



DONALD HISTORY
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 232, JUNE, 2015

Enquiries this month for some well-known and some little-known people. Peter Darcy came in looking for Darcy information, and it was readily available on file.

Then Derrick Andreas, of Jo'burg, South Africa, wanted to catch up with the Barbour family, as he was descended from the Barbour who went to South Africa, but knew little of the rest of the family. He was given the information that had been given to an Alys Barbour in 1993, and he supplied a copy of a marriage certificate that proved that one of her names was wrong. He also wondered if she knew more of the English history of the family. However, 1993 was too long ago, and Alys has disappeared, with no Barbours left in Geelong, where she lived.

Then Coonie Smith descended on us with three ladies from Western Australia, who were descendants of the family of the famous Daniel O'Leary, outspoken editor of the "Donald Express". They had a wonderful afternoon, delving into the O'Leary file, obtaining photocopies and lots of stories. They also, along the way, bought a "Shire of Donald" book and two place mats of the lithograph.

A Geoff Sandy is writing a history of an Anglican church in Eltham, in three volumes! It must have a lot of history. But he was missing a photo of the Rev. Gibbons, who came to Eltham from Donald, and assumed that we would have one to send. Not so. Ministers don't often pose for photographs, and although there were several references to him in the file, there were no photographs in the "Times" in the 1950s, when Rev. Gibbons was here for five years.

A request came from a great-grandson of the Jennison who went "On the Roads with Sheep". He had seen the book mentioned on our website, and requested a copy, which we were glad to send to him. This is not the first time that people have seen books that they want, or names they would like to research, on the website, which is proving its worth.

In the meantime the index continues . . .and continues!

ITEMS OF NEWS IN THE "DONALD TIMES" 100 YEARS AGO.

June 1, 1915: A start was made on M W.A. Morgan's new sale yards, opposite the post office, yesterday. Portions of these yards are being constructed especially for disposing of poultry, pigs, and for all side lines, produce and etc., produced by farmers and other breeders.

Misses Annie and Olive Brown of "Kimbolton" Cope Cope, have volunteered for nurses at the front, and will leave at an early date.

June 4: The Donald Methodist Sunday School is to be removed in one day. The work shall be commenced at 8 a.m. and shall be carried out under the free supervision of Mr A. Blundy, builder and contractor. Your co-operation and help is earnestly invited. Luncheon and tea will be provided.

Water trains are still running to Ararat, and are likely to do so for some little time.

June 8: In response to the advertisement calling for applications for positions as women policemen, more than 200 replies have been received by the Inspector-General of Police. It is the intention of Mr G. Black, the Chief Secretary, to appoint two women to the force as an experiment. The theory is that they will be better able than men to deal with women offenders. Women constables will be dressed in a neat uniform, and will be called on to do a certain amount of street duty in those localities where women are the greatest offenders against law and order.

June 11: The terrible drought which has devastated Victoria for about 18 months may now be said to have terminated. The rain fall last month, which gave a fine start to grass and crops, has been followed during the past few days by another sustaining downpour.

Private G. Olive, of Donald, who has been wounded while fighting with the Canadians, has been invalided to England. Sniper W.W. Harrison, eldest son of Mr John Moon Harris, late of Donald, is reported among the wounded in Egypt. Private R.J. Dickie of Watchem first contingent, 8th battalion, is reported among the wounded at the Dardanelles.

June 15: At the meeting of the Donald Enclosure Coursing Club on Friday, Mr W.A. Morgan said that the way things were going they had no chance of carrying on the club this season with any degree of success. He moved that it close down for the season. This raised the ire of a number of those present, and the motion was defeated. They forget that the club needs hares; they need a large number of good honest workers at the drive – the "same old few" who work like Trojans cannot be expected to do the impossible; and then the hares have to be schooled.

June 18: From a letter by Lieut. C. Barrie, who was in the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and was wounded: The fire was terrible and the bullets were pattering round us all day like hailstones, but we didn't mind them so much, it was the shrapnel that I didn't like and they simply peppered us with it all day long, catching the boats between ship and shore'

June 22: A movement is on foot to connect Corack East with the proposed Wycheproof-Birchip telephone line. It is hoped that the residents will avail themselves of the opportunity, as it will link up Corack East with other centres, whereas communication cannot be exchanged with Wycheproof by telephone at the present time.

June 25: To the Shire Council from Oakley and Thompson the plan of subdivision made for Mr W.H. Lewis, approved and passed by the Titles office, and submitted for this council's support. Moved by Crs. Wortley and Pearse that Council give its support.

June 29: During the Jeffcott-Cope Cope football match the local supporters barracked vociferously for Cope Cope. There was no harm in that, but a certain section of Donaldites were "boo-hooing" everything done by Jeffcott, and naturally raised the ire of players, consequently the game was a little more "willing" than it would otherwise have been.

Mr Jack Phillips has commenced business as a general blacksmith and wheelwright in his own premises, next to electric power station, opposite Mr Lewis's residence. Mr Phillips was employed by Mr Jos. Bolden for some considerable time, and has had over 12 years experience of Donald and district.