

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Volume 7.....1968.

Editor.....I. T. Maddern.

No. 1. February, 1968.

Squatting Stations in the Latrobe Valley. Maps.  
The Squatters.  
The King Family. The King Diaries - 1844.

No. 2. March, 1968.

Obituaries:- (Rosedale Pioneers)  
Mr. Wentzel Du Ve .....25/12/1967.  
Mr. Arthur Cyril Robinson ..... 27/ 1/1968.  
The King Family.  
The King Diaries (continued), 1845-1849.

No. 3. April, 1968.

The Beginning of Rosedale.  
The King Diaries (at Snake Ridge Station), 1854-1863.

No. 4. May, 1968.

Glengarry Schools:- Toongabbie South, 1235; Scarne, 2281.  
Toongabbie West, 2884; Glengarry, 2888.

No. 5. June, 1968.

Schools and Populations.  
Tarraville; Port Albert; Alberton; Sale.  
The Gold Rush. The Land Rush. Railways.  
Glengarry Schools:- Scarne (Toongabbie South 2) 2281.  
Toongabbie West, 2884; Glengarry, 2888.  
Hazelwood Ridge School, No. 1768.  
The Numbering of Schools.

No. 6. July, 1968.

Letters from Readers:- Talbotville School, No. 1271;  
Hazelwood Ridge School, No. 1768.  
Yangery State School, No. 690.  
Cowwarr Capitation School, 1177; Protestant School; and  
Cowwarr State School, No. 1967.  
Traralgon West School, No. 2847.  
Traralgon State School, No. 1328 and then, No. 3584.

No. 7. August, 1968.

A Short History of State Education.

No. 8. September, 1968.

Early Private Schools in Traralgon.. by Miss E. M. West.  
Bulgoback and Waterford, 1914.. by Mr. W.L.Murrell, Beaumaris.  
A Family of Journalists...by Mrs. Doris Kemp.  
Early Morwell... by Mrs. J. Lubeke.  
Early Morwell... by Mr. A. Bryson, Tennyson, via Prairie.  
The Mary Elizabeth Jones Grave, Point Lonsdale..by N. T. Hansen.

No. 9. October, 1968.

The Story of Jung, Wimmera District, Victoria.

No.10. November, 1968.

Obituary... Miss Constance Tisdall, 24/8/1968.  
The Story of Walhalla State School, No. 957.  
Other Schools in the Walhalla Area.

---

Vol. 7: No. 1.....10/2/68.

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Journal of the Morwell Historical Society. Published on the 10th. day of each month, February to November.

Editor.....I. T. Maddern, Morwell Historical Society, Morwell.

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission as a periodical.

Membership Fees.

Annual Subscription.....\$ 1-00.

Life Membership.....\$10-00.

List of Members, 1967.

Life Members:

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mrs. R. Bates, Crows Nest, N.S.W. | Mr. L. Holyoak, Warrandyte.  |
| Mr. G. J. Penson, Morwell.        | Mr. I. T. Maddern, Morwell.  |
| Miss. E. E. Bridle, Morwell.      | Mrs. R. P. Meadows, Yinnar.  |
| Dr. H. C. Disher, Stratfieldsaye. | Mr. E. Nadenbousch, Morwell. |
| Miss. C. Dossier, Kew.            | Mr. T. M. Ramsay, Richmond.  |
| Mr. R. S. Edmondson, Morwell.     | Mr. A. Ronald, Morwell.      |
| Mr. J. Gilbert, Yinnar South.     | Mr. M. Walker, Yinnar South. |
| Mr. G. Grout, Traralgon.          | Yarram Historical Society.   |

Subscribers for 1967.

- |                        |                       |                      |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Miss. G. Auchterlonie. | Folk Lore Council.    | Mr. P. H. Philippe.  |
| Mr. R. Auchterlonie.   | Mrs. E. H. Gerrard.   | Presentation Convent |
| Mr. T. S. Burton.      | Miss. K. Green.       | Mr. J. J. Rathjen.   |
| Commercial Road S.S.   | Cr. A. Hall.          | Mrs. H. Squires.     |
| Mr. K. G. Crellin.     | Mr. E. Hammond.       | Mr. R. V. Stephens.  |
| Mr. W. J. Cuthill.     | Mr. G. Jelleff.       | Mrs. L. Sutherland.  |
| Rev. Fr. Daly.         | Mr. B. D. MacGregor.  | Mr. J. T. Synon.     |
| Mrs. F. S. Derham.     | Mr. D. J. Mickle.     | Mr. G. Taylor.       |
| Mr. W. Du Ve.          | Moe City Library.     | Mrs. G. Taylor.      |
| Mrs. L. Drummond.      | Oakleigh Hist. Soc.   | Mr. J. Waterson.     |
| Mr. W. Fielder.        | Mrs. D. M. Parker.    | Mr. N. Watkins.      |
| Mr. S. Firmin.         | Miss. E. A. C. Payne. | Wonthaggi Tech. S.   |

Morwell Historical Society.

The normal meeting night for the Morwell Historical Society is on the third Tuesday of the month (excluding December, January and February). Our next meeting, therefore, is the Annual Meeting, to be held at Morwell High School, on Tuesday, 19th. March, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

This Month's Supplement: Snake Ridge Station, Rosedale.

This year, we intend to devote a considerable amount of our time and our space to the history of Rosedale in preparation for the centenary in 1969, of Municipal Government in Rosedale. The Rosedale Road Board was established in 1869, and held its first meeting at the Police Office, Rosedale, 19th. May, 1869.

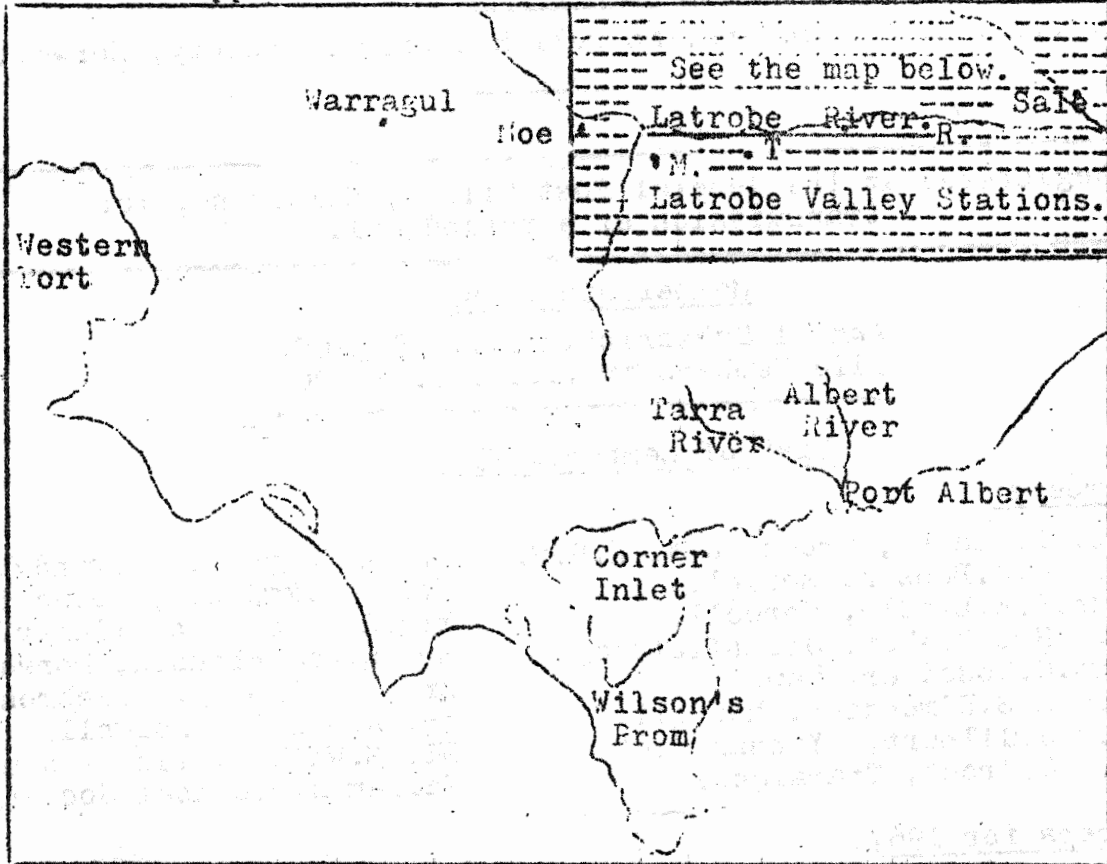
Although there was a squatting station, called Rosedale, in the vicinity, the township of Rosedale fell within the boundaries of the Snake Ridge Station, held by John Reeve 1842-1844, and then by John King, first as a partner in a company of squatters, and then by himself or with his brothers.

Through the courtesy of Mr. F. P. King, of Lucknow, Gippsland, a grandson of John King, we have been able to browse through the Station day-books, 1844 to 1848, and 1854 to 1863. Most of this issue of the "News" will be taken up with information from these records.

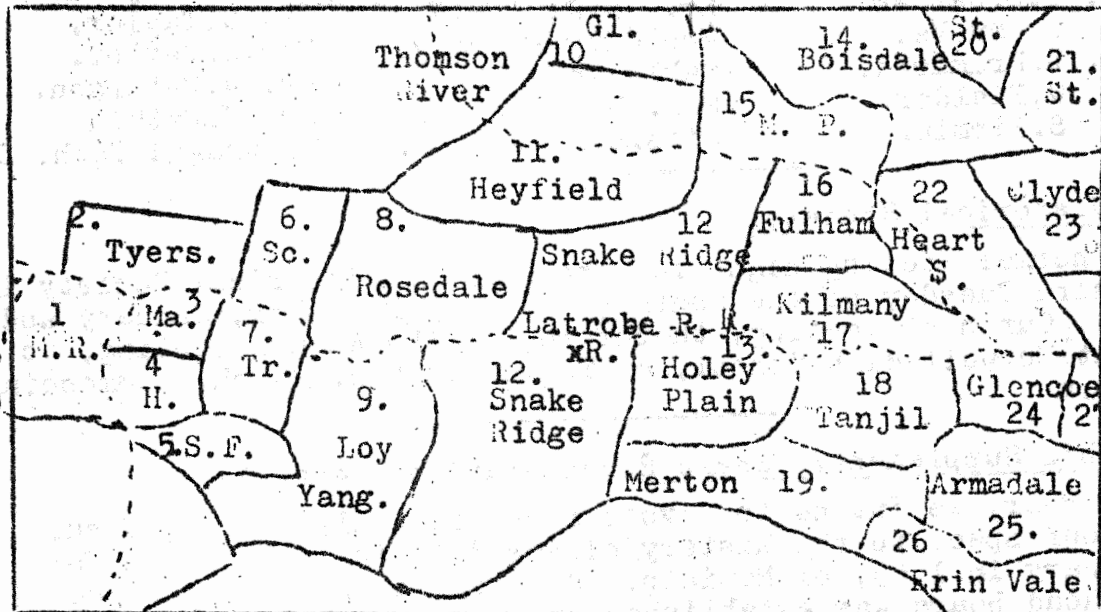
Squatting Stations in the Latrobe Valley.

The first squatters in Gippsland came overland from the Monaro Plateau in New South Wales, and took up stations along the Tambo River, perhaps as early as 1835. Angus McMillan penetrated into the heart of Gippsland, 1840-41, and Port Albert was discovered, 1841.

Gippsland - Western Port to Sale.



Latrobe Valley Stations.



- |                    |                 |                  |                      |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Merton Rush     | 6. Scarne.      | 11. Heyfield     | 16. Fulham           |
| 2. Tyers.          | 7. Traralgon.   | 12. Snake Ridge  | 17. Kilmany          |
| 3. Maryvale.       | 8. Rosedale     | 13. Holey Plain  | 18. Tanjil           |
| 4. Hazelwood       | 9. Loy Yang     | 14. Boisdale.    | 19. Merton.          |
| 5. Scrubby Forest. | 10. Glenmaggie. | 15. Mewburn Park | 20. Stratford.       |
|                    |                 |                  | 21. Strathfieldsaye. |
| 22. The Heart.     | 24. Glencoe     | 26. Erin Vale.   | R..Rosedale (Ridge)  |
| 23. Clyde.         | 25. Armadale.   | 27. Dutson.      | S..Sale (Heart).     |

Latrobe Valley Cattle Stations.

Here is, briefly, some information about the cattle stations shown in our map, on Page 2. They are not taken in chronological order of establishment but geographically as they occur in the map, numbered from west to east, and from north to south.

1. Merton Rush.. Bounded by the Latrobe River, Wilderness (or Boundary) Creek, Morwell River and Narracan Creek. Occupied about 1846 by Henry Scott, and later by Wm. Farley, W.W.Waller, J.F.Bourne, and finally by Samuel Vary.
2. Tyers...1846..John Fowler Turnbull.
3. Maryvale..1845..Thomas Gorringe; 1856..C.Vaughan & E. Wild. 1857..R. Lawson; 1859..R.Power & G.Rutherford; 1859 1859-72..P.C.Buckley. Originally called Maryville.
4. Hazelwood..1844..Wm.Bennett & A.E.Brodribb; 1851..Wm. Bennett; 1860-81..John Macmillan. Named after Mrs. Hazel Bennett.
5. Scrubby Forest..1854..N.Brown & Wm.Hillier; 1869..J.Shiel & Wm.Hillier; 1874..George Firmin & Wm.Hillier.
6. Scarne...1847..John Reeve; 1861..John King.
7. Traralgon...1844..Edward Hobson. 1853..Traralgon East..J.F.Turnbull; Traralgon West..Jas.Purves.
8. Rosedale....1844-47..D.P.Okeden; 1847-52..D.P.Okeden & H.Dutton. Later - John Bowman.
9. Loy Yang....1844..Jas.Turnbull (Jas.Rintoull - Manager). 1864..H.Miller & J.Matheson; 1866..Wm.J.T.Clark; 1868..Jas. Wilson; 1875..Wm.Whittakers.
10. Glenmaggie..1851-1872..Malcolm MacFarlane.
11. Heyfield....1841..James MacFarlane; 1850..W.G.Walker; 1863..Robert T.Firebrace; 1866-1873..James Tyson.
12. Snake Ridge.1842-1849..John Reeve; 1854..John King. Divided in 1861 into Snake Ridge (North of the Latrobe River) occupied by John King, and Sydney Cottage (South of the Latrobe River) occupied by Wm. Essington King.
13. Holey Plain. 1842-1844..George Curlewis and Walter Curlewis; 1845..Walter Curlewis; 1845..Edward Crooke. (Edward Crooke and his descendents have held this station from 1845 to this day)
14. Boisdale..1840..Angus McMillan;(for Lachlan Macalister). 1850..John Foster; 1860..Wm.Foster; 1863..John Foster.
15. Newburn Park..1841..Lachlan Macalister; 1847-72..John Johnson.
16. Fulham..1841..F. Desailly; 1842..John King; 1853..Capt.J.W.Jones.
17. Kilmany..1841..Helen Pearson and her son,William Pearson; 1848-1868...William Pearson.
18. Tanjil...1844..J. Bloomfield; Later, this station was held in turn by G.P.Desailly; John Foster; Wm.Foster; John Campbell & T.H.Chandler; and finally by John Campbell.
19. Merton...1843..E.W.Baylis; 1868..J.J.Bould; 1871..J.W.Simmons; 1871..Wm.J.T.Clark.
20. Stratford.1842..W.O.Raymond; 1856..Angus McMillan; 1861..Kaye & Butchart; 1863..James Butchart.
21. Strathfieldsaye. 1842-56..W.O.Raymond; 1856..Lemuel Bolden; 1859..L. & Charles Bolden; 1862..L.Bolden. 1875..W.H.Disher.
22. The Heart.. 1842..George Curlewis (Manager - McLennan); 1843..John Foster (Manager - Wm.Montgomery);1858.Wm.Montgomery.
27. Dutson...1844..John King; Later, held in turn by F.Desailly Jun; Buckland & Hughes; and J. McNaughton.



