

# The Western Port Times

## Grantville & Districts



Volume 4 Number 8

FREE

December 2021

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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.

\* \* \*

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In December 2020's *Western Port Times*, the editor made a – gasp! – basic research mistake while trying to account for what turned out to be an error in a primary source. The editor now rectifies the matter.  
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The Bass Valley U3A Local History Group is looking for photos and information on places of significance to our local history.

If you have anything you would like to share with us, we have the facilities to scan or photograph your items so they do not have to leave your possession.

**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/>

Grantville History: [grantvillehistory.com.au](http://grantvillehistory.com.au)

Hastings–Western Port Historical Society: <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: Janet Wilson 5657 2267

or PO Bo 293, 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#](https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/churchill-island-heritage-farm#collection-records)

collection-records

South Eastern Historical Association: [seha.org.au](http://seha.org.au)

Western Port Historical Society Inc.: [hwphs.org.au/](http://hwphs.org.au/)

Wonthaggi Historical Society: [wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/](http://wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/)

Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.: [secretary@wonthaggigenealogy.org.au](mailto:secretary@wonthaggigenealogy.org.au)



From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 6 March 1896, page 2

## Local and General News

At a recent meeting of the Board of Advice for the Phillip Island School district it was resolved to hold a childrens' picnic in March, and a committee consisting of the teachers of the schools at Cowes, Rhyll, and Newhaven and Messrs A. Findlay, A. M'Lardy, and A. S. M'Ilwraith (correspondent), of the Board of Advice were appointed to make the necessary arrangements. The committee met at the house of the correspondent, on the evening of the 27th February when it was decided to hold the picnic at Cowes on Saturday, March 21st, and steps were taken to collect the necessary funds. The committee will be grateful for any assistance either in cash or provisions. Subscriptions will be received by any of the committee.

Mr T. Grant, the winner of the pony in the Cowes bazaar, held a few weeks ago, is going to give the public a chance of getting him for the small sum of four shillings a member, so that anyone by laying out a few shillings will have the chance of winning a pony worth five or six pounds.

The Grantville monthly sale was held on Saturday, the prices all round being good: bullocks up to £4 10s; young steers £2 15s; sheep [*unclear amount*] per head. The prices at the sale were an advance of 20 per cent more than the previous sale.

In a recent issue we published a paragraph containing the information that a young man in our quiet little town had covered himself in glory by dispatching upward of twenty snakes in one day. Another slaughter has been made amongst these venomous reptiles at Kilcunda, where they have been very numerous of late. It appears that a boy named Baxter, about nine years of age, accompanied by his two younger sisters and a little terrier dog, caught sight of a snake, and the boy at once set to work to despatch his snake, but the reptile not being used to such treatment showed a stubborn defence. The little dog, which we believe has been in the habit of killing snakes, here put in his claim for a round or two with this reptile, but the fates were against him, for when he withdrew from the conflict it was seen that the faithful little animal had been bitten on the nose, and he expired in about ten minutes. The boy at once ran home and apprised his mother of the affair. The good lady lost no time in

arriving upon the scene and quickly put an end to the wriggling of the snake. But she had not finished her good work here, for on looking round she discovered several more of the reptiles, and she set to and put an end to the lot of them.

A ball will be held at Bass valley to-night in aid of the building fund for a Mechanics Institute. It is expected there will be a good attendance as the tickets are only 2s.—Ladies free.

A meeting of the Gen [*sic*] Alvie Coal Mining Company was held at Queensferry on Wednesday last, when there was a large attendance of Korumburra and Outttim as well as local residents. Full particulars of the proceedings will be given in our next issue.

Another old resident of Queensferry, in the person of Mrs Lindsay, died on Friday last at the age of 64 years. The remains of the deceased lady were interred in the Bass Cemetery on Sunday.

An accident which might have been attended with very serious results happened to Mr and Mrs Hade, of the Bass, whilst following the funeral of Mrs Lindsay. The horse Mr Hade was driving being a young one became very fractious, and Mr Hade got out of the vehicle to lead him, whereupon he reared up, capsizing the seat, and Mrs Hade and her child were thrown out of the buggy. Luckily, the road was very sandy, and they escaped with a slight shaking.

The Grantville Show will be held on the 19th inst, and bids fair to be a success. The entries are expected to be fully up to the standard of previous shows, although the season for crops has been a poor one. It is the opinion of many that the show is being held rather late in the season.

Mr Durrant, the contractor for the alterations and repairs to St Phillip's Church, at Cowes, is making good progress with the work and he expects to finish it about the end of next week. The services are held in the Public Reading Room during the necessary repairs.

About 90 head of cattle, the property of Mr Cleeland, of Newhaven, were brought across the channel on Thursday in the barge of Captain Loch's which has been specially built for that purpose. The barge is capable of carryihg [*sic*] about 30 head at a time. Mr

(continues on Page 4)

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

Cleeland is sending the cattle on to a run at Bass for the purpose of fattening them for market.

Owing to the small quantity of butter coming forward to the cool-chambers in Flinders street for export to England, the mail steamers have been reluctant to reserve space for which there might be no demand. It has been determined, therefore, to discontinue the weekly shipments of butter, and to put on a steamer specially for the traffic when the quantity accumulated would warrant such a step. No butter left the port on Saturday, but consignments which are coming down from the country are being stored, and these will be despatched by the steamer Port Chalmers, which leaves to-day. It is expected that 150 tons will be despatched by that vessel.

A young man named John Grogan, a miner, at Korumburra, made a most determined attempt on Saturday night to commit suicide. He had some difference with the parents of a young woman to whom he was engaged, and proceeded direct to a local chemist and purchased some "rough on rats." He then went to his lodgings, and asking for a cup of tea put some of the poison in it and swallowed it, remarking, "I'm a goner." Medical assistance was at once procured, but all efforts to administer an emetic were resisted, and after considerable time the stomach pump was brought into requisition, and saved the young man's life. He was subsequently arrested, and brought before Mr G. W. Mitchell, J.P., and admitted to bail.

Mr Griffith of Wonthaggi, who is leaving the district had a very successful sale on Friday last. Working bullocks realised £9 10s per pair, steers £3 6s.; cows up to £3; horses up to £8 10s.; waggon, £14 5s.; buggy, £9, and sundry farming implements etc., brought very fair prices.

A Government Savings Bank was opened at the Outtrim township on Monday. The banking business, as is usual in the country districts, being carried on at the Post Office.

Also

*From the San Remo Times, Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser, 13 March 1896, page 2*

Attention is drawn to an advertisement in another column warning trespassers off the land at Bass Park, the property of Mr Bates who has prohibited shooting on the estate.

