



## **BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 235, SEPTEMBER, 2015.**

All is now in readiness for our weekend hosting of SEANA, thanks particularly to the hard work of Ann and Ray, Mary, Margaret, Peter and Lesley. If any other member would like to show solidarity by attending one or both of our dinners, that would be good, as our Natural History base is so small.

The big news for the Archives and Group this month comes from Robert Belleville, who was given some help with his research into the Belleville family. He has now completed a book, which he offered us, AND is placing the magnificent sum of \$500 into our account!!

Not much research this month, mainly questions answered on the spot. Jim Hanigan from the National Museum needed a first name or initial for a Mr McClung, and Mary supplied it. Goff Letts rang to know just when the solicitor W.D, Paine came to Donald, as he had been asked to do a eulogy for Bruce Paine, recently deceased.

A visiting couple was interested in the relic of the meatworks, as the husband had worked for meatworks in Melbourne, and they came to find out when it was closed. The man was invited to buy a copy of the "Shire of Donald", as that had the information he had been given, and as it was a bargain price, he agreed!

Another couple of travellers brought a man who collected books on railways, and had been told at Kookas that he could get one here, so another sale was made. And Mary and Beryl were successful with some sales at the local market. She also had an order for two Selector books, following her visit to the Warracknabeal market. Another two Selector books were sold in Donald to a previous buyer, who is completing his holdings, and he did not want change from the \$50 he proffered.

James Margetts, of Bendigo, wrote for the school details of the Bennett family of Watchem. Although we don't have the Watchem register, a few names had been found before the school closed for a previous enquirer on the family, so James was lucky.

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

September 3, 1915: [*A war census was to be held*] Cards and special envelopes requiring no stamps are being despatched to the more distant post offices. To some parts of Australia there are mails only every 30 days and to others every 60 days. Mayors and presidents of cities, towns, boroughs, municipalities, shires etc. have in many cases already promised organised help, and everywhere the national importance and urgency of the work is being recognised.

September 6, 1915: Private Harold Beckham writes: "I am still alive, for a wonder. I was walking along the streets of Cairo, when hearing a tram bell I jumped aside, but too late, and travelling at a rate of 60 miles an hour, it bowled me along about a chain. Though not rendered unconscious, it gave me two lovely cuts on the head and bruised me all over. The boys on the car said the escape was miraculous."

September 14, 1915: In Australia we have a community of Germans, Austrians, Turks, Hungarians &c interned, living on the generosity of the Defence Department without returning a reasonable quota of labour towards their upkeep. Not so in Germany. Mrs W. Bandy of Donald has a cousin, Mr H. Wood, a prisoner of war in Germany. He is compelled to work in quarries for a mere pittance, and his livelihood whilst a prisoner, but otherwise he is well treated.

September 17, 1915: Lake Buloke is now a fine sheet of water and will be the rendezvous of thousands of ducks when the close season terminates. Lake Buloke was not even overlooked at Gallipoli on the eventful Sunday in April last. It is related that when one soldier heard the ping, ping, ping of the Turkish rifles and the bursting of shrapnel, he remarked to his comrade, that it reminded him of the opening of the duck season at Lake Buloke!

September 21, 1915: The inimitable Charlie Chaplin created great applause at the St. George's Hall on Saturday in the comedy "The Tramp". This comedian is now probably the foremost of actors in the world of animations, and pictures featuring his comicalities have ever proved a good draw.

After filling Sea Lake with water (says the "Sea Lake Times") from the Richardson River, the Water Commission turned the stream into Green Lake, and is now making arrangements to send the surplus waters down the Burupga Channel to supply farmers' tanks.

September 24, 1915: The Richardson River came down with great force in the small hours of Tuesday morning, and enveloped the lands towards the northern end of Woods Street. Mr B. Williamson's fence was swept away, and the fences round Mrs M. E. Morgan's property, (the residences of Messrs J. Price and Prider) were destroyed and sheds, closets, &c received severe handling on the Cricket Club Hotel property. The Celestial gardens were also damaged. The showgrounds had about 3 feet of water on the bottom end. .

September 28, 1915: [*At the Red Cross carnival*] little tots came out as sundowners, gypsies, Belgian kiddies, cavaliers, Moorish maids, Celestial beauties. Miss Hearn was a sedate Queen Victoria, attended by Britannic ladies in waiting, and vendored bouquets etc. The "walnut" must go to the whimsical Kilties, led by Mr Davison. Messrs J. Milburn and Taylor Muir, who gave it forth that they had been washed up by the flood, created much amusement as a spirited clown and dummy. Mr Tilyer, dressed as an ass, amused the crowd with his "hee haw" braying, and Mr W.J. Murray appeared as a coy flapper.