

# The Western Port Times

## Grantville & Districts



Volume 6 Number 4

FREE

August 2023

### Contents:

#### Local and General News

From *The San Remo Times*, August 1897.

on Page 3

#### Letters to Aunt Patsy

From the 12-year-old Elsie Watson from Almurta in 1922.

on Page 5

#### Western Port: It's Past And Future

An 1896 tour of the Bass Valley area by Philoctetes.

on Page 6

#### A Phaeton Accident

The Anderson family and Mr. Paling receive a considerably shaking in this November 1897 cart crash.

on Page 7

#### Boating on the Powlett

A fine outing until...well, don't row on the Powlett at high tide in rough weather where it flows into Bass Strait.

on Page 7

#### G. & N. Official Killed

R.R. Paterson in a car crash in 1952.

on Page 7

#### Archie's Creek Origin

Or more specifically, after who was Archie's Creek named?

on Page 8

#### Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi

Two weeks before the December 1917 referendum on conscription, Archbishop Daniel Mannix visits Wonthaggi to open a bazaar. Unsurprisingly, he has a few thoughts on conscription and offers them to the large audience present.

on Page 10

This magazine is a continuation of the original Western Port Times, which was published in Grantville from 1898 until 1908 by T. C. Monger, and from 1908 to August 1910 by Harold B. and J. A. Sullivan, at which date the premise is said to have been destroyed in a fire and everything lost. Publication never resumed.

At its peak, the paper was distributed from Flinders and Hastings on the Mornington Peninsula, to San Remo and Phillip Island, Inverloch and the Powlett region, through to Jumbunna and Loch, and as far north as Lang Lang.

\* \* \*

### WONTHAGGI THEATRE.

NO PICTURES FRIDAY.

SATURDAY, OCT. 16, SHARP AT 8 p.m.

THREE STARS.

By the Famous Players, in 4 Acts :

### THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

The Immortal Drama by the Celebrated Wilson Barrett. It needs no comment, except that it is better than the play. READ OUR SPECIAL COURIER.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—This Picture will be repeated on Sunday Night, with a change, in the Second Part.

STAR NO. 2: An Essanay Comedy, in Two Parts :

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2,000ft.—Featuring the one and only CHARLIE CHAPLIN in a mirth provoking, irresistible absurdity.

A Selig Photo Play, in Two Acts :

### "TRICKED."

2,000ft. A virile, vigorous story of the West. /

6d and 1s—PRICES—6d and 1s.

Sunday, October 17, sharp at 8.20 p.m.

IN THE FIRST PART OF THE PROGRAMME:

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The First Edition in Two Parts of the Greatest of all Serials. One that stands alone for plot, acting, and photography.

### The Master Key.

We have issued a SPECIAL COURIER, which gives you a synopsis of the First Part. Each part has a brief synopsis preceeding it.

REMEMBER! NEXT SUNDAY, OCT. 17, 2 PARTS EACH WEEK FOR 15 WEEKS.



### Wonthaggi Theatre.

Wednesday Next, Nov, 10th.

..... 1915. ....  
POSITIVELY ONE NIGHT ONLY.

### The Popular Bert Bailey Dramatic Co.

In STEELE RUDD'S Record Breaking Australian Play :

### ON OUR SELECTION.

Presented for the first time in the district by the full strength of the Original Company, direct from the King's Theatre, Melbourne, and headed by

### Bert. Bailey as "Dad."

The whole of Rudd's Family will arrive on Wednesday morning with 1000 bushels of laughs, reaped from Dad's acres.

Popular Prices.—3s, 2s and 1s.  
Box Plan at Bruckner's, next Theatre.

No extra charge for booking seats, so book right now and get a sure seat.

Direction Bert. Bailey Dramatic Co.,  
Mgr, Director : JULES GRANT.  
M. P. ADAMS, Rep.

### DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between Francis Gilmore, and Henry Hugh Gough Whitlam, trading as "F. Gilmore and Co." of Market Buildings, Melbourne, wholesale fruit and produce merchants, has been dissolved by mutual consent, and that the business in future will be carried on by the said Francis Gilmore.

Dated this 8th day of May, A.D. 1890.

EVANS & MASTERS, 34 Queen-street, Melbourne, solicitors for the said Francis Gilmore and Henry Hugh Gough Whitlam. 3466



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**Links to other historical groups**

Bass Valley Historical Society: [www.facebook.com/groups/bassvalleyhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/groups/bassvalleyhistoricalsociety)  
 Friends of Churchill Island Society: <https://focis.org.au/about-churchill-island/>  
 Hastings–Western Port Historical Society Inc.: <https://www.hwphs.org.au/>  
 Inverloch Historical Society: <http://inverlochhistory.com/>  
 Also: [cv.vic.gov.au/organisations/inverloch-historical-society/](http://cv.vic.gov.au/organisations/inverloch-historical-society/)  
 Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society: [kooweerupswamphistory.blogspot.com.au/](http://kooweerupswamphistory.blogspot.com.au/)  
 Korumburra & District Historical Society: [www.korumburrahistory.com.au](http://www.korumburrahistory.com.au) or PO Bo 329, Korumburra 3950  
 Lang Lang & District Historical Society: [langlang.net/historical.html](http://langlang.net/historical.html)  
 Leongatha and District Historical society: [leongathahistory.org.au](http://leongathahistory.org.au)  
 Phillip Island & District Historical Society: <http://pidhs.org.au/>  
 Phillip Island Nature Parks, Churchill Island Heritage Farm Collection  
<https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/churchill-island-heritage-farm#collection-records>  
 South Eastern Historical Association: [seha.org.au](http://seha.org.au)  
 Wonthagi Historical Society: [wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/](http://wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/)  
 Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.: [secretary@wonthaggi-genealogy.org.au](mailto:secretary@wonthaggi-genealogy.org.au)

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From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 6th August 1897, page 2.

## Local and General News

To Subscribers.—This being the first issue of a new quarter, will subscribers please forward the amount of their accounts. The district being so scattered makes it quite impossible to call on each for their accounts.

The San Remo Court of Petty Sessions will be held at the court-house to-day. The Electoral Revision Court will also be held for the Supplementary Lists for the division of Corinella and Phillip Island.

The Phillip Island Shire Council meeting will be held on Saturday, the 14th August, when several tenders for works will be let.

The s.s. Maitland arrived at San Remo yesterday morning from Melbourne, and after discharging cargo left again for the Gippsland Lakes.

In our advertising columns readers will notice that Mr. T. S. Marsh has notified his intention of standing for the position of auditor at the forthcoming elections.

Messrs. J. Clarke and Co. notify in our advertising columns that the whole of the late Dr. Wilson's personal effects will be sold by auction on Thursday next, 12th inst. On the same date they will hold their regular monthly market, when they will offer horses, sheep, cattle, etc.

On Friday evening next Cr. Bates, of Bass Park, will be presented with a testimonial and a handsome lever gold watch. The presentation is to take place in the Queen Victoria Hall, Bass, and after the preliminary arrangement have been gone through dancing will be indulged in. The presentation is being made by a large number of the residents of Bass for the interest he has taken in the district, being the means of having a creamery, one of the prime movers of in *[sic]* having a public hall at Bass, and many other little incidentals too numerous to mention.

Mr. Bates, of Bass Park, Bass, has signified his intention of starting a creamery on Phillip Island if the support should be sufficient, and will wait on the farmers in a few days to decide where the best position would be to erect the plant if the guarantee should be up to his expectations. The Island people will do well to embrace this opportunity to have an industry that will be for their benefit, which ought to have been established before this.

Mr. D. Bourke has stated his intention of contesting the Mornington electorate at the forthcoming general elections. Our readers will recollect that Mr. Bourke contested at

the last general election, and polled well. Others have been asked to come forward, but refused.

Mr. Harry Hansen's yacht "Minerva" has been in the slips during the last couple of weeks undergoing a thorough overhaul, and being freshly painted. She was floated out to her moorings on Tuesday, and looks as "prime as they make 'em."

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 13th August 1897, page 2.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Phillip Island Shire Council will be held tomorrow.

As will be seen by our advertising columns, Mr. P. Anderson announces to the ratepayers of the Woolamai Riding that he again offers his services as one of their representatives in the Council. Having served them for twelve years to the best of his ability, he hopes his past actions will justify the ratepayers in giving him their support at the forthcoming election on the 25th inst.

A public dance will be held in the Queen Victoria Hall, Bass, to-night, when there is expected to be a good muster of lovers of the "light fantastic." First-class music and all night refreshments will be provided. During the evening a testimonial will be presented to Cr. Bates, of "Bass Park," Bass, for the great interest he has taken in that district.

Some amusement was caused at the San Remo Court on Friday last by a witness who was about to give his evidence. The P.M. doubted if the boy (who was 15 years of age) knew the nature of an oath. Mr. Smallmall asked him if he knew what would become of him if he did not tell the truth, when he loudly responded "Go to Hell!"