The Squatters.

The story of Gippsland, and therefore of Morwell, of Rosedale, and every other town, in this area for the thirty years, 1840-70, is mainly the story of the squatters.

The life of a squatter was not an easy one, and not always a successful one. A few made tremendous fortunes, but many more went bankrupt. It was necessary to have a little capital to start being a squatter, not to lease land, which was cheap enough, but to buy cattle and sheep to stock the land.

The three disasters which brought ruin to many squatters were droughts, diseases in stock, and economic depressions. Unfamiliar as they were at first with Australian conditions, the squatters were often faced with serious losses through drought. Another hazard of the long dry seasons, was the danger of bush-fires, and the possibility of losing all one's animals, if not through drought, then by fire. It was fire which finally ruined Angus McMillan, who died a poor man.

The chief diseases in stock were scab in sheep and pleuro-pneumonia in cattle. Other diseases were foot-rot, fluke, and foot and mouth disease.

Economic depression arose inevitably when the old law of supply and demand operated. So long as there was an expanding economy, with more and more stations starting up, with more and more cattle needed to stock them, the demand was sufficient to maintain healthy prices. But as the best land was taken up and fewer stations were established, there was a surplus of stock, and a consequent drop in prices. There were no large cities in Australia, and there were no refrigeration ships in those days to carry meat from Australia to Europe. In 1842, the price of a sheep dropped from £1 -0 -0 to 2/6 or less. A squatter named O'Brien, from Yass, N.S.W. is credited with the idea that saved the squatters in 1842. He killed his sheep, sold the skins, and boiled down the carcasses for tallow. From then on the minimum price of a sheep became 12/6. This boiling down process was also a way of overcoming the problem of scabby sheep.

In the day-books kept by the King family, we can find instances of some of the troubles mentioned above.

Station life, to begin with, was a rough life and a life of long hours and general discomfort. There was danger too, sometimes from the blacks, sometimes during travel, when flooded streams had to be negotiated, and sometimes, simply because there was no doctor near at hand. The first entertainments to be arranged were horse races.

The King Family.

Although we have dealt with the King family in earlier issues of the "News", it is necessary to know a little more of the family, to understand better the entries in the day-books.

John King, 1820-1895, was the second son of Admiral Phillip Parker King (1791-1856) and the grandson of Governor King, 1758-1808, Governor of New South Wales, 1800-1806.

According to Charles Daley in "The Story of Gippsland", John King occupied Fulham Station in 1842, and then Dutson in 1844, Rosedale in 1852, Snake Ridge and Scarne in 1861. If this is so, then the first day-book we have, 1844 to 1848, must be for Fulham or Dutson, and not the Ridge, but there is a good deal of confusion in the early records, and we cannot be sure that Daley is correct in this.

John King had an uncle, Sydney King, after whom the Sydney Cottage Run was named. After some years, the Snake Ridge Run was divided into the northern section, still called Snake Ridge, and the southern section, known as Sydney Cottage. There is mention of Sydney Cottage in the day-books, but no mention of Sydney King. It would be interesting to know a little more of the story of this man.

Three of John King's brothers helped him in his squatting ventures in Gippsland, William Essington King, 1821-1910, Charles King, Arthur Septimus King, 1827-1899, and also a cousin, Robert Lethbridge.

The Morwell Historical Society.....10/2/68.

The Station Record. The Day-Book for 1844.

The first entry was made on the 1st. April, 1844. The recorder, for the first few months at least, was Arthur Septimus King, who uses names for everyone else, but only his initials, A.S.K. for himself. He was a boy of sixteen or seventeen when he started keeping this book. Here are some of the entries for the first year:

- 1/4/1844...A.S.K. arrived at the Station.  
 2/4/1844...Branded 38 calves. Turned out 25 cows from Dairy.  
 3/4/1844...Sent the dray to Campbell's. Branded 25 calves.  
 4/4/1844...Received 10 lbs tobacco from Mr.Sheridan.  
 5/4/1844...Dray returned from Campbell's bringing supplies.  
 8/4/1844...Borrowed of McMillan, 300 hurdle nails.  
 11/4/1844...Branded 18 calves. Killed one heifer for rations.  
 13/4/1844...Borrowed of Curlewis 2 lbs tea.  
 21/4/1844...Borrowed of Montgomery, 300 three-inch nails.  
 22/4/1844...Lent McFarlane two working bullocks.  
 26/4/1844...Received from John Hinesie, 5 bullocks.  
 29/4/1844...Lent Cunningham 13 quarts salt.  
 1/5/1844...Borrowed of Mr. Broadribb, 27 lbs. sugar, 2 bars soap.  
 4/5/1844...Borrowed of the Puntman, 4 lbs tea.  
 29/5/1844...Borrowed of McFarlane 4 lbs. tea.  
 30/5/1844...John King came home from Sydney in the gig.  
     Borrowed of Murdoch 3 lbs. nails.  
 31/5/1844...John took 31 bullocks to the Port for the J.& C.  
 6/6/1844...A.S.K., Charley, Hutton & Palmer went to repair  
     Glengary crossing place.  
 11/6/1844...Palmer speyed 28 heifers.  
 19/6/1844...Hutton & A.S.K. took 32 cattle to the Port for J.& C.,  
     and 2 milking cows and calves for the Pilot.  
 1/7/1844...A.S.K. returned from the Port.  
 3/7/1844...A.S.K.& Burnette took 56 cattle to the Port for  
     the Scotia and the Amitie.  
 9/7/1844...Shipped 32 head on Scotia, 22 head on Amitie.  
 16/7/1844...J.K. and A.S.K. returned to the Station.  
 18/7/1844...J.K., Burnette & Hutton took 32 bullocks to the Port  
     for J.& C. and 21 to Curlewis's.  
 22/7/1844...Charley & Pragnell started for Port with dray and  
     120 weders for J.& C. (the ship, "John and Charlotte").  
 23/7/1844...Went over to T.McAlister's.  
 24/7/1844...Collecting the cattle on Mewburn Park Run.  
 27/7/1844...Mr. Okeden left 3 steers which had been on his run.  
 2/8/1844...Hutton & Burnette back from Port. F.Nial went to  
     Snakes Ridge.  
 4/8/1844...Dray returned full of supplies.  
 1/9/1844...J.K., Hutton & Bruce took 34 cattle to Port for "Sylvanus".  
 2/9/1844...A.S.K., Charley & Pragnell went up to cut bark.  
 10/9/1844...Returned with 36 sheets. Broke the dray.  
 21/9/1844...Men putting in potatoes, and barking hut.  
 29/9/1844...Sent Charley and Hutton with the slide for bark.  
 10/10/1844...Sent Burnett to Pearson's for wedges, and Charley to  
     Thomson's to return a letter. Tom finishing the harrow.  
 11/10/1844...Splitting for calf paddock. Tom harrowing.  
 17/10/1844...Charlie morticing posts - commenced dairying.  
 18/10/1844...Morticing posts; drawing out rails.  
 21/10/1844...Bennet came for Reeve's mare.  
 22/10/1844...Charlie cutting cross pieces for the new hut.  
 24/10/1844...J.K. returned from Raymond's.  
 27/10/1844...Sunday. McClennan came from Reeve's.  
 28/10/1844...Charlie putting up pig-yard. Received 20 pigs from Pearson.  
 30/10/1844...Jock (probably a horse) horned by a cow.  
 5/11/1844...McLeod and Arbuckle passed on their way to the Ridge.  
 11/11/1844...Charlie took the bullocks to Mr.Okeden's for the dray.  
 12/11/1844...Charlie returned with dray, and with the man and woman,  
     (Joseph Wills and wife).  
 13/11/1844...Tom Fell came with Okeden's cattle. Tompson and  
     Wilkinson came.



The Morwell Historical Society News.....10/2/68.

- 15/11/1844...Gave Bruce 2 figs of tobacco. Rained all day.  
 20/11/1844...Arthur King & Hutton rode round by Snakes Ridge to be in readiness to meet the bullocks. J. King, Palmer and James Rintoul rode round by the crossing-place and completed the lot of the bullocks. Rain. River rising rapidly. Bruce & Pragnell commenced cheese-making yesterday. Made two.  
 21/11/1844...J. King, Palmer & Jas. Rintoul crossed the cattle over the river - 33 CK; 1 TVB (Bloomfield); 1AO (Okeden). Arthur & Hudson Hutton took them out of the morass. Heavy rain. River rose over the bank. Morass again full of water. Charley getting logs to keep the calf pen. Men engaged in building milking shed & calf pen.  
 22/11/1844...Sowed some peas, carrots, beans, turnips.  
 23/11/1844...Clearing a piece of ground for a garden. Charley went to Pearson's and returned with the plough. Bonnar came to ask for Okeden's dray to be sent home, and for help to cross Okeden's cattle on Tuesday. River still rising. Will be necessary to move the two huts before next winter to the bank, the paddock and flat being evidently subject to inundations.  
 24/11/1844...Messrs. McLennan & Tim Hunter arrived in the evening.  
 26/11/1844...McLennan & Hunter left. Charlie & Pragnell ploughing the garden. River falling slowly. Planted half-bag of potatoes.  
 27/11/1844...Charlie preparing to go to the new station.  
 27/11/1844...List of articles sent to new station. Divided the cows (Bruce..14; Miles..15; Pragnell..15). (Plan of garden drawn). Garden to be formed in this way if begun before I return from Sydney. To be fenced by high paling fence.  
 30/11/1844...Received £5 from Guesdon. Charlie had £1. Jack brought up his dray.  
 7/12/1844...Palmer went to assist Mr. Bloomfield in getting his cattle off the run  
 8/12/1844...Palmer went to assist Bloomfield over the Glengarry crossing place.  
 11/12/1844...List of articles brought from the Port by the dray for the home station and for the lake station.  
 12/12/1844...Hired McCarthy at 10/- a week.  
 16/12/1844...J. King started home with Raymond, Jones & McMillan.  
 18/12/1844...Arranged with Cunninghame to have the working bullocks at the Barney Plain on Sunday, 27th. to be shipped per J. & C.  
 23/12/1844...J. King rode to the junction of the Glengarry and the McAlister and ascertained the road to be a good one for a dray. Little clearing required.  
 25/12/1844... (Christmas Day). Dined at McMillan's.  
 29/12/1844...Hogarth and Mr. McLeod came.  
 30/12/1844...J. King and Hogarth rode to Reeve's.  
 31/12/1844...J. King rode to Bayliss's.

Comments.

The two most puzzling matters are what was the home station and what was the lake station, since at no time or place in the day-book are any names for them mentioned. Since "Snakes Ridge" is frequently mentioned as though it was another station, we must rule out the "Ridge" as the home station. We find from Daley that John King was at Fulham (originally called Barney Plain) from 1842 to 1844, and that he occupied Dutson in 1844. Dutson, west of Glencoe, borders on Lake Wellington, whose bank forms the north boundary of Dutson. This seems to be the solution of the mystery - Fulham is the home station and Dutson the lake station.

John King, assisted by Arthur Septimus King, managed the station. Those employed there were Hutton, Palmer, Burnett, Pragnell, Bruce, Miles, and "Charlie". Squatters mentioned were Campbell, Sheridan, McMillan, Curlewis, Montgomery, Cunninghame, Brodribb, McFarlane, Murdoch, McAlister, Pearson, Thompson, Bennett, Reeve, Raymond, Okeden, Rintoul, Bloomfield, Bayliss, McLeod, Arbuckle.

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Journal of the Morwell Historical Society. Published on the 10th. day of each month, February to November.

Editor.....I. T. Maddern, Morwell Historical Society, Morwell.

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission as a periodical.

Membership Fees.

Annual Subscription.....\$ 1-00.  
Life Membership.....\$10-00.

Latrobe Valley Historical Societies.

Morwell:... The Annual Meeting of the Morwell Historical Society will be held in the Library at Morwell High School on Tuesday evening, 19th. March, commencing at 8.00 p.m. The main business will be the election of officers and the planning of a programme for 1968. A good attendance is requested for this, our opening meeting for the year. Supper will be served.

Moe:.....The Moe Historical Society meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Society's Rooms (Old Water Trust Office), Kirk Street, Moe, at 8.00 p.m.  
The Secretary of the Society is Mr. A. Ringin,  
3 Carbine Street, Moe, 3825.

Traralgon:...The Annual Meeting of the Traralgon Historical Society will be held in the City Reception Rooms on Tuesday, 26th. March, commencing at 7.30 p.m.  
Guest Speaker...Mr. I.T.Maddern of Morwell will talk on the History of Toongabbie. It is hoped to have several old residents of the district amongst those present to support the speaker with their reminiscences of the early days.

Excursion to Toongabbie, Sunday, 17th. March.

The Traralgon Historical Society has organized an excursion to Toongabbie for Sunday, 17th. March, 1968. Cars will leave the Traralgon Post Office at 1.30 p.m. The guide for the afternoon will be Mr. Ben Sparks. Members taking part are reminded to bring their own afternoon tea.

The party is scheduled to reach the Toongabbie Cemetery at the entrance to the township at 2.00 p.m. when the tour proper will begin.

Obituaries.

We regret to announce the death of two old identities of Rosedale, both of whom were members of families closely connected with the very early days of that township.

Mr. Wentzel Du Ve.

Wentzel Du Ve, the last of the family of Charles Ignatz Du Ve and Agnes Adamson Du Ve (nee Buntine), died at Mont Albert, Melbourne, on Christmas Day, 1967, on the 53rd. anniversary of his wedding, and in his 84th year. About 1910, his father, the late C.I. Du Ve, wrote a very interesting, small history of the town under the title "Olden Rosedale".

Mr. Arthur Cyril Robinson, died at South Yarra, Melbourne, Saturday, 27th. January, aged 69 years. He was a son of Francis Hexd Robinson and Jessie Evelyn Robinson (nee Liardet) and a brother of Mrs. Unica Wright, who lives at "The Avenue", Rosedale.



The King Family and the King Day-Books.Philip Gidley King, 1758-1808, Governor of New South Wales, 1800-1806.

Philip Gidley King was born, 23/4/1758, at Launceston, Cornwall, the son of Philip and Utricia King (nee Gidley), and the grandson of Philip and Joan King.

He joined the Royal Navy and held the rank of Lieutenant when he came out with Captain Arthur Phillip in the first fleet, arriving in Australia (then known as New South Wales) in January, 1788. A few weeks after his arrival, Lieutenant King was sent by Governor Phillip to establish a subordinate settlement at Norfolk Island. From 1788 until 1796 King was the administrator of the Island with the title first of Commandant and then Lieutenant-Governor, except for about twenty months between March 1790 and November 1791, during which time he returned to England on leave.

While in England, in March 1791, he married Anna Josepha Coombes, who returned to Sydney with him in September, 1791. After his death in England in 1808, Mrs King, "a faithful and courageous" woman, returned to New South Wales, where she died, 26/7/1844.

