



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 343 APRIL 2026

Enquiries February/March Judith Heath requested an electronic copy of R.P. Falla's "Selectors in the Parish of Jeffcott". We do not have these done digitally but can post them out for a small cost, which we did for Judith.

Lindsay Christie rang the archives. He is a nephew of Eric Glen and wanted to contact members of the Glen Family. We were able to put him in touch with some.

Ken Piesse is a cricket author. He is currently writing a history of the Victorian Country Cricket League, which includes plenty of references to Donald Cricketers. Lindsay Christie had also spoken to him about Eric Glen, stating that he had heard that Eric, who played for Litchfield Carron, was such a prolific run-scorer that there was a special rule that he "had to retire, not out when he made 100 runs". We could find no evidence of this rule for Ken but that isn't to say that it didn't exist. In the 1970s, in a presentation by Allan Dunstan he rated Eric Glen as the third best batsman he had ever seen, behind John Hendry and Tony Tuck.

Chris and Caroline Hoare visited the archives. They were hoping to see the old hospital building "Ivanhoe" at 140 Woods St and were disappointed when told they were just a few years too late. They bought a B&W copy of "Now and Then Volume One" for \$30, to see the photos and read the history of "Ivanhoe". Chris's Great grandfather, Maurice was a cousin of the Hoare sisters, who ran the hospital which was started by their grandmother, Eliza and their mother, Mary in 1902.

Sarah Anderson wished to know the address of her great grandmother's hospital in Houston St. Her great-grandmother was Louisa Liddle and she was a ladies nurse. Louisa took patients into her own home. These were expectant mothers, as Louisa was a midwife, or women suffering from illness. Louisa did this from 1897 until about 1923. We were able to tell Sarah that Louisa's second hospital was at 25 Houston St and it was demolished or removed in 1923 for the current house to be built. Sarah sent a photograph of Louisa Liddle in her garden.

We received a clipping from the Maryborough Advertiser, telling us that Madge Scown, a Maryborough Resident, had turned 100 years old in October, 2025. The article began_ "From sneaking out to Lake Buloke as a child, to enjoying bowls well into her 90s, Madge Scown has always lived life on her terms . Now she is celebrating a century of it." Madge is the daughter of Bill Skane, who was Donald's barber for about 20 years. Bill and his wife, Mary Ann, nee Firman, came to Donald from Maryborough in the mid-1920s and remained until the early 1940s. Bill ran his barber's business in one of the front shops of St Georges Hall Arcade. Madge was born in Donald in October, 1925 and she and her two sisters attended school here. Madge got a job in OGilpins and transferred about, ending up in Nhill before eventually moving back to Maryborough. She married twice and has three children. Her eldest, a daughter, is Val Maffescioni and five generations of Maffescionis helped Madge celebrate her birthday in Maryborough in late 2025.

Eddie Shuttleworth rang the archives asking for information on the William Warren family, who were original selectors at Watchem. William Warren and his wife, Mary had 11 children but several died in their youth, including two from a typhoid outbreak in 1885. A rough copy of the Warren tree in our files showed that Marj Cameron is descended from one of the 11, Henrietta, Eddie Shuttleworth is descended from Emma, the youngest daughter and former premier of Victoria, Henry Bolte was descended from the eldest son, William. Eddie sent copies of photos of his grandmother, Emma, with her sisters and is hoping that Marj Cameron may help to identify the sisters.

Blasts from the Past. April 1926

April 2. Donald Police Court. Licensing Cases. (Before Mr. H.R. McDonald P.M. and J. Hepworth J.P.). Ronald McDonald was charged with, on February 6, 1926, having allowed a disposal of liquor to take place at the Mt. Jeffcott Hotel during prohibited hours. Defendant was also charged with failing to have every door by which access might be gained to the bar room securely shut and locked during prohibited hours. John Flood was also charged with having been on the premises of the Mt. Jeffcott Hotel during prohibited hours. Defendant was represented by Mr. C. J. Robinson. The evidence for the prosecution disclosed that, on the night in question, Constable Morrison visited the Mt. Jeffcott Hotel and knocked at the door of the bar. On opening it, defendant Flood was found in the act of drinking a glass of beer. When asked for an explanation, the licensee, (H. McDonald) said he did not know that Flood was on the premises. A fine of £3, with £1/14/9 costs was imposed on the first charge and a fine of £5 on the second. Flood was fined 10/-.

April 9 Resolution of Disapproval. We are informed that the Donald Methodist Church quarterly meeting held on Wednesday, at which there were representatives from Swanwater, Avon Plains, East Laen and Donald passed a resolution "strongly disapproving of the so-called week-end hare drives held on Sunday afternoons, which they consider to be a

distinct encroachment upon the sanctity of the day, and an offence to the religious sentiment of the great majority of the residents.”

April 16. A Warning. Complaints of interference with railway trucks and other property at Donald have been made of late by the Railway Department, and in this connection two children are to appear before the Children’s Court at Donald.

April 20. New School. Opening at Swanwater West on Friday next. On Friday afternoon the opening ceremony in connection with the new school will take place at Swanwater West at 3 p.m. A picnic will follow and tea will be available. A charge of 1/- will be made to adults. In the evening a concert will be held at 8 p.m. and the program will be contributed by old scholars of the school. Adults will be charged 2/- admission, while children will be admitted free.

April 23. Fire in Donald. Dwelling Completely Destroyed. At about 2.15 a.m. on Thursday morning, the ringing of the fire bell aroused residents of the town, who were soon hurrying to the scene of the outbreak at the south end of Wood Street, the residence owned by Mrs. W.H. Lewis, and occupied by Mrs. P. Waters being ablaze. Fortunately the breeze was light but the fire raged fiercely for some time. Three times the cordial factory adjoining the burning residence came ignited but the Donald Fire Brigade, under Captain Conroy, prevented the flames obtaining a hold. On the other side the brigade was experiencing an anxious time as the fire threatened to ignite the residence occupied by Mrs. Lewis and family. Furniture and other household effects were removed but the firemen were able to play a constant stream of water on the side of the building, thus preventing any spread of the conflagration. Mrs. Waters was the only occupant of the house at the time of the outbreak. When she was awakened by Mr. Lewis the fire had a strong hold and she had to make her escape by way of a window, sustaining a cut arm. The fire burnt itself out, only the Egyptian brick, walls and brick chimney being left standing. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

April 27. Teaching as a Profession. The Teachers’ Training College at Bendigo will be opened on 4th May next with an approximate enrolment of twenty-seven students. Provision has been made for more than that number. The time allowed for application in the first instance was so short that it is probable that some intending students did not enrol. In order to enable all to take advantage of the fine opportunities offered, the time for enrolments has been extended. Applications may be forwarded until the middle of May. A circular, setting forth the financial and professional advantages of the course may be obtained by application to the head teacher of Central School No. 1926 Bendigo. *(The College was closed in 1931 and reopened in 1945)*

April 30. Accident at Races. In the hurdle race at St Arnaud yesterday Bilwyt and Royal Black lost their riders, T. Hatcher sustaining a broken leg.