



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 306 AUGUST 2022

Enquiries for July. Jill Harris (nee Lane) and husband were travelling through and called in on spec. Her Great Grandmother, Jane Pearse, was the daughter of William Nicholas Langham Pearse and Amelia Geake of "Devon Park". Jane Pearse married James Lane in 1881. Jill found that she has three close cousins still in the area, namely Doris Jones, Bill Pearse and Judi Hastings. She will return later in the year and hopefully catch up with them. Jill and her husband took a look at the former Goldings store and also took a drive out Devon Park Road.

Linden Young sent quality photos of three of Donald's earliest citizens. They were in the possession of his grandfather, Frederick Flentje, Methodist minister in Donald in 1909. Our photograph expert, Mary Archbold was able to identify the two women, Mary Helen Moore and Charlotte Meyer. The jury is still out on the third picture. The name on the back could be Greavar or Grewar. We print it here in case anyone can help with identification.



The East Gippsland Historical Society emailed "We have been given a Gladstone bag that was used by Jack Moore, born in 1910 at Donald, who worked during the depression years around Goroke and served with the Air Force during WW2. As this is outside our collecting area would you be interested in having it due to the local connection".

A check of the Victorian BDM reveals that Jack was born "Frederick John" Moore in Donald, 1910 to Elizabeth (nee Wilson) and Harry Moore. He was always known as Jack. This Moore family were painters and were in Donald for 3 or 4 generations. Jack's grandfather, John Moore, came to Donald in 1874 to work with his father H. Moore, a painter by trade, who was then involved in renovating "The Willows" Presbyterian Manse. Jack's parents, Harry and Elizabeth Moore, built the house at 28 McCracken Avenue and his brother, Donald Moore, built 24 McCracken Avenue. The last entry for Jack in The Donald Times Index was when he left town for Gympie in 1928. It is extremely interesting to hear some more of Jack's history down the track. We have told the East Gippsland Society that we will take the Gladstone bag.

Brian Bayles brought in 3 medals. One was a Peace Or Victory medal which was issued to every child in Australia aged 0-14 years after the first world War (and aged up to 16 if parents were in the armed forces). There were 1,670,000 medals made by Six manufacturers. The medals were silvered bronze, with silver issues for special presentations. The Defence Department supplied a red, white and blue striped ribbon and pin. Distribution began in March 1919. Victorian school children received their medals on Friday 18 July and on 'Peace Day' on Saturday 19 July. Brian's medal still has the ribbon on it.

The other two medals were won by his grandfather, Charlie Henderson. One was for being captain of the Donald Football Club in 1923 when they were Premiers of the North West football league. The other was from the Wedderburn Fire Brigade. Both medals are beautifully designed. Brian will hang on to these for the time being and eventually hand them on to family.

A couple from Glen Waverley visited Donald from Wednesday to Saturday in the last week of July. They decided to escape Melbourne for a while and having heard of Donald from a friend decided to make it their destination. Both are car drivers but they did the whole trip by public transport coming up via Bendigo and home via Ballarat. I would love to hear their thoughts on the splendid sight of the Maryborough Railway Station. They looked though our Courthouse Museum having booked in at the archives. Anyone is free to do this on one of our three Archives Opening Days -Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Blasts from the Past August 1922.

August 1. Personal. The many friends of Mr E. Watts of Houston Street, will be pleased to know that he is back among us, and feeling hearty and well after his recent illness and severe operation in the St Arnaud Hospital. Mr Watts fully bears out the opinion so often expressed by others that, in regard to medical and nursing attention, the St Arnaud Hospital is well-nigh perfect.

Mr Vic. Willey of Donald, is at present an inmate of the St Arnaud Hospital, where he underwent an operation for appendicitis yesterday. His many friends will wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

August 4. St Mary's School. Presentation to Miss McCarthy. A large and enthusiastic gathering of parents and children attending the school and parishioners generally filled St Mary's Catholic Schoolroom on Thursday week last, with the object of voicing their appreciation of, and good-will towards Miss McCarthy who is about to sever her connection with the school, after being in charge for upwards of three years.

