paper informs us that she was "the eldest child" of Mr. Nicol Brown, and that the accident occurred when she and her little brother were playing, unattended, in the kitchen. She died after 24 hours suffering.

Dr. Henry Hadden.

Dr. Henry Hadden, as a young doctor, was in Ireland during the famine and the sicknesses suffered by the Irish in the "hungry forties". He was the first doctor to establish a practice in Walhalla, and as such, he figures largely in the story told by the Walhalla school-teacher, Henry Tisdall, of the small-pox outbreak at Walhalla in 1868.

Dr. Hadden was travelling in the coach from Melbourne on the night of the 29th. May, 1869, when the coach pulled up at the staging inn at the Crossover turn-off, Melbourne Road. The other passengers alighted for refreshments, and after a little time, noticed that the doctor was not with them. Someone returned to the coach, and found him lying dead on the straw on the floor of the coach. Presumably he had died quietly of heart failure during the journey, and the body had slipped to the floor, as the other passengers alighted. In those days, the coaches were not lighted. It is interesting to learn that as a result of this incident, a lamp was fixed at the back of every coach in such a way that its light shone through a window into the passengers' cabin.

The death certificate shows that Dr. Hadden was born in Wexford, Ireland, and had been in Australia, 14 years.

His tombstone is the only one in Shady Creek Cemetery, which, except for this one land-mark, has reverted to bush land, indistinguishable from the surrounding forest.

Reminiscences of Mrs. Jessie B. Harrison (nee Login), 1930.

The following extract from the reminiscences of this writer, a daughter of Gippsland's pioneering Presbyterian minister, Rev. William Spence Login, is taken from an article in "The Bairnsdale Historical Society Newsletter, August-September, 1966".

"One coach journey stands out pre-eminently in my memory. We were prepared for any emergency in the way of robbers and bush-rangers; but we reached Shady Creek without mishap, and there we spent the night. It was an eerie place - a murder had been committed there the previous week at the hotel or shanty where we were staying. Long before sunset, the gloomy shade of great trees darkened everything most lugubriously. Our rest was disturbed by the broken-hearted sobs of a woman in the next room - and our haunting thoughts of the murdered and the murderer, both of whom had lived here"