



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 299 JANUARY 2022

Donald History Enquiries for December:

Jill Davidson (not our local Jill) rang the archives. She had a copy of "Shanty AtThe Bridge" for us. It was amongst her parents things but they had no connection with Donald. Jill took a drive from Horsham and delivered the book. We are always pleased to get copies of this wonderful tome as it is still sought after and is out of print.

Joylene Newell brought in a copy of a 1957 Football recorder. We did not have one of that year in our collection and were very pleased to get it.

Alistair Miller rang for information on the Miller family of Avon Plains.

Newcomers to Meyer St in Donald came in and asked for history of their house. They were lucky as it was in the second volume of "Now and Then". We sell this information for \$5 but if we have to research a house from scratch it is \$20.

Mardi Cameron contacted us. Her ancestor, Alexander Duncan Plant was born in Donald. His son, Leo, would like to visit and see the area.

Lynda Rothwell's father was a policeman her in 1963. Lynda paid us a visit and was shown around the police camp.

Blasts from the Past- January 1922

January 6. Working Bee at North Laen

About a fortnight ago, Mr Fred Milne of Laen North, met with a serious accident through being kicked by a trotting stallion. He was taken to Horsham Hospital, where he died on Thursday last week leaving a wife and family of eight children, the oldest of whom is 13 and the youngest 1 month. The heartfelt sympathy of the whole district is extended to the bereaved relatives.

In order to assist the sufferer, who is a returned soldier, a working bee was organised to

take the crop off, and this took place on the day previous to his death.

The organisers, Messrs. A. McDonald and W.J. Leslie, did not meet with a refusal from any of the farmers asked. Some however were unable to take part owing to breakages in machinery at the last moment.

Work commenced on 110 acres of crop on Wednesday morning, when 16 machines were engaged and the work proceeded nicely until the whole crop was harvested and sewn up. A number of the farmers brought along their bag-sewers with them.

Such an act on the part of the farmers around, who are themselves in the midst of reaping a bumper harvest, is most praiseworthy, and was highly appreciated by Mrs Milne and family. This is another evidence that when a returned soldier is in need, there are plenty willing to lend a helping hand. The crop yielded nearly 1200 bags .

Those who took part in the harvesting operations were; -Messrs. W. Petering, W.G. Smith, W. Leslie, W. Dellavedova, A. Farrell, C. Painter, G. and J. Jackson, D. McInnes, T. Fox (2 machines) and F. Westerland.

Such a working bee would not be complete without the assistance of the ladies with the indispensable afternoon tea and refreshments so eagerly looked for by the men in the harvest field. In this connection valuable assistance was rendered by Mrs A. Farrell, Mrs W. Leslie, Miss J. McDonald, Mrs D. Barber and Mrs J. King, assisted by ladies from Minyip who brought out liquid refreshments. Mr A. Barber helped materially in the way of conveying the ladies to and from the scene of operations.

January 10 New Cure for Snakebite

A new use for petrol has been discovered in the case of snakebite and, says a Kimberly (South Africa) correspondent, where it proved remarkably efficacious when a boy was bitten. The son of a post contractor for Kimberly was on one of his journeys, and got out of his car to open a gate when he was bitten by a puff adder which was lying on the road. Some petrol was immediately tipped from the tank of the car and applied to the foot, while the bitten boy also drank a little of the fuel. Eventually the swelling diminished, and although the lad seemed a little languid for a few days he completely recovered.

(We do not recommend this as a treatment !)

January 13 A New Fly Trap.

The fly pest constitutes a substantial addition to the discomforts of summer and is a prolific source of disease infection. There are very many sorts of fly traps of varying degrees of efficiency but the use of baited wires has proved so effective in many places that housewives will use nothing else. The mixture consists of linseed oil or castor oil 4 oz., crushed resin 7.5 to 9.5 oz.

Heat the oil then stir in the resin. Paint the mixture on wire about a yard in length; leave a handhold at one unpainted end, a hook on the other and hang vertically from the hooked end. When covered with flies, pass the wire through a flame to clear it of the mixture and dead flies and paint as before.

January 17 Anzac Tweed.

Many people are under the impression that the Anzac tweed, which is manufactured by ex-soldiers in the Anzac factory, Queen Street, near Latrobe Street, is available to ex-soldiers only. The tweed, which is of first class quality, and is in many patterns, is made available to the general public at prices much below those charged for similar material in retail shops. The Anzac factory has the sole use of the genuine German dyes which were commandeered by the Federal Government during the war.

January 20. The Weather.

A sharp rise in temperature was experienced on Wednesday last when the thermometer registered 96.5 degrees. Conditions were rendered more unpleasant on Thursday by a strong wind which raised dust in the town streets and along the roads. We have been extremely fortunate as regards the weather generally, however, as the mercury has not reached the hundred since last November. 70 points of rain have fallen for the month, 15 on the 5th, 7 on the 7th and 40 on the 8th.

January 24. Opening of the Duck Season.

The opening of the duck season is an event of more than ordinary interest to Donald and district. Right in our midst we have the well-known sportsman's paradise – Lake Buloke. This great expanse of water is, as usual, teeming with wild ducks of all kinds and as the 15th of February is approaching, the "experts of the trigger" are preparing the necessary shooting equipment.

January 27. Price of Wheat.

The Victorian Wheat Corporation has fixed the price of wheat among associated millers and growers at 5/- per bushel for the week. The price of grain has been lowered considerably since the action of the Wheat Board decreased the price per bushel to 5/4 and for the last three weeks the Corporation has fixed the price as above. It is not considered that the price is likely to rise.

January 31 Census Returns.

The Commonwealth statistician has forwarded to the various municipalities details of the Census of Australia completed on the 4th April 1921. The population of the Donald Shire is set down as 3,240 (males 1,728, females 1,512), occupied dwellings 662, unoccupied 17.