At the San Remo Court the supplementary lists for the Phillip Island, Corinella, and Woolamai divisions of the Electoral District of Mornington were revised and found correct.

It is rumored that the 1100 acres of the Kilcunda Reserve will be cut up in allotments varying from half-acre township lots to agricultural blocks up to 70 acres. The surveyors will commence next week to survey the lots.

Mr. R. M. Bartlett announces through our advertising columns that, in response to numerous requests, he announces himself as a candidate for the vacancy in the Woolamai Riding of the Shire of Phillip Island, caused

(continues on Page 4)

*Local and General News (continued from Page 3)*

by the retirement by effluxion of time, of Mr. P. Anderson. If elected it will be his aim and object to get a fair and equal distribution of all moneys in the riding, and to do his best for the welfare of the shire in general.

Messrs. Kennon and Hansen were engaged crossing cattle over the passage from Newhaven for Mr. J. Hoddinott during Tuesday and Wednesday, about 50 head in all being crossed.

Our readers will regret to learn of the death of Mr. H. Baum, a son of Mr. Baum of the Blackwood, which sad event took place at West Australia a few weeks back from typhoid fever. He was well known and highly respected in this district. Great sympathy is expressed for his parents in their sad bereavement!

Mr. J. Hoddinott is one of those who evidently foresees what a great future is in store for South Gippsland, as he has lately purchased some property up at the Tarwin, and rumor has it that he is negotiating for the purchase of some more.

Owing to the thick fog prevailing on Wednesday morning the s.s. Genista never left the jetty till 11 o'clock, missing the train in consequence.

Mr. Aldridge, who is about to leave San Remo, has sold his house and land adjoining during last week at a satisfactory figure, the Rev. Mr. Potter being the purchaser.

As will be seen by advertisement in another column, Mr. W. B. Lang, of Grantville, announces that, in response to a numerously signed requisition asking him to nominate himself as a candidate for the vacancy in the Corinella riding of the Shire of Phillip Island, caused by the retirement, by effluxion of time, of Cr. Grout, that he has much pleasure in acceding to the request. If elected he will do his best to serve the interests of Corinella and *[sic]* the shire in general.

The Kongwak Butter Factory are putting in new machinery for the coming season, which will, when complete, turn out a very large quantity of butter.

The residents of the Kongwak district have succeeded in getting a daily mail.

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 20th August 1897, page 2.

The Rev. Herbert E. Potter will conduct Church of England service at the Shire Hall, San Remo, on Sunday morning next at 11 a.m., and at Bass at 3 p.m.

Mr. J. W. Grout announces through our

advertising columns to the ratepayers of the Corinella Riding that he again offers his services as one of their representatives in the council, and respectfully solicits their support at the forthcoming election on Thursday next.

A poll will be taken the various polling places in the Woolamai and Corinella ridings on the subdivision of the ridings on election day, the 26th inst.

Ratepayers are reminded that they will be only entitled to one vote on the subdivision of Woolamai and Corinella Ridings on the day of election although they may have more than one vote in the municipal elections.

In connection with the Wesleyan Church on Sunday next, Mr. John Kerr will preach at Sunnyside at 3 p.m., and Mr. W. Peck at Glen Alvie at 3 p.m. and Grantville at 7.30 p.m.

The men employed on the tramway works at Queensferry are to start work again on Monday if the weather is permittable. They should have started through the week, but the ground was not in a fit state to work on, being covered with water from the heavy rains.

It is with regret we announce that Mr. A. Aldridge is leaving San Remo, and as will be seen by our advertising columns Messrs. Alex. Scott and Co. are holding a clearing sale on the 8th September next of his cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, poultry; hurdles, etc., together with his superior and well kept household furniture and effects.

A social will be held at the Mechanics' Hall, Cowes, to-night, when there is expected to be a good muster of lovers of the terpsichorean art.

The steamer Maitland was withdrawn from the Gippsland Lakes trade, her place being filled by the s.s. Argyle, which will leave Melbourne for San Remo on Wednesday next, the 25th inst.

Mr. Walker, surveyor, arrived at San Remo by the s.s. Genista on Saturday last for the purposes of surveying the Kilcunda Reserve into small allotments.

At the meeting of the Phillip Island Shire Council on Saturday a letter was received from the Public Health Department acknowledging council's appointment of Dr. R. Jones as health officer of the shire.

The tender of the Coal Creek Proprietary Co. has been accepted for the supply and delivery of engine coal for the Metropolitan Board of Works, the price obtained being 18s. 9d. per ton against 23s. for Newcastle.

*(continues on Page 5)*

Local and General News (continued from Page 4)

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 27th August 1897, page 2.

The Council will not meet on Monday, as is usual, to elect the President for the ensuing year.

Mass will be held at the Roman Catholic Church, Powlett, on Sunday morning next at 11 a.m.

On account of the dense fog prevailing in the Bay on Thursday the s.s. *Genista* never reached San Remo on the return journey till close on 3 p.m.

Our readers will be sorry to learn of the illness of Mrs. Charles Grayden, senr., of Newhaven, who has been confined to her bed for the last couple of weeks. At one time her life was despaired [*sic*] of, but Mrs. Grayden, although a good old age, managed to struggle through, and we are happy to state she is at the present time progressing fairly well towards recovery. Great sympathy is expressed for Mr. Grayden and his family in their trouble. Her medical wants are being attended to by Dr. Jones.

Our San Remo constable is expected to take his usual annual holidays in a few days.

The children in connection with the San Remo Band of Hope are practising for another entertainment. Several new features will be introduced on this occasion, and the children are taking a lively interest in their several parts. It is expected to take place in about a fortnight's time.

Mr. West, of Cowes, shipped a ton of chicory by the s.s. *Genista* on Saturday enroute for Melbourne. The *Swan* was also loading chicory at Cowes Jetty for Melbourne during the week.

In connection with the Wesleyan Church, Mr. Peck will preach at Kilcunda on Sunday next at 3 p.m.

A meeting of the Kilcunda Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society will be held at the residence of Mr. Ganfield, junr., on Wednesday, 1st, September, at 8 o'clock.

From the *Advocate*, 13 July 1922, page 37.

## Letters to Aunt Patsy

Almurta, South Gippsland, 23/6/'22.

Dear Aunt Patsy,—We have been taking "The Advocate" for a long while, and we always read the Children's Corner, but have never seen any letters from Almurta, so I thought I would try my hand at a letter to you, and describe this part of the country. Almurta is a dairying and grazing district, it being too hilly for much cultivation, with the exception of crops for hay and potatoes. Very little hand feed is required, as there is always plenty of grass for stock; the soil is practically the best in South Gippsland. It is a very pretty place in the springtime, as the creeks and roads are bordered with silver wattle and willows. There are also plenty of beautiful wild flowers, such as clematis, maidenhair, and stag-fern. Almurta has no township; it is merely a railway station on the Wonthaggi line. "Almurta" is an aboriginal name, and was named thus by an old and respected resident, Mr. J. T. Paul, who in the early days kept a store at Grantville, on the Western Port Bay, which was supplied with provisions by small steamers landing at the Grantville jetty, and trading between Melbourne and San Remo. Now the Wonthaggi line has been put through, that service is done away with. I think I have said quite enough about Almurta this time. I have three sisters and one brother, and we all go to the Almurta school. We had a visit from his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Mannix to Dalyston in February, 1920, when Confirmation was held. We five were all confirmed that day together; that was one of Dalyston's great days! Perhaps, Aunt Patsy, as you have been to most places, you may have been to this part of South Gippsland? As this is my first letter to "The Advocate" I hope you will not think it too long. I am going to have a try for the puzzle. I will now close. With kind regards.—Elsie Watson (12).

*You have written a very interesting letter Elsie—the first, I hope, of many. I have only passed by rail through Almurta.*

### M. BARRAVECCHIO

(Late of Melbourne.)

SURGICAL AND GENERAL

Bootmaker and Repairer

Rossiter's Road (late Bluebird Cafe)

**KOOWEERUP**

Pumps and Cemented Leather Soling Specialities.

Workmanship Guaranteed.

Modern Plant Gives Quick Service.

Your Patronage Solicited.

### FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS

## A Decca Portable Gramophone

can be taken anywhere. PRICE £4 10s. For Picnics, Camping and Home use, these machines are unbeatable

**C. S. M'LEOD, Kooweerup.**

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 28 February 1896, page 3

## Western Port: It's Past And Future A Glance At The Future

By Philoctetes

(Re-paragraphed for the sake of clarity)

On a fine Sunday morning some short time ago, I took a ride towards what is now the well-known and much-liked watering place of San Remo, for the express purpose of seeing and admiring the scenery of Westernport.

The morning was fine, the sky clear, the air exhilarating [*sic*], and the sweet scented spring flowers served to increase the pleasure. Even my horse seemed imbued with extra spirits and readily climbed the hill immediately at the back of Netherwood, and over which the old Griffiths Point road goes, now in a state of disuetude [*sic*]; for since Griffith's Point took the more fashionable name of San Remo, better approaches have been made, and the new road now winds round the foot of the hill. From my vantage ground a wide view of the surrounding country may be had.