King was back in England in 1797 on sick leave, and then returned to Australia for the third time, this time as Governor of New South Wales, 1800-1806. During the terms of office of Governors Hunter, 1795-1800, King, 1800-1806 and Bligh 1806-1808, administration was made very difficult by the determined irresponsibility and selfish conduct of the officers of the New South Wales Corps, who degraded the Colony and enriched themselves with their monopoly of the Rum Traffic. This is what Ernest Scott has to say in his "Short History of Australia," about the New South Wales Corps and Governor King:

"The corrupt military autocracy established under the administration of Grose and Paterson had to be broken down during the governorships of Hunter, King and Bligh, all of whom found the officers tenacious of their profits and privileges. The Corps flouted Governor Hunter, insulted Governor King, and deposed Governor Bligh".

"The first four Governors were naval captains, and three of them - Phillip, Hunter, and King, were with the First Fleet."

"Philip Gidley King was altogether a stronger ruler than his predecessor. He was capable of meeting a situation by an audacious assumption of royal authority, and when he did not think that an English Act of Parliament which applied to the Colony was stiff enough in its terms, he would alter it by a stroke of his own pen. There are in existence orders issued by King as 'His Majesty's commands' which were in fact simply his own commands. He, Governor King, was the King when he thought it necessary to take strong measures. He attacked the rum traffic and the private trading of officers with energy, but he had to acknowledge that 'every step I took clashed so much with the interest of trading individuals, that all the Corps set their wits to work not only to thwart my exertions but also to use every measure that art, cunning and fraud could suggest to impede my efforts'".

The children of Philip Gidley King and Anna Josepha King were Phillip Parker King, 1791-1856, Anna Maria King (who married Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur), Utricia King, Elizabeth King, and Mary King (who married Robert Copeland Lethbridge).

Admiral Phillip Parker King, 1791-1856.

This man was the first Australian to become an Admiral in the Royal Navy. He had a distinguished career doing a considerable amount of exploring work, including the charting of much of the northern coast of Australia. He married Harriet Lethbridge of Launceston, Cornwall, and had a family of seven sons and one daughter - Philip Gidley; John; William Essington; Robert Lethbridge; Charles Macarthur; Frederick; Arthur Septimus; and Elizabeth.

The recently published, interesting book, "The Admiral's Wife" edited by Miss Dorothy Walsh, is about this family.

The Sons of Admiral King.

Four of the sons of Admiral Phillip Parker King became pioneer squatters in Gippsland, making the third generation of this remarkable family contributing to the settlement and development of Australia. They were John, William Essington,\* and Arthur Septimus King.

John King, 1820-1895.

The following is an extract from the obituary notices of the Rosedale Courier, 7/2/1895:

"John King, an old pioneer of Rosedale and district passed away on the 24th. January, at the age of 75 years. Mr. King was born at Parramatta, N.S.W. in 1820, the second son of Admiral King. Like many others of adventurous spirit, Mr. King was attracted to Gippsland by the glowing accounts published by Count Strzelecki in 1841. Strzelecki was a personal friend of Admiral King, after whom he named Lake King.

In 1842, Mr. King took up the country now known as Fulham, between Rosedale and Sale, which did not prove as satisfactory as expected. He then came to the Ridge, Rosedale, as manager and partner in the squatting firm of Messrs. Holt, Croft and Tooth. He enlarged the property by buying Old Rosedale from Lieutenant Okeden (from whose wife, formerly Rose Dutton, our town was named) which was one of the most extensive in Gippsland. For a considerable time, Mr. King had sheep on it, shepherded by Chinese.

Comprised in his run was the Sydney Cottage Run, on which the township was formed, and which extended to Merriman's Creek. Some idea of the immense tract of country which Mr. King managed may be gleaned from the fact that this run extended from the Tyers River to Kilmany Park and from Tyson's boundary near Fell's Creek on the north side of Glengarry to Merriman's Creek, including the Ridge, Sydney Cottage and Old Rosedale.

During that time a house was erected for Charles King at Sydney Cottage (named after Sydney King), who was Manager under him of the property on the south side of the river.

It may be remarked that both Mr. King and Mr. John Reeve both settled at Fulham and Port Albert simultaneously in 1842. Reeve established the townships of Port Albert and Tarraville, and then settled on the Ridge, which was under the management of Mr. Alfred Brodribb, and which he subsequently sold to King and Co.

Mr. King was the most prominent figure in the early history of the district. After Victoria was separated from N.S.W. in 1851, he was one of the representatives of the district in the old Legislative Assembly. He was one of the first magistrates to attend the Bench at Alberton, which was the executive centre of Gippsland and the residence of Commissioner Tyers.

Mr. King took a deep interest in Rosedale, which was at one time the busiest town in Gippsland, having a population of between 500 and 600 people. He was one of the founders of the Mechanics' Institute, and St. Mark's Church, which latter was built in 1867.

In 1853, Mr. King married Mary Ann Peck, a sister of Dr. Peck of Sale. After his wife died, in 1862, Mr. King visited England, where he married Miss Antoinette Gehle. On his return to Australia he lived for some time at Nambrok, and then retired to Metung.

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

These two brothers, the third and seventh sons of Admiral King assisted their older brother John King in his pastoral enterprises in Gippsland. As early as 1860 they began their own Stock and Station Agency under the name of W.E. and A.S. King.

William Essington King lived in the Rosedale district for many years - chiefly at Sydney Cottage, and like his brother John took a great interest in the town of Rosedale. He was a member of the trustees of St. Mark's in its first year, 1867, and also of the first Rosedale Road Board, 1869.

Arthur Septimus King was with John King at Fulham in 1844, and later at the Ridge, Rosedale. Miss Dorothy Walsh, 38 Washington Avenue, Toorak, 3142, editor of "The Admiral's Wife", is a granddaughter of Arthur Septimus King.



## The King Day-Books, 1845-46.

Preliminary Notes.

In our last issue, we stated that we thought the entries for 1844 referred to Fulham Station (originally known as the Barney Plains), but that there was evidence of a move being made to another station bordering on Lake Wellington, probably Dutson Station, but in the day-book entries only referred to as the Lake Station.

As might be expected many of the entries are repetitive or deal with the trivial details of the day. Therefore we have tried to be selective, giving below only the more important entries. We can further condense the volume of notes by simply listing the names of squatters, managers or administrators, as well as the names of the men employed, occurring in the day-books. Sometimes it is difficult to discover from the brief entries which names indicate the bosses and which the working men - because bosses and men all worked hard and long on these early squatting stations.

Squatters and such mentioned in the 1845-46 entries were: Okeden, Bayliss, Reeve, McLennan, Raymond, F. Taylor; F. Nial; Campbell; Curlewis; Murdoch; Mould (killed 27/3/1845); Pearson; McMillan; Cunninghame; Park; Dr. Jamieson; Bennett; McFarlane; Macalister; Bloomfield; Roberts; Hogarth; Marlay; Brodribb; Crookes; Turnbull; Buntine; Reoch; Reeve; Buckley; Desailly; Sheridan; Hobson; Dutton, and Tyers.

Workmen mentioned were Nolan (to make a garden); Joe Wills (to build a fowl-house) and his wife; John Crawford (hired at 10/- a week); Bruce; Thomas Knapp (hired at 30 a year) and his wife, Louisa; a blacksmith; McCarthy; Jemmy Taylor; Jacky the black-boy; Charley; Thompson; W. Want; Maxwell; Pragnell; Williams and Morgan (8/- a week each for digging potatoes); Davis; Young Davis; Joyce; Harry Wilson; a house servant hired; Old Jemmy (8/- a week); and Moore, his wife and family.

As will be noted, there were few womenfolk on the station, and no mistress of the homestead. John King was 26 years old in 1846, and did not marry until 1853; Arthur Septimus King was only nineteen years old in 1846, and did not marry until 1857.

Here are some of the more interesting entries for 1845-1846:

- 9/ 3/1845..Mr. La Trobe and suite stopped the night at the Ridge.  
 10/ 3/1845..Mr. La Trobe and suite rode to the Port. A.S.K. and Bennett rode home. Sent Charlie to Boisdale with a letter for McMillan.  
 14/ 3/1845..Started home from Dutson (first mention of this name).  
 21/ 3/1845..A. S.K. and Mould rode to Raymond's.  
 26/ 3/1845..Went to the races with Bloomfield, Nial, and Roberts.  
 28/ 3/1845..Rode to Raymond's with Nial and Roberts to attend at the funeral of poor Mould, who had been killed the day before by his horse falling, returning from the races. Sent Charlie in the morning to the Hart (Heart Station) for "Stockings" (a horse).  
 30/ 3/1845..Broadribb passed on his way to Maneroo - wrote to Elizabeth by him.  
 8/ 4/1845..Charlie digging potatoes. Started the dray to the Lake Station. Dray stuck in the river. Broke a yoke.  
 10/ 4/1845..Left off cheese-making. Began to make butter.  
 2/ 5/1845..Counted the cheeses - 459 in number.  
 6/ 5/1845..Thrashed out about three bushells of wheat.  
 12/ 5/1845..J. and A. King cut some distance through the scrub to the junction of the river.  
 17/ 5/1845..Walked down to the Lake and fixed on a spot for the house and paddock.  
 6/ 6/1845..Drawing in wattles for the garden fence. All the blacks went away.  
 9/ 6/1845..Wattling in the garden. Plastering the hut. J. K. launched the "Ariel" in the River.

The Morwell Historical Society News.....10/3/68.

- 11/ 6/1845..J.K., Murdoch, A.K., Nial took the boat down to Raymond's.  
 17/ 6/1845..J.K., Murdoch, A.K., Nial went down to the junction to assist J. Aitken (apparently the Puntman) in getting the punt up from the old place. McMillan came this evening.  
 27/ 8/1845..The Blacks all started for Manaroo.  
 30/ 8/1845..J. King rode round by the Ridge to Bayliss, found that the cattle had been disturbed on the road by the smell of the natives, and that several were missing.  
 8/ 9/1845..Reached Bloomfield's and found that the natives had rushed the cattle at the Lake and killed two bullocks, and that Arthur and the Highlandman had collected most of them and put them in Bloomfield's.  
 10/ 9/1845..Nial and the Black Police returned without falling in with the natives.  
 11/ 9/1845..J.K., and Arthur rode to the Punt, met Mr. Walsh and two of the Native Police. Started down the river in the boat and arrived at the Lake Station. Started in the boat at 10 p.m. to go round Lake Wn.  
 12/ 9/1845..Landed at day-light on the east side of the Lake. Saw no recent traces of the natives. Started again at 8 a.m. and shortly afterwards discovered a fire in the scrub. Put ashore and surprised four old gins. Started again and reached the Strait, dined, and put back again. Wind came in about east and we reached a point at the south end of the Lake. Landed there and encamped for the night.  
 13/ 9/1845..Started at sunrise. Stood down the Bay towards the Morass but finding no trace of the natives, returned to the Point and landed Arthur, Nial and Joey the Black. Reached the Punt and left the boat in Aitken's charge, and arrived home in the evening.  
 29/10/1845 and 31/10/1845...Attended the races.  
 13/12/1845..Rode over to Campbell's to decide the boundaries of the Lake Station -- Bounded on the north by the Glengarry Morass; on the west by the creek; on the east by a line from Trigger Point running due south; on the south by a line from a tree situated about eight miles from the Morass on the creek to meet the east line about six miles from Trigger Point.  
 1/ 1/1846..Cut a passage through to the Lake in the evening.  
 2/ 1/1846..J.K. rode to Barney Plains (i.e. Fulham) and found the wheat nearly all destroyed, and the greater part of the Run burnt.  
 3/ 1/1846..A large part of the big plain has escaped the fire.  
 14/ 1/1846..Rode to Mafra in search of mare and foal.  
 15/ 1/1846..Returned home. Found natives had speared three cattle.  
 11/ 3/1846..J. King returned from Hobart Town.  
 3/ 5/1846, and 5/5/1846, and 6/5/1846...Heavy rain.  
 24/ 6/1846..A.S.K. and Desailie sailed down the Avon to Raymond's in Cunningham's boat. Arranged with Sheridan that Raymond's cattle are to be at the Port by 9th. July.  
 13/ 7/1846..J.K. and Marley returned from the Port having been detained there by Court business.  
 30/ 7/1846..Tyers and Marlay arrived yesterday. Tyers left today for Snake's Ridge.

Comments. There are no further entries for 1846 nor for the whole of 1847. It does seem from the general tone of the above records that John King and his family still held Fulham (or Barney Plains) up to this time but were living at the Lake Station or Dutson Run. At this time John King, as well as managing his stations with the help of Arthur King, seems to have been a kind of transport agent, either for the other squatters or for the ship owners. The ship most often mentioned is the J. and C. (or John and Charlotte). It may be that the Company, in which he was a partner, owned the J. and C. or chartered it, and it was therefore his task to see that there was always sufficient freight for it, - sufficient cattle waiting at Port Albert to be loaded on.



The King Day-Books, 1848 and 1849  
Preliminary Comments.

There is a marked difference in the records of 1848 onwards from those which ended in 1846. John King and his men are now definitely at the Ridge Station in the area where the township of Rosedale was to grow later. Modern place names begin to appear such as Eaglehawk, Flynn's Creek, and Blind Joe's Creek. The track to Melbourne is now being used as an alternative to the ocean route via Fort Albert. Finally, the emphasis now seems to be on sheep rather than cattle. Each shepherd would have his hut or out-station somewhere near water, and would be responsible for a flock of sheep between 2000 and 3000 in number. Blind Joe was one such shepherd (he was blind in only one eye) and his hut was near the present site of Rosedale on the creek still called after him, Blind Joe's Creek.

The names of other shepherds or hutmen appearing in the entries are Gabriel, Munroe, Weston, Chalkley, Welch, Hoad, Nelson, Taylor, Ewing, Crossland, Moore and Page.

However, Gippsland is too wet a district to make it good sheep country, and there was constant trouble with sheep sickness, mainly catarrh. The killing of such sheep, and the boiling down of their carcasses for tallow became an important industry. Another custom of the time was to wash the sheep before shearing them so that the wool was cleaner and lighter for export. Much of the day-book entries for 1848-49 are concerned with such matters.

