



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 207, NOVEMBER, 2012

An interesting client this month is Tracey Constanzo, who wants to give her stepfather, who is Stewart Gray, an album of memories for Christmas. She is delighted that we have 3 photos to include in this, as all Stewart's family photos have been burnt.

As he promised, Bruce Rodgers of Melbourne has sent a DVD of photos of the family of his grandfather, who was a railway man from 1909-1918, and these are most interesting, showing the home at Banyenong Crossing, the man himself on a trolley on the line, the silos being built, and other photos that are new to us.

We have been busy fulfilling the request for the family of Skewes, helped by photos from Florence, whose great-grandfather was a cousin of the original selector at Warmur, Henry Skewes.

Graeme Baugh of Mentone called in to seek information about the Cannard family, which was answered on the spot, as this had been given to others, and was on file, so a heap of photo-copies made him very happy, so that he gave a good donation as well.

The same thing happened when Greg Hogan brought down a friend who was interested in Jack and Jim Moran, as only a little needed to be added to that in the file. Incidentally, those who are continuing the index are performing a great service, as the help we can give is increasing every day.

As she had promised some time ago, Rosemary Deacon of Canterbury visited to pick up the story of the O'Connors of Watchem, which was ready and waiting for her.

And finally, we are busy with a request for information about the Fieldings, again of Watchem – it is hoped that Graeme Milne can find a way to republish the Watchem history, as there is so much interest in its history.

Later this week a visit will be received from Emily Cheah, who was so interested in Georgie's dictionary of "Tallyman's terms". The copy of the title page that was sent to her has inspired her curiosity to see the whole thing. She is doing research at the University into dictionaries made for Chinese miners, but this is something quite different.

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

November 1, 1912: Rates of pay for harvest: General hands, 7s per day; binders, 8s, harvester drivers, 8s, waggon drivers, 7s6d, stack builders, 12s day of 9 hours; bag sewers, 1d. per bag –all to include keep, and drivers to attend to their own horses.

November 5: The Railway Department has decided that the second division of the Bendigo express shall leave Melbourne at 5.16 p.m. with passengers for the Daylesford, Maldon, Maryborough and Mildura lines. The connecting trains will run from Castlemaine as a purely passenger service daily to Donald, and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, through to Mildura.

November 8: Reuben Broughton was charged with on October 2 being a person in charge of a motor car driven after sunset and failing to have a lamp in the rear. Defendant said the lamp was alight when he left the railway station. He had lit the lamp in the Royal George yard.

Mr F. Maloney, son of John Maloney of the Dairy Farm, Laen, is one of 50 members of the Australian Navy selected to visit England, and is visiting his home on 14 days leave.

November 12: Mr Scarce of the Mt. Jeffcott Hotel, interested himself in the Mt. Lyell mining disaster, and held an al fresco entertainment in the Park for the cause on Sunday evening. The Donald Brass Band played a program of sacred and classical music, and Mr J.H. Bolden contributed cornet solos, "Oro Pro Nobis" and "The Holy City". Admittance was free, and the collection taken amounted to £16.

November 15: Donald is to the fore as a bowling centre. The Donald Park is a picturesque spot, and never looked brighter than on Wednesday afternoon when the annual opening of the bowling season took place. A feature was the opening of the Donald Croquet Club's new lawn. It was divided into rinks and the ladies gave a moving touch of colour to the scene.

November 19: Peter Dickie of Watchem was attending to a reaper and binder when his hand came in contact with the knife, which severely lacerated it. He rode into Watchem where he was attended to by Dr. Parker. He was driven home but during the night became very ill, being at times unconscious, and his relatives drive him in at 3 a.m. for further attention. He is doing as well as can be expected, having suffered very much from loss of blood.

November 22: St. Mary's school picnic was held at the Little Lake, about 300 people of all denominations being present. A lengthy program of sports was gone through. And swings, boating, cricket and football provided additional attractions. In the evening a dance was held in the schoolroom and was also largely attended.

November 26,: An interesting motor journey will be made by Mr Joseph Meagher, of Donald, who will drive from Ballarat with Mr Patrick Hardiman of Birchip in a new motor car to Donald.

November 29: One of the most progressive farming centres in the district is Litchfield, and there is no more carefully kept property than the estate of Cr. H. J. Green. Among recent improvements in a commodious stable 109 ft. long by 18 feet wide with a loft running the length of the building. It has four compartments with separate doors and numbers. Each feeder is lined with galvanised iron and is fed by a shute holding 25 bags of chaff. The oat shute holds 5 bushels so contrived that by touching a spring each horse received his allowance of oats for each feed. The loft holds 50 tons of chaff besides oats. The loose box is fitted with the same appliances. At the end of the stable is a large tank with water trough which catches all water from the stable. A 4000 bushel oat tank stands at the back. Sleepers from the floor of the stable and the passages between the horses are done with blocks, and in front of the stable, sleepers are laid, covered with earth, to save sinking in wet weather.