Starting almost from this high point, the range of hills makes an almost semicircular sweep towards the East, North and North-west, forming a kind of bow, with Phillip Island for the string. A huge basin or hollow is enclosed by these hills, and it may seem strange, but it is nevertheless true that within this hollow lies more than half the population of Victoria. Marvellous Melbourne, with its many suburbs, Frankston, Dandenong, Cranbourne, Hastings, etc., are all within the basin, only hidden from view by the forests and hills that come between. But though such a large population find work and happiness within this enclosure, the immediate vicinity is but poorly inhabited. A few white roofs shining back the rays of the morning sun glimmer among the mass of sombre foliage, and betoken a sparsely populated district.

Why is it thus?

Will not the land support more, or has some evil spirit breathed a curse over it? Whilst trying to find a satisfactory answer to these questions, I must have gone to sleep and dreamed. For lo! I saw before me, not the vast mass of dark green foliage, and the half dozen shining roofs, but the tall chimneys of numerous factories, the poppet heads of many coal mines. A forest of masts, a network of railways, and crowds of busy, bustling people. I awoke and was disappointed to find it a dream. Need it be all a dream? Not if the people of Phillip Island Shire and Woolamai

will be true to themselves and their district, and will make the best of its many natural advantages, instead of depending too much on Government spoon-feeding.

We have been waiting for our Bass Valley railway line for nearly two decades, and we will have to wait another decade before we get it, if we do not prove to the Government that we need it and really deserve it. The way to prove that we deserve is to show that we have got the things that will make it pay. Produce of all sorts. And our coal. The late Mr Bergin fought hard for our coal prospects, and the time will come when Westernport will be proud of its coal. Private enterprise in regard to our coal measures is now aroused, and we have ceased to rest solely on Government aid in that matter.

The natural advantages of Westernport are many and varied. First of all we have a mild and equitable climate, plenteous and uniform rainfall, varied soil, from extremely bad to exceptionally good, moist river flats, dry hill land, water communication and good roads. What is lacking is private enterprise.

One example is proof. The Bass River Butter Factory failed, in fact never opened its doors as a going concern though nearly £1000 of capital was subscribed. Yet it was in the centre of one of the best dairying districts of Victoria, and the residents are now going in for cream separators, and find butter making will pay.

From the Bass River flats I have seen splendid specimens of flax, and as good peaches as ever grew in Mildura. Potatoes too, and where will you find finer fruit, or flowers or vegetables than those shown at the Grantville and Jeetho Agricultural Show. Queensferry and some parts of Grantville could rival Portarlington for onions, and Messrs Cole of the Gurdies show lemons and other fruit that cannot well be beaten.

With resources like these it seems strange and inexplicable that there should be such an exodus of our residents, and friends, and neighbors to the far west. Another reason why Westernport has not progressed as it might have done is because its inhabitants have hitherto had all their eggs in one basket

(continues on Page 7)

*Western Port: It's Past and...* (continued from Page 6)

– the graziers' basket – and they have not hatched out well. There was some excuse for the hardy pioneers adhering to grazing for they had no market.

“And where is the market now?” asks a disbeliever in the future prosperity of Westernport.

I answer one question with another. Is not Westernport nearer to Melbourne than Mildura, and if the people there can and do send their produce over 300 miles of railway, or down the Murray, cannot we of Westernport send ours 70 miles by water to Melbourne or else get 18 or 20 miles of railway made.

Our district will best progress by each little place dropping its petty jealousy of the others, and uniting together for the advancement of the district as a whole. This will be mutual advancement, for what is good for whole must of necessity be good for each and every part thereof. As an earnest of other good things in store for us I hail with joy the advent of the “San Remo Times,” and trust it will be the means of furthering our requirements, industrially, socially, and politically, and may it not be long before we can all say with truth Westernport redivivus.

\* \* \*

From *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 19 November 1897, page 2

## A Phaeton Accident

An accident, luckily unattended with serious results, occurred close to the residence of Mr. P. Anderson on Saturday last. Mrs. Anderson and children, accompanied by her sister, had just started from her residence for San Remo in a phaeton, drawn by a pair of ponies, and which were driven by Mr. R. Paling, when the driver, in laying the whip on to the ponies, caused them to become unmanageable, with the result that they bolted up the “Avenue” leading from Mr. Anderson's residence to the Main Road. After going a short distance they ran off the road on to a sideland, and in trying to turn them the wheels became locked, with the result that the whole of the occupants were thrown out. Mrs. Anderson's foot got stuck somehow in the phaeton, and had it not been for the driver managing to get hold of the ponies heads at once the result might have been serious. Luckily, however, none of the occupants received any injury beyond a bit of a shaking. The phaeton, which was almost a new one, was considerably damaged, and had to be sent to Melbourne to be repaired.

From the *Wonthaggi Sentinel and State Town Miner*, Saturday July 16, 1910: Local and General

## Boating On The Powlett

A party of five young men hired a boat on Sunday last and went for a row on the Powlett River. When nearing the mouth of the river danger was apprehended, and two of the occupants decided to run no risk and landed. The others went on and when close to the mouth of the river the boat struck a rock and was almost swamped. Considerable difficulty was experienced in righting the boat, and after an anxious half-hour it was freed by a huge breaker and driven on to a sandbank; all the occupants fortunately retaining their places. A large number of spectators were on the bank, but were powerless to render any assistance. The proprietor of the boat shed hearing of the occurrence at once proceeded to the spot to render what assistance he could, but met the party returning, wet and cold but certainly wiser men.

From the *Weekly Times*, 5 November 1952, page 25

## G. & N. Official Killed

Mr R. R. Paterson, 57, manager of Gippsland and Northern Co-op. Co. Ltd.'s live stock department, was killed in a motorcar accident on the Hume Highway last Friday.

With him in the car were Mr Eric Farmer, a director of G. and N. and Gormandale butter factory, and president of the Victorian Herd Improvement Association, Mr Jack Bennett, G. and N.'s chief auctioneer at Newmarket, and Mr Belfrage, Corinella, grazier.

Mr Farmer suffered injuries to the arm, ribs, abrasions and shock. Mr Bennett, broken ribs and shock, and Mr Belfrage, shock. The party was on its way to a special sheep sale at Wangaratta.

Before going to G. and N. in 1927 Mr Paterson was a grazier at Foster, Gippsland. He joined the firm at its Tallanaatta branch, and in 1935 he was transferred to Newmarket and became manager of the live stock department on the stock department on the retirement of Mr S. Reid in 1950.

Mr Paterson was at the 1914-18 war, where he won the Military Medal and Military Cross, and was twice mentioned in despatches. He rejoined the AIF in 1940 as a captain, was captured by the Japanese at Singapore in 1942 and spent 3½ years as a POW, most of the time in Changi Prison Camp.

# Archie's Creek Origin

by

Geoff Guilfoyle

In 1985, Phillip Westwood, with the help of Mary Mabin and Amy Davis who did much of the research, produced and released a booklet called *Back to Archie's Creek*, a short history of the township and its prominent families. Much of the book, naturally, is taken up by the dairy factory which made the little town notable.

Although not text dense, it is packed with photographs, and what text there is holds up reasonably well 40 years on. As Archie's Creek's origins are post-1890, the booklet deals primarily with the early 20th century up until the 1950s. It does however spend a little time (page 13) pondering the origins of the name and asks: Who was Archie?

No answer is given, just a list of possibilities derived from local lore, some facetious, some more grounded in reality though with no solid evidence to support them. I thought it would be fun to go through the original list (in bold italics) and subject each suggestion to modern scrutiny.

So who was the Archie who gave his name to the creek?

But first, the question needs to be asked: what is the earliest primary source naming the creek as Archie's? The answer, as far as I can ascertain, are two maps from 1882, one geographical, one geological.\* So the eponymous Archie needs to be in the area before 1882. On to the list:

***Alex Archies who came to survey the area and investigate its suitability for a butter factory.***

***Archie was a tramp who camped under a large gum tree on the banks of the creek opposite the factory.***

The booklet, on page 2, has this to say...

*Plans for a butter factory at Archie's Creek date back to 1895, when a one acre block of land was sold by Edward Kilduff to the Melbourne Chilled Butter and Produce Company.*

This sale is reflected in the Phillip Island and Woolamai rate books from 1898 (entry 1097), mistakenly placing the factory in Jumbunna before moving it to Archie's Creek in 1899 (entry 683).

\* *Selections at the Bass & Powlett Rivers* [cartographic material], County of Mornington, Department of Crown Lands and Survey, 1882, and *Geological Sketch Map of the Western Port and Cape Patterson Coal Fields* [cartographic material] originally prepared by F.M. Krause with additions and revisions by R.A.F. Murray under the direction of Thomas Couchman, 13 December 1882.

Unless Mr Archies and the namesake tramp were trudging around Archie's Creek in 1882, clearly the creek did not take its name from them.