Amongst the most interesting of the entries are records of visits of Captain Dana of the Police Force, a Wesleyan minister (19/2/1848), Rev. Francis Hailes, Rev. Willoughby Bean, and Bishop and Mrs. Perry. Here are some selected entries:

- 17/2/1848... Finished pressing the lambs' wool - in all, 20 bales.  
 19/2/1848... Sunday. King returned from Turnbull's having heard a Wesleyan minister, who had arrived from Melbourne.  
 23/2/1848... Found Brown the worker dead in the scrub.  
 2/3/1848... Counted Munro's flock, Welch's flock, Hoad's flock. Desailly and Tuckfield called, the latter on his way to Melbourne.  
 18/3/1848... Desailly brought a specimen of the first fat boiled by Meyrick.  
 26/3/1848... Sent Quin down to Blind Joe's.  
 1/4/1848... Rode to the "Squatters Rest". Found Crawley drunk there.  
 4/4/1848... Blind Joe counted his flock. About 50 sheep had returned.  
 6/5/1848... Lots of rain, after a seven months' drought.  
 8/5/1848... Mr. Hailes called and remained all night.  
 6/6/1848... Moved the old garden hut to the point of the Ridge.  
 3/7/1848... Rial rode to the Police Station with 2 police from Melbourne.  
 24/7/1848... Raymond started for Stratford.  
 2/8/1848... Dana arrived from Melbourne.  
 6/8/1848... Buntine rode to Flooding Creek for the Doctor, Stewart being very unwell. Sent Cox to hut-keep in his place.  
 7/8/1848... Alexander Stewart died at 4 a.m.  
 8/8/1848... Riley enclosed Stewart's grave.  
 23/11/1848... J. K. and Phillott narrowly escaped death by drowning.  
 26/12/1848... Copy of Return sent to the Commissioner:  
 Snake Ridge.. John King.. 60,160 acres.. 16 horses..  
 1721 cattle.. 23,700 sheep.  
 Scarne.. John King.. 7,680 acres... 500 cattle.  
 12/1/1849... J. K., and Mr. Bean started for the Port.  
 28/1/1849... Mr. Bean performed service in the morning, rode to Okeden's in the afternoon. (Sunday).  
 17/2/1849... Bishop Perry passed on his way from Melbourne.  
 21/4/1849... Dawson called and remained all night. (Surveyor Dawson).  
 28/4/1849... Nevins left (Surveyor Nevins).  
 14/5/1849... Tyers arrived from the big plain.  
 20/5/1849... Crooke arrived from the Port bringing intelligence of the loss of the "Phoebe".  
 22/5/1849... D. B. (Ballantine) and Wood returned from Macalister's.

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Journal of the Morwell Historical Society. Published on the 10th. day of each month, February to November.

Editor.....I. T. Maddern, Morwell Historical Society, Morwell.

---

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission as a periodical.

---

Membership Fees.

Annual Subscription.....\$ 1-00.  
Life Membership.....\$10-00.

The Latrobe Valley Historical Societies.

Moe Historical Society.

The Moe Historical Society meets every month on the fourth Thursday of the month, at its rooms in Kirk Street, Moe, (formerly the Water Trust Office). The President is Mr. A. Summerton, 10 Eden Street, Moe, and the Secretary is Mr. A. Ringin, 3 Carbine Street, Moe. The Society is a very active one, and conducts several excursions each year. The last excursion, Sunday 17th. March, 1968, was to Brunton's Bridge, on the old Toongabbie to Walhalla Road. Measurements and photographs were taken of this old bridge to send to the National Trust.

Morwell Historical Society.

The Annual Meeting of the Morwell Historical Society was held at Morwell High School, Tuesday evening, 19th. March, 1968, when the following officers were elected for 1968:

- President.... Mr. I.T.Maddern.
- Secretary.... Mr. A. Ludeke, Morwell High School.
- Treasurer.... Mrs.E.H.Gerrard, 13 Hoyle St., Morwell, 3840.

Traralgon Historical Society.

The Annual Meeting of the Traralgon Historical Society was held at the Traralgon Council Offices, Tuesday evening, 16/3/68. Office bearers for 1968 are:

- President.... Dr. T. McLean, 49 High St., Traralgon, 3844.
- Secretary.... Mrs. V.Plant, 114 Grey Street, Traralgon.
- Treasurer.... Mrs. J.Court, 1 Mackay St., Traralgon, 3844.

The subject for discussion was Toongabbie, the little, historical township, 12 miles north of Traralgon, and once the key place in the communications link between Sale and Walhalla. Speakers included Mr. F. Hower and Mrs. Goodwin, both closely identified with Toongabbie for many, many years.

Traralgon Historical Exhibition, 22nd. April to 4th. May, 1968.

An interesting display of historical material has been arranged by the Traralgon Historical Society, to be held at Plant's former Hardware Store, Hotham Street, Traralgon (opposite the Hotham Street Medical Centre). The display will be open every evening, 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. as well as on Sunday and Anzac Day, 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

The items displayed represent a wide variety, ranging through photographs, books, newspapers, documents, vintage cars, models of old aircraft, guns, and household equipment. A series of short talks on relevant historical subjects has been arranged.

The Beginnings of Rosedale.

According to the obituary notice on John King, published in the Rosedale Courier on the 7th. February, 1895, the township of Rosedale began in 1852. One sentence in this obituary reads: "The township of Rosedale, first surveyed in 1852 by Mr. Malcolm Campbell, was originally formed by the old employees of the Ridge Station".

This agrees closely with information from other sources, including the day-books of the Ridge Station. The first map of the area, drawn by Surveyor Penrose Nevins in 1848, does not mention the name Rosedale, and shows no township there, but only Blind Joe's Hut, a hundred yards or so east of the present eastern limits of Rosedale, with the Melbourne-Sale track passing it, and another track leading away at that point to Port Albert and the south. Blind Joe (presumably blind only in one eye) was a shepherd employed by John King to mind one of his many flocks of sheep. Each shepherd had a hut to live in, and he looked after about 2,000 sheep.

In 1858, William Allen built for Paul Cansick, the Rosedale Hotel, which still exists, and which was the first brick building in Rosedale. But before the Rosedale Hotel, there was an earlier accommodation place, the Bridge Inn, which started as a crude, one room inn, run by Jim Widdowson. This shanty developed into the Bridge Inn, destroyed by fire in 1908. It was this destruction of Rosedale's first building, that caused Charles Ignatz Du Ve to write, about 1910, "Olden Rosedale", a most valuable record of the early days. This work, and the Ridge day-books corroborate the statement in the "Courier" of 1895 that "the township of Rosedale was originally formed by the old employees of the Ridge Station".

Some of the people who were associated with the early days of Rosedale, and whose names occur in the day-books and also in "Olden Rosedale" are Du Ve himself, James Widdowson, Tom Timms (also spelt "Tims" and "Timbs"), Joe Treader (or "Threader"), George Rintoull, James Rintoull, the Rowley family, Peter and Billy Smith, John Shiel, and Bill Creighton.

Here are some of the excerpts from "Olden Rosedale"

"The Old Bridge Inn, Rosedale, was originally a travellers' rest house kept by James Widdowson, more familiarly known as Old Jim".

"In what is now the business locality of Prince Street, were the abodes of Sam the Snob (that is, Sam the Bootmaker), and old Joe Treader".

"In the corner of the paddock just opposite to the present smithy, the late Mr. George Rintoull had the first blacksmith's shop".

"Mr. John Rowley's father had a property adjoining the Widdowsons' and further down the street was Mr. James Rintoull's. Mr. Rowley kept a stock of sundries (that is, he kept the first store). Some time later, Mr. Henry Luke opened a proper store".

"Mr. John Shiel, who still resides in Rosedale (that is, in 1910) was one of the very earliest inhabitants".

"The Old Rosedale Homestead (that is, of Rosedale Station) was mostly pulled down, and the best of the material was carted over to the Ridge property, about a mile south of the Rosedale railway station, by the bullock driver, Bob Ray, and re-erected by old John, the Swedish carpenter (who afterwards built the Moe Hotel). It was then named Sydney Cottage and became the residence of Mr. Charles King, who was the first manager of Sydney Cottage Run, of which it was the homestead".

"In those days, the traveller was guided into Rosedale after dark, by the candle which always gleamed in the window of Tom Timb's house which is, alas, no more".

The life of Tom Timms seems to shine out faintly but steadily in the brief mention he gets in "Olden Rosedale" and in the Ridge day-books, just like the candle in his window. It is all the sadder to read this piece of news in the Gippsland Guardian, 3/3/1868:

"A poor man named Timms died in Rosedale on Saturday after having suffered for nearly seven years from cancer. It began in the lip, spreading gradually to the cheek, tongue and throat. For many months, he has resembled a living skeleton".



The Snake's Ridge Day-Book, 1854-1863.

In the last two issues of the "News", we have dealt with the first of the two day-books lent to us by Mr. P.P. King of Lindenow, Gippsland. This first book covered the period 1844 to 1849, and it is the more important of the two since it is earlier, written before any Gippsland newspaper had been established to record what was happening.

This second day-book covers the period 1854-1863, and is separately interesting, since it indicates the development of station life into the second stage - the period when the first difficulties had been surmounted and life had become a little more "civilized". Since the first newspaper in Gippsland, the "Gippsland Guardian" was established in October, 1855, at Port Albert, much of the information in this second day-book is confirmed and elaborated in the pages of the "Guardian".

Changes in Station Life.

The biggest change is that women appear on the station in increasing numbers, and what was a fairly rough world, entirely a man's world, changes gradually to a more normal environment, softened by the refining influence of the gentler sex, made more comfortable by their skills and their presence. The standard of living was lifted, better houses built, the social graces encouraged. There are even delightful traces of a little "cattiness" and irony in some entries, indicating perhaps that a feminine hand sometimes made the entries in the day-book. For example, the entry for the 20th. November, 1855, reads: "Grand charge of cavalry to the Big Plain on account of an alarm of fire, which ended in smoke". Could it be that one of the wives is laughing at the mere male's sense of his own importance?

John King married Mary Ann Peck, a sister of Dr. Peck of Sale, in 1853, the year before the second day-book begins. Presumably the new homestead, erected in 1855, was built for her.

Charles Macarthur King married Jane Passemore Wilson in 1855, and an entry in the day-book shows that they arrived at the Ridge on the 6th. October, 1855. Sydney Cottage homestead was built for them, and they moved into it on the 24th. May, 1856.

In our previous notes, we said that three members of the King family were pioneers in Gippsland - John King, Arthur Septimus King, and William Essington King. This book reveals that there was a fourth brother, Charles Macarthur King. John was the first, in 1842, followed by Arthur Septimus in 1844, then Charles in 1855 and finally William Essington King, who did not arrive until February, 1859, and seems to have taken over the Sydney Cottage Run from his brother Charles. Here are some entries concerning the King families and the two homesteads:

- 31/ 5/1855..Timms at work at the fire-place in the new house.
- 13/ 6/1855..J. King papering and canvassing room in the new cottage.
- 14/ 6/1855..Mr. and Mrs. King moved into the new room.
- 15/ 6/1855..Moving things into the new house.
- 16/ 6/1855..Pulling down the old house.
- 29/ 6/1855..Timms and Stagg cured the chimneys.
- 7/ 8/1855..The carpenter put up two glass doors in the cottage, one to let the light in, and one to let it out again.
- 17/12/1855..T. Rowley drawing stuff to Sydney Cottage.
- 7/ 4/1856..Mrs. C. King safely delivered of a son and heir. (This was their first child, later baptized Philip Parker King.)
- 14/ 4/1856..McKinnon finished the chimneys of Sydney Cottage, having used 5,500 bricks from Timms.
- 4/ 5/1856..Mr. Simmons performed divine service and baptized Philip Parker King and Anna Josepha King.
- 24/ 5/1856..Mr. and Mrs. Charles King moved to Sydney Cottage.
- 17/ 2/1862..Mr. and Mrs. John King, family and suite, left the Ridge for Melbourne and England.

The men, as well as the principals, brought their wives and families to live at the Ridge. The names of some of these mentioned are Madigan, McKinnon, Cahill, Hayward, Damnon, Hodgson, Murcutt, Peter Smith, Russell, and Tillsley (probably Tildesley).



The Snake's Ridge Day-Book, 1854-63.Back to Cattle.

The early stations in Gippsland were mainly cattle stations, but the entries for 1848, in the first Ridge day-book show that there had been a swing towards sheep, as can be seen in the Ridge assessment return sent to the Commissioner, 12/1/48, when there were 23,700 sheep on the station and only 1721 cattle and 16 horses.

The keeping of sheep proved an unsuccessful venture.

Gippsland is too wet to be good sheep-country, and the squatters here found they lost many sheep through foot-rot, scab and respiratory diseases. Even in 1848, 1849, large numbers of diseased sheep were killed and boiled down for tallow, bringing in revenue which the squatters could not get from wool and mutton. It is little wonder that we find when the second day-book opens in 1854, that the emphasis was back to cattle again. Throughout 1854, 1855 and 1856, sheep are only mentioned in six or seven entries, as for example:

13/ 9/1854..Foot-rotting sheep.

25/ 9/1854..J.K., Robinson, Dick and Qua (a Chinaman) foot-rotting the Chinaman's flock.

11/11/1856..Commenced shearing.

29/ 5/1856..Arsenic wash prepared for foot-rotting sheep.

28/ 7/1856..Dressing sheep at Sydney Cottage with arsenic.

Probably a few sheep were kept always, although the assessment return for September, 1858 shows only 150 horses, 7,000 cattle, 20 acres under cultivation, 750 + 640 + 640 acres purchased - and no sheep at all.

Chinese.

The entries referring to Chinese being employed on the station are interesting and bear out what C. I. Du Ve had to say in his valuable little work, "Olden Rosedale". He wrote: "Sometimes the blackfellows hunted the wretched little merinos that used to be herded on the Ridge by Mr. John King's Chinese shepherds, who did not like blackfellows, and were even more afraid of them than they were of "Tow Kay" as they pronounced their employer's name". These Chinese, no doubt, had come out very early in the gold rush period, which started in 1851, and suffering disappointment on the gold fields, found employment on stations, which were probably glad of their services, since they had been depleted of labour by this same gold rush. When sheep failed, and there was no more shepherding to be done, these Chinese had to turn to other station occupations, such as cooking. Perhaps something like this was the career of the popular Chinese baker, Poa Nine, in business at Rosedale as early as 1867. The name "Qua" given above in the entry for 25/9/1854, seems a strange one, even for a Chinese. Perhaps it is an attempt at spelling some such name as "Kew-Ah". He is also mentioned in an earlier entry, 28/8/1854 as a cook, and was apparently followed by another Chinese cook, Ong Hong.

The Church.

There is no record of any visit by a clergyman to the Ridge Station in 1854, but from March, 1855 onwards, Mr. Simmons, the Church of England minister at Sale, held a service there almost regularly every six weeks. He would arrive on the Saturday, stay overnight, preach at the Ridge on Sunday morning, and then at some other place, such as Loy Yang, or Rosedale, in the afternoon, before returning to Sale. His place seems to have been taken early in 1863 by a curate, Rev. Mr. Frith. Other ministers mentioned as visiting the Ridge in 1863 were Rev. W. S. Login, the grand old Presbyterian minister, (the first minister at Sale, and the one with the longest service, 1854-1886), Mr. Souter, and Mr. Wilkinson.

Rev. P.K. Simmons resigned in 1862, and was replaced by Archdeacon Stretch, who with his wife visited the Ridge 17/4/1863.

Bishop Perry of Melbourne and Mrs Perry, who first visited Gippsland in 1849, came again in 1859 and 1862, and on both occasions called in and stayed overnight at the Ridge homestead.

The Snake Ridge Day-Book, 1854-63.The Track to Melbourne.

In November 1845, the Black Police on their way back to their station at Dandenong from Gippsland marked a road through the bush to Melbourne. It would approximate roughly to the route of the present Princes Highway, although from Drouin to Traralgon, a little north of the road today, keeping to the higher ground to avoid the vast Moe Swamp area. Commissioner Tyers varied the track somewhat in 1847 and had some bridges built over the bigger waterways, like the Morwell River. However, even this better track was in some places only a bridle track, not wide enough to take a vehicle. Cattle must have been driven along this track from 1847 onwards, because we read in the Rev. Hales' diary, describing his journey into Gippsland in 1848, that he started out travelling with some drovers, but, unable to bear their language and their cruelty to the animals (necessary to get them over the streams), he pressed on alone. Bishop and Mrs. Perry also travelled along this track in 1849.

There is no record in the first day-book, 1844-1849, of the King brothers using this track. Invariably they travelled, themselves, and transported their cattle by ship from Port Albert. There is no record in this first book of any of their friends or acquaintances using the track either; Melbourne hardly rates a mention.

