



DONALD HISTORY
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

Buloke Bulletin No. 267. FEBRUARY 2019

Enquiries for December, January: A “Buloke Times” reader requested a copy of a comparing “drought Letter” penned by James Walder and printed in “The Donald Times” in 1902. The Minyip Historical Society wanted a copy of the Lawler Homestead and Woolshed. We were able to oblige with both requests. Sandy Hansen emailed an enquiry about Thomas and Frances Wilkinson, re his war service. Ken Williams and family members visited the archives on a hot December day. Ken is a grandson of Thomas Williams, Donald’s Policeman in 1903. They were very interested in the two court cases on the death of the young constable under Thomas’s command, alluded to at the Police Camp, and purchased copies of the newspaper articles. Photos and history of the Williams family that we sent earlier in the year had whetted their appetites and they had a very enjoyable day at the Museum, Police Camp and Archives.

Frank and Margaret Robinson visited the archives on 22nd December. Margaret (nee Lamplough) is descended from Edwin Lamplough, Donald’s butcher in the early 1900s. They purchased many photos and articles and will send the archives the book that Frank has written, “Letters To Viv”, compiling the WW1 letters of a family member. There are many photos in the book of the Lamplough family so it will be an excellent acquisition.

Bronwyn Prater emailed for information on the Pace and Diffey families from the Donald Flour Mill. Cheryl Cash wanted information on the first Presbyterian manse and Church “The Willows.” Cheryl believes that her ancestors married there in 1863 and they may have been the first couple to have done so.

Anne Hyslop Monagle sent a post card photo of Donald c. 1909, which we had not seen before. Anne is descended from William Richards of Stawell, a brother of

Edwin Richards who bought land at Massey in 1900. The photo that Anne sent is on the next page

Graeme Harvey emailed for information on Robert Coburn who farmed briefly in the Donald or Jeffcott area in the 1880s and early 90s before moving to the mallee. Robert married Sarah Coats from Jeffcott in 1888. Mary Archbold put Robert in touch with Coburn and Coats relatives still living in the district. Florence Breed's Coats History, "A Devonshire Lad", contains much of the history that Graeme is looking for.

A number of people have ordered various publications and articles from our reserves. Mary Archbold is having to reprint many books, including Cope Cope and Jeffcott. Ron Falla's Selectors books are still very much in demand and we send them to people regularly. "Now & Then" volumes 1 & 2 are still going out occasionally.

Jan Crowe from Huntley wanted information about Bernard Stockton and Zita Cuddihy who lived in Watchem and married at St Joseph's Church, Watchem in 1925. Zita was Jan's great aunt. Our Donald Times Index had the wedding recorded, complete with the date. Mary Archbold was able to access the report from our newly boxed copies of The Donald Times. We bought these boxes with the money we received in a community grant from our local Bendigo Bank. We have been gradually boxing the loose copies of the Times, which were found when Chessell's Shed was demolished back in the 1970s. Mary was able to photocopy the report from the loose copy to send to Jan. The bound copies of the Donald Times are too large to put on the photocopier so the boxed copies are going to be a valuable asset in these digital days. The boxes also preserves the loose copies which were getting tatty and dusty on their "too high" shelves.

Blasts from the Past – Donald Times February 1919

Feb. 4 Fatal Accident. About 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon an accident happened which caused the death of a young boy named John Evans, son of Mr and Mrs J. Evans, Wood St, Donald. It appears that Willie Morgan, (son of Mr W.A. Morgan) was carrying some bricks to his father's residence with a horse and cart and a number of boys were seated on the load. About the middle

of the first bridge the unfortunate lad fell off and the wheel passed over his head absolutely crushing it. The poor little chap, who was about six years of age, was picked up by Mrs Mulligan and conveyed to Dr Lewis, who said that death had been instantaneous. The deepest sympathy is felt for his parents in their sad and untimely bereavement.

Feb. 7 Influenza Epidemic. A case of influenza is reported to have broken out at Jeffcott, the victim being Mrs John McLennan.

The picture theatre at St George's Hall is to be closed on account of the epidemic until further notice. The management was notified by the shire authority yesterday to that effect.

Feb. 7 Inquest (Evidence of the driver). William Alexander Morgan said he was ten years of age. He was carting bricks on a three wheeled trolley from Falla and Pitty's yard in Wood St Donald to his father's residence about half past four o'clock on Monday 3rd of February. He had with him Alexander McIlvena, Wm. Beggs, John Evans and Reginald Evans. We reached the bridge, first stopping in front of Mr McPherson's where the witness told the boys to get off, but they did not do so. They stopped again and Alex McIlvena threw a stone on Mrs Jones' roof. This startled the horse and he (witness) tried to stop it. The boys who were then on the trolley either jumped or fell off – he didn't know which. Did not know that one of the boys had fallen underneath the wheel of the trolley. The horse was trotting at the time. Stopped the horse and saw the boy lying on the road and asked Mrs Chessells if she would take him back to town.

Feb. 11 Letter to the editor re Inoculation Charge Sir. I notice that Charlton and all other Shire Councils that are of consequence inoculate free of charge. The Donald Shire has no money for that purpose, or any other, and will always be in debt until such time as they take ex-councillor Cantwell's advice on revaluation of the shire, the present valuations being ridiculous. If they don't make a move, the Municipal Department will.

Yours etc. NOT INOCULATED

Feb. 25 Lieut. – Colonel Harris of Jeffcott sustained a severe loss last week, a number of that gentleman's horses in some unforeseen circumstances reached the supply of wheat. Four of their number have paid the penalty. Useful sheep advanced from 2s to 4s per head in this week's Melbourne salesyards and lambs sold from 2s to 3s per head better than last week.

Feb. 28 St Patrick's Day. Attention is drawn to the advertisement in today's issue regarding the annual celebration of St Patrick's Day. A monster sports meeting is to be held on the Donald showgrounds on Wednesday March 19. A varied program is provided for which liberal prizes are offered. One of the chief attractions is the St Augustine's Boys Band which has earned a great reputation by reason of its musical ability.