Entries for the Grantville Show will close on Saturday, but late entries will be received

at Grantville up to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, the 18th inst., on payment of a shilling above the ordinary entrance fee. The show will be held on Thursday next.

Mr Smith, bootmaker of Grantville is about to build a new shop on the opposite side to where he now is. The new premises will be between Mr Williams' smithy and the Grantville Hotel.

In a previous issue the fact was stated as to who was the winner of the pony in the recently held Cowes bazaar. It was stated that the owner intended to dispose of it by raffle which however, is not the case.

Two trucks of coal were sent from the Coal Creek Mine to Melbourne to the order of Lord Brassey, for use on the Sunbeam.

The miners employed at the Coal Creek took a ballot last week for the position of check weighman vacant through the resignation of Mr Liveay who has left for Outtrim. Mr Stone was elected to the position.

Mr A. W. Hordingham [*sic*] is the tenderer for the Carrying [*sic*] mail to Grantville, Queensferry, Corinella and Bass for three years, and has bought the coach and horses from Mr S Shearer, who is leaving for West Australia. Mr Hordingham [*sic*] has arranged to run the mails for the remainder of his term to the end of June.

A painful accident happened on Wednesday night at Glen Alvie, to a man named Tiuan. He was returning home from a bush fire mounted on a young horse which threw him on to a stump and broke three of his ribs. Dr. Wilson describes his condition as critical.

A Service of Song entitled "Uncle Tom," from Uncle Tom's Cabin, is to be held on Easter Sunday at 3 p.m., in Bridge Creek Hall by the combined State Schools of Kilcunda and Archie's Creek, assisted by adults.

The best display of vegetables we have ever seen in the district was that shown by Mr Fowles at Blackwood. That gentleman showed us a mammoth old man pumpkin, weighing about 100lbs whilst his vegetable marrows average 2ft to 2ft. 6in in length. Mangolds, potatoes, peas, carrots are also growing luxuriantly and the whole is indicative of the splendid quality of the soil in these parts, and also of the painstaking energy of Mr Fowles, who is quite an enthusiast in flower and vegetable cultivation.

The police court seems to lack accommodation for the reporters. Owing to the want of a table our representative had to take notes on his knees.

## News From The Powlett June 1902

Note: awkward phrasing and capitalisation as per original.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 6 June 1902, page 2: Powlett.

There is much activity in the building trade. The R.C. Church is calling tenders for the erection of a church, and already a blacksmith's, saddler's and bootmaker's shops and a general store are in the course of erection. A township is rapidly springing up, to which an impetus will be given when Mr Daly completes and offers for public auction the land opposite the Ozone Hotel, recently acquired for the purpose of a town site.

Ploughing is being rapidly carried on throughout the district and there will be a substantial increase in the amount of land under cultivation here this year.

A large party of visitors enjoyed a boating excursion to the mouth of the Powlett on Sunday afternoon. The skiffs in connection with the Ozone Hotel were taxed to their utmost holding capacity, and many were the exclamations of delight on reaching the ocean, at the grandeur of the scenery. The hotel has been full to overflowing since it opened and it is expected a large number of visitors will find their way here in the summer.

Dr Joyce had a narrow escape on Friday last from serious injury if not from worse disaster. He was returning home from a call to Outtrim, driving a pair of young horses, and being alone, got out of the buggy to open his gate, when the horses suddenly forward, knocking the Dr down and trampling over him, slewing round one of the wheels of the vehicle passing over him, and the horses after jumping a wide and deep drain ran into a fence and became entangled in it. The Dr was very badly bruised, but not incapacitated. He is to be congratulated on his proving *[unclear words]*.

Fish are not biting too well since the last fresh *[sic]* in the river, and an anglers find it difficult to locate them. Wild duck and hares are very plentiful.

The sale yards here will be a scene of activity on the 19th inst. when Mr Scott's property and effects will be offered for sale.

The dance in the new building was a most delightful one and although the weather was impropitious *[sic]*, the room was full. Much care was exercised in the preparation of the floor which was beeswaxed and made as perfect as the ballroom at Government

House. The music was admirable and the supper table literally groaned under the luscious viands prepared and provided by Mrs Parer, the hostess. Everyone felt at home from the commencement of the festivities, and pleasure and enjoyment were enhanced by the spontaneity and cordiality of the reception, and the excellent programme presented.

The "Genista" was delayed several times in her passage to and from San Remo during the week, by the heavy fog which being over the bay until late in the day.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 13 June 1902, page 2: Powlett.

The Bass Valley Football Association has issued its fixtures for season 1902. Twelve matches are to be played between the competing teams Loch, Glen Alvie and Ryanston. The two latter met at Glen Alvie on Saturday, when the former of the two was victorious, Ryanston only putting 14 men in the field.

A movement is afoot for the establishment of a co-operating butter factory at this point. The land and machinery are practically secured and nothing is wanting now but an early spring to make a start.

The s.s. Genista did no *[sic]* leave San Remo on Wednesday last until after 10 a.m. and consequently missed her connection with the mails at Stony Point. The fogs on the bay have effected *[sic]* this service considerably but only on one *[unclear words]* have missed. It is rumoured that the steamer will be altered to leave San Remo at 7 a.m. If it is true, people from this part will prefer to join the train at Lang Lang.

Flocks of cockatoos and magpies have been playing havoc with the newly sown crops. It is only when the grain bursts that magpies are a pest, and then they do their business thoroughly.

The Rev. Father Parker will conduct services at Bass next Sunday. There will be no service here.

A Bazaar is on the tapis *[sic]*. The R.C. Church proposes holding a Bazaar in the Bridge Creek Hall at a later date, and at a meeting recently held the matter of arrangements was left in the hands of the ladies.

Mrs W. Pickersgill, who recently underwent a serious operation for hydatids, returned

*(continues on Page 6)*



*News From The Powlett (continued from Page 5)*

home this week. She has the heartiest congregations [*sic*] of her friends, and they are legion, on her recovery.

Mr T. Howard, an Inspector from the Post and Telegraph Department, paid us a visit on Friday, anent the application recently made for telephone communication between San Remo and Inverloch. A report will be made to the Postmaster-General on his return, as to the best route for the line to take. As, prior to the request from the Powlett, the Inverloch residents had petitioned for a line to connect Inverloch with Outtrim.

The tenders were accepted from a Port Melbourne contractor for the constructing (labor only) of the R.C. Church. The lowest tender was £70 and the highest is said to have been nearly twice that amount.

The road at Bourne Creek has been in a very bad state for some time past, and will continue to be so right through the winter. It is time something was done to this part of the road, as there is a deal of traffic over it and it is becoming busier every day.

Messrs Kelly and J. Riley have started their contracts between the Ozone Hotel and Archies' Creek and are pushing on rapidly with the work. The improved state of roads about these points will be much appreciated.