However, quite early in the second book, and from then on quite frequently, there are entries recording journeys to and from Melbourne overland. One of the entries is most interesting since it gives a time schedule for the trip. Here are some examples:

19/5/1854..Roadknight arrived en route for Melbourne with 400 head of cattle.

1/6/1854..A.S.K. starts tomorrow with cattle for Melbourne. To arrive at Windsor's (i.e. Windsor's Inn, Traralgon), 2nd. and Melbourne, 11th. J.K. to collect cattle 14th., 15th., and 16th., reach Windsor's 17th., Moe 18th., Shady 19th., Tarwin 20th., Connors 21st.

2/6/1854..A.S.K. Tommy Taylor, Billy Smith and Martin started to Melbourne with cattle.

Amusements and Social Activities.

In the period of the first book, 1844-1849, the only recreation from the round of station work was horse-racing. In the second book, 1854-1863 we are told of a regatta and ball at Port Albert, a ball at the Ridge, cricket matches, some hunting (of kangaroos) and visits to and from the homes of other people. Mrs. Hedley and Miss Hedley, wife and daughter of Dr. Hedley of Port Albert stayed for a week at the Ridge, 14/10/1856 to 21/10/1856, the week during which the Ridge Ball was held - 16/10/1856. In December, 1858, the two Miss Travers came and stayed with the King family for several days. In March, 1863 there was a cricket match between Sale Cricket Club and Rosedale Cricket Club, apparently won by Sale.

Politics.

Someone, possibly Mrs. King was very proud of John King, in July, 1855, for there is an entry in big letters for 12/7/1855 stating "J. King Esq. M.L.C. returned as Member for Gippsland. There was a change in the Victorian Constitution shortly after that time, which may account for John King changing Houses, and being elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1856, noted in the day-book in the entry for 15/10/1856. He seems to have retired from Parliament in 1857, making way for a friend, Mr. J. Johnson of Mewburn Park.

Gold. There are few entries referring to gold. Here they are:  
23/3/1855...The gold diggers arrived from the Port.  
25/3/1855...The gold diggers left for the ranges this side of the Thomson River.  
21/10/1863...D.M. started to Stringer's Creek to see the diggings.



The Snake's Ridge Day-Book, 1854-1863.Sir Henry Barkly, 1815-1898, Governor of Victoria, 1856-1863.

Sir Henry Barkly, Governor of Victoria, visited Gippsland in 1859, and apparently stayed for one night at the Ridge homestead. The relevant entries read:

- 1/3/1859..J. K. drove to Sale to attend Sir H. Barkly's Levee.  
 9/3/1859..Preparing for the reception of Her Majesty's Representative, Governor Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B.  
 10/3/1859..J.K. and Statham drove to Mr. Macfarlane's to meet the Governor. Attended His Excellency to the Ridge; dined at 7.00 p.m.  
 11/3/1859..J.K. attended His Excellency to Traralgon Creek on his way to Melbourne.

Sir Henry Barkly was a popular governor; there are many streets in the various parts of Melbourne named after him. The Queenscliff-Point Lonsdale Cemetery holds an interesting and tragic reminder of his stay in Victoria. While he and his family were holidaying in Queenscliff, staying with friends, his daughter got into difficulties while bathing, and a young housemaid of the place was drowned going to her aid. The young lady, a Miss Jones, is buried in the cemetery there, and an inscription on the tombstone tells the story of her bravery.

Wrecks.

There are three entries recording ship-wrecks but no details are given. They are 24/12/1859, wreck of the "Thistle"; 11/1/1860, "heard of the wreck of the 'Royal Charter'"; and 20/7/1863, "heard the 'Jessup' was wrecked."

We have to look elsewhere for further information about these disasters. The "Thistle" and the "Jessup" were small local vessels, and in the case of the "Thistle", wrecked at the entrance of Port Albert, no lives were lost. But the wreck of the "Royal Charter" was a disaster of the first magnitude. This vessel sailing from Melbourne to Liverpool was wrecked at Moelfra Bay, Wales, when only a few hours short of its destination, and only 41 people of the 500 on board were saved. According to the "Gippsland Guardian" of the 13th. January, 1860, amongst those lost were James Davis of Woodside "our late representative" with Mrs. Davis and his family of three children. Also lost were Mrs. Davis's sister, Mrs. Fenwick and her four children.

National and World News.

Occasionally in the day-book, there are brief entries recording events of wider importance than the routine station affairs. For example, we have:

- 8/ 9/1855..Sebastopol taken. (An incident in the Crimean War, 1854-56)  
 9/11/1861..Heard of the fate of Burke, Wills and Gray.

Miscellaneous.

- Every summer there was the threat and danger of bushfires.  
 2/1/1856..Rosedale (that is, Rosedale Station) all burnt down except the house and kitchen.  
 Jan. 1862..Hot days. Fires at Eaglehawk, Sydney Cottage, Dam Ridge, and Four Mile Creek.

Now and again appears the report of the death of an acquaintance or friend, such as the following:

- 1/ 5/1859..Heard of Mr. Floyd Peck's death. Funeral at Sale tomorrow.  
 2/ 6/1859..Heard of Mr. Kinchant's death by drowning. (Mr. Kinchant of Tyers Station was drowned trying to cross the river).  
 16/10/1860..Heard of Boyd Cunningham's death.  
 16/10/1863..Heard that the Port mailman was drowned.

An interesting note in 1855 could refer to a meteor:

- 22/12/1855..A curious noise, heard by the inhabitants of the Ridge, like a distant peal of thunder - but supposed to be the rumbling of an earthquake, or foul air in the mountains. Time - about 10.00 p.m. Saw a streak in the skies.

The Morwell Historical Society News.

Journal of the Morwell Historical Society. Published on the 10th. day of each month, February to November.

Editor.....I. T. Maddern, Morwell Historical Society, Morwell, 3340.

---

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission as a periodical.

---

Membership Fees.

Annual Subscription.....\$ 1-00.  
Life Membership.....\$10-00.

---

The Latrobe Valley Historical Societies.

Moe Historical Society.

Secretary...Mr. A. Ringin, 3 Carbine Street, Moe, 3825.  
Monthly Meeting Night...The fourth Thursday of the month at the Society's Rooms, Kirk Street, Moe.  
Next Meeting...Thursday, 23rd. May, 1968.

Morwell Historical Society.

Secretary...Mr. A. Ludeke, Morwell High School, Morwell, 3840.  
Monthly Meeting Night...The third Tuesday of the month in the Library of the Morwell High School.  
Next Meeting...Tuesday, 21st May, 1968.  
Syllabus Item...The President of the Society will give a brief talk on the Morwell Cemetery (Hazelwood Cemetery).

Traralgon Historical Society.

Secretary...Mrs. V. Plant, 114 Grey Street, Traralgon, 3844.  
Monthly Meeting Night...The first Tuesday of the month in the Civic Reception Rooms, Traralgon City Council.  
Next Meeting...Tuesday, 4th. June, 1968.  
Syllabus Item..."Shearing in Verse and Song", presented by Trevor King and his Colonial Bush Band.

The History of the Victorian Education Department, 1873-1972.

The Victorian Education Department has embarked on the colossal task of writing its own history to mark its centenary which will be achieved in December, 1972. The compilation of the history must be completed by 1970 to allow time for printing, publishing, and distribution.

The main work must, of necessity, be general in character, but the Department wants recorded also the history of each separate school. Such school histories will arouse little interest outside the particular localities concerned, but should be absorbingly interesting and valuable to the people within those localities.

Victoria has been divided into 14 districts, two of which are East Gippsland and West Gippsland. Probably the best way of recording the histories of individual schools is to have them printed in the local newspapers. For this reason, we intend to ask for the cooperation of every newspaper in Gippsland, asking that a short article on school history should be published weekly, for one year. The first three of these articles could be general, giving the overall background, but from then on we would expect the articles to be on local schools, and written by the teachers of those schools.

For example, some part of the history appearing in this issue on Glengarry schools might make good reading for subscribers to the "Traralgon Journal".



The Glengarry Schools.

At Glengarry, or in the immediate vicinity of Glengarry, itself, there used to be three state schools, which for present convenience we will call, Toongabbie South, No. 1235; Scarne, No. 2281; and Glengarry, No. 2888. The lives of the three schools overlapped, so that in the year 1890, for example, all three were in existence and operating as full-time schools.

The first thing the historian must do is to sort out the confusion in names, since School No. 1235 had three name changes in its nineteen years of existence, 1875 to 1894, while No. 2281 was never officially known as "Scarne", but started and ended its career of twelve years, 1880 to 1892, as Toongabbie South School, distinguished from the first school by being designated No.2 of that name. In this story, we prefer the names, Toongabbie South, Scarne, and Glengarry.

Where were these three schools located? The last school, the lone survivor of the three, Glengarry School, No. 2888, was established in the township, not quite on its present site, but on the other side of the road. If we imagine a square with a diagonal of about four miles, then the present school is right in the centre of the square, with Toongabbie South School (No. 1235) at the north-east end of the diagonal, and Scarne (No. 2281) at the south-west extremity of that same diagonal. Each of the outlying two schools was approximately 2 miles from the centrally placed school.

Mrs. Ole Christensen can point out on her property outside Glengarry, the exact site where Toongabbie South, No. 1235, was situated. A box thorn hedge conveniently marks the place.

Scarne School, apparently, was situated about two miles along the Glengarry-Tyers Road, at a place where five roads meet, locally known as Five-Ways.

Toongabbie South State School, 1235.

Here, in summary form, are the changes in name of this school:

- 1875-1881...Toongabbie South. (The school opened 8/7/1875)
- 1881-1883...Eaglehawk. (This was, obviously, to avoid confusion with the new Toongabbie South School, opened in 1880, but better known locally as Scarne School).
- 1883-1885...La Trobe School. (This may have been to avoid confusion with an Eaglehawk School in the Bendigo District).
- 1885-1894...Glengarry School. (The school closed 31/3/1894). (It was so named after the railway had arrived and the Glengarry Railway Station built, but three years before the new Glengarry township school was opened).

The first agitation for a school in the area was at the end of 1872, and received the support of the district inspector, Mr. Charles Topp. A letter from John Farmer, dated 1/1/1873 lists the families that would be served by such a school, and the names of the children of school age in those families. They were:

- Hugh Brown....Margaret (3 years old);
- Robert Duke...William (13); Robert (11); James (8); Richard (6);
- John Farmer...Richard (8); John (6); Robert (5);
- John King.....John (12); Thomas (5); James (2);
- Daniel O'Hara...William (11); Annie (6); George (8);
- Benjamin Russell..Mary Jane (12); George William (10); Elizabeth (8);
- John Waitè....Sarah Ann (12); Mary Ellen (10); William (7);
- Thomas Williams...Albert (13); Mary (11); Thomas (9).

However, there were the usual, apparently inevitable delays, and before the school was opened, 3/5/1875, there were further petitions, bearing the names of further families - families that must have newly arrived. New names occurring in May, 1874, were:

- Hugh McCauley (5 children); T. King (1); C. Christensen (2);
- James Slater (3); Joseph Banks (3); and the Rodgers family (1).

The school building was constructed in 1874-1875 by W. Cook and W.H. Gibbs of Sale, at a cost of £335.

The area continued to develop as more and more selector farmers arrived, a development no doubt assisted by the building of the main Gippsland railway line, 1877-1879, and by the promise of the loop-line from Traralgon to Heyfield and Bairnsdale passing through the Glengarry area. In 1882, there was a petition for a larger school building. The residents stated that the enrolment then was 67, and they estimated that it would soon reach the 100 mark.

The list of names in this petition, dated 20/10/1882, is interesting, not only because of a greatly increased number of names, but because the occupations are given also, and although the great majority of these people are shown to be farmers, as we might expect, we find some traders, artisans and technical men, implying that some kind of township was beginning to grow. Here is the list:-

Graziers:- Jackson Orr; Soren Christensen; James Lang; Agobus Barden.

Farmers:- John King; Benjamin Russell; John Waite; John Farmer; Frederick Humphrey; Daniel O'Mara; Thomas Hill; James Nixon; Hugh Brown; Bridget Keogan; Adolphe Christensen; Stephen Hambrook; John Bermingham; James Brooks.

Saw-Mill Proprietor:- Colin Campbell.

Engineers:- John Doctor Heyward; Charles Hart.

Engine-Driver:- James Dorman.

Business-Men:- Charles Williams (Publican);  
Hugh McAuley (Bootmaker).

James Morrison is listed simply as a "resident".

#### Teachers at the School.

Apparently, a certain Mr. E. Alexander had conducted a school at this place from September, 1873, until the Government school opened in May, 1875. It could not have been a very profitable occupation, for he stated in January, 1875: "I have been keeping a common school here for 16 months, getting 11/- a week for nine months, and 4/- a week for seven months." Mr. Alexander applied for the position of head teacher at Toongabbie South School, but was unsuccessful.

Then, there appears on the files a telegram from Shady Creek, sent to the Department by Kate Campbell of Traralgon, reading: "Appointment to School, South Toongabbie, accepted". But Miss Campbell does not appear on the list of teachers at the school, and there is nothing in the records to say why. A month later, a letter from Charles F. Woolnough, 25/4/1875, acknowledges his appointment to the school. The official list of teachers at the school, is:-

8/5/75 - 4/2/78..Charles F. Woolnough. 1889-1890..Walter B. Camfield.  
1878-1889.....Alfred Wm. Crowe. 1890-1894..Frances M. Cairns.

#### General Matters.

An interesting side-light on transport facilities of the time is given in a letter by Mr. C.E. Stewart of Toongabbie State School, who wrote to the Public Works inspector, Mr. A. McIntyre, suggesting that he inspect the new school building at Toongabbie South. He wrote: "You could come by coach to Traralgon, then, with the mailman for Toongabbie, across the new bridge about five miles from the school; and on the same day, reach Stringer's Creek with the same mailman".

The first letter from the first teacher, C. F. Woolnough, indicated that there was a low-lying, wet area near the school, and this is endorsed by further evidence. Woolnough wrote: "In wet weather, the school is surrounded by a swamp, and the children need horses to ride through it. The grounds should be fenced to keep the horses in".

Mr. Jackson Orr, grazier, was the man most active in opposing the closing of the school. He seemed to blame the teacher, Mr. Alfred Crowe, who had transferred to the new and bigger school, Glengarry State School, No.2888, for enticing the pupils away from the old school to the new school; but it was not Mr. Crowe who was to blame for the inexorable process of change, which brought the township of Glengarry into being, making a new school there necessary, and the old one redundant.

The building was removed to Thorpedale in 1895.

"Scarne" State School, No. 2281.

(but officially, Toongabbie South State School (2), No. 2281)

Since neither the Education Department nor the La Trobe Library could identify this school from its local name of "Scarne", and since we did not discover that its real name was Toongabbie South State School (2), until we searched through the records of other schools, we have not had time to deal with this school thoroughly. However, here is the list of teachers who served at the school, from its opening, 2nd. December, 1880:-

1880-1882...Ruth Broadway	1887-1888...Helen B. Pennycuik
1882-1885...Margaret Scott	1888-1889...Elizabeth J. Lister
1885-1886...Mary J. Robertson	1889-1892...Julia A. Coomber.
1886-1887...Thomas B. Dobson	

From the early register of Glengarry State School, No. 2888, we find that the following pupils transferred immediately from Scarne to Glengarry, no doubt, simply because it was the closer school for them.

