



**DONALD HISTORY**  
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



## **BULOKE BULLETIN NO.257, FEBRUARY, 2018**

We farewelled our long time archivist, Lil Kirk, at the end of 2017. A simple “cuppa” at the Woods St Café with her fellow workers from the archives suited Lil. She will remain in Donald for at least 6 months before moving elsewhere with her family.

Welcome to Jenni Campbell who has joined the team of volunteers entering data in the Donald Times Index.

Our “Antiques and Collectables” shop has been installed in 58 Woods St, next to the Archives building and has generated a lot of interest. Each time we open it we earn a few dollars. People have to come into the archives building to pay for items and then they generally have a look around there as well. This is good advertising for the History Group and our many publications.

### Recent Enquiries

Caroline Olive from the Charlton History Group requested information on the Watchem Lake. This was required for plaques that are to be erected on the Buloke Shire lakes. We were able to oblige from our files and looking through Ron’s work turns up a new fact every now and then.

Sharon (Basset) Douglass requested George Rowe Basset and Eleanor Basset history and anything we have on King Johnny of Banyenong.

Madeline Smith (nee Cass) had the wedding certificate of her ancestors Cass/Oliver, married in St Georges Church in 1906, but was unable to read the name of the clergyman. We had a better copy and could furnish the name, Francis J. Beeman, as well as a few “family” snippets from the Times, for her interest.

Laurence Saywell, a descendant of the Schriever family will be visiting Donald from Canada in April/May and has requested any information. We have a good deal of information and collation is underway. Any older townspeople who

remember the Schrievers may like to make themselves available to meet Laurence when he comes.

*Items from the "Donald Times" a hundred years ago:*

December 4, 1917:

Colonel Harris, commanding officer of the citizen Force is at present in Horsham for the purposes of investigating charges arising from offences committed at the recent training camp in Ballarat. It is the general talk of the town that one cadet, whose disposition tended more towards sports than soldierly activities, wishing to be present at a pigeon match, subordinated his duty when on sentry-go to an irresistible impulse to be present: and as a means towards his end, discarded his rifle and other military trappings: waved a fond farewell to Ballarat, and made a beeline for home....

**Railway Stamps.** Beginning on December 1, the use of stamps for the prepayment of freight on single parcels, cans of milk and cream excepted, which are being conveyed by rail to stations within the state, will be made general.

December 14, 1917: The following pupils of Miss Kay of Donald were successful at the recent University examinations in music\_ Practical: Grade 3, Vera Meyers (Jeffcott), Clarice Hart (Watchem) Grade 4, Marjorie Lamplough. Grade 5 Myra Mitchell. Theory: Grade 3 Clarice Hart, Grade 4, obtained Honors, Vera Meyers, Grade 5 Agnes Bunworth, Jean Mitchell.

RECRUITING READY RECKONER. For married men prepared to join the AIF. FOR HOME & EMPIRE. A table gives wages for man with wife plus 1, 2, 3, 4 etc. children.

December 18 1918: The referendum vote is to be taken next Thursday.... people are asked to say yes or no to the following question "are you in favour of the proposals of the Commonwealth Government for reinforcing the Australian Imperial force overseas.... The details of the scheme are advertised in this issue.

January 4, 1918 : On Friday night last there was a total eclipse of the moon....during 1917 there were three total eclipses and there will not be another such happening until the year of 1982.

January 8, 1918 All boys who become 14 years of age during the year 1918 and residing within 5 miles of a military training centre must register themselves with the area officer in the months of January or February as failing to do so renders them liable to a heavy penalty.

Counting of referendum votes continues, "no" majority decreasing by a few thousand since last issue.

January 11, 1918: To guard against damage by mice and deterioration from other causes the season's wheat is being sent direct to the sea board instead of being stacked at country railway stations. Already the traffic has become heavy with about 6000 tons passing through Donald each day,

Telephone message came to Donald on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock that a Bushfire was then raging at Corack. Mr. Le Lievre's homestead saved.

Final figures on referendum. YES 1,013,361. NO 1,178,256. Informal 54,923.

Local court: Two men, Larson & Winter, charged with lighting Cope Cope fire. They were cutting thistles for Browns. Mrs. Brown gave them raw chops and said she told them to cook them in the oven at "old Killbolton" but they denied they were told this and chose to light a fire in a mudbrick chimney left from a removed hut instead. Oswald Brown, Albert Bugge, Robert Crosbie gave evidence, stating damage from the fire. Larson was acquitted and Winter fined minimum of £10 as it was decided "he undoubtedly had no intention of causing fire".

January 29, 1918; Yesterday was recognised as a public holiday in Donald as Foundation Day. Saturday was really the Foundation day Anniversary but following the usual custom, the holiday was kept up on Monday. Nothing of any importance here occurred to mark the holiday.

February 1, 1918; Messrs Hegarty Bros. of Litchfield have been unfortunate in losing two valuable draught hoses while another was not expected to recover. The cause of death was through eating a quantity of wheat.

February 26, 1918: Clearing sale at Litchfield, Friday March 22. 2000 sheep, cattle horses, hay and machinery. W.H. Gray & Son have received instructions from Joseph Litchfield, who has leased his property for a term of years, to sell by public auction as above, at 1 p.m.

This photo of the East Laen School in 1902 contains Mabel Schriever, who is the grandmother of Laurence Saywell one of our enquiries for the month.



Back Bill Tyson, Stan Hepworth, UK, Robert Adams, UK, Maurice Basset, Harry Hancock, Eddie Ellsworth  
2<sup>nd</sup> Back Esther Eugot, Ollie Hepworth, Maggie Keith, Alice Richmond, Florrie Basset, May Taylor, Lena Basset, Vic Hancock, Ethel Tyson, Emma Richmond, Lily Basset, Eva Hose, Pansy Pope, Florrie Schriever, **Mabel Schriever.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Front** Elsie Richmond, Florrie Keith, Tilley Leslie, Lizzie Pope, Janie Taylor, Myrtle Hepworth, Elsie Buchanan, Elsie Pope, Grace Taylor, Floss Pope, Alex Buchanan, Ted Hancock, Lance Basset.

**Front** Jack Henserson, Margaret Pope, Agnes Tyson, Peter Keith, Baby Buchanan, Ron Buchanan, Harry Pope, Frank Tyson, Dave Buchanan.