



DONALD HISTORY
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 260. MAY 2018

Enquiries for the month. Brian Boadle from Ballarat visited the archives and wanted information on Boadles and Crockers. Jim Boadle and Jacky Crocker both worked for Stan Stafford and Jack and Elsie Boadle (nee Crocker) built the house at 181 Woods St in 1922. This house has been recently restored and occupied by John and Kaz Logan, local painters. Jack Boadle was a Railway guard.

David McKay is researching the WW1 diggers on the Coghills Creek honour board. Two were connected with Donald, James Cannard and Peter Buchanan. David was thrilled with the obituaries and photos of both families in our collection. I showed him "Bettie has a Doll" and he was going to contact Peter Luxford. David gave us a dearth of information in exchange for what he obtained.

Dawn and John Hollis visited the Archives to buy of Florence's book on World War One as it contained Arthur Summerfield's story.

John Wynd Baker rang, asking for information on Albert Thomas Baker and Honora Bourke. He is the nephew of Arthur "Noddy" Pascall and offered us some photographs of Arthur which we gratefully accepted.

Di Christensen sent us a photo of an elderly pioneer. The photo had belonged to Mrs. E Nicholls of Corack. We are still trying to identify the man in the picture having decided that it is not Ted Nicholls. Any ideas?



Robert and Jenny, who bought the Corack East Presbyterian Church 5 years ago came into the archives. Robert has just discovered that his grandparents owned a business in Donald. He wished to know if the shop was still standing. The name was Wortley. I took great pleasure in pointing across the road to the huge newsagency building and said "Wortleys built that!" The Newsagency building was actually built by Stanley Wortley and Rob's grandfather was Les but Les and Stan and their wives ran the earlier "Wortley Bros" businesses that were at 28 & 30 Woods St (later Sarteschis and now the Donald Motor Lodge) and used the Old Post office for storage (now the former Shilton's garage).



David Williams emailed to say that his father was born in Donald on Christmas day in 1903. His grandfather was the teacher at Cope Cope at that time. David wished to find out about Cope Cope so we sold him a book. He also wished to know the names of local papers at that time so that he could carry out his own research.

Gary Bourke is the great-great grandson of Margaret and Michael Bourke who lived at 36 Walker St after retiring from farming. Gary is doing his family History and already had a lot of information from our archives. He rang for help as has been unable to find the birth or death of one of his great uncles. I was able to oblige with the birth in Colac in 1872 but could not find the death.

Two of the articles on last month's newsletter created interest. The photo of the old Sunday School, because the car in front was a HD Holden, which had not been released in 1965. Mary has amended the year to 1967. The other article was the Tyson-Adams wedding. The best man turned out to be William Andrews Flett, a distant cousin, not the Bill Flett that we are all familiar with. Bill was only 4 years old in 1918. We were able to solve this by consulting the marriage certificates of that era, which are available in the archives.

This month's 100 years ago have been researched by Secretary, Brian Brasier. We all don't have the sight skills of Lil Kirk so Brian decided to have a turn on the microfilm. He has even renamed the segment.

Blasts from the Past – *Donald Times* May 1918

3/5/1918. The Dunmunkle Shire Council, acting as the Local Board of Health, decided to close the Minyip State and Catholic Schools and the Rich Avon School, owing to an outbreak of septic throat trouble. The two children of Mr John Connolly, who attended the last mentioned school, succumbed to this disease and there are one or two cases of a mild character in Minyip.

Many industries have been affected by the war, but few have been hit as hard as the newspapers. Newspaper, which prior to the war was 14 pounds per ton is now quoted at 80 pounds per ton and other materials have soared and continue to rise.

7/3/1918. Maurice Walter Basset, late of Laen, farmer, who died in action with the A.I.F. abroad on 14th August 1917, left in his will of 28th September 1915 1526 pounds real estate and 895 pounds personally to his mother, brother and sister.

10/5/1918. At the Empire Day Committee meeting on Monday night, a suggestion that a Baby Show be held was rejected. Apparently the majority of the committee saw visions of a mutilated judge or was it fear of legal action under the Worker's Compensation Act .

14/3/1918. Mr Quinlivan, who was recently appointed to the charge of the local railway station, has taken up his duties here. He was in charge of the Korong Vale station for two years previous to his transfer to Donald and is referred to as a capable and courteous officer.

21/3/1918. Mushrooms are very plentiful after the recent rain and quite a number made the weekend an occasion for gathering them. There are some exceptionally big ones this year and mothers should warn their children against them as when they grow large and rank they are known to contain poison.

24/3/1918. The following by-law has been framed and was approved by the Shire of Donald on Tuesday- "That no person be permitted to keep pigeons within the township boundaries of Donald and Watchem unless same are kept in a properly netted enclosure. Any person who commits an offence under the by-law will be subject to a penalty not exceeding ten (10) shillings for the first offence and not exceeding five (5) pounds for any subsequent offence".

28/5/1918. A hare drive will take place in Mr O. Meyer's paddock on Wednesday afternoon and a large number of coursing enthusiasts and others will be present. Out of about 100 hares put in the enclosure only about 32 remain, the rest having disappeared in some unaccountable way. Anyone

found in the enclosure in the future is likely to get a warm reception from members of the club. Boys who go out after rabbits would do well to heed this warning.

Below is a photo of 27B Woods St, taken in 1926, which was the shop owned by Maurice Basset (mentioned above) and his brother, William. The Basset's originally attached their shop to Kelly's drapery next door. In 1926, the shop is



attached to Gillies Bootmaker shop. The Basset's lived in the house behind the picket fence which was lived in by the Romeo family.

Information from "Now & then" Volume One.

1915-1918 William J. & Maurice Basset. Agents. Maurice Basset is killed in the war in 1917. William is his brother. Their father Charles Rowe Basset (a Laen farmer) takes over the shop. He is a brother of W.R. Basset and uncle to B.M. Basset.

C.1918 Small wooden shop adjoining No. 27 occupied by Misses McDonald & Baillie, dressmakers. (Maysie McDonald

becomes Mrs. G.W. Letts and Liala Baillie becomes Mrs. Oscar Cockfield.)

C.1921 Mr. B.M. Corbett. Dentist

1924 Maysie McDonald, dressmaker.

1925 Harry Kelly takes over Maysie McDonald's shop. Harry is a dentist. Lena Bassett owns the building.

1927 Harry Kelly (shop) & C.J. Robinson (Solicitor) are Basset's tenants.

1928 Harry Kelly is the owner and occupant. C.J. Robinson (solicitor) moves to the Mechanics Institute.

1929-37 Harry Kelly dentist parlour/ office.

1937/38 Sainsbury is Kelly's tenant.

1939 "A small wooden shop built adjoining D. Gillies caught fire causing both shops to be destroyed". (Ref.1975 "Times" Supplement). "Harry Kelly temporarily moves over the road to shop on corner recently vacated by dentist, Con Whelan." (Newspaper article.)

1940 Harry Kelly is back in his surgery so it was either rebuilt or repaired. Harry Kelly moves to Launceston in the 1940s but continues to own the surgery.

1950 Jack Paino buys the premises from Harry Kelly. It is now a shop. Jack only uses it for storage.

1957 Gib Blay buys Jack Paino's shop.

1964 Shop not rated. At this stage Author believes that Gib Blay bricked in the two shops 27 and 27B making them into one shop.

The bricked in shop is owned by O'Brees, Eliases and finally becomes a dentist for 30 years until 2011.

2016 The whole shop is demolished.