



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 318 SEPTEMBER 2023

The digitised copies of the Donald Times, Donald Express and Donald Mail are now on our computer and ready for use, thanks to the expertise of John Kumm. John has put all of the files in order, rotated them ninety degrees and turned around out the ones that were copied backwards. Forty seven hours of work were involved and we are very grateful to have such a dedicated and skilful person in our society.

Enquiries for August

Cold weather has kept people at home and we have had very few enquiries in August.

The Wycheproof Historical Society asked for some history on the Glowery family which we were able to help with.

The Donald Learning Group requested copies of our "Self-drive tour of Donald" for visitors.

Jean Shannon and Alan Hornsby are both researchers of the local Crone family and we were able to put them in touch with each other as well as obtaining their Crone information.

Tony Robb, former resident, called in and bought our booklet, "Introduction to Donald".

A newcomer to Donald called in, paid her \$5, and got the history of her house in Meyer St.

Robert Burton found an interesting document when cleaning out "Donald Tyre and Mechanical", prior to its closure. It is a professionally printed family tree on a piece of Cardboard measuring 18cm x 44cm. The tree shows some of the descendants of Colin McKenzie and Christina McCrae who arrived in Melbourne in 1852, eventually settling at Coghills Creek near Ballarat. The tree was printed circa 1980. There are some Public trees on Ancestry which contain some of the same people but we are unable to relate the tree to anyone in Donald or neighbouring towns. We will file the document and hand it over to any family members interested in claiming it. We would love to know how it came to be behind a cupboard in a Donald Garage.

Tracey Sarney, a descendant of the Boorn and Giles family has sent two more Corack photos from her mother's collection. Her mother had brought them to the 1994 "back to" to get them named. We have these photos in our collection and they are named. We will print one in each of the next two newsletters.

The first one is a Corack East School Photo. Mid 1930s. They won the Athletic Shield three years in a row.



Back (L) to (R): Robert Sands, Joe Harty, Pat Brennan, Keith Perry, Bobby Dunn, Roy McClelland, Bill Freeman (teacher)

Standing: Vince Brennan, Marie Goldsmith, Mary Harty, Maureen Brennan, Elsie Sands, Irene Gleeson, Paul Gleeson, Veronica Harty, Jim Brennan

Seated: Bernie Harty, Dave Rivett, Fred Goldsmith, Nancy Madder, Joan Gleeson, Mary Gleeson, Max Sands, Roger Brennan.

Blasts from the Past. September 1923

September 4. Early Visitors. Numerous instances of snakes being killed are reported of late. Mr J.W. Baker, in the act of lofting a piece of timber on his property over the bridges, uncovered a lively specimen of the brown variety, which had probably been driven to high ground by the recent flood waters. It was dispatched with a shot gun. During the week, Mr H. Waterhouse of Laen, sustained a loss in the death of one of his draught horses. As he was

dragging the horse through the gate in one of his paddocks he was confronted with a 4 ft. snake, which was speedily dealt with.

September 7. Police Court. John Turnbull was called upon to answer two charges of having failed to send Albert Caulfield to school. Defendant pleaded not guilty, was fined 10s on each charge, in default 48 hours.

John Collingwood Collins was fined £5 or 1 month imprisonment on a charge of having, on 25th August, behaved in an offensive manner in Gray Street.

September 11. Dying Unto Himself. Willie Dark, a local Chinese market gardener, was presented on a charge of having in his possession opium in a form suitable for smoking. Portion of the evidence in connection with this case had been heard previously and has been reported in these columns. The case had been adjourned from the first hearing to enable the Court to obtain expert evidence as to the character of the substance produced, alleged by the prosecution to be opium.

Mr W.E. Pearcey, of Pearcey and Ivey, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Pharmacy Board. The services of an interpreter had also been procured, the evidence as to the police visit to the accused's garden and the finding of the opium being recapitulated and rendered intelligible to him. Accused pleaded guilty and maintained a quiet demeanour throughout. Mr Price, the Government Analyst, deposed to having received the articles produced from Mr Pearcey. The substance in one of the tins contained two of the principal constituents of opium, and were quite suitable for smoking. He had applied it to an opium pipe and found them so. The substance contained in the other tin was not "yen-ahl" (opium which had been smoked once) but "third grade".