***A drover named Archie?***

By 1882 the era of the cattle run was winding down in the area, most of the former runs now offered in diminished form as "grazing" blocks, which could still be of impressive size. So there were probably still men employed by Kidd or Feehan to move livestock from one area to another. In fact, there were probably quite a few of them. Just what this eponymous Archie did to warrant such an honour is unknown. Equally puzzling (though with a knowing nod to Guy Creek near Corinella) is why they used his first name instead of his surname. In short: not impossible, just not very likely.

***A footballer called Archie who kept kicking the football into the creek.***

A great pub story, no doubt, but hardly one to inspire belief in its historical validity. In short: believable only when very drunk. Credulity vanishes with sobriety.

***A man who hanged himself under a gum tree.***

See above.

***A Chinese prospector called Ah Chee.***

Ah No.

***A rabbit named Archie with a fondness for his pipe. He got his bag of strychnine (used for poisoning rabbits) mixed with his tobacco!***

Given that the rabbit hadn't reached Archie's Creek in 1882, this Archie would have to have been living around Dandenong to be poisoning bunnies. Strange that he got a creek named after him in the southern reaches of an adjoining shire.

***A mailman who drowned, with his horse, when his wagon overturned crossing the creek.***

The Victorian Government Gazette No. 13 1881 (page 498) has the mail route in the area as...

*To and from Kilcunda and Tarwin River Crossing, via Laycock's (Anderson Inlet) and Screw Creek, once a week.*

No mention of Archie's Creek as no real settlement there yet existed (not until after 1890). Also, given the state of the road, the mail was more likely carried by horse alone rather than horse and cart. Much quicker and safer. Finally, it bypassed Archie's Creek

(continues on Page 8)



*Archie's Creek Origin (continued from Page 7)*

and crossed the Powlett, a more plausible body of water in which to drown (especially after heavy rain). And there was, indeed, a drowning in the Powlett, albeit long after Archie's Creek had been named. From the *Argus*, 2 August 1887, page 6: Floods in the Country:

*At about 4 o'clock this afternoon the mails from the Tarwin were being conveyed across the Powlett-bridge. The river being flooded and over the bridge, the horse and mails were lost and the rider barely escaped with his life by swimming...*

#### ***A man called Archibald Bees?***

There was, surprisingly, an Archibald Bees. He also, even more surprisingly, was in the area around the right time period. The Phillip Island and Woolamai rate book for 1880 (entry 395) shows him having selected 166 acres in the Parish of Woolamai. But where was this 166 acres? Unknown, but given that the rate books show him owning the land, it has to be anywhere other than Archie's Creek, which wasn't open to selection until 1890. He may have been Archie's Creek adjacent, though why in 1882 anyone would name a creek after him in preference to any other of the 1878-79 settlers in the area is hard to fathom.

But wait! According to Barbara Moyle's *Pioneers on the Powlett River and at Wonthaggi* (page 14), Bees originally worked for Richard Feehan, living in a hut on an out-station two miles from the Powlett River. He later owned a bullock team which he hired out. No date is given, but the Feehan connection could have Bees in the area in the early 1870s and potentially before that. Or he arrived in 1879 and his employment by Feehan, if he was, lasted less than a year.

In summary, though it is unlikely, if the creek was named after a local, he is the best candidate thus far.

***A map dated February 4, 1890 refers to the township as Archie's Creek. There was also a reference to 1886 to Archie's Creek — WHEN IT WAS NAMED AS ARCHERS CREEK.***

This is a clear misspelling or misunderstanding perpetrated by one Melbourne paper (*Age*, Wednesday 9 February 1887, page 4: News of the Day) and reproduced in the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, (16 February 1887: Local intelligence). There is also an Archie Creek (*Great Southern Advocate*, 14 July 1892, page 2: Advertising). Every other source has it as Archie's Creek.

***Legend has it that Archie's Creek was named after Davie Archer who resided in the district in the early 1900s.***

David Archer was a real person. He entered the area, along with many others, in 1890/1891 when the Blackwood Forest Reserve was opened to selectors. According to the 1891 and 1892 Phillip Island and Woolamai rate books (entry 410 and 421) he selected Lot 23a south of the Powlett...which isn't Archie's Creek adjacent. It is also not 1882. And his surname is Archer, which should make it Archer's Creek.

#### ***A land surveyor or driller named J. T. Archer.***

This seems to be included only because of the Archer's Creek connection. But it does, inadvertently, hint at the probable explanation as to why Archie's Creek is so named.

There was much survey work done in the region in the 1870s and early 1880s, notably by Ferdinand Krause and Reginald A. F. Murray. The creek could have been named after a member of a surveying party, a relative or even a recently deceased horse or dog. Places have been named for stranger reasons. Just ask anyone living near Pisspot Creek in Tasmania or Granny's Gut, a lake, also in Tasmania, but both quite a distance from Bullshit Hill, Mount Buggery and Mossy Nipple Bend.



Dave Archer, undated but thought to be the early 1900s. Taken from the booklet.

From the *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, 7 December 1917.

## Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi

Splendid Demonstration

The Conscription Issue

Clear, Cool, Calm, Logical and Lucid Speech

Arriving by special train, bringing many passengers, Dr. Mannix visited Wonthaggi on Tuesday evening. He was met by Mr. J. J. Murphy, President of the committee, and a large crowd of people, who were at the railway station and lined the streets. He came to officially open a bazaar in aid of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church. After leaving the station, accompanied by Rev. Father Walsh, Wonthaggi, and several visiting priests, Dr. Mannix was motored to the prebytery [*sic*].

From early in the evening, there was a constant arrival of visitors, by vehicles and motor cars, from as far away as Warragul, Korumburra, Leongatha, Fish Creek, Meeniyan, Dumbulk, Outtrim, Inverloch, Bass, Glen Alvie, Dalyston, and the whole district surrounding Wonthaggi.

To provide additional room the seats, with the exception of about a dozen, had been taken out of the theatre auditorium, these

were quickly filled, and many arrived an hour before to secure good standing positions. The balcony was also crowded, with holders of reserved tickets.

Shortly before 8 o'clock Dr. Mannix arrived at the Theatre, and was loudly cheered on his entrance, by the crowd in the street.

When he came on the platform, there was a remarkable demonstration of enthusiasm.

There was a great outburst of applause, cheer after cheer was sent forth, and it was some time before the demonstration subsided and Rev. Father Walsh was able to introduce the gifted prelate, who has won such a place in the hearts of the Australian people. Dr. Mannix spoke for an hour and a half.

Rev. Father Walsh said: Ladies and Gentlemen—It is my privilege, on my own behalf as the priest in charge of the mission and on behalf of the Catholic people, to extend to his Grace, Archbishop Mannix, a very hearty welcome to this outpost of his archdiocese, and, judging by the crowd of men and women here, I can safely welcome his Grace on behalf of you democratic workers of this town who do not belong to our faith. (Loud applause.) The people of Australia are not lacking in regard for religious leaders, and particularly for such a leader as we have here tonight. (Applause.) Now, I will say no more under this heading, as I am out for business. (Laughter.) We are after the money. (Laughter.) That is the only reason why we are assembled here to-night. His Grace has travelled 86 miles from Melbourne to Wonthaggi, with the good intention of helping you and of helping me to try and liquidate the heavy debt of £4000 burdening this parish. I give him credit for that good intention of helping me, although there are numbers of people who would not give his Grace credit for any good intention. As a matter of fact, not only at this time, but at any other time, there are some people who are so mentally aberrated that they cannot imagine a Catholic Archbishop having the slightest vestige of a good intention. You know his Grace has taken a stand since coming to this country, and they tell him he should not be speaking too much. He speaks too straight. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He

(continues on Page 11)



Archbishop Daniel Mannix. Photo by Talma & Co, 1920. Source: State library of Victoria. ID: 2153394. File Name: pi012054.

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 10)*

tells them too much of the truth, and the truth is bitter in some quarters. (Applause.) They bring no arguments to counteract the arguments and statements of his Grace, but only to abuse him and say he has changed his views since coming to this country. There is one question urging us all at present. His Grace has been accused of changing his opinion. I am sure he has not, but I do know that the man who accused him, the present Minister of Defence, has changed his views. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.)

Rev. Father Walsh here read an extract of a speech by Senator Pearce in the Commonwealth Parliament, made at the time when it was proposed to send further contingents of men to the Boer War. In that speech Senator Pearce opposed the sending of more men, contending that Australia had done her share, and that it would not be to the interest of Australia to further deplete her of her manhood.

That, said the rev. speaker, is a speech by Senator Pearce, delivered in the Senate at the time of the Boer war. He said we should be careful not to sacrifice too many men on the battlefield. That is the man who has the effrontery to accuse an Archbishop of changing his views. However, you do not want to hear me but to hear his Grace. As I told you before, my principal business is to get the debt reduced, and as I want the assistants to take every bean you have I will not detain you any longer. When you hear his Grace speak you will find it is worth more than a shilling, so stay behind and leave another. (Loud applause and laughter.) I have much pleasure in asking his Grace to declare the bazaar formally opened, and to say whatever else he likes. (Loud applause.)

