



**DONALD HISTORY**  
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



## **BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 234, AUGUST, 2015**

### **Research:**

Enquiries this month have been from:

David Custance requiring information re. Custance Family of Wooroonook  
Colleen & John Unmack wanting information re. Francis James Clarke  
Steven Harper re information about Sam Harper

Joan Elliott wanting any information about the Fry Family, William Fry  
being her Grandfather

All these requests have been researched and forwarded to the Clients.

### **Publications:**

Ten copies of "Great Snakes and other tales of wildlife in the Donald District", twenty copies of "Mt. Jeffcott Flora & Fauna Reserve" and twenty copies of "Fauna & Flora Extracts from Local Newspapers" have been produced and are ready for sale at the forthcoming Seana Spring Camp at Donald in September.

The "Flora of Mount Jeffcott" Desk Calendars 2016 are yet to be printed. Some of Ron's Selectors books and "The View from the Mount" have also been copied as we were out of them.

### **General:**

The Archives participated in the \$5 Friday Discount Day in Donald, offering books and Placemats for sale.

We will again have students from the Donald High School as part of the Community Work Week for three days at the end of August

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

August 2, 1915: Mrs. R. H. Dunstan, of Jeffcott has received word that her nephew Private Victor N. Stevens, has died of wounds received whilst fighting for his King and Country. He was the son of Mr. & Mrs. J. Stevens of Hider Street, Warrnambool (late of Jeffcott) and a nephew of Mr. J. Beckham of Donald.

Rainfall: In the Donald District between 30 & 40 points have been recorded. A noticeable feature of this season is the absence of frosts. In June only two were recorded as against 22 in June 1914, while in July there were only three as compared with 23 for the same month last year.

August 6, 1915: A few members of the Corack East Methodist Church gathered on Saturday afternoon to do a little tree planting in the church grounds. As it is an ideal year for growth it is hoped that the trees will make good headway, and make a shelter that will be appreciated at all times.

Private C. F. Westmore writing to his Mother, (somewhere at sea) says Percy Schafer and Orville Lamplough are with me also McDonald from out at Laen and little George Hilton who used to work at Bolden's. I saw Mr. Carroll in camp also Alf Eishold is still there.

August 10, 1915: Railway Improvements: Considerable improvements are now being effected in the Donald Railway Station Yards. Two turntables are being put in and preparations are being made for the re-erection of the engine shed which was destroyed last year.

August 13, 1915: Mr. McCracken Secretary of the Donald Waterworks Trust is to be congratulated upon getting in all the Donald Town water rates for 1914.

Railway Mishap: On Tuesday the engine of the 6 p.m. Donald to Mildura train ran off the line at Morton Plains station whilst shunting some trucks. Fortunately the main line was left clear and another engine was sent from Donald to take the train on to Mildura, but passengers were delayed for nearly four hours

August 17, 1915: Mr. Alex Scott left Donald yesterday for Melbourne to go into Camp. He was presented with a purse of silver by fellow boarders at Mrs. Small's, who entertain a very kindly regard for him.

August 20, 1915: A proposal to light up the Donald Showgrounds by electricity was brought forward by Cr. S. J. Wortley at the last Council Meeting. It was estimated that the cost would be 25 pound. It would be an advantage to the Society and council enabling the townspeople to hold entertainments on the ground at night.

August 24, 1915: The Funeral of Private Walter H. Gilchrist of Watchem took place on Friday. Prior to the remains being brought from Melbourne full military honours were accorded by the Defence Department. The funeral was one of the largest seen in Watchem for many years. Deceased old comrades of the Football, Cricket and Race Clubs walked in procession in front of the hearse.

August 27, 1915: The Donald Methodist Male Choir will visit Cope Cope on Sunday evening when the Rev. R. Osborne will hold a service at 7 o'clock.

August 31, 1915: The Donald Brass Band is struggling very gamely for an existence seeing that its ranks have been depleted by the members either enlisting or leaving the district. The Bandmaster (Mr. Ditchburn) is working very hard in making proficient a number of young players, so the Band will be able to keep going.