



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 320 NOVEMBER 2023

We acknowledge the contribution over the years by our former member, Dot McKay (nee Richards) who died recently.

Enquiries for October

Jenny Sexton emailed for any information on the Sexton and Supple families. She says "My husband Robert is a great grandson of John Sexton & Bridget Supple. His grandfather, John Jr. came across to Tailem Bend SA from Kiata Vic where he worked on the Vic railways, also a butcher. He became a porter for the SA railways in Tailem Bend. He met and married Imelda Kilmartin and moved to Murray Bridge. He became a butcher before becoming a farmer". We were able to oblige with several pages of information and two photos. The Sextons were selectors in the Watchem area.

Dorothy Small visited the archives looking for information on her aunt, Beatrice Small. Beatrice inherited the Poole/Small boarding house at 11 Hammill St in 1941 and lived there for 12 years before moving to Melbourne in 1953. The house was demolished in 1996.

Margaret Bates enquired about her great-grandmother, Julia Stewart, who married in Donald in 1883. She enclosed the wedding certificate. ~~It seems that~~ Julia was living at Teddywaddy and then, after her marriage, in Wycheproof. We had no information on [Julia or her husband in our files.](#)

Jenny Marshall, nee Billingham, rang first and then visited the archives. Jenny is the youngest of the five daughters of Roy and Gwen (nee Tonkin). She bought a number of our publications on the history of the area and the Tonkins.

We have had a couple of enquiries about land owned by the Secombes of Teddywaddy. John Treloar also enquired about attendees at the Teddywaddy School. We referred him to the Wycheproof and Charlton Societies as we were unable to help. Teddywaddy has come up a lot this month.

The last copy of the book “The Pioneers and Progress of Watchem” by Lilian Kirk has been sold and we are currently working on getting some more printed. It has become very popular in recent times.

Blasts from the Past. November 1923

November 2. Cliff Crone. Wishes to notify Donald and District that he has purchased the Butchering Business lately conducted by Mr T.P. Bellet and hopes by personal attention to business to merit and receive a fair share of their patronage.

Nothing But The Best Sold.

November 9. Annual Donald Picnic. The picnic held annually under the auspices of the combined Sunday schools of Donald was held on Wednesday, and proved equally enjoyable as those of other years. The weather was fine, though a strong wind prevailed, and most of the kiddies were conveyed to and from the Lake in cars, which were generously placed at the disposal of the various committees by many owners.

Police Strike. Isolated incidents of an exciting character continue to occur in the city, although the position is much more promising. The State Parliament sat until a late hour last night upon the passage of a Public Order Bill, which will enable the Government to take whatever action is necessary in conjunction with the strike and its consequences.

November 13. Freezing Works. Work is proceeding satisfactorily at the Donald Freezing Works, where some 25,000 lambs have been slaughtered this season. On the whole, the lambs are of good quality and weight. Further qualities are available and it is desired that shareholders who still have lambs for sale will communicate with the Company's agents in order that arrangements may be made for purchase and delivery before the end of the season. Notwithstanding the fact that many fine lambs have come into the works, a certain percentage are obviously sired by rams of very indifferent breeding and the Company desires to impress upon shareholders the desirability of making a careful selection in this respect. Lambs of the Shropshire and Devon type are well adapted for export. They weigh well, and have good appearance when dressed. Arrangements are being made to purchase fat rams for export, and this should give growers a good opportunity of getting rid of their culls.

November 16. A Generous Donation. We have much pleasure in acknowledging a further donation to the Avon Plains quota of the St Arnaud District Hospital Building Fund. The amount previously contributed from this district was £ 245/15/6 and this has now been augmented by a cheque for £100, the gift of Mr Thomas Guthrie, snr.

November 23. Personal. Mr James Bennetto of Cope Cope was admitted to the St Arnaud District Hospital on Friday last, suffering injuries caused by the falling of some bags of wheat. His many friends will be pleased to hear that he has returned home practically recovered from his hazardous (sic) experience.

November 27. District Intelligence. Property has been changing hands in the Corack East district, the principal sale effected of late being the transfer of 1,000 acres of land from Mr W. Stakelum to Mr S. Madder at £12 per acre. Mr S. Madder has also acquired the property known as Free's, both sales having been negotiated by Mr W.H. Gray and Son of Donald. Mr

J.S. Perry of Wycheproof has purchased Mr A. W. Perry's township allotment at Corack, the latter gentleman having bought a residence in Wycheproof.

November 30 Donald Progress Association. November Meeting. A meeting of the above was held at the Mechanics Institute on Monday evening, November 11, the president, Mr B.M. Basset, occupying the chair. The minutes were read by the secretary, Mr E.W. Berger, and confirmed.

In connection to the request made to the district Water Supply engineer at Murtoa, asking that a supply of water be made available from the channel for the purpose of adding further to the depth already in the railway dam, the secretary said that no reply had been received. It was decided to write direct to the Commission.

The president reported having visited the conference of the combined Progress Associations, and incidentally mentioned that, at the afternoon session, he was the only representative of any association outside a radius of 30 miles from the city. He thanked the secretary of the local branch for having submitted the motions on the agenda paper in concrete form, as he had discovered, when the conference commenced, that in very few instances had the motions been properly framed, leading to much delay. The subject of roads had occupied much of the time of the conference and the Donald branch's motion for increased funding grants to the Country Roads Board was carried unanimously, after a deal of discussion.

The president's report was accepted and a vote of thanks was recorded. It being deemed advisable, in the case of other conferences, to circularise other country progress associations, in order to obtain more support for the inland bodies.

The subject of swimming baths was again broached, it being mentioned that the portion of the river which had been filled up by the provision of a weir near Mr F. T. Miller's property had proved very popular last year. It was pointed out that money had been spent at the railway dam and members were of the opinion that should a more suitable site offer itself, they should proceed with their project where the money could be best spent, as the land surrounding the dam could in later years be converted into a fine park. Finally a committee, consisting of the president, secretary, Dr. Flanagan, and Messrs. Davies, Fowler and Forer was appointed to inspect and report on the suitability of the river site at Gray's weir

It was decided to institute a fresh drive for new members before the next meeting of the association.