James, Thomas and William Bermingham, aged 13, 9, and 7 years.  
Minnie and Ethel Brooks, aged 10.7, and 9.5.  
Maggie and William Drane, aged 12 and 9 years.  
Stephen Hambrook, aged 10.3.  
Elizabeth, Annie, Ellen, Jane, Thomas, and Ernest Pratt, aged 15, 14, 13, 8, 7 and 5 years.  
Benjamin Taylor, aged 13.10.

There were no further transfers to Glengarry from Scarne, until August, 1892, when the Scarne school was closed. Those transferring then, were:-

Walter, Graham and Grace Christensen, aged 12.7, 12.7 and 11.1.  
Janey Cone, 10.11, and Ellen Froude, 11.11.

Toongabbie West State School, No. 2884.

We know, at the moment, even less about this school than about Scarne, since we did not even know of its existence, until we read this report by District-Inspector T. W. Bothroyd, 8/11/1893, dealing with the closure of all Toongabbie South State School, No. 1235:-

"On the closing of No. 1235, ample school accommodation will be provided by Glengarry State School, No. 2888, which is within two miles of it, and by Toongabbie West State School, No. 2884".

We will tell you more about Scarne and Toongabbie West in our next issue.

Glengarry State School, No. 2888.

The petition for a school at Glengarry, forwarded in September, 1887, gave the names of the following families, and the numbers of children who would attend. They were:-

George Hower (3); C. J. Williams (2); Thomas Miles (3);  
John R. Balfour (1); James Considine (2); Charles Taylor (5);  
Hector McNeil (3); John Kyne (7); John Farmer (1); Thomas Pratt (6);  
James Brooke (3); Stephen Hambrook (4); John Bermingham (4);  
David Fisk (1); William McDonnell (1).

Teachers at the school have been:-

7/88 - 12/88...Elizabeth Cheyne	1942-1945...Arthur D. Ward
1889 - 1893...Alfred Wm. Crowe	1945-1950...Reuben H. Bennett
1893- 1894...Mrs. A. Thomson	1951-1955...Alfred I. Haley
1894 - 1917...James H. Thomson	1955-1957...Stanley Annear
1917 - 1920...John E. Chenhall	1958-1958...George Valentine
1923 - 1931...James R. George	1958-1960...Edwin G. Prince
1931 - 1933...David A. Dorrity	1961-1961...Valerie J. Sinclair
1933 - 1937...William A. Watson	1961-1961...Ronald L. Winzer
1937 - 1941...Victor J. Barlow	1962-1962...Kenneth L. Rogers
1941 - 1942...Sidney H. Wickens	1963-1963...David W. Pollock
1920 - 1922...George J. Quick	1964- on....William C. Sutton



Glengarry School, 2888 (continued).

For a little more than a year, 24/7/88 to 30/9/89, the school was at first conducted in the local Mechanics' Institute, until the new school building was ready. The site must have been low-lying, since there was constant dampness trouble, aggravated by the drainage works of the school's neighbour, Mr. John Kyne. Eventually the solution of this trouble was the shifting of the school to a new site, on the opposite side of the road, - the present site - a move which took place in 1915.

There is a short, interesting description of the township of Glengarry, given in January, 1888, by Mr. Mark Ellwood, who was objecting to the establishment of a school in Glengarry, in opposition to Toongabbie South, 1235. He belittled the place saying that it consisted only of two hotels (Commercial Hotel, and Shamrock Hotel), two stores, a butcher's, a blacksmith's, two cottages, and a sawmill. To the unbiassed reader, however, this seems to be praise rather than condemnation, and ample justification for the establishment of a school.

Mrs. Angelina Thomson, who was head teacher of the school in 1893-1894, was the wife of James H. Thomson, her successor at the school. Before her marriage she was Miss Angelina Canale. Later on, she was the sewing-mistress at the school.

James H. Thomson reigned at the school for 23 years, from 1894-to 1917. This long stay at the one school seems to have been fairly characteristic of the period. A parallel case is that of Mr. Charles E. Stewart who was head teacher of the neighbouring school, Toongabbie, for 33 years, from 1873 to 1906. Possibly a partial explanation of this is the period of stagnation which took place in Victoria after the boom period 1851 to 1892 had ended in the bank crashes of 1892. There was little rise in population, there were few new schools built, and there was less opportunity for promotion or advancement to bigger schools.

Another interesting teacher is Alfred William Crowe, who spent eleven years at the first Glengarry school (Toongabbie South, No. 1235) 1879 to 1889, and then another four years at the new Glengarry School (No. 2888), 1889-1893. From Glengarry, he went to Coalville School, near Moe. He probably stayed there for thirteen years, 1893 to 1906, and then we find that he was head teacher of Moe State School, 2142, (Albert Street School), from 1906 to 1911. In the Glengarry School register, appear the names of a number of his children, four of whom had been attending his old school, 1235, and then enrolled at Glengarry School, 2888, when he came to teach there in February, 1889. These four were Alfred William (8.10), Annie (6.9), Edward (5) and Victor (3.5). Later, there is a fifth child, David, aged 2 years 10 months, enrolled 25/4/1892. If this age seems to be very young for a child to start school, we can quote other examples of babies being admitted to the school, even younger than David Crowe. For example, in November 1889, the twins Daisy Bryde and Lily Bryde, were enrolled at the school when they were two years, seven months old, while in August 1892, poor little Ricky Stevenson toddled off to school when only one year nine months old.

A grandson of Alfred William Crowe, also named Alfred Crowe, lives in Crinigan Road, Morwell. His son, Alfred Crowe, makes the eighth successive generation to bear the name of Alfred Crowe.

The Glengarry School, 2888 Register.

From the first two pages of the register, we can calculate that the gross enrolment of the school in its first year, 1888, was 63, of whom 61 enrolled in the first month of the school's existence, July, 1888. They were:

Annie and John Bermingham; Lily Brooks; Christina and Mary Bryde; Thomas, Maggie, Katie and James Considine; Mary Drane (Praralgon); William Farrier; George Fisk; Beatrice Coghlan; Robert Enright; James, Frances, Maurice and John Hambrook; Annie Hazel; Maggie, Mary and Willie Irwin; Ada, Jessie, Annie and Hector McNeil; Annie, George, Elizabeth, Stewart and William King; Owen, John, Frances, Edward, Ellen and Rose Kyne; Lily, Clara, Thomas, Nellie and Edward Taylor; Mary, Katie and Nellie Williams.

The Glengarry School Register (continued).

Pupils enrolled at Glengarry School, 2688, in 1889, the second year of its existence were:

Alfred (9), Annie (7), Edward (5) and Victor (3) Crowe; Charles Berg (12); Harry (6), Herbert (5) and Ada (3) Lillingston; Daniel Lillingston (14); Samuel Davy (5); Eliza (13), Annie (12) and Agnes (8) Murtagh; Kate Bermingham (3); Marion (9) and Jessie Thomas (8); William Whittle (4); Alice (11), Henry (9), John (7), William (6), and James (4) Duke; Robert Duke (4); Alexander Horne (5); Daisy (2) and Lily (2) Bryde; Arthur (12), Beatrice (10), Lily (9), and Florence (7) Duff; Isabel Paul (3); James King (17).

James King, 17 years old, seems a bit too old to be still going to a primary school. But this seems to be a special case. In the records we read that at the old school, 1235, in 1888, James King was appointed a pupil teacher. We feel sure that this is the same James King who became head teacher at the Moe School, 1904-1906, when he was in his thirties. From there he went to the Melbourne Continuation School (now Melbourne Boys' High School), the first State secondary school in Victoria.

The first entry in the register for 1890, and also the third, are pupils of 17 years of age.

1890.

Bessie Hazel (17); Beatrice Williams (3), Doctor Heywood (17); William Heywood (15); Thomas Moore (15); Benjamin Lang (13); George Holt (9); Elsie Irene Crowe (2); Elsie Turvey (4); Henry Hazel (14); William (11) and Elizabeth Briggs (7); John Moore (9); Sophia (8) and Esh Lovell (6); Mary Weatherly (4); Minnie Dove (8); Walter (10), Gertrude (7) and Ernest Andrews (4); Charles Briggs (9); William Fryer (15), Annie Irvine (3); Alice MacDonell (3); Violet Williams (5); John Gilbert (3); Philip O'Brien (9); Tottie Hughes (6).

1891.

Nelly (8), Alice (6) and Elsie (4) Reynolds; Nelly Bermingham (3); Margaret Hambrook (3); Charles (11) and William (3) Stevenson; Alice Stevenson (7); Duncan Considine (3); Margaret King (3); James Lovell (5); Ethel Wallace (2); George Friar (15); Margaret Duke (2); Grace Brandt (2); Annie Holden (6); Jane (11), Ambrosine (9) and Fanny (4) Smith; Louis Bennett (14); Mabel (8) and Ethel (6) Bailey; Harry Martin (5).

1892.

Kate Andrews (3); Laura Whittle (5); Henry McAuley (15); Benjamin Graham (5); David Crowe (2); Ricky Stevenson (1); Walter (12), Graham (12) and Grace (11) Christensen; Jane Cone (11); Alice (8) and Walter (6) Orde; Ellen Froude (12); Thomas Rountree (10).

1893.

Neva (8) and Clarice Mowatt (6); Sophia Hower (14); Lucy Dove (5); James (8); Matthew (7), Claire (5), Vivien (9) and Alec Thomson (4); Arnold Wind (5); James Salter (5);

1894.

This was the year when the old school 1235 closed down. The first fourteen names are those of pupils transferrin from it.

Margaret (13), Maud (11), Frank (6), and Ada Humphrey (7); Ellen (12), Harry (10) and Polly (8) Mitchell; Margaret Duke (4); Harold (11), Ole (9), and David Christansen (5); May Russell (5); Edward (8) and William (5) Omeara; Isabel Valpied (10); Emily Graham (17); Charles Orde (6); Mary King (5); Herbert Mowatt (4); James Fisk (5); Isaac Cone (6).

Most of the parents were farmers but the following interesting variations occur:- Charles Taylor, John McNeill, Kate Coghlan, William Moore and Henry Smith (Hotel-Keepers); Charles Williams and Harry Reynolds (Blacksmiths); James Considine and Alexander Mowatt (Station Masters); Henry Berg, William Friar and Charles Andrews (Carriers); William Horne and Richard King (Storekeepers); John Holt (Wheelwright); John Doctor Heywood (Commission Agent); John Duke (Railway worker).

Schools and Population.

Since a school depends upon the township or the district it serves, the stages of a school's growth, or decline, parallel the stages of the growth or decline of that town. The town, in its turn, often reflects the development of the nation as a whole. So it is, we can see in the story of the schools of Victoria, the history of Victoria itself.

There were three major factors in the development of Victoria during the second half of the nineteenth century, and the effects of all three are well shown in the history of our schools. These three major factors were the discovery of gold in 1851 and the consequent gold-rush; the throwing open of the land to selectors from 1870 onwards, and the consequent land-rush; and the building of a network of railways in the late seventies and the eighties. Coincidental with the opening up of the land, was the opening of the school doors to every child by the Great Education Act of December, 1872.

The Gold Rush. The gold-rush resulted in a tremendous and sudden increase in the population of Victoria, and the mushroom growth of new towns, only some of which remained permanent centres of population. Education was not free, but some of the people desired an education for their children, and either established private schools or sought help from the government in the form of a subsidized national or denominational school. The smaller centres could not afford to run a number of denominational schools where one national school would serve just as well or better.

In the large and temporary gold towns, sometimes tent schools were established. Here again, we see the school taking on, even in its physical appearance, the same character as the town itself. A tent school for a tent population was a natural development.

There was little agricultural development in this early period, for the land was still in the hands of the squatters, one family occupying a vast area of many square miles, with only a small village here and there to serve the needs of a sparse population and the few travellers along the tracks or coach roads. The squatters did not need public schools; they were content to make their own arrangements, employing tutors, or sending their children to the capital cities, or even back home to England, for the kind of education they themselves had enjoyed.

Gold did not begin to affect Gippsland very much until the sixties and until prospectors hit upon such gold strikes as at Walhalla (1862) and Grant (1865). For the 20 years after McMillan's exploration of Gippsland and the discovery of Port Albert (1841), the main gateway into Gippsland, there were only two township areas to assume any great importance - Port Albert (with its satellites, Tarraville and Alberton), and Sale (or Flooding Creek, as it was first known). What were the educational developments in these towns?

Tarraville. As early as 1850, there was a private school at this place, conducted by James George Hart and his wife. At first, there was an average attendance of 36 pupils, but the attendance dropped, and the school closed in 1852.

These private-school teachers tended to teach themselves out of existence. When people had to pay for education, they sent their children to school for a shorter period. The range of school-age could have been something like from 7 years to 11 years. When a new school opened, it would at first draw on children up to 15 or 16 years or even older, but when that reserve was used up, the school declined. Education then meant simply learning to read and write and to do elementary arithmetic. Obviously, the next step was to establish a government-aided school. In March 1853, the Denominational Board set up a Roman Catholic School, with Mr. Maurice J. Moore as the teacher. Here, in table form, is the brief history of the early Tarraville schools:

Private School.....	1850-1852...	Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hart.
Roman Catholic School....	1853.....	Mr. Maurice J. Moore.
	1854.....	Mr. Thomas W. Mooney.
	1855-1857...	Mr. John Kelly.
National School.....	Sept., 1856..	Mr. and Mrs. J. Blanche.

Port Albert. No doubt the Tarraville private school was patronised by the people of Port Albert, till it closed and was replaced by a Roman Catholic school. In November, 1853, the Denominational Board established a Church of England school at Port Albert, with Mr. James Johnston Hart as the first teacher (1853-54). The next teacher, Annie Radley Smith, (1855-56), died in 1856 and the school closed. Although there was an immediate petition for a national school (1/7/56), it was not until 1861 or 1862 that a national school was established, first in temporary premises, the Immigration Barracks, Palmerston.



Alberton. There was a Church of England School at Alberton, established in 1856, with Mr. John Dempster as the teacher. When it closed, a National School took its place. The first teachers were Mr. and Mrs. G. Groves, 1859, and they were followed by Henry Weymouth. There is an interesting report on this school given by the Board of Patrons in the "Gippsland Guardian" in its issue for the 21st. December, 1860, reading:

"We are proud to see another man (Mr. Weymouth, the teacher) in the right place, and we feel assured that this school will soon rival that at Sale, which is the most perfect country educational establishment that has come under our notice in Victoria".

This was an unusual and remarkably high tribute, not only to Mr. Weymouth, but to the teachers conducting Sale National School at that time - young Mr. English, and his assistant, Mrs. Marianne Carpenter.

Sale. In 1853, Mrs. Carpenter and her daughter were running a private school in Sale. This was converted into Sale National School as from the beginning of 1854, with Mrs. Carpenter as the head-teacher. This Sale school was the first National School in Gippsland. John Hughes was the head-teacher there from July, 1855 to October, 1857, and he was followed by John James English, 1858 to 1865, a young man barely 22 years old when he took up this position. He gave up teaching in 1865 to become a stock and station agent in Sale. Mrs. Carpenter stayed on till 1875, retiring at the age of 69 years, after serving at the school for 22 years.

Common Schools, 1863-1872. The change from the dual control of the two Boards to the single control of the Common Schools Board in 1863 had little effect in Gippsland, merely changing the names of the schools from national schools to common schools.