The medical officer reports the health of the shire excellent.

*From The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser, 20 June 1902, page 2: Powlett.*

The football match arranged to take place at Archies' Creek, between Ryanston and Loch, fell through on Saturday, owing to the latter team not turning up.

Mr Walkerden has just finished burning a kiln of splendid bricks for Mr Daly, and the bricklayer's work which has remained in abeyance on the buildings being erected here, will be commenced at once. Another kiln is being prepared.

One of the largest under-ground tanks about this part, is being put down now at the Ozone Hotel. It is a circular tank 14ft x 14ft in depth, it is to be bricked and cemented throughout, and the holding capacity will be 11,000 gallons. Mr D. Pilling has the contract for excavation which is nearly complete.

Messrs Lawson brothers of Melbourne have arranged with Mr P. J. Daly, to build an oven and bakehouse here. The buildings will be commenced at once. A baker and pastry cook have been badly wanted here for a long time past. This part of the world is

commanding a good deal of attention in the different trades lately, and things generally are humming.

On Saturday night a large circle of friends of Mr Wm. Graham, who is leaving for 'Frisco by the "Ventura", assembled at Mr Kennedy's residence, for the purpose of tendering a send off, and making him a present as a memento of his residence amongst them. Dancing was indulged in and the host and hostess had a dainty supper prepared, entertaining the assemblage in real good style.

On Tuesday evening a number of friends met at the Ozone Hotel and tendered Mr Graham a valedictory supper. Several speeches were made eulogising the guest, which were suitably responded to by him.

Coronation day, June 26th, will be celebrated in this part by giving the children of this district a day's sports and pic-nic. The Rifle Club will be asked to fire a volley, and every effort made to make it a memorable occasion. Mr J. Price has offered the use of his paddock for the day. As it has just been cleared and a cricket pitch put down, and for a miscellaneous programme of events to be gone through here is every opportunity.

The Weather has been wild and showery, and grass has made a good start.

*From The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser, 27 June 1902, page 2: Powlett.*

A deputation of some of our leading residents waited on Mr Cameron, Minister of Mines, on Wednesday, in connection with opening up some of the vast coal area which is known to exist around here. The reply given was encouraging and steps will be taken to secure some leases and get the bore to work again.

We have had some very boisterous weather during the week, with heavy rain, no serious damage has been reported. A good deal of timber was blown down.

The Ryanston and Glen Alvie football clubs met on the former's ground last Saturday. The weather was very inclement, and the ground wet and difficult. Glen Alvie won by two points. The scores being Glen Alvie 2 goals 1 behind, Ryanston 1 goal 5 behinds. The attendance was meagre [*sic*] and disappointing owing to the showery weather.

A meeting was held in the Bridge Creek Hall on Friday, to arrange a pic-nic and sports in connection with the Coronation of the King, and declaration of peace. It was decided to give the children of the Ryanston, Archies' Creek, Bridge Creek, and Powlett River state

*(continues on Page 7)*

News From The Powlett (continued from Page 6)

schools a gala day on Monday, 30th June, near the Bridge Creek school. A ball will be given in the evening for the adults.

Mr F. McDouagh, artist, has commenced painting an elaborate sign on the front of the Ozone Hotel. In view of the design and Mr McDouagh's well-known artistic abilities, the work, will, when completed, from *[sic]* a very pretty picture, and an attractive set off.

The next football fixture is Glen Alvie v. Loch. Ryanston a bye. The match will take place at Glen Alvie.

Mr J. Scott's sale here on Thursday was not as well attended as expected owing to the boisterous *[sic]* weather which prevailed, but the competition for the stock submitted was keen and prices realised good. The highest bid for the land was £4 10s. and consequently was passed in. The block on the opposite corner to *[the]* Hotel was subsequently sold privately for the reserve price.

The various buildings in course of erection here, have been retarded by the recent rains. There is sufficient carpenters work insight *[sic]*, to extend right through *[sic]* the winter and well on into the spring.

Mr P. J. Daly has had to add four more pens to his sale yards here, and in view of events, the yards are still inadequate to meet the demands on sale days.

Mr E. Henderson of Inverloch, has taken the billiard table at the Ozone Hotel and will also have a hairdressing and fancy goods shop.

The members of the rifle club are still firing for Sir Frederick Sargood's trophy. Mr E. Walker is *[the]* leading scorer so far.

As evidencing the capabilities of the soil around this part, Mr J. Kennedy has just dug one of the finest crops of potatoes a person would wish to see. The potatoes were large, sound and clean, and the crop heavy. I have also seen a sample of a crop of *[rest of paragraph too light to read]*.

From the South Bourke and Mornington Journal, Wednesday 14 November 1877

## Griffiths' Point Police Court

Saturday, 10th November, 1877.

Before Messrs. D Reid, Mark Turnbull, Alexander Stewart, Joseph Fowler, and William Harbison, J.P.

Bergin v. Peel; fraud summons, £1 15s. 0d. Defendant paid £1 on account, and agreed to pay the balance one week before Christmas. Verdict in accordance therewith.

Police v. Dwyer; obscene language. Defendant was fined 10s., it being his second offence.

Police v. West; plaintiff, James Deacon, Constable and Wharf Manager at Cowes, complained that defendant, who is a store-keeper and postmaster at Cowes, made use of threatening and abusive language to him, on the morning of the 17th October on Cowes Jetty, upon the arrival of the steamer "Eclipse" from Griffiths' Point, to take up passengers and mails. The steamer was not allowed to go alongside the jetty, and had to lie of the end of it. Plaintiff was standing close to one of the piers when the defendant came up, and asked him to move, which he declined to do, stating he was not in the way, whereupon the defendant called him a liar, and threatened to give him something. — Hugh Anderson, who was on board the steamer at the time, stated that he heard angry words passing between plaintiff and defendant, on the jetty, but could not say exactly what was said; he saw the defendant make a gesture of defiance, and go *[unclear word]*. There was not much wind at the time, and it was a quiet morning; he was about 15 yards away. — Defendant produced to the Bench the Australian Jurist' Reports, vol. iii., and quoted the case of Clarson, appellant, v. Blair, respondent, in which the Supreme Court had upset the decision of the Police Magistrate at Melbourne for a similar offence, on the ground that, as the summons stated "whereby a breach of the peace might have been occasioned," no offence had been disclosed. — Plaintiff asked for an adjournment of the case, as he had an important witness who was absent, and he was willing to make an affidavit to that effect. Case dismissed, without costs. The court then adjourned.

### PHILLIP ISLAND HOTEL COWES, PHILLIP ISLAND

Beach Frontage  
Close to Pier and Post  
Office

BALLROOM,  
LOUNGES,  
FIRST CLASS  
CUISINE



GOLF! TENNIS! FISHING! SWIMMING!  
PHONE 3 COWES. P.O. BOX 3. S. WILSON Licensee.