### The Archbishop's Speech

On rising, Dr. Mannix was greeted by a tremendous demonstration of cheers and applause, which continued for some minutes.

His Grace the most Rev. Daniel Mannix, D.D., Archbishop of Melbourne, said:—

Rev. Fathers, and Ladies and Gentlemen:—I like to meet a candid man, and certainly Father Walsh has made no secret of the sole and only purpose for which he brought me here—(laughter)—and I may say that I am very glad to come here to help that purpose he has in view. I know that the Pastor and the Catholic people of this parish are very heavily burdened, considering their numbers and the amount of wealth they have. I have

great sympathy with them, and anything I can do to lighten the burden pressing upon their shoulders shall be done. Father Walsh came here a short while ago. He took up the work of this parish with enthusiasm and with a light heart, though the burden was heavy and his people few. Already he has done a great deal to advance the interests of the parish, and if he is spared, and if you co-operate with him, I look forward to the time when it will be no longer necessary for me to come and help him to pay off a debt. I think it only right to say that I have learned from him that in the effort to wipe off this debt he has been able to rely not only on his own people—and I acknowledge it with gratitude—but on people who do not belong to his faith or mine. (Applause.)

### A Distortion Nailed.

I have been held up to opprobrium in Australia because I said that I wished every man and woman in Australia were a Catholic. I do wish it from my heart, and if I did not wish it, I would not be a Catholic myself. Those belonging to other denominations would be glad if they could convert Catholics in Australia to their faith. Some of them might not think it well to convert me. (Laughter.) At all events, my idea of a man's religion is that he believes the religion he professes, and thinks it right if he should get everybody else to share his views—(hear, hear)—but I am practical enough to know and understand that I am

### Not Going To Convert

the whole of Australia to the Catholic religion. I know that non-Catholics will hold their own and be in a majority at the time of my death—a long while off, I hope—and will continue to be in a majority for many decades to come, but still, knowing they are not going to be Catholic, I should be glad for everyone to know and practice their own religion. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

### No Undue Pressure

And, therefore, when it is made a charge against me that I should like every man and woman in Australia to be Catholics, nobody should say I desire to make converts except by persuasion. I am not one of those who wish to put any undue pressure upon anybody. You have been told that I am a man of very different type, but now you are face to face with me I will tell you that kind of man I am, and before you leave this evening I hope you believe it. (Laughter and loud applause.)

*(continues on Page 12)*

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 11)*

## Will Not Play The Autocrat

I think I will convince you, no matter what prejudices you have, that I am not a man desiring to play the autocrat in Australia. The difference between me and other people is this, — while I give them perfect liberty to hold their own views they want to deny me the liberty of holding any views. (Hear, hear.) It may be that they take no objection to my holding views provided that I do not express them to an audience like this. (Laughter.)

## Australia Not Be Brow-Beaten

That is the difference between me and other people, but I find that Australia is not to be brow-beaten by these people. (Loud applause, and cheers.) All I want is a fair hearing, and if I could get a correct report of what I say I would be satisfied, and the people of Australia could be my judges. (Loud applause.)

You would be disappointed if I came here to-night merely to fulfill the purpose for which Father Walsh brought me. We will come to that when we have an opportunity of going round the various stalls arranged round this fine theatre of yours. You have come here also to exchange views with me on the vital question of

## Conscription

You are anxious, like other people, to hear what I have to say on this question of conscription, and I have no objection in giving you my views. (Loud and continued applause and cheering.) You are told, and I am told, by those who are not trying to put Australia under the heel of

## Military Domination

that the whole of England is watching us, every man *[sic]* with both his eyes is watching us, the whole of the world is watching us, and if they can get us to believe it, they have tried to insinuate that even the result of this great world war hinges upon the vote you will give on December 20. That is something very different from what we heard from Senator Pearce. The words were spoken some years ago, but fortunately they have been embalmed and kept in "Hansard." He told us at that time that the soldiers we could send to the front could not affect much the issue of that miserable little war in South Africa, which compared with the present world war was a village brawl; while he now tells us that the men we send now, although we have already sent 300,000, will have some great influence on the battle.

## How England Views Conscription In Dominions

Now don't you for one moment believe that the people of England are much troubled as to whether conscription passed in Australia or not. It does not matter much to them whether they get a few additional thousand conscript soldiers or not—cold footers, they have been called, and not worth asking to go to the front. If only they could be got as conscripts they would turn the issue of the war! I am going to read a short extract just to let you know what people really do think of the conscription issue raised in Australia and Canada. This newspaper cutting I have is taken from one of the first,

## Possibly The First

newspaper in England, the "Manchester Guardian," a paper with a wide circulation, and a paper that has always had a just word to say for Ireland. (Loud applause.)

This is what the "Manchester Guardian" says:—

"This whole matter is one which the Canadians and Australians must settle amongst themselves, but Englishmen may, at least, be permitted to express deep regret that, alike in Australia and Canada, the unity of feeling in a great Dominion should have been broken by the Conscription issue."

Those words are not words from a man of a Celtic temperament. They do not come from some bitter speaker in Sinn Fein Ireland. They are published in London, and are the words of a leader written by one of the leading papers. He winds up his article by saying that it would have been better for the Empire that the issue of conscription had never been raised, rather than it had become a dividing line of party in Australia and Canada. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Hughes will tell you that all England is watching to see how you vote on December 20, and the "Manchester Guardian" tells us he

## Should Never Have Raised The Issue At All.

I could give you many more extracts of the same kind but I do not wish to detain you, because there are a few other things I should like to talk about. I am, perhaps, regretting matters more than the "Manchester Guardian" in connection with the conscription issue raised in Australia. I regret it very much because it is inevitably followed by bitterness. It was so last time and is so now, and I regret it very much. I regret any violence that should

*(continues on Page 13)*

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 12)*

have been offered Mr Hughes in Queensland the other day, because I think that the people should be intelligent enough to discuss it without bitterness and on its merits. While I regret the violence that was offered, I must say that he brought that upon himself. He is the man responsible for bringing up the question and for putting it in the

### Most Unfair And Dishonest Manner

in which it is being put. (Loud applause.)

He talks about fair play but the Town Halls are closed against you to discuss this question. In one way and another he has got hold of the whole press of Australia, and those who have anything to say on the side of conscription can get their arguments set out at length and bolstered up by a leading article, while those on the other side can get only a

### Distorted Report And Criticism

in the leading columns. If that is fair play I do not know what fair play means. Therefore, I say that I do not wonder that anyone can be stung into taking action which in our cooler moments we could not approve of. The very manner in which this question is being put is, I say, a disgrace to him and his Ministry. He wants to impose conscription upon the Australian people, and he forms a question in which the word conscription does not occur. The question is, "Are you willing to send reinforcements to the Front?"

### We Are Willing To Send Reinforcements.

Of course we are, as long as the war is continued for legitimate purposes and for as long as Australians are found in the trenches. Australians will do their share. (Loud applause.) There is no doubt about that, and there never was, and he has no doubt about it. What he wants is that Australians shall be put under the heel of military domination. Mr. Hughes is nominally putting this question to Australia, but only at the dictation of Sir William Irvine—why did you return him—(laughter)—Had it not been for him this question would never have been put.

### Who Will Keep Promises?

Promises are being made, that this person and the next person will be exempted, and that the *[unclear word]* tax will be done away with, but Sir William Irvine is making no promises. He is keeping a steady hand and a cool head, and looks forward to the time when Hr. Hughes and his promises are

bundled out of the Ministry, and he is in his place *[unclear word]* if you have the honor of having your representative at the head of the Government, you will also have the honor of tasting a bit of Prussianism from Sir William Irvine. The question as it has been put is a dishonest question. Dishonest to you and to the men at the front, who will not have anybody to explain to them the real nature of it. If these people only had a scrap of justice in them they would let both sides be heard. They would not put a fair question, and will not let anybody say anything against it.

### If "No" Voters Disloyal, Question Should Not Be Put.

They are putting only one side of the question. They say that everybody taking the "No" side is a traitor and disloyal person. If that is so the question should never have been put at all. There is no meaning in putting a question to loyal Australian people if only one side of it is loyal and the other seditious. They have also been dishonest in taking this vote on the Thursday instead of the Saturday. It was not for your good or for mine that they changed from the Saturday to the Thursday. Now, I will be hoping that you will insist on taking your holiday on that Thursday. (Applause.) I hope you will get it, and I hope that you will be paid for it. At any rate, I hope you will take sufficient time to record your votes against Mr, Hughes and his Ministry. (Loud applause and cheers.)

### The Right Of A Citizen.

It is a strange thing that it should be left to me to speak so much against conscription. It might seem that it has nothing to do with religion or myself, but I have every reason to speak on it as well as Mr. Hughes or anybody else because I am a citizen of the Australian Commonwealth, and as long as I remain one I will exercise my right to speak not only on this conscription question but upon every other question. I have a right to do so, and I think the Commonwealth would be much better if people had the courage to make up their own minds on the question and had enough courage to say what they think.

