



**DONALD HISTORY**  
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



## **Buloke Bulletin No. 268. MARCH 2019**

### Enquiries for January/February:

Delys & Graeme Meyer called in to the archives in January looking for information and photos of James and Margery Meyer. James was in the Boer war and returned from South Africa in 1902. He met his wife, Margery Fraser, on a ship when he was invalided home in 1900. Margery was a nurse and after their marriage in 1907, they returned to Donald and she took over Nurse Robert's hospital at 14 Blair St. Shortly after, James and Margery moved to Western Australia. It is believed that James is the second son of Johann and Charlotte Meyer.

Tam Jones emailed. She wished to find any information on her great-great grandparents, Patrick Hanley and Annie Sager who were known to be in Donald in 1880 when their first child was born. We had two entries on Patrick. The St Arnaud Mercury had him as an auctioneer in Donald in 1878. An extended article in the Donald Times in 1910 had him initiating Donald's first Horse show in 1879. This later became the Agricultural Show. The article also gave him credit for being one of the men who started the first Donald Turf Club in Donald in 1878. Up until then the publican's had run the races. Ron Falla's Selector's book had Patrick Hanley, Donald auctioneer, selecting land in Laen in 1876. This land was taken over by George Pyers when the Hanleys returned to Yandoit, near Daylesford, in 1881 where the rest of their children were born.

Dr Ron Wilson emailed for information on the Donald Higher Elementary School. His grandparents, Arnold & Elsie Wilson, were in The Grand Central Hotel in 1929-1931 and his father, Ron, attended the DHES.

Julie Kidgell visited the archives and tapped into our extensive history on the Skewes, Graham and Holdsworth families. The Skewes family were in Watchem.

## **Blasts from the Past – March 1919.**

**March 7.** Welcome Home for Cpl. L. Dunn MM. On Thursday afternoon last Corporal Leslie Dunn, son of Mr & Mrs C. Dunn of Buloke, Donald, arrived by the evening train and was met at the railway station by members of the Soldiers' Reception Committee and others. The soldier was conveyed by Mr R. Falla's car to the Shire Hall where a welcome was extended.

**March 11.** A meeting of the Charlton-Donald-Minyip Railway League was held at the Fire Station on Friday evening last. Mr Wortley, who presided, explained the object of the meeting and regretted the poorness of the attendance.

**March 14.** The second duck opening at Lake Buloke was marked with a great deal of enthusiasm by local shooters and those from distant parts. The sportsmen certainly had splendid weather and the game was fairly plentiful, but shooters found considerable difficulty in " popping " them on such a vast expanse of water. Small bags were the order of the day and many shooters went homer empty handed.

**March 18.** A Jelhart 8 horse crude oil tractor arrived in Donald on Monday last to the order of H. G. Tonkin Esq. This is the second tractor sold in the district recently by agent Mr J. Morgan. A field trial will take place this week and demonstrations arranged at a later date.

**March 21.** St Patrick's Day Sports. Events included Siamese Boys' race, Under 10 and Under 16 races for both boys and girls, the Irish jig , Highland Fling, Tug-of-war, Bowling at the wicket, Sheaf tossing, High jumps, Married men's race, Greasy pig race.

**March 25.** The Repatriation Department of the Commonwealth Government has made a gift of 5000,000 pounds to the States in order to help alleviate the unemployment among returned soldiers. The amount allocated to the State of Victoria is 142,276 pounds of which 749 pounds has been allotted to the Shire of Donald. It is to be expended exclusively on works which will provide immediate employment for returned soldiers who cannot be at once absorbed into the ordinary activities of the community.

**March 28.** Cope Cope fire. Action for damages. Verdict for plaintiff. In the case of Bugge v Brown of Cope Cope for damages in connection with a fire that took place at Cope Cope resulting in loss of property by Mr Bugge, which case has been in progress for over twelve months, an appeal was made against the judgement of the Chief Justice (Sir Wm. Irvine) which was given last year. The Chief Justice gave a verdict for the defendant with costs but, in case of his decision being reversed, he fixed the damages to which the plaintiff was entitled to in case of his decision being reversed. The damages amounted to 1,000 pounds. Plaintiffs appealed to the High Court with result that the appeal was upheld and the verdict given to Bugge with costs. Messrs Oakley and Thompson (Donald and Birchip) appeared for the plaintiff and Messrs Blake and Rigall for the defendant.

**March 28.** Two jockeys, Messrs H and A.E. Nunn, met rather serious accidents at the races on Wednesday. In the running of the Donald Cup the jockeys, it is stated, struck a post. The former lad was found to have sustained a broken leg and was sent to the St Arnaud Hospital. The other brother was injured and received medical attention.