**FIRE!** Buy a Spark Screen and  
avoid risks. McLeod's, Kooweerup.

From the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, Wednesday 25 January 1882

## Shire of Phillip Island And Woolamai

Saturday, January 21st, 1882.

Present—The President (H. F. Norton) and Councillors West, Turnbull, Aldridge, Delany, and Kidd.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, on the motion of Councillor Stewart, seconded by Councillor West.

### Correspondence

From H. T. Hammond, asking that forms re licenses granted be forwarded.

From H. H. Hayter, stating that form for agricultural statistics were not yet ready.

From School for Blind, asking for subscription.

From Secretary of the Shire of Buln Buln, asking for particulars about road on boundary of the Shire.

From T. Muntz, stating that he would not be able to meet councillors about bridge over the Bass river until the end of the month, being pushed for time.—Moved by Councillor Stewart that the secretary write to Mr Muntz asking him to give notice when he is coming, so that he may be met by the councillors.—Seconded by Councillor Delany and carried.

From the Minister of Lands, asking from where gravel was required to be taken — Moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Turnbull, that secretary write, stating that about 500 yards east of Griffiths Point jetty.

From Municipal Association — Received on motion of Councillors Turnbull and Stewart.

From D. McGregor, drawing attention to bad state of road leading to Pyramid Rock, Phillip Island.—Moved by Councillor West that letter be received, and Mr McGregor be informed that it would be repaired.—Seconded by Councillor Aldridge and carried.

From W. Gilchrist, stating that in his opinion the small billiard tables were liable to pay licenses. A second communication from Mr Gilchrist to the President was read repeating the above opinion.—It was moved by Councillor West that the matter be referred to Commissioner of Police to instruct inspector of licensed premises or constables in the shire to take action against all holder/s/ of unlicensed billiard tables—Seconded by Councillor Turnbull and carried.

From Government Statist forwarding forms for collection of statistics — Moved by Councillor Stewart, seconded by Councillor

Delany, that document be handed over to the collector.

From P. J. Noone, asking that culvert be made on road opposite his place.—On motion of Councillors Stewart and Kidd referred to member for Woolamai Riding to report.

From S. Sloss, James Stevenson, McKenzie, Thos. Bergin, S. West, A. Aldridge, applying for renewal of slaughtering licenses.—Moved by Councillor Turnbull that licenses, as read, be granted.—Seconded by Councillor Stewart and carried.

From J. Fowler, asking permission to cut down some trees around his fence—Moved by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Aldridge, permission be granted to cut down or ring the trees.—Carried.

A petition from Edward Wallace and James Williams, stating that the only water available to them was being spoilt by neighbour's pigs, and asking the Council's assistance as local board of health to stop the nuisance—Moved by Councillor Stewart that it be referred to the health officer.—Seconded by Councillor Delany and carried.—An application was received to have the above reserved.—Moved by Councillor Stewart that the Crown Lands officer be written to asking that the site of the dam at Lewis's old mill site be reserved from selection for the present, and that the members for the riding be requested to report on the matter at the next meeting—Seconded by Councillor West and carried.

From ratepayers of Jeetho and Jumbunna, asking that a sum of money (about £10) be granted to clear about two and a-half miles of scrub on the road leading towards Grantville from their selections.—Moved by Councillor Delaney that it be postponed till next meeting.—Seconded by Councillor Aldridge and carried.

Report of Clerk of Works on road in Jeetho near Stewart's selection.—Moved by Councillor Stewart, seconded by Councillor West, that consideration be postponed till next meeting.—Carried.

Mr Poole stated that he had paid excessive rates for three years, 75s. instead of 35s., in consideration of work to be done near his property, which work had not been done satisfactorily.—Moved by Councillor West that Clerk of Works visit the spot, and report

(continues on Page 9)



Phillip Island And Woolamai... (continued from Page 8)

at next meeting.—Seconded by Councillor Aldridge and carried.

The Rate Collector's report for the month was read. Payments:—G. Ardill, £2 10s; S. Davis, £2; H. Walton, £4; Swords Bros., £2 9s 6d; Roulston, £2 3s; A. Misson, 7s 6d; Arnall and Jackson, £3 7s 6d; J. West, £7 10s; E. Dwyer, £1; Goulding, £1; E. Misson, 10s; Peter Dwyer, 12s; W. H. Hickey, £1 3s 4d; do, salary to 29th January, £8; L. R. D. Griffith, £5; Wm. Misson, £2 10s.—Moved by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Aldridge, that accounts as passed be paid.—Carried.

The Council then went into committee.

Councillor Norton drew the attention of the Council to a matter concerning Mr Hedrick, the Government auditor.—Moved by Councillors Stewart and Aldridge, and carried that the President confer with Mr Hedrick.

The Secretary was instructed to give 14 days' notice by advertisement of the holding of an annual meeting at half-past 12 p.m. on 18th February, and it was moved by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Stewart, that annual meeting be held on that date.

Councillor West move that the president be requested to write to Mr Williams, secretary of the Melbourne hospital, as to whether Mr. Crump would be able to resume his duties.—Seconded by Councillor Turnbull and carried.

Councillor Turnbull moved that three culverts, &c., be made, at a cost of about [unclear words].

Councillor West called Council's attention to the west of a crossing over the drain at the cemetery at Cowes, and moved that the Clerk of Works be allowed to erect a crossing over the drain at a cost not to exceed £3.—Seconded by Councillor Turnbull and carried.

Notices of motion were given, as follows:—Councillor Turnbull, for clearing; Councillor Delaney, for 15 chains drain; Councillor Stewart, clearing 80 chains scrub; do, 10 chains drains.

Councillor West moved acceptance of the following tenders:—W. Pickersgill, £29 13s; P. Quinlivan, £25 9s; do, £18; M. Monk and Co., £8; D. B. Kennedy, £10—Seconded by Councillor and carried.

Moved by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Turnbull, that Mr Hedrick's account £25 6s 6d, also Mr Hull's of £16 16s, for auditing Shire books, be paid.—Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

From the Koo Wee Rup Sun, 23 May 1973, page 3

## It's Now Koo-wee-rup Not Kooweerup

Note: capitalisation and text repetition as per original.

The Cranbourne Shire Council has bowed to public pressure and will re-name Kooweerup as Koo-wee-rup.

At the last meeting of council Cr. Utber and Cr. A. M. Bethune both Koo-wee-rup riding councillors, moved notice of motion to have council's previous motion rescinded.

This was "Kooweerup" as the correct form of spelling.

Instead the two councillors moved that the correct spelling of the correct spelling of the town should be "koo-wee-rup" and the place names committee is to be informed of council's wishes.