The Land Rush and Free Education. The throwing open of the land to free selection and the introduction of free and compulsory education as from the early seventies, meant a tremendous proliferation of schools. Other factors increased the number of schools needed. Mothers, glad to be rid of their children for so many hours a day, sent their babies, of three years and under, off to school. To live up to its new obligations, the government had to establish schools every four miles or so in the settled areas. At one time schools were being established at the rate of 150 new schools a year, or twelve every month, or three every week.

The Railways. The railways brought further changes. More areas were opened up for settlement. Often the older villages were by-passed and their places taken by new railway-towns. Old schools languished and died with their towns, and new schools started. At Morwell, for example, Maryvale Ridge School closed, and the Morwell School (Commercial Road) opened. At Glengarry, a new school opened at the new township, which grew up round the railway station, between the two older schools of Toongabbie South (1) and Toongabbie South (2) (also known as Scarne), both of which closed.

Hazelwood Ridge State School, No. 1768.

This seems a convenient occasion to correct two errors in the account of this school given in the "Educational Magazine" for March, 1965. We were wrong in saying that the school closed in 1914; in fact, it did not close till 1945. The other error resulted from the misplacement of the clause "until that school was burnt down in the bush-fires of 1905" under teacher William McLoughlan, 1906-08, instead of under teacher John Sullivan, 1903-06. Perhaps the best way to put everything straight is to repeat the list of teachers:

- |                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1/10/76 - 9/2/77..Mrs. M.L.Mathison. | 1910-1917...Violet Anderson.     |
| 1877-1880...Mansfield A. Nelson.     | 1918-1921...Mrs. Ina Payne.      |
| 1880-1887...Miss Barbara Irving.     | 1921-1923...Richard S. Turner.   |
| 1887-1896...Elizabeth I. Waldon.     | 1923-1924...Minnie E. Maxwell.   |
| 1896-1900...Roland Greaves.          | 1924-1927...Harry McLennan.      |
| 1900-1902...Hubert J. Gaffney.       | 1927-1928...George Probert.      |
| 1903-1905...John Sullivan.           | 1928-1929...Arthur J. Sinclair.  |
| 1906-1908...William McLoughlan.      | 1929-1940...Alfred H. Miller.    |
|                                      | 1940-1944...Leonard F. Foxcroft. |

The school was half-time with Yinnar South, No. 2730, from April, 1894 to February, 1898, when the Yinnar South School was burnt down in a bush-fire. It was again on half-time - with Driffield School, No. 2433, October, 1902 until February, 1905, when the Driffield School was burnt down in a bush-fire. The school was officially closed as from April, 1945, but maybe did not re-open in 1945.

The Glengarry Schools.

As promised in our last issue of the "News", we are now able to tell you a little more about the four schools first established in this area:

1. Toongabbie South School (1), later known as Eaglehawk, then La Trobe, and finally Glengarry, No. 1235 .....1875-1894.
2. Toongabbie South School (2), known more generally in the district as Scarne School, No. 2281 .....1880-1892.
3. Toongabbie West School, No. 2884 .....1888-1910.
4. Glengarry School, No. 2888, the present school...1888-----

Since the earliest of these four schools, No. 1235, has already been dealt with fully, we can now confine our attention to the other three.

Toongabbie South School (2), or "Scarne", No. 2281.

The first petition for this school, dated 24/2/1879, listed the following parents, whose children would attend:

Thomas Pratt (3 children);	James Brooks (5);	John Smith (6);
John Bermingham (3);	John Kyne (5);	James Nixon (7);
Walter Marstin (1);	James Lang (5);	John Duke (1);
Stephen Hambrook (2);	Thos. Timms (5);	William Carey (3);
Joseph Fitzgibbon (5);	Chas. Taylor (4);	Thos. Twomey (6);
Z. Christensen (3);	Wm. Burns (4);	P. McInerny (4);
James Campbell (3);	C.W.Fleischer (2).	

The first site suggested was on William Campbell's property, half a mile further west than the final choice, which was on Oliver Wentworth's block, close to the Five-Ways corner, and on the north side of the road separating Wentworth's triangular block from the Scarne Pre-emptive Right.

Another list of children who could attend included the following families not previously mentioned: Cone (5); Binns (4); Duncan (5); Hensley (3); and Russell (3). The school did not thrive and closed 8/8/1892.

Toongabbie West School, No. 2884.

This school opened 12/7/1888, and closed 26 years later, in 1914. Teachers during that period were:

1888-1891...Mary Broderick.	1903-1907...Henry S. O'Neill.
1891-1897...Annie E. Nolan.	1908-1910...Rose A. Kyne.
1898.....Catherine Hanna.	1910-1914...Mary A. Cameron.
1899-1903...Edward J. Grieve.	

We also have a record of two sewing-mistresses at the school, Mrs. Angelina Thomson in 1894, and Margaret A.H.Nicol, 1894-1897. Mrs. Thomson was the wife of James H.Thomson, head-teacher of Glengarry School, No.2888, for 23 years, 1894-1917.

It seems strange that a decision should have been taken to open up a new school in this area when attendances were dropping at two other schools. Toongabbie South (1) and Toongabbie South (2), with the almost certain prospect that they would close.

However, a meeting of parents held in the Mechanics' Hall, Glengarry, 23/9/1887, unanimously decided to ask for a school in the north-west of the area. The site chosen was on the property of James Lang, four miles south of Toongabbie School, No. 856, four miles west of Toongabbie South School, No. 1235, and five miles north of Toongabbie South School (Scarne), No. 2281.

The district inspector, Mr. Wm. Hamilton, thought that the site chosen, on a hill, was excellent, and one of the best he had seen, but the Board of Advice disagreed on the grounds that it was in close proximity to a dangerous creek, and that the "impenetrable" nature of the scrub around it, made it difficult to approach. The Board eventually withdrew its objections and school opened in temporary premises owned by William Carey.

Twice, in 1898 and again in 1914, the school was in danger of being destroyed by bushfires, but was saved on each occasion by the exertions of the local people. (The permanent building had been completed by August, 1889).

The last note on the school is a recommendation by James Lang and residents that the school should be moved from the hill to a more central position on the flat.

Glengarry School, No. 2888.

The only matters to be added to the story of Glengarry School, No. 2888, are a few interesting details about the families who patronised the school. From the original register, we find these people listed together with their occupations (in addition to those given in our last issue): -

- Hotel-Keepers...Daniell Lillington (1889); William Scott and John Scott, (1900); John Smith (1906).
- Cabinet-Maker...Henry R. Paul (1889). Drover...John Briggs (1890).
- Stationmasters...James Considine (1888); Alexander Mowatt (1893); Tobias Purcell (1897); William Hart (1906).
- Carpenter...William Gilbert (1895). Sawmill Proprietor..Ben Lang (1890).
- Sawyer...William Wallace (1898). Contractor....Edward Martin (1891).
- Mining Speculator...George W. Harland, (1896).
- Butter Factory Manager... Henry Humphrey (1907).
- Commission Agent and Carrier...John Doctor Heyward (1889).

The first name on the register is that of Mary Kyne, daughter of John Kyne of Glengarry, a neighbour to the school. This is the family to which the well-known Collingwood footballer and coach, Phonse Kyne, belongs. Presumably, he is a grandson of old John Kyne. There were other Kyne children enrolled, and we note particularly, Rose Kyne, aged 6½ years, in 1888. Surely this is the same person who was head-teacher at Toongabbie West School, in 1908.

The Glengarry Schools..General Comments.

No small part of the value of the old records of old schools is that they provide a kind of unofficial census of the people in the district, through their registers, petitions and special reports. Unfortunately, few schools have managed to retain their original registers. Occasionally, however, some more thorough petitioning group will list the children of the area. This was done by the people interested in establishing Toongabbie West School. Here is the list, with the ages of the children given in brackets: (The year is 1879).

- Taylor.....Elizabeth (12); George (7); Alfred (9); Benjamin (5); Lillian (3).
- Cone.....Mary (6); Owen (5); John (3); Edwin (2); Catherine (1).
- Binns.....George (12); Matthew (10); Walter (7); Maria (4).
- Pratt.....Elizabeth (6); Annie (4); Ellen (3).
- Fleischer..Thomas (12). The father has just died and the family will probably leave the district.
- Brooks.....Elizabeth (12); Bertie (9); Ellen (6); Henry (7).
- Smith.....Farquhar (14); James (12); William (10); Catherine (7).
- Hower.....Annie (12); Barbara (10); James (9); Charles (7).
- Marstin...Charles (14).
- McInerney..Four children, aged 6, 4, 3, and 1.
- Duncan.....Lillian (11); Fred (8); Jessie (6); Christobel (4); Grace.
- Hensley...Marian (7); Lillian (9); Sydney (8).
- Fitzgibbon..Joseph (13); Edward (11); Michael (10); Mary (9); Elizabeth (7); Catherine (6).
- Christensen..Soren (4); Duncan (3).
- Twomey....William (11); Alfred (9); Thomas (5); Augustus (3).
- Russell...Harriet (13); Marian (11); Susan (8).
- Timms.....Four children, aged 10, 8, 6, and 4.

Two other schools in the area, mentioned as possible units in a half-time arrangement with Toongabbie South (2) (or "Scarne"), were Boola Boola School, No. 2182, and Tyers River School, about to be opened in 1879, at the time of this recommendation, but not yet in existence. Again, the density of the scrub is mentioned in connection with the proposed new school of Tyers River, four miles west from "Scarne". The reporting inspector wrote that the school could only be reached from Scarne through dense, "almost impassible scrub".

The Numbering of Schools, 1863 Onwards.

The two Boards that controlled State education, 1851 to 1862, numbered their schools separately. When the Common Schools Board took over in 1862, all the State subsidized schools were listed alphabetically and numbered accordingly, so that we have No. 1. Alberton; No. 37. Belvoir; No. 298. Horsham; and No. 545, Sale. By 1862, there were approximately 700 such schools.

From then on, schools have been numbered in chronological order of their establishment. In 1968, we are approaching the 5,000 mark for State primary schools.



The Morwell Historical Society News.

Journal of the Morwell Historical Society. Published on the 10th. day of each month, February to November.

Editor.....I.T.Maddern, Morwell High School, Morwell, Victoria, 3840.

---

---

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission as a periodical.

---

---

Membership Fees.

Annual Subscription.....\$ 1-00.

Life Membership.....\$10-00.

Treasurer.....Mrs.E.H.Gerrard, 18 Hoyle Street, Morwell, 3840.

The Latrobe Valley Historical Societies.

Moe Historical Society.

Secretary...Mr. A. Kingin, 3 Carbine Street, Moe. 3825.

Monthly Meeting Night...The fourth Thursday of the month, at the Society's Rooms, Kirk Street, Moe.

Next Meeting....Thursday, 25th. July, 1968.

Morwell Historical Society.

Secretary...Mr. A. Ludske, Morwell High School, Morwell, 3840

Monthly Meeting Night...The third Tuesday of the month, in the Library of the Morwell High School.

Next Meeting....Tuesday, 16th. July, 1968, at 7.15 p.m.(Note the time)

Syllabus Item...The Second Morwell School, Maryvale Ridge, No.1939.

Maryvale Ridge School opened in August, 1877 and lasted only till May, 1879. The first and only head teacher was Miss Zenna McCrory (later Mrs. John Rintoull)

Traralgon Historical Society.

Secretary...Mrs. V. Plant, 114 Grey Street, Traralgon, 3844.

Next Meeting....Tuesday, 16th. July, 1968, in the Civic Reception Rooms.

Syllabus Item...Address by Mr.R.Hentschel..."Reminiscences of Traralgon and District!" The meeting starts at 7.30 p.m. Since the date of this meeting clashes with that of the Morwell Society, it is suggested to the Morwell members their meeting should be early (7.15 p.m.) and brief, so that members may then go on to Traralgon to hear Mr. Hentschel, who has a vast knowledge of early Morwell.

The History of Education in Victoria.

Local School Committees.

Since 1851, when Victoria became a separate State, the system of local control or interest in schools has passed through four stages, the first two corresponding with the first two systems of education in operation here.

1. The Board of Patrons, 1851-1862...Each school had a local Board of Patrons, with considerable powers. For example the Board appointed and dismissed the teachers. Generally the Board was comprised of squatters in the district.
2. Local Committees, 1863-1872...These coincided with the Common Schools era.
3. Boards of Advice, 1873-1911...A rather strange and unsatisfactory idea, when the one Board of Advice was responsible for all schools in a very large area.
4. School Committees, 1912 onwards, as we know them now.

Letters from Readers.

We have been very pleased to receive lately a few letters with additional information on subjects we have dealt with in the "News". Two of our correspondents during the last month have been Mrs. Vera B. Traill of 19 Dundas Street, Sale, and Miss E.A.C. Payne of 6 Auburn Parade, East Hawthorn.

Mrs. Traill, whose grandfather was Edward Remington Guy, a leading citizen in Talbotville, in its heyday, and whose mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stout, were the last two inhabitants of Talbotville, has written to us with further information about the schools in the district. She has also lent to us some very valuable photos of Talbotville and Grant.

Miss Payne, a grand-daughter of the first pioneer at Budgeree, Captain H.W.G. Payne, practically wrote for us, the issue of Vol.5; No. 2, of the "News", dated 10/3/66, when she supplied us with an absorbing account of the story of the Payne Family, and the early days of Budgeree.

Talbotville School and Others.

Mrs. Traill writes: "Talbotville School was open for a longer period than you give, 1873-1895. It was made part-time for a while with the Crooked River State School, No. 3603. The latter school had four days a week, Mondays to Thursdays inclusive, and Talbotville School had two days a week, Fridays and Saturdays. I think the school closed in 1915 or 1916, when we pupils, five or six of us, had to ride eight miles to attend the Crooked River School. Another part-time school was the Lower Dargo School. In the 1930's during the depression, some old mines at Black Snake Creek were re-opened, and a small school on the Dargo-Talbotville Road was opened. One of the teachers, Mr. Bert Cliff, is now the Headmaster of Bairnsdale West State School. Another school in that area, but now closed, was the Riverford School, which lasted from about 1936 to 1950. The building was moved to the Dargo School about two years ago, to make an extra class-room. The Riverford School was on the main Dargo-Stratford Road, about eight miles from both Dargo and Castleburn."

Hazelwood Ridge School, No.1768.

Miss Payne writes: "The missing name in your list of teachers at Hazelwood Ridge School, 1918-1922, is that of Mrs Ina Payne, nee Grose, the first wife of my uncle, Mr. C.F.H. Payne. She had returned to teaching while her husband was away fighting in World War I. In this period she taught first at Ararat, and then at Hazelwood Ridge."

We had met the name of Miss Ina Grose before; she taught at the Budgeree State School, 1911 and 1912.

Yangery (or Illowa) State School, No.690.

We mention now Yangery State School, No.690, a little school in the Western District, mainly as a compliment to Miss E.E. Bridle of Morwell. She attended the school in the 1880's, the head-teacher being George G. McKay, the grandfather of Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet. Here is the list of teachers:

1858-1890..George G. McKay.	1936-1940..Allan G. Mackie.
1891-1895..John Lindsay	1941-1944..Lyle Derrick.
1895-1906..Charles Lightfoot	1945-1950..Charles G. Jackson.
1907.....Mary Jellie	1950-1952..Gerard M. Callaghan.
1908-1917..James W. Grimshaw.	1952-1953..Cecil J. Wallis.
1918-1922..Valentine Walker.	1954-1957..Alfred G. Golder.
1922-1930..Victor Baudinette.	1958.....Francis K. Fielding.
1930-1934..John Dickson.	1958-1960..Raymond H. Nicholls.
1934-1936..James T. Cummins.	

