



### **BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 292 JUNE 2021**

Donald History Enquiries for May: Andrew O'Neill wanted information on Edward Fry and family. Edward was an original selector in the Litchfield district. There was a lot of information on Edward as he was a big landowner and had several disputes with neighbours over fences, wandering stock and such. Our two solicitors, George Oakley and Mr. Lamplough were very busy men at one stage as it took three court appearances to resolve the fencing dispute. Mr. Dunkley from St Arnaud was called in to assist in the third court case. There was far too much in the papers for us to transcribe (the way that Lil did for many years) and the photos were too blurred and discoloured for our client to make out. We shall have to look at doing something about this although it is rare to have to transcribe such lengthy articles. Our choices are to get a machine for about \$2000 to copy and print out the articles or to pay to have the papers digitised. The time has probably come to make a decision.

Relatives of a Muir-McCredden match called into the archives. They were pleased to get the obituaries and Donald Times entries relating to both families.

Graeme Master, grandson of Ted Chessells emailed for information on the Chessells family.

Barry and Beryl Thornton called to deliver some photographs of the Hegarty and Kermeen families. They were last in Donald 40 years ago when Ron Falla showed them around and introduced them to relatives. This time Ann Dunstan took them to the original Kermeen selection at Rich Avon East and they visited Colleen and Peter Raynes who took them to the cemetery. Barry is the grandson of Catherine Hegarty

and Michael Philip Kermeen, which makes him a second cousin of both Peter Raynes and Ray and Mick Sullivan.

Max Henderson from Queensland found our website. He is a descendant of the Findlay family who were at Cope Cope in the 1870s. He sent us some lovely family photos and requested information on the family. We were able to send him one of Ron Falla's "Selectors of Donald" booklets which showed that his ancestors were original selectors in the Parish of Donald, near to Cope Cope. Ron's notes stated that Patrick Findlay's first crop was 4 acres of Potatoes. Max was very impressed with the booklet which told him all that he wanted to know.

Jude Barling emailed for information on her great great-aunt, Mary Hectorina Ferguson. Mary was born in Scotland and came to Donald in the late 1890s. We were able to supply Jude with Mary's obituary and some information on her brother, Rev. Fergus Ferguson who was a minister in Donald for some years. Mary died in Donald in 1923.

Alan Hornsby, son of David Hornsby and grandson of Arthur Hornsby and Ethel Crone wrote for information on the Crone family and there was plenty for him. Alan is doing his family tree.

### **Blasts from, the Past: June 1921**

**June 3. Donald Police Court.** A. Mitchell, M.J. Mathews and R.W. Howie were charged with failing to close their shops after 1 o'clock on the afternoon of Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May. Mr Kruger, Inspector of Factories, prosecuted, and defendants, who pleaded guilty, were fined 20/- with 5/- costs.

**June 7. Mushrooms Plentiful.** Owing to the heavy rains experienced over the whole of the district during the last fortnight the countryside is now covered with mushrooms, many of them being exceptionally large. Residents of many years' standing cannot remember having ever seen a more prolific growth than that existing at present.

**June 10. Mildura Carnival** Donald Band Wins Double. Hearty Congratulations.

The Donald Citizens' Band has at last been rewarded for its persistency in endeavouring to reach the topmost position in the "C" grade competition.

*(A very detailed account of the events and judges' comments followed.)*

**June 14. Union Jack For Labor.** A motion that it be recommended to the All Australian Labour Conference, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> June, that the Union Jack be adopted as the Labour Party's emblem, was carried by the Geelong Trades 'Hall Council on Tuesday night. During the debate Mr W. Wookey, the sponsor of the motion, held that the workers belonged to a national party and should have a national emblem The Union Jack, he said, stood for what Labour represented\_ Liberty and

Justice. Mr H. Browse declared that the Union Jack was the people's flag and by adopting it Labour would create a better feeling toward the flag and protect it from the abuse to which it had been subjected of late. It was pointed out by Mr Barnard that workers in the past had refrained from walking in the Eight Hours' Procession for fear that they would be marching under the red flag. A suggestion that the Australian flag be adopted was negated, it being felt that such a move might give the impression that it was desired to create an Australian republic.

**June 17 Donald Shire Council.** Mr McCracken reported that, with regard to the local power house, a person in attendance on the engine in any way whatsoever, would have to be paid one pound 17 shillings and 6 pence per week. He had written protesting against this, as it would have the effect of winding up all country power houses. The action of the engineer was endorsed.

**June 21. A Bolting Horse.** Wood Street was the scene of a mild sensation on Friday afternoon last. Willie Dark, Chinese market gardener, was returning to his home after completing his daily round, the familiar covered cart containing two lengthy pieces of shelving. Proceeding down Woods Street, the horse, evidently unused to the sight of the shelving above him, set off at a lively gallop, the driver hanging on to the reins in true equestrian fashion. The customary evening halt at the water trough proved too much, however, and the frightened animal's career was brought to a close without further incident.

**June 24. Donald Football Club. Special Meeting.** The president (Rev. F.P. Williams) in reviewing Wednesday's game at Donald, said it was generally recognised that the play was allowed to get completely out of hand, the umpire seemingly having lost control of the game. Since the commencement of the season they had had Bendigo umpires and had found them unsatisfactory. He would like to see League umpires controlling games in future. *(A motion to this effect was passed unanimously requesting the local League to employ League umpires.)*  
*(The paper had a very detailed account of the game which was won by St Arnaud 6-6-42 to Donald 3-7-25. The account described play in detail, free kicks awarded and the felling of a Donald player who later returned to play although obviously concussed)*

Mr Franks of Bendigo, umpired and was by no means satisfactory. Many of his decisions were questionable and there were many glaring incidents that he did not see at all and this accounted for much of the rough play.

**June 28. Wedding Bells.** A marriage which created a good deal of local interest, both of the contracting parties being well and favourably known throughout the district, was solemnised at the Church of the Immaculate Conception St Arnaud on Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup>. The bride was Miss Marion Elizabeth Ward, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W.T. Ward of Inkerman Street St Arnaud and the bridegroom was Mr Bartholomew McKew, second youngest son of the late Mr and Mrs C. McKew of Gooroc. *(There followed a detailed description of the dresses worn by the bride and bridesmaids and the brides going away outfit)*

Mr & Mrs McKew are now residing at their property "Fair Oaks" Gooroc.