The review of council's earlier decision came up after public protest at the formalising by council of the ising by council of the spelling as "Kooweerup".

In a letter to the Editor, Koo-wee-rup resident Mr. C. Einsedel said Kooweerup was only used as a mark of laziness or economy and that the historical spelling was "Koo-wee-rup."



Today's spelling of the town's name.

From the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, Wednesday 22 February 1882

## Shire Of Phillip Island And Woolamai

Saturday, 18th February, 1882.

Present—H. P. Norton. (President), Councillors Turnbull, Aldridge, Stewart, and Hayes.

A special meeting was held, at which the auditors' report for the year ending 30th September last was read and adopted. It was ordered to be printed for circulation amongst the ratepayers, who could obtain a copy.

### Ordinary Meeting

Present—H. F. Norton (President), Councillors Turnbull, Aldridge, Stewart, Hayes, and Kidd.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

### Correspondence

Letters sent were read.

Letters received:—

From the Secretary to the Melbourne Hospital, enclosing a doctor's certificate, stating that Mr. Crump would not be able to resume his duties.

From the Public Works Department, stating that a petition had been received from certain ratepayers of the shire, asking to be annexed to Buln Buln, and requesting a copy of the voters' roll. Ordered that the information be sent.

From Mrs. Crump, asking for passbook. Ordered to be sent.

From Senior constable Taylor, referring to occupancy of Mr. Smith under miner's right. As Mr. Smith had [*unclear word*] the buildings they were ordered to be pulled down at the council's expense.

From Mr. McKenzie, about the complaint of Wallace and Williams to stand over till next meeting.

From Mr. W. Harbison and C. Graydon, asking for works to be performed. Referred to members of the riding.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Guarantee Society about the deficiency of Mr. Crump.

The Valuer presented the valuation of the shire as follows:—Phillip Island riding, £3924 10s.; Woolamai riding, £2673 10s.; Corinella riding, £5072 10s.; total, £11,670 10s., showing an increase of £950 upon that of last year.

Applications were ordered to be advertised from persons willing to perform the separate duties of Secretary at £50 per year; and Rate Collector, Dog Inspector, and Clerk of Works, at £100 per year, to be addressed at the shire

offices not later than 18th March next.

Councillors Norton, Stewart, and Turnbull were deputed to wait on the Minister of Public Works with a view of obtaining a special grant for the purpose of improving the roads in the Corinella and Woolamai ridings.

Notice of motion was given.—That this council at its next meeting would proceed to strike a rate of 1s. in the £ on the valuation presented; also for clearing on road opposite Churchill Island.

Pickersgill's tender for £14 19s. 6d. was accepted.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 20 October 1899, page 2

## Lang Lang Road Collision

In the County Court on Monday before Judge Casey, Messrs M'Millan Brothers, of Caldermeade, graziers, sought to recover £49 damages from Messrs James Addison, Henry Addison, Albert Addison, and Robert Henderson, farmers, of Lang Lang. According to the evidence of Mr. Alexander M'Millan, he was driving in a light buggy, with his wife and little boy, on the evening of 16th March last; the vehicle had no lights as the evening had not advanced beyond twilight. Plaintiff was keeping well on his proper side of the road when a horse suddenly dashed past at the rate of about 20 miles an hour, grazing one of the buggy wheels, and immediately after there was a tremendous crash from the rear, and the occupants of the buggy were thrown out and on to the roadway. They were greatly shaken and bruised, while the vehicle was broken to pieces. It transpired that the collision was caused by some of the defendants racing into the trap while pursuing the first horse, which had bolted, and as a result of the impact Henderson was rather seriously injured. Defendants pleaded no negligence on their part, and contributory negligence by plaintiff. They alleged that no bolt took place, and that the collision was due to the fact that the absence of lights on the buggy prevented it being seen, the night being a dark one. Judge Casey, after hearing a considerable amount of conflicting evidence, gave a verdict for £25 damages, with costs, recoverable from each or all of the four defendants.

From the *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, Friday 25 May 1917, page 3

## Miner Killed By a Fall of Stone

### Coroner Inquires

A fall of stone, resulting in the death of James Lucas, an experienced miner, occurred in No. 10 pit, State Coal Mine, on Friday night. His son, Jas. Lucas, was working with him, and in his evidence at the inquiry described the occurrence.

Mr. James Lucas was 61 years of age, and was highly esteemed and respected by all. He lived in the Korumburra and Outtrim districts for many years. The funeral, conducted by Messrs. Knox and Sons, took place on Monday. It was an impressive sight, and was largely attended. Many hundreds of his comrades, led by the Union Band playing the Dead March, marched in front of the hearse from his late residence to the railway station; the M.U. I.O.O.F. members also marched. The remains were taken to Korumburra for interment. Deceased leaves a grown-up family, and one of his sons is at the front.

At the inquiry, before Mr. F. J. Bird, J.P., and a jury consisting of Messrs. M. J. McMahon, T. Andrews, C. D. Taberner, G. Keeley, P. Mattel, J. Cusack, and J. Featherston.

Evidence was given by—

James Lucas, jun., miner, said he was working with his father. Deceased was shovelling coal back from the face. I was sitting down about four feet away waiting for the deceased to get out of my way. I did not hear anything unusual in connection with the ground overhead. I was watching the deceased shovel the coal, and when he was removing the coal I took my eyes off him to attend to my lamp. While I was attending to my lamp I heard the deceased make a noise which sounded like "Oh." I at once looked round and saw the deceased who was on his knees, face downwards, his face was resting on the floor. There was a piece of stone about 1 cwt. resting on his head. I immediately took the stone off deceased. I said, "Well old chap has it come to this." I did not get an answer from him, and [sic] I did not think he was then dead. I then went for assistance, and also sent word to Deputy Richards. The deceased was then removed to the surface. The main roof where deceased and I were working was, in my opinion, safe. I had sounded the roof with my pick at about

4.25 p.m. The false roof where deceased got killed was about 3 feet 9 inches from the floor. Deputy Harry Richards came into the bord between 5 and 5.30 p.m. and stayed about twenty minutes; no request was made to attend to anything. I fired a shot at about 5.30 which was directly underneath the roof where the stone came away at 8.40 p.m. I also fired a second shot 6 feet away from where the stone fell out of the roof. I am of opinion that it was an accident.

Deputy Richards, who was in charge of the section, said everything was in good order and quite safe. In his opinion there should have been a sprag under the clod that fell while deceased was cleaning coal away, before pulling down the stone.

David Griffith said the bord was in good order when he finished on the day shift.