Mr. Albert E. Thorne was appointed the head-teacher there in 1907, but was immediately transferred to the Training College as a lecturer, and later became an inspector of schools. His place at Yangery was taken by Mary Jellie. The name was changed from Yangery to Illowa in 1909, because the school was closer to the railway township and post-office of Illowa than to the location known as Yangery.

The teacher from 1918 to 1922, Valentine Walker, had the distinction of being the most successful schools' exhibitor at the Melbourne Show, 1920-21.

Cowarr Capitation School, No. 1177.

In 1869, there were two sectarian groups in Cowarr, each with its own school, and each trying to secure recognition from the Government in order to obtain the Government subsidy then available to acceptable or "vested" schools. Free and compulsory education did not commence until the beginning of 1873.

The bigger and better school, and the one more centrally situated (in the township itself) was the Roman Catholic School, which, from 1873 to 1877 inclusive, was known as the Cowarr Capitation School, No.1177.

The strong man behind this school was Rev. Father Matthew Hayes of Stratford, who made eloquent representations in 1872, that it should be acknowledged as the Cowarr State School, when state schools and free education were to begin in 1873. But since the school was conducted in a building of the Roman Catholic Church, by a Roman Catholic teacher, and controlled by a Roman Catholic Committee, the authorities could not accept it as a government state school.

However, the Great Education Act of 1872, under Clause 10, allowed such schools to continue receiving State financial aid for five years after 1872, the assistance being in the nature of a capitation grant, or so much per head, according to the enrolment. This assistance automatically ceased at the end of 1877. It may be that the school continued to exist after that date, but there is no further record of it in the official files. We know that the first teacher was Joseph Fitzgibbon, 1869-1871, and that he was followed by John McCarthy, 1872-1875. A work-mistress, Mrs. Elizabeth Rice, taught at the school, 1874 to 1877.

An application for aid, dated September, 1870, gave the names of the School Committee as Matthew Hayes, clergyman; William Fogarty, storekeeper; Patrick O'Brien, farmer; James Rice, farmer; Theodore Gerhardt, hotel-keeper; and Hugh Harkins, farmer. The maximum number of children who could and would attend a Common School was given as 50 pupils, but since this number included the range of ages from 2 years to 16 years, it is more likely that the enrolment would have been about 40 pupils. The proposed rate of fees was 1/- per week per child.

The names of the families whose children would attend a government common school (and we can assume that they were then attending the Catholic School, though not necessarily belonging to the Roman Catholic faith) were Charles Johnson (8 children); Edward Wykes (2); James Woodhouse (7); Denis O'Brien (5); Patrick O'Brien (1); Mary Hillier (1); Peter McEwen (4); James Rice (6); John Kilmartin (5); Theodore Gerhardt (1); David Morgan (6); William Fogarty (3); and Joseph Fitzgibbon (3).

The Protestant School, 1869 -

A rival group, led by John Wilson, established their school, also in 1869, about 1½ miles out of the township, and in November, 1869 applied for government aid.

We know little about this school, except that it was the first school at Cowarr, beating the Roman Catholic School by a few months. It had, apparently, financial difficulties or staffing difficulties or both, since a report in 1872 stated: "We were the first to organize a school in this locality. It has been conducted since 1869, with some intervals however. The present teacher, although not classified yet, has our confidence".

We do not know the names of any of the teachers who served at this school, nor how many and how long were the breaks in continuity. We do not know if it survived beyond 1872.

There is no evidence that it became a capitation school like the Roman Catholic School. Certainly, the Cowarr State School was not established until 1877, a fact borne out by official correspondence, the list of head-teachers which begins in 1877, and the number of the school, No.1967, which fixes it as an 1877 vintage school.

The residents who supported this first Cowarr school, and who wrote to the authorities in January, 1873, requesting aid similar to that given to the Roman Catholic Capitation School at Cowarr were John Alliss (3 children); John Baker (3); Alfred Hollingsworth (5); John Drane (4); Henry Whittles (5); Edward Martin (2); John James (4); John Buntine (5); William Campbell (3); James Mitchell (1); and E. Jones (2). John Wilson had already left the district, and the Buntines, Bakers, and Sherwoods were about to leave.



Cowarr State School, No.1967.

In April, 1872 an application was made to the authorities for the establishment of a common school at Cowarr. The site suggested was a little way outside the township on "a reserve in a central situation, midway between the Catholic School and the Protestant School, between the holdings of Messrs. Bowman and Harkins."

The Local Committee appointed consisted of John Alliss, farmer; Alfred Hollingsworth, carpenter; John Buntine, farmer; Edward Martin, farmer, and Edward Jones.

But there is nothing in the records to indicate that anything was done until five years later, when Cowarr State School, No. 1967 opened on a site in Baker Street, Cowarr, 28th. November, 1877.

The head teachers of the school have been:

1877-1879...George A. Rylah;	1925-1937...Ashley Stuchberry.
1879-1886...Thomas B. Dobson.	1937-1940...Philip Dwyer.
1886-1889...Mary J. Robertson.	1940-1948...John E. Blain.
1889-1901...Thomas P. Martin.	1948-1950...Patrick L. Howe.
1902-1907...Frances E. Cairns.	1950-1952...Thomas Gilheany.
1907-1914...Patrick Moore.	1953-1956...Robert H. Dossier.
1914-1919...Charles H.E. Smith.	1957-1962...Arthur K. Jewell.
1919-1920...Clifford A. Anderson.	1962-1964...Ian M. Morley.
1921-1925...Edgar S. Hall.	1965-.....Kenneth H. Baxter.

Some of the work-mistresses (or sewing-mistresses) who taught at the school were:

1878-1880...Catherine F. Andrews.	1887-1889...Phoebe Robertson.
1881-1884...Miss Alice Dobson.	1889-1902...Emma Martin.
1884-1886...Mrs. Alma Dobson.	

Traralgon West State School, No. 2847.

Edwin Kaye, Correspondent for the Board of Advice, No. 327, Schopl District of Traralgon, forwarded on the 2nd. October, 1880, the first petition for a school at Traralgon West. It was signed by the following parents:

Martin Regan; Thomas Copeland; William Wade; Charles Cochrane;  
John Walsh; Charles Sullivan; J. Griffiths; Edward Hagan;  
C.F. Chapman; Nicol Campbell.

However, this petition, and a second petition in 1885, were unsuccessful. It was not until a third petition was sent in 1886, that a somewhat grudging approval to establish a school was given. It was suggested by Inspector Hepburn at first, that it might be a half-time school conducted in conjunction with Boola Boola School, No.2182, or Traralgon Creek South School, No.2114, but finally a full-time school was allowed.

It opened in 1887, closed in 1906, re-opened in 1926, and closed finally in 1939. The head-teachers at the school were:

1887-1888..Annie J. Holding.	1926-1928..Isabel J. Salton.
1889-1900..Frederick W.H. Schier.	1928-1930..Bernard P. Eagan.
1901-1902..Elizabeth M. Hourigan.	1931-1936..David J. Dawborn.
1902-1906..Frances C. Kyne.	1937-1939..Charles A. Housden.

The families who, in 1886, were expected to send their children to the school which was about to be opened, were:

Charles Cochrane...David (10); Hannah (9); Thomas (7); Robert (5); Alexander (3).  
Alfred Morris.....Lily (5).  
James S. Boyd.....Amy (3).  
William Wade.....William (12); Robert (10); Mary (9); George (4).  
Thomas Copeland....William (13); Mary (10); Thomas (8); Agnes (7); Isaac (5);  
Jane (3); George (2)  
Catherine Le Grand..James (14) Timothy (8).  
Patrick Howard.....Mary (12); James (11).  
Thomas Scott.....Charles (14); Jane (10); Robert (8); Thomas (6).  
John Landsdown....William (10-; Charles (12).  
Margaret Maher.....Mary (8); Bridget (6).

The school was established on an acre of ground excoised from the property of Mrs. Catherine Le Grand, and bought for £5.

Traralgon State School, No.1328 and No.3584

The first State-subsidized school at Traralgon opened in a private house, 16th. May, 1870, and was probably classified as a rural school rather than a common school. This is indicated by the number of the school, since No. 1328 belongs to the 1874 allotment of numbers, and the official Departmental list of head-teachers of the school also begins from that year. For four years then, 1870 to 1873, the school had an inferior status, and not until 1874 did it receive full status, and become Traralgon State School, No.1328.

The seven landmarks in the school's history have been:

1. 1870...A school was established, 16/5/1870.
2. 1872...Construction of the first school building in Campbell Street.
3. 1874...Re-classified and became Traralgon State School, No. 1328.
4. 1878...A new school building constructed in the same grounds as the old building in Campbell Street. Both buildings were used.
5. 1910...A new, brick school was built in Grey Street (the present school) although the complete change from Campbell Street to Grey Street was not made until the beginning of 1912, when the school was given a new number, becoming State School, No.3584.
6. 1915...The school became Traralgon Higher Elementary School.
7. 1951...Traralgon High School was established; the old school lost its secondary classes and became again Traralgon State School. In recent years, because of the establishment of three other State schools, it has been known as Grey Street State School.

Head Teachers.

1870.....Henry Oakley Curling.	1930-1938...Douglas Lindsay.
1871-1873...Henry Walker Sanders.	1939-1945...James S. Mansfield.
* 1874-1879...Thomas Mattingley.	1946-1949...Douglas Lindsay.
1894-1895...Christopher Smithwick.	1949-1954...William H.Taylor.
1895-1903...Albert V. Birrell.	1955-1957...Frank Cocks.
1903-1907...Hermann E.F.Lampe.	1958-1960...George Fleming
1908-1910...Edward J. Box.	1961-1963...Eric Allison
1911-1916...Richard H. Griffiths.	1964- ...Alan McCallum.
1917-1920...Sydney Moysey	<u>Acting Head-Teachers.</u>
1920-1924...Thomas E.A.Spewart	A.W.Harley (1917); Percy Jones (1920)
1925-1929...Gordon W.Pitcher.	W.H.Hall (1939); H.E.Moller (1949)

It will be noticed that Mr. D. Lindsay had two terms at the school, 1930-1938 and 1946-1949, a total of thirteen years, the second longest period of office for any head teacher of the school.

An early letter on the files mentions that there had been two teachers prior to Henry Sanders, 1871-1873, but the names are not given. Apparently then, one name is missing from our list, a teacher who was in charge of the school for a short time before Mr. Sanders was appointed in April, 1871.

The story of Henry Sanders is rather a tragic one. He had been the first head teacher at Toongabbie Common School, 1867-1868, and had fallen into disfavour with the authorities over some breach of the regulations. At Traralgon he was a somewhat controversial figure, some of the parents speaking well of him, and others not so favourably. He was a sick man, suffering from consumption, and he had a large family to maintain. In 1872, Inspector Topp reported very harshly on him saying he was lethargic, when more likely the man was very sick. Unfortunately he did not hold the qualifications necessary to retain his position when the new system came into operation with the Education Act of 1872. He was dismissed in 1873, and ended his days miserably in a hovel in Traralgon. He died 27th. July, 1878, aged 51 years, and lies buried in the Traralgon Cemetery.

Thomas Mattingley was a man of some standing in the community and in the Department. When, in 1877, Inspector Holland was too ill to visit Maryvale Ridge State School to report on the state of the building there, he asked Mr. Mattingley to deputise for him. Mr. Mattingley was also a member of the first Traralgon Shire Council in 1880. Since he ceased to be the head teacher of the school in 1879, it looks as though he gave up the profession of teaching at that time.

Mr. Richard Griffiths was the head teacher when the school was raised in status to a higher elementary school in 1915, and Mr. W.H. Taylor was the last of the head teachers of the higher elementary school, 1950.

Traralgon State School (continued).Parents and Citizens.

The first move towards establishing a school in Traralgon was made in August, 1869, when a committee, consisting of Duncan Campbell, Thomas H. Row, James Flinn, Hugh Fisher, and Peter McCole wrote to the authorities asking that land should be set aside for a school.

A regular Local Committee was appointed the next year, 4/7/1870, consisting of John Campbell, landowner; Nicol Campbell, farmer, Edward White, squatter; C.N.Henderson, squatter; and Thomas Shiells, hotel-keeper. They forwarded a list of families whose children would attend a school. The heads of these families were Thomas Crawford; John Campbell; Angus McDonald; Thomas Shiells; Peter McCole; Leah Liddiard; Henry Smith; John Whalley; William Wadds; Mr. Linden; and Charles Welch.

From then on, only a few names appear in isolated pieces of correspondence. They are:

- 1871....The new correspondent for the Local Committee and taking the place of Mr. C.N.Henderson, who left the district in that year, was the new owner of Loy Yang Station, William Whittakers.  
The Postmaster at Traralgon in that year was Mr. Dennis.
- 1872.....The monitor at the school was Miss Mary Campbell.
- 1874.....The Correspondent for the Board of Advice of Rosedale District, No. 232, which included Traralgon in its jurisdiction was Mr. S. Baker of Rosedale.
- 1879.....Rev. George Kelly, Church of England minister at Rosedale had become the Correspondent for the Board of Advice.
- 1880.....Edwin Kaye, Correspondent, Traralgon Board of Advice, No. 327.
- 1881.....J. Loney Campbell, Secretary of Traralgon Shire.
- 1890.....Mr. Walter West, Correspondent of the Board of Advice.
- 1902.....Rev. J. G. Wilson, Minister of the Presbyterian Church, Traralgon.

Pupils and Enrolments.

The only list of pupils given in the official records is the prospective list of enrolments, named in the Petition of 1870 from the following ten families:

- Thomas Crawford.....Thomas (aged 6 years);  
John Campbell.....Maryanne (12); Isabell (10); Margret (7); Rodence (5);  
Angus McDonald.....Marion (12); Neil (7); Angus; Phoebe.  
Thomas Shiells.....Thomas; John; Francis.  
Peter McCole.....J.M.McCole (10); C.N.McCole (9); J.P.McCole (7);  
Alexander McCole (5); Clementina McCole (4).  
Leah Liddiard.....Jane; Ann.  
Henry Smith.....Anne (6); Ellen (4).  
John Whalley.....Alfred (11); Frances (9); George (7); Marion (4).  
William Wadds.....Margaret.  
Mr. Linden.....Elizabeth (9); Jane (7); Jabella (5).  
Charles Welch.....Isabella Ann (7); Charles Arthur (4).

The growth of the township and the school is shown in the steady rise of the enrolment figures, given at irregular intervals:

1870...36 pupils	1879...90 pupils	1885...140 pupils.
1875...40 "	1883..100 "	1890...148 "
1876...70 "	1884..120 "	1891...165 "

Sites and buildings.

Until the middle of 1872 a leased building was used, 22 ft. by 16 ft., and then a school room was built, probably on a site on Section VI of the township plan, on the eastern side of the creek and not far from the bridge. Less than two years later, in 1874, this school, 30 ft. by 18 ft. was described as "a rough, bush building, in a state of dilapidation".

A new school was recommended, and was completed early in 1878. It was 50 ft. by 20 ft, and presumably it was built on the Campbell Street site. At this stage, the records inform us that the old school (on the same site as the new school) was still being used. Either it was moved to the Campbell Street site (Section VIII) or else it was built there in the first place.

A second room, 22 ft. by 20 ft. was added in 1889.