### I Claim No Infallibility.

I am as fallible as you are. There are conscriptionists here to-night who do not agree with me, and I am glad they are here. They make a good audience, anyhow. If they go away... *[there appears to be a missing phrase or sentence here]* ...conscriptionists I have no fault to find with them. When I put my

*(continues on Page 14)*

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 13)*

views everybody is at liberty to have their own opinion. It is suggested by Mr. Hughes and others that the Catholic vote depends upon me. I control no vote but my own; and if I had the power to control anyone's vote I would not use it. We need only to look at the daily newspapers to see that those who think themselves the most eminent Catholics in Australia differ from me. They have gone to the trouble of writing long and weary letters to the newspapers. They are at liberty to do so. I find no fault with them. I have said no disrespectful word to them, but I do not know that they have not done so to me. As long as they only give their views, I have no fault to find with them; and they will not cease to be friends of mine, provided always they try to be as respectful to me as I try to be to them. (Applause.)

### White Australia First

I have been charged with having put Australia first and every other place after. (Applause.) I make no apology for that. I have been only four years in Australia, and in the first days I made up my mind that as long as I was an Australian citizen. Australia had the first claim upon me. (Loud applause.) These people who have been born in Australia, and lived all their lives in Australia, and who owe more to Australia than any other country, are not ashamed to say that the Empire should come first and Australia after. Now, I say that no matter who that statement comes from it is an utterly silly statement,

### An Utterly Ridiculous Statement,

and these people who make this statement should know it, or do know it better than you or I. I was not responsible for putting a tax on goods from the Empire, and yet they say Australia should come second. In practice, they put Australia first by keeping out goods from other parts of the Empire, and yet they seem disgusted with me when I say that Australia should come first and the Empire second. They know that

### Australia Has To Put Herself In The First Place

and is going to remain there. They know it as well as you or I that Australia has a White Australia policy. They know that we have colored fellow British subjects who cannot land on our shores. I need not go in to this question further. I want to impress upon you their folly, and yet they turn on the whites of their eyes when a newcomer like

Dr. Mannix says that Australia shall be first and the Empire second. I will go on repeating it. (Loud Applause.)

### Referendum Not A Religious Question.

People have been talking, Mr. Hughes especially, about this question of conscription as if it were in some way a Catholic question. It has nothing whatever to do with the Catholic religion. It has to do with Catholics as Australians, Protestants as Australians, and not a question of religion. It is a question wholly and solely for the people of Australia, whether Catholics or Protestants, or of any other religion. Mr. Hughes, in order to get this conscription question carried, is trying to play upon the sectarian issue, and wants to work upon sectarian prejudices. I hope that Mr. Hughes with his sectarian bigotry will, like some of the members at the last Victorian State elections who relied upon the same thing, be left lamenting. (Applause.) Now being able to make it a religious question he would like to make it an Irish question, and when he talks of the Irish question he does not mention Ireland, but would like to make it a Sinn Fein question.

### What Sinn Fein Really Means.

What does Sinn Fein mean in Ireland and anywhere else? It means that people rely upon themselves to work out their own destiny. (Applause.) Here in Wonthaggi, I am sure there are some right good Sinn Feiners. (Applause.) For many years the Irish people have begged the English Parliament to give them justice—which has not yet come—to let them stand on their own feet and work out their own destiny in Ireland with as little reference to England as they could. That is the meaning of Sinn Feiner. They are trying to do in Ireland what you are trying to do in Wonthaggi. Mr. Hughes is holding us [*sic*] this Sinn Fein Irish policy as a bogey in Australia. The conscription question has nothing to do with the Sinn Fein movement or the Irish question. It may be a ridiculous and absurd policy, but it has nothing to do with the conscription question. While going round from city to city and town to town recommending conscription, Mr. Hughes is talking about Sinn Fein. I wonder if it is that he has no good argument for conscription. He is relying upon sectarianism and racial prejudice, and I hope that the reed will be broken in his hand on the 20th December (Applause.)

*(continues on Page 15)*

Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 14)

## King Invites Sinn Feiners To Conference.

I have told people in Melbourne, and I am anxious to tell you, that these Sinn Fein people whom Mr. Hughes is denouncing with all the oratory he can command, and whom he says are not good enough to fight, have been invited by His Most Glorious Majesty, George V.—Mr. Hughes' king as well as yours and mine—to go into conference to try and heal this long feud between England and Ireland. I mention the fact to show you how utterly ridiculous and puny our little czar can be. (Loud and continuous applause and cheers.).

I need not dwell upon this Sinn Fein policy any longer, and I am sure that you men of Wonthaggi, whom I assume are intelligent enough to see through Mr. Hughes, will

not take any notice of what he says about Sinn Feiners with which he commences his speeches. Read further down his speech, and if you are satisfied that he has arguments for conscription then vote with him, but if you are satisfied that he has no arguments do not be swayed by silly talk about Sinn Fein. (Applause.)

## Equality Of Sacrifice.

Now, they are telling you to rise to the situation. The Empire, they tell you, is in danger. That I am not going to discuss. The Empire is in danger, and we should all make equal sacrifices. The miner in Wonthaggi, they tell you, if he is not about to invest £10,000 in the War Loans, should risk his life at the front. Therefore, there is no equality of sacrifice of the people; Sir William Irvine, Mr. Hughes, and others may have a great deal of money to invest in the War Loan, and they think others should risk their lives and give their lives if necessary. What will be the result when the war is over? Those who go from Wonthaggi—and I believe a thousand of you have gone already, and many of you have given somebody from your homes who has lost his life—when this war is over, we will see how the equality of sacrifice works out. A *[unclear word]* magnate here has invested £10,000 in the War Loan, and will be comfortably seated here in his comfortable home drawing interest at 4½ to 7 per. cent., while the bones of the poor Wonthaggi miner will be bleaching in Flanders. Is there any equality of sacrifice? The one man has given his life, the other man nothing. He had not enough stamina to pass him into camp. He gave nothing, not even one penny of his money. All he did was to loan it to the Commonwealth Government, and he took good care that before parting with one brass farthing of that £10,000 he had all the security of the Commonwealth of Australia. He had to have the security that every penny would be returned to him or his children. He had to have the security that interest would be paid, and that it would be free from Income Tax. These are the kind of people who talk of equality of sacrifice—talk of the obligations of the poor men of Australia! They have made a good investment in Australia, and say a man should go and “do his bit.” I am tired of that vulgar expression. You are not likely to be captured by arguments of that kind. You know that this war, like every other war—they are all the same—is a capitalists' war. (Applause.)

(continues on Page 16)

# Voice of the Sainted Dead

## REBUKES THE SINN FEINER

There is no name more revered by the Roman Catholics than that of Archbishop Carr. Beloved by his flock which he led in righteousness and truth, his every word is cherished as sacred.

Archbishop Mannix espouses the cause of the Sinn Feiner.

This is what the late Archbishop Carr said of the same organisation:—

**“When the secret history of this movement comes to be written, it will be found that it is the result of German intrigue, of support from some Irish Americans, and of the role assumed by a small knot of desperate irreconcilables. From every point of view I regard it as an outburst of madness, an anachronism and a crime.”**

Be warned by the words of the great Spiritual Adviser

DO NOT CAST YOUR VOTE WITH EVIL ASSOCIATES

Vote **YES** for God and Country

Authorised by the Reinforcements Referendum Council, Claude McKay, Publicity Secretary,  
308 Collins Street, Melbourne.

No. 37 Syd. Day The Printer Ltd., 103-105 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

A pro-conscription poster published by the Reinforcements Referendum Council, compares the pro-Irish views of Mannix with his less outspoken predecessor as Melbourne Archbishop, Thomas Carr. Riley and Ephemera Collection (State Library of Victoria). ID: 9923732323607636.

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 15)*

### Australia Has No Reason To Be Ashamed.

It is the capitalists of the world who brought it about: it is the capitalists of the world who will keep it going as long as they have money to make out of it. (Applause.) Again, they tell you that Australians should be ashamed of themselves, that the men should be at the front, that they are parts of the Empire and should stand by it. These people talk to us as if Australia had something to be ashamed of. When the war broke out Australia was not bound to send a single man to the front. She was under no obligation either by treaty or obligation to send a man, and they pretended to be delighted when we thought of sending 20,000 men. We have sent 383,000, and yet they say Australia has not done enough, and that she should be ashamed of herself because she did 383,000 times more than she was obliged to do. She has done better than any other part of the British Empire. (Loud applause.)

