



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 206, OCTOBER 2012

The current month began with a big assignment for a granddaughter of Frank Moore of Albury –29 pages on the family of Edward Squires Moore – George, Frank and the rest.

Then a question about a Duncan family (not Lawler Duncan) and E. Robertson who owned the Flour Mill – but they are too early for our index and we will have to search the St. Arnaud Mercury.

Bruce McLean wanted to know the history of the “building at the Hammill St. Crossing” and thanks to Anne Walsh’s researches, that was easy. Another Bruce, Bruce Rodgers, visited with his mother to ask about grandfather John, who was a railwayman 1909-18. Not on the index, but the school records and ratebooks gave him the timeline and the place – Banyenong Crossing, which Ron thinks was about Russells’. Bruce had some great photos of family and place on his laptop, and will send them to us on a disc. And he gave a donation!

Another railway query, from Ian Ballinger, about the Sam Andersons, had more information, as they left only in 1940, and their children were well documented.

The McDonalds of Laen looked to be a big query, but the particular McDonalds needed did not stay long. Although probably related in some way to the others who came to Laen, that is not obvious. That was a tricky one, needing careful investigation.

All the way from Wales, Mrs Yates is coming to Victoria, and up to Donald to see where Thomas Thomas, an unlucky ancestor who, she said, died a dreadful death, had his land – discovered by Brian Brasier to be now part of Eddie Lee’s country near Birchip. Thomas was buried in Donald in 1879 – too early for records, but Vivienne will take Mrs Yates to the “Circle of Graves”, and she is happy to leave flowers, knowing that he is there somewhere and being visited for the first time in 130 years. Will any of our future relatives be so faithful?

Another month of varied and interesting research into our past.

EVENTS MAKING NEWS IN THE "DONALD TIMES" 100 YEARS AGO

September 3, 1912: An outbreak of measles was closing the Catholic School, Donald, and the State School, Jeffcott, for a few weeks.

At Council: Street areas in Donald were to be more defined, and the street by the trucking yards was given its name of Mill Street. And registered dogs must wear collar and tag and a list of them was to be posted at the Shire Hall.

An object of admiration at Bazeley and Onleys is a sheep dip of large proportions, 34 feet in length, made for Brennan Bros of Corack.

September 6: While driving from a residence in Chirrup, Mr and Mrs P. O'Donohue of Spring Bank had a sensational experience. They drove into a clothes line which tore off the hood of the buggy and threw the occupants out. Mrs O'Donahue was severely shaken, but is progressing favourably.

September 10: At the Donald Show, to be held the following Wednesday, 38 draught stock were entered, with 140 hackneys, hunters and carriage horses, 28 blood stock, 19 cattle, 42 Merinos, 150 poultry, 57 dogs, and 9 vehicles, harness and implements.

A request by the Gun Club to hold fortnightly pigeon matches on the Showground met objections from the police, who objected to shooting near the old Chinese gardens, but a motion by Mr Morgan that the request be granted was carried.

September 13: Show Day was an ideal spring day, and gate takings were £94 14s 6d. A feature was the improvements made – horse stalls and loose boxes numbering over 20, and there was a fine parade of draught and blood stock. It was one of the most successful shows in the history of the Society. Throughout the day the Brass Band provided selections of music; Mrs Loughrey provided an appetising lunch and the afternoon tea booth was run by ladies of the Croquet Club. There was a marked display in the exhibits of flowers, and some artistic and dainty displays of fancywork of great variety and design. Garments, sewing, painting, writing and various branches of domestic work were creditably represented, the State school children's work being generally meritorious.

September 17: Among the latest to join the ranks of the motorists is Mr Frank Scarce, licensee of the popular Mt. Jeffcott Hotel. Mr Scarce has purchased a 32 h.p. Hupmobile with 5 seats and all the latest improvements. It is garaged at the hotel in charge of a competent chauffeur and is on hire at reasonable rates.

September 20: Toward the end of Birchip's Show Day a soaking rain descended, bringing the rainfall for September to over two inches. Special trains from St. Arnaud and Ouyen brought a big contingent of visitors to Birchip Show, and the attendance was well over 2500. A decrease in numbers of draughts, light horses and cattle reflected the dry conditions earlier in the year. But now a very heavy flood came down the Avoca, the most severe since the big flood in 1909 when Charlton was swamped out.

September 24: Telephone subscribers in Donald will be gratified that an all-night service is now assured. Messrs W.E. Thompson and J.B. Duncan recently undertook to interview business people with a view to securing the required number of additions to the exchange, and nine new subscribers have been added to the list.

September 27: Reference was made in Council of the 50th anniversary of the marriage of Cr. J. L. Pearse. In 1862 Mr Pearse was married at his parents' residence in Ballarat, and was engaged in engine driving at Daylesford at the time. His then future wife came from South Australia to the ceremony, and was a fellow passenger with Mr Pearse on the voyage from England on the sailing ship Aurora, during which Mr Pearse celebrated his 18th birthday. The voyage out occupied 122 days.