



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 294 AUGUST 2021

Donald History Enquiries for July:

Rosemary Chapple wrote to us, enclosing a letter that had been written to her uncle, Alexander Mason, who was a teacher at the Donald Primary School in the late 1920s. The letter was from Mr. Jack Pearse and he talked about many things including his children, Eva and Ivan, who were former students of Alexander. It was a delightful letter to read and copies will be handed on to the descendants of Jack. Rosemary was sent a reply where it was explained that little Eva Pearse (later Frankling) grew up to be Donald's first woman Shire Councillor and subsequent President.

Margaret Fleming sent us two complimentary copies of her excellent books on the Alexander and Margaret Matheson family of Laen, entitled "Loch Alsh to Laen and Lygon St".

A gentleman from Queensland rang the archives. He has purchased a Horwood Bagshaw Clover Harvester and is hoping to restore it. He had heard that there were some blokes down in these parts who might have the manuals or the know how to assist him. I referred him to the Warracknabeal Machinery Museum but if anyone is interested they should contact the archives.

Anna Bennet, formerly of Nullawil was excited to read an article in the Buloke Times about her former teacher at Carapugna, Mr. Wilfred Henderson. She recalled that in 1939 /40 Wilfred played in the Carapugna tennis premiership team with her late mother. Anna wondered if Wilfred may have had a photo of the occasion. We did some research and there was no photo but Wilf had had a busy year in 1939. He was a member of a Donald Football premiership Team and of the ANA cricket premiership team. We have photos of both of those but no tennis.

Marg O'Shannessy emailed asking for photos and history of Milford Hill and Kimbolton, two properties in the Cope Cope District. We were able to assist, with Ron Falla's Selectors booklets coming to the fore yet again.

A number of enquirers have been researching family history and found that their forebears came from Donald. The Donald Times Indexes, still being compiled by our volunteers are invaluable to these people. There have been five enquiries of this type in the last month.

Blasts from, the Past: August 1921

August 2. Carron News. A meeting of the Carron Progress Association was held at the hall on Tuesday, July 26th, at which it was decided to hold an Arbor Day gathering on the reserve next Friday afternoon (August 5th) to which all interested are invited to attend and also bring trees, which will be planted. The ground is being prepared for the planting. It was also decided to enlarge the hall, which was recently placed on the reserve, by 12 ft. making it 40 ft. by 16 ft.

(The Carron Hall had been shifted from Areegra in 1920/21. It was destroyed in a freak storm in January, 1949)

August 5. Social and Dance. On Tuesday night another very enjoyable little social night was held in the Parish Hall, Blair Street. The euchre tournament resulted in the ladies' prize going to Mrs Fitzgerald, the gents being won by Miss Spottswood. The booby prizes fell to Mrs Williams and Mr George Ross. A dainty supper was provided.

August 9. High School Football. On Saturday morning the High School boys motored to St Arnaud to try conclusions with the boys of St Arnaud High School *(A detailed quarter by quarter report followed)* The final scores were St Arnaud 9.13 : Donald 2.3.

Mr Sharp of St Arnaud High School, gave his time and services as umpire and did a good job. Much credit is due to the local residents who so generously provided cars to convey the boys to St Arnaud, for, in the absence of a local junior football competition such matches as these provide the training ground for the players of future senior teams.

August 12. Donald Police Court. R.H.Barber, shire inspector, proceeded against G.Jones and Peter Ross for riding bicycles on the footpath. Mr Oakley prosecuted. Constable Morrison gave evidence as to seeing the defendants riding on the footpaths. Defendant Jones pleaded guilty and stated he did not remember the date of the offence, and seeing that lorries and carts used the footpath past his residence he did not consider he had done any harm. Mr Oakley stated he was no doubt correct but the council was determined to put down the practice. Mr Hepworth J.P. said that the practice of riding on the footpath was a great danger to women and children and would have to stop. Fined 10/- with 23/6 costs. Peter Ross stated it was the first time he had used the footpath and had only done so to avoid a wet, muddy part of the road. Fined 10/- with 23/6 costs.

August 16 Obituary. Still again we regretfully record the passing of one of our oldest and most respected residents in the person of Mrs Margaret Lowry, late wife of Martin Lowry of Corack, who died at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Death followed a relapse caused by a cold caught on Thursday last. The deceased lady, who was 70 years of age, had been a resident of Corack for 40 years, coming to Australia as a girl 60 years ago. She was born at Roscrea in Tipperary, Ireland. She leaves a family of eight sons and three daughters, the sons being, James, Patrick, Martin, Michael, Thomas, Jack, Daniel and Stephen. Of the daughters Katherine and Mary reside home, while Johanna, Mrs W. Stakelum, is also a resident of Corack. Three of the brothers are in the police force in W.A., one has a position on the Melbourne tramways and the remaining four are on the land at Corack. The deceased lady was well and favourably known throughout the length and breadth of the district, as being of kindly disposition, and always ready and willing to help anyone in distress.

Her place will indeed be hard to fill. The funeral will leave her home at Corack today at 2 o'clock for Corack cemetery.

August 19. Visit of Captain Jacka. In our last issue the rank of Captain Jacka V.C. and Bar, D.S.O., M.C., was inadvertently stated to be Lieutenant. He is, in the company with Mr Peter Hansen, visiting Donald on Monday evening, 29th August, the night prior to the election and will be delivering an address. (*Peter Hansen was the Nationalist candidate for the Korong electorate in the Victorian election*)

August 23. Donald P. & A. Society A meeting of the above was held at the Royal George Hotel on Saturday last. It was decided not to raise the price of admission as had been done elsewhere. The secretary reported that improvements were being made to the ticket gate, water trough and cattle gate, schedules are printed and may be obtained from the secretary at his office, Woods Street.

August 26. Contradiction. (To the Editor " Donald Times ") Sir – It is being widely circulated throughout the Korong electorate that Mr Hansen, when a member of the Framers' Union, seconded a motion favouring the compulsory wheat pool. I desire, Mr Editor, on Mr Hansen's behalf, to emphatically deny the allegation, and at present I hold a declaration sworn before a Justice of the Peace, to the effect that he did not second the motion referred to – Yours etc
Kenneth Cameron, Wedderburn.

August 29. Correspondence. (To the Editor) Dear Sir, I have received a letter from Mr Jas. L. Hendry, secretary of the Korong Electorate Council, Wedderburn, stating that the undermentioned gentlemen have sworn a declaration to the effect that Mr Hansen, who was then a member of the V.F.U, seconded the following resolution – " That this branch of the V.F.U. support a compulsory wheat pool under farmers' control ". John Burge, W.J. Doggett, Wm. Galloway and J.L. Headry.
Yours faithfully J.E. Le Cher

(The compulsory wheat pool was a major electoral issue in 1921)