Geo. Wells and R. Dunn also gave evidence.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

From the *Argus*, Thursday 3 May 1917, page 4

## Alleged Cattle Stealing

### Jury Fails to Agree

The trial of Attric Hugh Potter, grazier, at San Remo, on a charge of having stolen cattle, or, alternatively, of having received two head, knowing them to be stolen, was concluded before Judge Johnston in the Melbourne Court of General Sessions yesterday. Mr. Woinarski, K.C., prosecuted, and Mr. Dethridge (instructed by Mr. W. S. Cook) appeared for the accused. The Crown case was that on March 14 the accused was purchasing cattle at Phillip Island, and that a Jersey calf, the property of Augustus Smith, and a white and brindled cow, belonging to Mrs. Margaret Findly, were traced to his possession. It was alleged that he had dishonestly taken the two head of stock mentioned, and had subsequently sold them at Grantville. The defence was that the accused had collected a mob of about 30 head, and had removed them to his own place, and that he was not aware that any strange cattle were included in them. When he took the cow and calf to the saleyards he was under the impression that they were his own property. He was still of the same opinion.

The jury, after a retirement of six hours, returned into court at half-past 10 o'clock, and the foreman announced that they could not agree upon a verdict. Accused was then remanded on bail.

From *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 10 April 1896.

## The Timber Trade At Bass A Visit To the Saw Mills

(Re-paragraphed for the sake of clarity.)

At the invitation of Mr L. Henderson, of Bass, a representative of the "San Remo Times," made a visit to that district last week for the purpose of inspecting the timber growing country and the Bass Saw Mills, and enjoyed a very interesting outing.

Before leaving Bass, a look was taken at the landing, and on inspecting the banks of the river it was found that they are being washed away to a considerable extent, and also that the sand is fast silting up to the detriment of the river traffic. This it appears has been going on for about five years, with the result that at present there is not more than six feet of water at the landing at low tide, and it is suggested that the Government should take action to have this impediment to traffic removed in the way of dredging the Bass river and channel. Experts estimate that the necessary outlay would not exceed £500 and considering the great amount of trade carried on at the Landing it is time improvements should be made thereat.

It is stated that the quantity of material landed there and shipped therefrom amounts to over 400 tons per month, of which 300 tons consist of sawn timber, despatched outward, and about 100 tons of general merchandize inward. There are three schooners constantly trading to and from Bass, Melbourne, and other places namely the Tyro, the Stephens, and the Little Angelina. In the vicinity of the Landing are stored thousands of feet of timber consisting of blue gum and blackwood, ready for transport.

The visiting party afterwards proceeded along a tram line for about 8 miles, arriving at the Saw Mills at 1 o'clock, where stabling was found sufficient for a dozen horses, which number is used in the business of the mill. On arriving here the manager, Mr N. Fitzgerald, invited the visitors to dinner, after which another start was made along the tram line into the bush which is used for carrying the timber to the mill, about a mile and a half from which a splendid belt of timber was reached, the trees in which varied from 2ft. to 3ft 6in through, and ran up over 100ft without a branch, and as straight as a gun barrel. The line led away from this, and branching off down a gully

joined a newly formed line  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile long, to which it is intended to add another 4 miles now under survey. At the end of this another belt of gigantic timber trees was come upon, which, when sawn up would turn out millions of feet.

The party then proceeded across a range and came on to the main line where there was a plentiful supply of trees fallen ready to be placed on the trolley and taken to the mill, the hauling being done by a good team of twelve bullocks. The tram crossed and re-crossed a number of branch lines, of which Mr Fitzgerald states he has about 9 miles laid down in the bush, which cost at least £100 per mile.

On returning an inspection was made of the mill, which is a "spott" mill well fitted with two circular saw benches, portable engine and other machinery and turns out about 24,000ft of timber per week. As showing the importance of the industry to the district it may be stated that it employs about 35 men in various capacities and these with their wives and children number 110, which is very satisfactory, and Mr Henderson the proprietor is looked upon as the most enterprising man in the district in finding work for so many of the inhabitants.

Taking this into consideration there can be no hesitation in saying that Mr Henderson deserves some encouragement from the Government and the best way they could show their appreciation of his efforts would be to have the Bass River and channel cleared.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 16 October 1903, page 2: Lang Lang.

## Bathing Tragedy

A sad case of drowning occurred in the Lang Lang River on Sunday afternoon last, about four miles from the township, Samuel Thompson, of Lang Lang, aged seventeen, with two others, went in to bathe. He could not swim and was borne away by the current and sank. Some of the bathers ran for aid, and Mr T. Kirkland continued diving for half an hour, but owing to the water being dirty he could not see the body. A hour and a half later the body was recovered by Mr H. Wildes. The spot where Thompson met his death was a very dangerous one, the hole being 25 feet deep. Great praise is due to Mr Kirkland for his gallant attempt to save the lad.

## Lance Ford Forges Ahead

From the *Weekly Times*, Saturday 2 April 1938, page 20

Rough Scrub Country At  
Woodleigh Brought Into Production

### A Heavy Task

By "Mentor"

To a great extent the high value set upon farms in many parts of Gippsland represents the work and money expended in developing them. This is proved by the fact that properties worth £20 an acre, or even more, may be seen adjoining rough, uncleared land that can be "bought for a song."

The reason why this unimproved land is neglected is not difficult to understand. Thirty or 40 years ago labor was infinitely cheaper than it is today, so that country that cost £10 an acre to clear at the beginning of the present century would cost well over £23 an acre to bring into production at the present time.

Hence buyers invariably pass over uncleared country in favor of farms that have been improved sufficiently to enable some return to be won from them immediately. In most cases such a course is really more economical than undertaking the work of improvement, even if the loss of income associated with the latter is not a consideration.

Occasionally, however, folk with stout hearts and limited means prefer to undertake the clearing of a rough piece of virgin country rather than purchase an improved farm. Although they may make little from the area for the first few years, any revenue obtained represents the profit on the year's operations, whereas if they earned several times as much from a high-priced property the bulk of the income would be required to pay interest on the outstanding principal.

Recently, I discovered in the Woodleigh district a family with experience of both types of farms. Having begun on land which had been cleared and valued according to the labor and money expended, these settlers decided they would be a long while paying off the purchase price. Accordingly, they seized the opportunity to re-sell their property at a figure which recompensed them for the work they had done during their two years of occupancy, and acquired an area of scrub land adjoining.

The family consists of Mr Lance Ford, his wife, and his wife's brother, Mr. George

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From the *Weekly Times*, Saturday 7 May 1938, page 24

Woodleigh Dairy Farmer Establishes  
Good Pastures On Scrub Country

### Strawberry Clover Favored

By "Mentor"

Many a man who has gone on the land has failed because of excessive overhead expenses. Although his property may have had considerable earning power, principal and interest payments have absorbed practically all the annual income. When this is the case, there is nothing left with which to improve or maintain the earning capacity, so the income gradually dwindles. Obviously, it is better to begin in a small way, and work towards bigger things.