### Australia And Canada Compared.

Yet people who are making money out of the war go around the country pretending Australia should be ashamed of herself, and should conscript those who have not gone voluntarily. If the Canadians had done as well as we have done—and I will give you that statement, because it has passed the censor, and therefore I take that it is true. I have seen it stated, and I take it to be true—that if Canada had done her share in the same generous manner as Australia, Canada would have instead of 4 divisions perhaps 9 divisions, and if Australia had only done as much as Canada we would have 2½ divisions instead of 5. Yet we are told that we should be ashamed of ourselves, that Canada is going to have conscription one of these days, and that Australia will be disgraced. The fact, of course, is that we have done much more than Canada. She is not promising to do as much even with her Conscription Act as Australia has done voluntarily, in proportion to her population. We should not be ashamed of ourselves. The people who are denouncing their own country, who are throwing stones at Australia, should be ashamed of themselves. These people who are passing regulations, telling us not to tell lies during the conscription campaign, are the people who should be ashamed of themselves. (Loud applause.) Not merely have we done better than other

Dominions, but I maintain that we have done better than England herself if everything is counted.

### Australia Has Done Better Than England.

We have done better here in Australia in proportion to our population than England has done herself. They tell us we should send man for man with England. I do not know that it is our war as much as it is England's war. We can say this: we did not make the war. Whatever responsibility the English people have, we have none. Till this war was declared we did not know anything about it. It is not our war in the sense that it is theirs. It is ridiculous to say that we should send man for man—and why? For one reason: half the globe has to be transversed before we can get our men to the front, and it costs Australia from 5 to 10 times as much to put a man in the trenches as it does England. If we were to divide the number that we might send in the proportion of 5 or 10 we might get nearer the number that Australia could be expected to send. Another thing—we are trying to bear our share in this war not upon our own money but upon money we have borrowed from England. They had money to lend, and they made a good investment in Australia. They are going to draw interest as the years go by. Most of that money has never reached Australia. It has been spent in England's munition factories, spent in industries owing to the war, and we here in Australia get little or nothing to do with it; and yet they tell us we have not done our part. (Loud applause.) I have already encroached much upon your time, and upon the time of Father Walsh, because this is all beside the purpose for which he brought me here. We heard from Father Walsh a moment ago that I have been charged with having changed my views upon the war. That was a statement made by Senator Pearce and the change that I am supposed to have made was where I am supposed to have said this was a just war.

### Not An Unjust War.

I have never said that it was an unjust war. I have never thought of saying that. If any war can be just, and that I leave out of the question, I say that England was justified in entering into this war for the protection of Belgium and the small nations. All that I have said before, over and over again. It is apparently only now that Rip-Van-Winkle Pearce has

*(continues on Page 17)*



*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 16)*

woke up. (Laughter.) I say that England was perfectly justified in going into this war for the protection and vindication of Belgium and the small nations, and that we were perfectly justified in going to help her, if it was for this reason and for the protection of the British Empire that she entered the war. I have never said, and I do not say now, that I am sure that these were the only reasons why she went to war. If England went into the war solely to protect the smaller nations, I have said, and say now, how is it that she has not protected in the past a small nation nearer to her than Belgium? (Applause.)

They say I have changed my opinions. I have not changed them on that point, at all events, and am not likely to. What then about sending reinforcements to the front? What I say about it is this. As soon as the legitimate ends of the war are attained, as soon as the smaller nations are vindicated, we have no right to go on with the war. No right to go on with it for, as Mr. Hughes says, the economic domination of the world. If we went into it for that purpose, and are remaining in it for the economic domination of the world, then I say it is an unjust war that we are engaged in, and the sooner we draw out of it the better for our sense of justice. As soon as the legitimate ends of the war are attained let the people of Australia and England have peace made speedily. Whether that time has come I am not in a position to say. I am not at the front and have not sufficient information to enable me to say whether the time for a lasting peace has arrived.

### No Blank Cheque.

At any rate, I should not like to give Mr. Hughes and Sir William Irvine a blank cheque on the 20th December, to carry on the war as long as they like, not merely for the purpose of vindicating the smaller nations, but also for securing the other thing—the economic domination of the world. (Loud applause.) Up to this we have it in our power to say whether we can rightly remain in it. If we give Mr. Hughes what he wants we will have passed that power out of our hands, and he will march us to the front as long as likes.

### Reinforcing Our Soldiers.

If our soldiers have to be reinforced—and they have as long as the war continues—I wish to goodness Mr. Hughes would abandon this conscription issue of his, even at this late hour, and be true to the people of Australia; put the bare, naked facts before the people,

not juggle with figures as he has done, and the soldiers would be reinforced. He told us last conscription referendum that we wanted 32,000 soldiers as reinforcements in one month, and 16,500 each month after. We now know, that, if that is not a lie (that could be punished under the War Precautions Act) it was a misstatement or miscalculation. If conscription had been passed that time, Australians would have been ever since marched off to the front at the rate of 16,500 per month. How many of you would have been here to see me to-night? We have a debt of £500,000,000 now. What would have been our debt if he had got his way last time? I was never much good at arithmetic, and could not calculate the interest, if he had had his way. He tells us now that he only wants 7,000 per month. I do not believe that any more than I did the 16,500. I believe that that is also an exaggeration.

### Director-General Of Recruiting Quoted.

I am not going to give you any greater reasons than this. The Director-General of Recruiting, Mr. Donald McKinnon, who has done his work like an honorable gentlemen—and I quote him because he is an honorable gentlemen—said some time ago, only about a month ago, that it was a question now of trying to raise 7,000 men per month as reinforcements. They only got, he said, 4,000 or 5,000—and this is a significant thing—he said that if we could keep up the 5,000 they might not mind about the other 2,000. If this came from someone in the street, whose whole heart was not in winning the war, very little attention would be paid to it, but coming from him I believe that he gave us in that sentence just a peep at the truth; and we want now not 7,000 per month but perhaps 5,000, 4,000, or less. I want you to see that we are not getting the truth. I want to impress upon Mr. Hughes and his Ministry that if they want to succeed they will have to tell the truth.

### How To Get Reinforcements.

I would ask them to tell the truth, and that is the hardest task I could set them; I would ask them to send all sectarian bigots off the platform. These people have been going around the whole of Australia antagonising certain sections of the people. At all events, those people have done their share. I am speaking of Catholics. My wonder is not that Catholics have not done more in the war,

*(continues on Page 18)*

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 17)*

seeing the treatment they have got, but that they have done anything at all. Let them, therefore, put these sectarian bigots off the platform; let them get respectable men to put the cause for reinforcements before the people of Australia, let them convince the people of Australia that we are in this war, and will remain in it only for legitimate purposes; let them tell us clearly and plainly what we are fighting for and they will get reinforcements.

### Lord Lansdowne's Letter.

I find in England that Lord Lansdowne, one of the Tory peers a few days ago wrote a letter to the press and used the same words as myself—"Let us define the aims for which we are fighting." As soon as he said this, this man, who is a Peer of the Realm, was as bad a traitor as Dr. Mannix. Everybody was up in arms against him. Let them, therefore, in England and here tell us what we are fighting for, let them convince us that their aims are legitimate, and if they do, my hope is that the Australian people will, to the end of the war, do their duty generously and nobly.

### Australia's Soldiers.

They have done it up to this, have done more than the other Dominions. Australia's sons have shown bravery, never shown by the sons of any kingdom or empire. (Loud and continued applause.) They have made a name for themselves and for Australia, and will, I believe, if treated fairly by the authorities in power, continue to do so if the Ministry takes my advice they will drop conscription and all the bitterness flowing around Australia for the next few weeks, and cease to deal severe blows to voluntary recruiting. I fear, however, that they are not likely to take my advice, but if they do not they will have to take the consequences, and one consequence is, I hope, that they will get a better beating on the 20th December, than they did last time. (Loud applause and cheers.) I wish you could get some of these returned soldiers down to Wonthaggi. I wish you could hear these men say what Australia has done and what she has been called upon to do. These men have told me that they are ashamed of what has been said by Mr. Hughes and the reptile press of Australia. Returned soldiers have told me that at the front they were called upon to do more than their share. It is all to do more than their share. It is all very well for them to talk of the glory that has descended upon the country.

## The Halo Surrounding The Heads Of The ANZACS.

They paid for it dearly, for where the fight was thickest Australians were to be found. These returned soldiers told you last time not to believe Mr. Hughes' figures; not to believe that the soldiers were in favor of conscription. They told me that an immense majority everywhere were against conscription. They said these Australians went as volunteers, and did not want any Australians to follow except as volunteers. (Applause.)