Mr. Pearcey said that the accused would be put to a lot of extra expense by reason of the visit of the interpreter and the analyst, and asked the Bench to deal leniently with him in the matter of a fine.

Mr Grant: "The minimum is £10. The offence is one which savours more of an individual character. The man is doing no harm to anyone but himself. If any man may live unto himself, or die unto himself, he is doing that. (Addressing accused) "Can you knock this habit off?"

The interpreter: "He has made up his mind to knock it off. He has been taking reduced quantities". Mr Grant: "But I thought he could not obtain any more since he was arrested?" – "They have to take a substitute your Worship. They can get it. There are thousands worth in the country. It is madness to expect a man to knock it off straight away".

Mr Grant: "Yes, but it is reasonable to expect that he will give up the practice?" – "Yes: some of them continue until they are 40 and then give it up."

Sen-Constable Power; "You may have noticed that since the adjournment, accused is quite a different man and has recovered quite a healthy colour" (Laughter).

Mr Grant "That is most evident."

Mr Pearcey "The defendant wishes you to fix the fine and be done with it. The costs are £18/19/-".

A fine of £10 with £18/19/- costs was imposed, defendant asking for time to pay. Sen-Constable Power said he was a hard-working industrious man. He had as security his horse, vehicle and garden. Accused was allowed one month to pay the fine and three months in connection with the costs.

18 September. Offensive Language. James Strauchan was charged with having used obscene language near a public place, i.e. Wood Street.

Sen-Constable Power appeared for the prosecution.

Constable Morrison said that at 7.45 p.m. on the 12th (Show-night) he was walking down the middle of Wood Street and heard someone using bad language (sample submitted) at the rear of the lane leading into the Grand Central Hotel. There were people passing at the time. He went down and found accused about 40 yards from the roadway. He was drunk, but not so drunk that he did not know what he was doing.

Accused pleaded guilty and did not make a statement.

Sen-Constable Power said that the accused, who was only a youth, had been in the employ of Mr L. Basset, and had come in for the Show. A lost hat appeared to be the essence of the language complained of. The police knew nothing about him.

The Bench expressed regret as seeing a youth called before it on such a charge but indicated that it would deal leniently with him on condition that he was not apprehended in the same state, using similar language in the future. If he were, then he knew what to expect. Accused was discharged.

21 September. Memorial Hall Opening. The committee appointed in connection with the opening of the new Hall on October 10, would be pleased to receive offers of donations, in the way of poultry, milk, meat etc. towards the Children's and Adults' High Tea. Those willing to assist in this way are requested to leave particulars of their intended donations at the "Times" office before the 29th inst.

25 September Council Meeting. Additional interest will be lent to next Tuesday's Council meeting, by the fact that a new Shire President will be elected, and that two Councillors, Messrs. J.S. Brennan and W.J. Borden, representative of the East and West Ridings respectively, will take their places for the first time at the Council table. Both gentlemen are young and energetic and should infuse additional vigour into municipal proceedings.

28 September Personal. Mr H.E. Carter, the popular headmaster of the Donald H.E. School left on the afternoon train yesterday on his way to Camperdown, where he will be located for the future. Mr Carter's departure from our town will be deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, independent of parents and the children themselves. Since coming here, he had witnessed many changes for the better in the school, its buildings and its work. He interested himself in all public matters, and was a regular at all public meetings, calculated to raise the status of Donald or to benefit its citizens. He had the affection and respect of both teachers and children to a marked degree and, despite the hurried nature of his transfer, was made the recipient of handsome presentations on their behalf, representatives of the staff and the scholars expressing the genuine regret experienced at his departure. Mr Carter's place will be temporarily filled by Mr Keogh.