This has been the experience of Mr Lance Ford, of Woodleigh. He sold the expensive property which he had purchased at a figure that compensated him for the work and money he had expended in developing it, and undertook the clearing of 61 acres of scrub-covered country adjoining him.

As was mentioned in an earlier article the block was totally unimproved, every acre having been covered with ti-tree and big swamp gums. Most of the latter were dead, having been rung years before or else killed by fire. There were no buildings of any kind, and fences and dams were non-existent. This meant that, until the land could be cleared, and brought into production, income was practically negligible.

Fire was a good friend in clearing the ti-tree, but the short, sharp stakes which survived the burn made it impossible to put a horse team over the land to haul logs or plough it after the logs had been removed. At first, Mr Ford had to employ a man with a tractor, but after a year or two, he was able to finance the purchase of a secondhand machine of his own.

The procedure adopted in making the land ready for pasture has been to plough it twice with a stump-jump disc plough hauled by the tractor. This chops out most of the ti-tree stakes, and permits the land to be worked to level it somewhat and reduce the lumps and clods to a size that gives a crop of millet a chance to succeed. Fortunately, millet is a hardy subject, and each of the areas sown down by Mr Ford after clearing has grown satisfactorily.

The initial ploughing usually takes place

*(continues on Page 14)*



*A Heavy Task (continued from Page 13)*

Jonasen. All three have shared in the hard manual labor of clearing and developing the land, and notwithstanding that only four years have elapsed since they took over the holding of 61 acres, it is destined to be one of the best in the Woodleigh district.

Mr. Ford is an Englishman by birth, and prior to farming at Woodleigh he was engaged in motor carrying at Trafalgar. This occupation, however, entailed being away from home a good deal, and proved none too remunerative, hence the decision to go on the land.

The 75-acre farm which he purchased at Woodleigh cost £20 an acre. Only 36 acres had been sown down to grass, and this was overrun with rabbits. Considerable clearing had to be done, the boundaries made rabbit-proof, division fences erected, sheds constructed, and numerous other developmental tasks carried out.

At the end of a couple of years Mr. Ford reached the conclusion that he would be far better off improving land on which there was practically no overhead. Accordingly, undeterred by the freely-expressed opinion of local residents – who considered the land not worth clearing – he acquired his present property, which is divided from his former holding by the Kernot Road.

The soil is not deep, admittedly, but as it consists of silt washed down from the adjoining hills, it is fairly fertile. While it was covered with a dense growth of scrub, however, anyone could be pardoned for failing to see the land's potentialities. By the same token, Mr. Ford must be given credit for his perception and the courage he displayed in backing his own judgment against that of men with long experience of local conditions.

The first task was to clear sufficient land to erect a home. This accomplished the work of house building was entrusted to a firm of Melbourne builders, while he busied himself with getting more of the land into production. The work has progressed steadily ever since, the last 14 acres having been practically completed when I called at the farm recently.

Years ago the big timber had either been rung or killed by bush fires. Numerous gaunt trunks – swamp gum mostly – were clustered thickly over the farm when Mr. Ford began clearing, while others were on the ground, over-grown with an impenetrable growth of eight foot ti-tree. A fire was run over the lot, and this enabled the clearers

*(continues on Page 15)*

*Strawberry Clover Favored (continued from Page 13)*

in April. For the next eight months, the land is allowed to lie fallow. This gives it an opportunity to sweeten before the millet crop is sown in December. Mr Ford has found that deep ploughing is inadvisable on land such as his since the shallow layer of fertile soil – silt washed down from the hills – is only about a three-inch covering with heavy clay beneath. Consequently, care must be taken not to bring too much clay to the surface.

### Building Up

After the millet has been grazed until about the end of March, the land is worked again lightly to induce a fine tilth prior to sowing down to pasture.

A mixture found satisfactory consists of a liberal quantity of perennial rye, plus a little White Dutch and strawberry clover. The latter does excellently, and Mr Ford intends to concentrate on it to the exclusion of all other clovers. This is because it keeps greener through the summer than White Dutch, although the latter is very good in this respect.

The seed is fairly expensive – round about 6/ a lb. – but Mr Ford has found a quarter of a pound to the acre ample. Once established, it is permanent, and the bulk of feed produced is remarkable.

When Mr Ford disposed of his former property as a going concern, practically all his stock went with it. This suited him, because the carrying capacity of the scrub block was practically negligible. His herd had been under test, the 25 cows having averaged 316lb. butter fat in the season 1932-33, two years after they had been bought up and combined as a herd.

Six of the best of them were retained, however, when Mr Ford moved to his new block, and as the land was brought into production at the rate of approximately 15 acres a year, other cows were bought to form another herd. A pedigreed bull from stock with undoubted producing abilities was acquired and mated with the milkers.

When the female progeny came into production, it was found that the bull was a failure as a herd sire. None of his stock gave promise of equalling the performances of the respective mothers, so they were sold forthwith, and the bull also.

The latter was replaced by another pure-bred Jersey – Myrtleview Joystick – bred by Messrs W. A. Benn and Son, Montgomery, Sale. This bull has some distinguished ancestors,

*(continues on Page 15)*

*A Heavy Task (continued from Page 14)*

to see the more substantial of the obstacles confronting them.

The ti-tree and other low-growing scrub burns readily when fired during the hot weather. The area dealt with a few weeks ago came out remarkably clean considering the dense green growth. A number of the fallen logs were consumed and some of the standing trees were brought to the ground, but, in burning off the ti-tree to within a foot or so of the ground, a new problem was created. After the fire, the whole of the land was covered with blackened, sharp stakes approximately a foot high and in density averaging at least one to the square foot.

Obviously, a horse could not be worked on such country, so that hauling the logs with the aid of a team or ploughing out the ti-tree stakes with a horse-drawn implement was an utter impossibility. The only course open was to get a tractor.

A powerful machine was hired to see if the land could be worked in this way, and it proved such a success that, after a time, Mr. Ford bought a second-hand Twin City. The rough work has given it a severe test. There have been some breakages, but no more than were expected, and the tractor has proved an invaluable ally in hauling logs and stumps into heaps for burning.

This done, it has been employed to haul a stump-jump disc plough over the area to get it into a condition that would permit a crop to be sown.

Since it is not intended to cultivate the land more than is necessary to permit pasture being laid down, no endeavor has been made to remove all roots. Fire, however, has proved a valuable means of ridding the land of most of them, the present summer having been ideal for "stoving" them out.

This operation consists of digging around the stumps, piling odd pieces of wood against the bole, and when the stump is well alight, covering the whole with earth. This has the effect of causing the fire to travel slowly underground along each root, so that not infrequently every part of the stump is reduced to ashes.