### Consequences Of Conscription.

It has been said that what I said the first time I spoke publicly of conscription, that it would be unworthy of Australia to send any Australians to face German guns if they had to be forced into the trenches by pointing Australian guns at their backs. They tell you that this man with the Celtic temperament was talking exaggerated things. Now I tell you that that statement of mine that guns might have to be pointed at Australians' backs was not an exaggeration, and I will tell you what happened to English conscripts at the hands of Englishmen. I have told it in Melbourne, and on other platforms, but it has not got into the press. In England they passed, more than twelve months ago a Conscription Act, and up till then big healthy Englishmen walked about the streets. In that Conscription Act there is provision made for conscious objectors, but in spite of that many of them were obliged to go into camp, but with the promise that they would not be sent to the front. That promise was broken and they were sent out of England to the front. What happened there? One morning in France, where the regiment was operating, 34 of those British soldiers were brought before the regiment and sentenced to be shot for some military undiscipline not within the firing line. They allowed that to sink into their minds, and then Sir Douglas Haig's message was read that their sentence might be commuted to 10 years' penal servitude. All that is bad enough, but what is worse is that it all happened without any information going to the Home Government in London. It happened without any sanction from the Prime Minister or Ministers. It all happened without any authority other than military domination which conscription put into their hands. When the rumor got to London the question was raised in the House of Commons, and one of the members got up and asked the Minister in charge if it was a

*(continues on Page 19)*

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 18)*

fact that four men in France, conscientious objectors, were sentenced to be shot and the sentence commuted to ten years' penal servitude. Then the Minister in charge got up and said unblushingly—you would think you were listening to Mr. Hughes—that he had not heard one word about it. No word had come from the front that they had ever contemplated such a procedure, and he felt himself amply justified in saying that this rumor was a malicious invention. That statement was made on Thursday, and on the following Monday that Minister had to stand up in the same place and acknowledge that not 4 men, but 34 men, were sentenced to be shot and the sentence was afterwards commuted to penal servitude, by their own British Commanders, and that the whole incident was absolutely true with the exception that it was 34 and not 4 men who were sentenced. If that happened [to] British soldiers at the hands of British Commanders, I say that the same thing might happen [to]

Australian conscripts at the hands of Commanders. I ask you, are you prepared to drop into Mr. Hughes' ballot box a "Yes" vote, and by that "Yes" vote of yours, help to send your neighbour's son, or brother, or husband, to the trenches with Australian guns pointing at his back? (Loud cries of "No, no! Never!")

I doubt if the Australian people will stand anything of the kind. I told them that conscription would not sit easily upon the shoulders of the Australian people. I told them that Australians would not be sent to be treated by British officers behind the British lines like the British soldiers were treated. I hope, therefore, that I have said enough to convince you that what you have read in the papers is not altogether true. They tell you that Dr. Mannix does not give any arguments. I have given you arguments to-night. They may not satisfy you and some of you may go away still conscriptionists, but I have given you something to think about. What has convinced me that I should vote against conscription I have told you, and I hope you will vote an emphatic "no." (Loud and continued applause.)

### Honor To Volunteers.

The soldiers who went to the front voluntarily I honor. The soldiers who come back hale and hearty, I honor also. Those who come back wounded, I honor a great deal more, and I would like to compensate them as the Commonwealth Government will not do. I hope that we will welcome them back to the Free Australia from which they set out. (Loud cheers and continued applause.)

(Dr. Mannix at this stage attempted several times to silence the applause.)

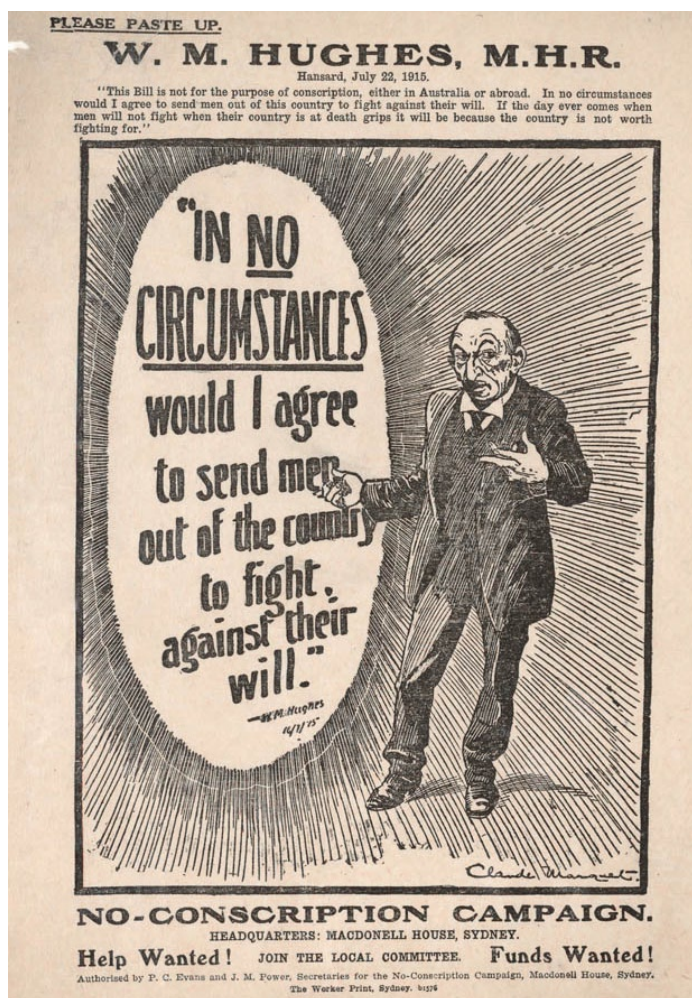
### Declares Bazaar Open.

When the applause had subsided, Dr. Mannix continued:—

Now that I have got away from military matters, I want to declare formally this bazaar open, and return to Father Walsh's speech and the beginning of my own. We have come here, among other things, for the purpose of helping Father Walsh, and I hope we will do it generously. There are a lot of people here, and if they all do a little, Father Walsh will be a happier man to-morrow than he is to-night. (Applause.)

Rev. Father Walsh: We won't go home till morning. I think that His Grace has proved himself to be quite a different man to what you have known him to be in the pages of

*(continues on Page 20)*



Poster refers to a comment made by Billy Hughes in Parliament in 1915. The date 22 July at top of poster is incorrect, it was actually 16 July 1915 (as per the date under quote in poster). Riley & Ephemera Collection. (State Library of Victoria). ID: 9920679193607636.

*Dr. Mannix Visits Wonthaggi (continued from Page 19)*

the daily papers. You men and workers of Wonthaggi admire him and I am going to call upon the President of your Union to move a vote of thanks. (Applause.)

Mr. J. Goldsmith, President of the Powlett Branch, Australasian Coal and Shale Employes' Federation, said:—I have been announced as the President of the Miners Association. Unfortunately I have not their dictation as to what I am to say to our friend Dr. Mannix to-night, but I am going to say as far as my limited abilities will allow me to express, the attitude the miners take up in this district towards him. Any words of commendation I might be able to say would inadequately express the feeling of honor to His Grace. You, like myself, have read quite a lot about him. Probably you have never, and certainly I have never, had the privilege of having a look at him before. When I was a child I heard a lot of the bogey man and ghouls, and reading the "Age" and "Argus," our plutocratic papers of to-day, it would appear that my childhood's fears were realised in their description of His Grace to-day. You have heard of Sinn Feiners and probably you thought that a Sinn Feiner went around with bombs—that he was a man you had to watch with both eyes and keep both hands your pockets. (Laughter.) He has told you what Sinn Fein stands for, and I tell you that democratic Australia stands for the same brand of Sinn Fein as His Grace. (Applause.)

You were told he put Australia first and the Empire second. Is there one little Australian in the crowd who puts Australia last. No, of course there is not. I am as patriotic as the next.

We are told Dr. Mannix is a traitor. Of course he is a traitor—any man is a traitor according to Billy Hughes who speaks the truth. Of course Billy Hughes says that if you tell lies, under the War Precautions Act you will be put in *durance vile* for the term of you life and the proverbial day after. (Loud laughter.)

Our friend says that the main object of this meeting is not to listen to a political address, but to assist them in wiping off the debt of the parish. I feel convinced that the people of Wonthaggi will never refuse to respond to such application, and I feel sure that you will not do so. Further I am going to say that the people of Wonthaggi cannot express in words the appreciation they feel in welcoming His Grace to our midst.

I will ask you to carry by acclamation a vote of thanks for the able manner in which Dr. Mannix delivered his address. (Loud applause and cheers.)

A Voice: One for Billy Hughes. (Boos.)

Dr. Mannix, amidst applause, said:—I thank you very heartily for this vote of thanks, and I thank you for the patient hearing you gave me, and if I know anything about the temper and spirit of this meeting I think I can take back a message to Mr. Hughes, if fortunate enough to meet him, and that message will be that in Wonthaggi and neighborhood he cannot count on many votes for conscription. (Applause.) I do not claim for a moment that these votes against conscription have been captured by me or by what I have said, but I can say that from the response you made to the President of your Union, you came here anti-conscriptionists, and if possible you go away more firmly rooted with the knowledge that you are not going to put Australia under the heel of Mr. Hughes' slavery. You are not going to give him the power to carry on this war one day longer than it can be legitimately waged, and are not going to place Australia under the heel of either Hughes or Irvine. I thank you again for your kind hearing and for the kind words of the President and your appreciation of his remarks. (Cheers and applause.)

M. I. Gannon, Graham Street, Wonthaggi.



**THE BURDEN BEARER.**