



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 211, MAY

After all the activity of that great celebration, when thanks to the wonderful hard-working helpers, the doors were kept open all the time, there is a list of requests to fulfil. The place was full of people, and sometimes it needed 3 members just to talk to them!

And this is the list: Eddie Watts; Illoura Private Hospital (both done); William Weir (no information, but copied Wooroonook booklet from Charlton for this; photo from Railway to Donald (not our photo, but he bought the book instead); Lederman (done); Baker (dealt with by Ann Dunstan, bless her); Ryans of Corack (done).

Still to be done: Louttit, Cruikshank, Clouston, Barbour and Harper (all together, so more info needed, phone message not yet answered); Meddings; Forer's; J.J. Bray; Philip Willis, Alfred Hamilton, Cliff Crone (for Jodi Drake per John Fraser).

Since then Kathy and Warren Williams called, requesting information about the Moore family (George, Frank etc.) and the great budget of info in the file was photo-copied, as were a number of photographs. And another visitor for Lees, also photo-copied on the spot.

And one for our long-looked-for Ray – Dooley and the Mt. Jeffcott Hotel – done, but his email will not accept ours, and there is no other address.

The new books sold quite well, particularly the Rich Avon, as those concerned know that this is the end, both of the Rich Avon settlement and its cricket club, and they were glad to have the book that went right to the end of the club under that name. Footy books went quite well – would have been better to have someone to put them under people's noses, as Ian Bailey did with Rich Avon – but it should continue to sell gradually. And quite a few of our older books went off too – Mary has been very busy ever since the Back-to at the photo-copier replacing the stocks.

Norm and Beth's plaques on the building received extravagant praise last week from a visitor who happened to be a worker for Heritage Victoria. In all directions it was a good 10 days for the History Group.

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

May 2, 1913: The marriage of Miss Minnie Louise Hancock, third eldest daughter of William Hancock, "Alta Vista" Avon Plains, to John Clarke, second eldest son of Neil Clarke, Gre Gre North, was celebrated in St. Arnaud on March 19th.

The Laen Athletic Club held sports on Wednesday 23rd. The Sheffield was won by inches by a local runner, W. Barber, and the win was a popular one. The £15 raised is to be hand to the committee of the Mechanics Institute, which is in a fairly sound position.

Despite the agitation to have the railway crossing at Hammill Street rendered less of a menace to life, no action has been taken, despite the many narrow escapes that have taken place.. The place is a death trap. On Wednesday Mr J. Duncan of Donald and his chauffeur (Mr J. Wain) were approaching the crossing at a fair rate of speed when as they were about to cross a goods train, which had been obscured by the flour mill, was observed only a few feet away. Had it not been for the rapidity in which the driver apprehended the situation and instantly swerved the car, a frightful accident would certainly have occurred.

May 6: The Rev, Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Ballarat, will open the new Roman Catholic Church at Wooroonook on May 11th.

At St. George's Flower Show, for the best arranged basket of flowers, some charming creations were exhibited, Miss Rhonda Meyer gaining pride of place after keen competition against seven other competitors. She also received first for a very handsome hand bouquet.

A telephone exchange has been established at Cope Cope and Donald residents now have communication with that centre.

May 9: For some time the Donald Progress Association has been endeavouring to have Corack and Laen telephonically connected with the Donald exchange, but prospects are indefinitely postponed by the conditions which the Government imposes. From Corack a contribution of £143 is stipulated and Laen is asked to undertake an expenditure of £77 odd.

The Inspector of Works for Home Affairs inspected the local post office building, which is to be improved on a very extensive scale. The Post Office will be on a level with the Colonial Bank building and will greatly enhance the appearance of Woods Street.

May 13: A fire took place at the residence of Mr E.A. Warne, of Morton Plains, known as the Morton Plains homestead, and demolished everything with the exception of a piano and a few summary pieces of furniture. It is thought to have originated from a fire burning in the children's nursery.

May 16: Correspondence to the Shire of Donald: From Health Department, asking Council to frame by-laws prohibiting expectorating on footpaths in populous places in the Shire, to prevent the spreading of contagious disease.—To be complied with.

From Victorian Railways, stating that Council's request re lighting of Railway Station was being inquired into.

May 20: At Watchem the Bishop of Ballarat administered the sacrament of Confirmation to about 24 children, ranging from 10 to 13 years. The Bishop exhorted the children to accept the total abstinence pledge until they were 21 years of age, which they did.

May 27: Empire Day was celebrated at the Donald State School on Friday last. The children of the High School were addressed by the Rev. Walker on their duties towards the Empire and the flag; similar addresses were given to Grades VI and V by the Rev. Beeman, while the infants department entertained the visitors with songs. At 12.30 p.m. the children were drawn up in a hollow square and the flag was hoisted. The oath of allegiance was taken and cheers were called for the King, the Empire and the Commonwealth. In the afternoon a programme of sports and games was carried out, and then lollies were handed out, Miss Moore and Mr Wortley having generously given a tin each.