August 8. Corack Notes. Corack beats Wycheproof. These two football teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday last and a splendid game resulted in a win for Corack by 10.5 to 2.7. This win places Corack within four points of Wycheproof, the leading team, putting them in a position to challenge for a final game. For Corack the best players were L. Barber, A. Dillon, J. Proctor, Brennan, Ryan (3) and McCallum.

August 11. Donald Police Court. Jane Elizabeth Jones was charged with having sold milk adulterated with water to the extent of 36 percent.

Mr C.J. Robinson, for defendant, said he could not account for the condition of the milk. A fine of £3 with £2 15/- costs, was imposed.

August 15. School Sports. As the football teams took the field it was seen that the visitors were much the heavier team, although coming from a smaller school as Charlton High School has only 57 in attendance. However, 27 of them are in the upper forms, a greater number of students taking advantage of the High School part of the curriculum than is done in Donald. Charlton won easily, although the local boys fought gamely to the end. The best players for Donald High School were Jack Pope, Harold Bath (Capt), Jim Davies, Victor and George Hepworth, Howard Watts, Rupert Barker and Jim Small.

Before departing for home the visitors were entertained at the cookery centre. In responding on behalf of the visitors, Mr Robinson, a member of the Charlton School Committee, remarked on the absence of Donald parents and committee-men from the school function.

In replying, Mr Carter, the local headmaster, remarked that he would have to induce parents to leave their boys at school longer if it were only for the sake of the football team.

August 18. Layers of Gold Layers of Gold. White Leghorns and Black Orpingtons. (Ad.)

I have secured 6 Cockerels from GEDGE BROS the leading breeders of White Leghorns and Black Orpingtons in Victoria. Eggs for hatching now ready. Orders taken in rotation for hen and 12 chicks. A. Mitchell Donald

August 22. Donald Branch V.F.U. Annual Drive. Members of the above met on Saturday afternoon, the President Mr J.E. Letcher, occupying the chair. Several new members were nominated and accepted. In connection with the annual drive for members it was arranged that this should begin straight away, and all district residents not visited before Tuesday next will be called on as soon as possible after that date.

Messrs R.W. Reseigh and R.A. Adams were appointed to visit Rich Avon and the Soldier Settlement, Mr McGarrigle, Dooboobetic; Messrs A. Black, T.P. Connellan, W.J. Leslie and C.W. Basset, Laen; and Messrs J.E. Letcher and W.N. Pearse, Donald East. It was left to the Presidents to make arrangements for Corack.

(V.F.U. = Victorian Farmers' Union became the Country Party)

August 25. Not Building Bridges. Local Request Refused. Railway Commissioners Clapp, Miscamble and Shannon arrived in Donald on Wednesday, on their annual tour of inspection, and appeared well satisfied with the conditions and supervision at the local station, leaving Donald before their scheduled time.

Crs. McPherson and Sproat interviewed the Commissioners in connection with the overhead bridge at McCulloch Street. Mr Clapp explained that the Department was out to give Donald a good train service and to handle our goods expeditiously, but that it was not building any overhead bridges at the present time. The need for reconstruction and repairing of the railway cattle yards was brought under the notice of the Commissioners, with the result that these will be effected within the next three weeks.

It is understood that the construction of a bridge would cost approximately £1000, but residents who have to use the present unsatisfactory means of crossing the line at this point rightly contend that cost is nothing if one or two lives are lost. It is also pointed out that this line pays well, and that, if it were in a metropolitan area, the station and conveniences would be provided at every necessary point. The decision of the Commissioners, however, seems to be definite enough, and, should local residents decide to press the question further, they should get together without delay, and not let the matter remain in abeyance.

August 29. Federal Members' Salaries. It is stated that the decision of the Federal Government to propose a reduction of Parliamentary salaries from £1,000 to £800 per annum was received with anything but favour at the Ministerial Party meeting. It was agreed that the proposal was not unreasonable as far as Victoria and some South Australian and New South Wales members were concerned, but it was urged that exception should be made in the case of members residing in far distant electorates. When the bill for the reduction of salaries comes before the House an amendment in the direction indicated may be moved. *(In 1922 the Federal Parliament met in Melbourne)*