The logs are dragged into heaps and fired also. By means of a cable they are hauled to selected sites, and then rolled up skids on to the heap.

Necessarily, the first ploughing is rather a "hit-and-miss" operation, but by running

*(continues on Page 16)*

*Strawberry Clover Favored (continued from Page 14)*

his great grandsire having been Choirmaster of Banyule, and his great granddam Silvermine 21st of Banyule. His stock have not yet reached the age of production, but better things are expected of them than from the progeny of his predecessor.

Recently a change-over from butterfat to whole milk was made, and as it is likely to be a permanent arrangement, a young Ayrshire bull has been obtained with the idea of getting a heavier yield of milk. It is thought, too, that when cows have to be culled from the herd, those of Ayrshire descent will fetch better prices for beef than would Jerseys.

### Whole Milk Trade

This is the main reason for the change, as the milk is bought on its butter-fat content. The price paid is  $1\frac{3}{4}$ d above butter-fat values to compensate farmers for the loss of the skim milk.

The young Ayrshire bull was bred by Messrs Batley and Sons, of Trafalgar. His sire, Alanvale Marcus, was raised by Mr E. G. Hall, of Alanvale, Tasmania, and his dam was one of his breeders' best cows, having produced in excess of 70lb. milk testing 5 per cent. daily when under test.

Mr Ford now has his little farm well subdivided, so that the feed grown may be used to the best advantage. In the flush of the year, the area of 36 acres sown down carries a beast to the acre, while sufficient meadow hay can be conserved to supply the milkers with a bail ration during the autumn and winter.

The grass harrows are used twice a year to spread the manure deposits and lessen the need for heavy applications of super. Apart from a bag to the acre of the latter, when the pasture was sown, little superphosphate has been distributed, mainly because it was considered that all available funds could be employed to better advantage in developing the remaining uncleared land.

Now, however, that the last portion of the farm has been brought near the production stage, more money will be available for top-dressing, and it is intended to fertilise the pastures fairly liberally.

Although only one horse is kept on the farm, Mr Ford has contrived to excavate five dams. While these are not big, compared with those in areas where greater storage is necessary, they are large enough to withstand any dry spell likely to be experienced.

At Woodleigh, the rainfall is inclined to be

*(continues on Page 16)*

*A Heavy Task (continued from Page 15)*

the stump-jump over the land at right angles to the direction traversed first, a fair job is done. No attempt is made to plough deeply, Mr. Ford contending that such shallow, silty soil gives the best results if worked only lightly.

The usual procedure has been to take off a crop of maize or millet, and then sow the land down with a pasture mixture. At the present time, there is good feed in the pastures, an excellent crop of millet is growing on land cleared a year ago, and two stacks of grass hay are on hand for winter feeding. When it is considered that 33 head of stock were carried on the 36 acres of sown-down land throughout the spring and summer, and there was sufficient growth to permit two paddocks to be cut for hay, it will be seen that the land which was deemed worthless four years ago has already been put into the £20 an acre class.

In a few years, it is safe to predict, the property will be capable of carrying nearly a milker to the acre practically the year round.

\* \* \*

From the *Argus*, Saturday 29 August 1953, page 5

## Tingle, tingle...zizz!

Wonthaggi, Friday.

A woman householder who complained of "tingling sensations" whenever she touched taps or rubbish bins at her home was told by doctors that she was suffering from nerves and needed a rest.

A more reliable diagnosis was obtained unexpectedly when her teenage son climbed on the roof to erect a wireless aerial, and received an electric shock which sent him flying, without causing serious injury.

Electricians traced the woman's "nerve" attacks to faulty installation in the house wiring.

She has now been "cured" without having to take the rest that her doctor ordered.



*Strawberry Clover Favored (continued from Page 15)*

over-generous, and, as the dams are in good catchment places, and are nine feet deep, they should fulfill perfectly the purposes for which they were made. These, mainly, are to ensure that ample water is available at all seasons of the year, and that, no matter what part of the farm the cows are on, their water supply is close at hand.



Adjusting the cable on a log to be dragged onto a heap for burning. Source: *Weekly Times*, 26 March 1938, page 41.

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From the *Age*, Thursday 29 June 1944, page 2

## Wonthaggi Coal

### Not Allocated by Railways

Although the State coal mine was operated under the control of the Victorian railways, the allocation of the coal was entirely in the hands of a board appointed under National Emergency legislation. This was stated yesterday by the Railway Commissioners in reply to a correspondent in "The Age," who asked why the railways could not obtain sufficient coal for suburban train services from the Wonthaggi mine.

The correspondent stated that in the last four weeks more coal was supplied from the mine to private consumers than to the railways, and asked if the coal from Wonthaggi had a calorific value as low as that of wood.

The commissioners explained that there was never any question as to the suitability and superiority of Wonthaggi coal over wood for the purposes for which wood was being used. It was not a fact that over half the output of the mine during the past four weeks had been sold to the public, and in any case the commissioners had no voice whatsoever in the distribution of the output.

From the *Register*, Tuesday 6 March 1923, page 9

Sir Peter McBride

## Death At Cannes

Long Service For Victoria

On Thursday a cablegram was received from our London correspondent stating that Sir Peter McBride, Victorian Agent-General from 1913 to 1922, who had gone to the sunshine of Cannes, in the Riviera, to escape the English winter, and in the hope of rebuilding his health, was in a critical condition. On Monday morning a message came announcing his death at the age of 56 years.

In London, on September 15, 1922, a gathering took place, at which Sir Newton Moore, on behalf of many business men, presented Sir Peter McBride, who was then retiring through ill-health from the Agent-Generalship of Victoria, which position he had occupied for nine years, with a cheque for about £60. Lady McBride was handed a valuable diamond ring. The then Under-Secretary for the Colonies (Mr. E. F. L. Wood) paid a tribute to the splendid service which Sir Peter McBride



Peter McBride, Minister for Mines and Forests during the foundation of the State coal mine at Wonthaggi and the town itself. The McBride tunnel which, from 1914 to 1936 over 3 million tonnes of coal was extracted, was named in his honour.

and Lady McBride had rendered during the war. Sir Peter had faithfully interpreted the views of the people he came to London to represent. It was a matter of great importance in the problems which confronted the Empire that personal touch should be maintained between those controlling the destinies of what they called their Empire. He officially thanked Sir Peter and Lady McBride for what they had done towards maintaining the unity of the Empire. Sir T. V. Bowater (ex-Lord Mayor of London), Sir Ernest Wild (the Recorder of London), Lord Dewar, and Mr. McWhae (the new Victorian Agent General) all spoke warmly of Sir Peter McBride's services, and expressed the hope that his health would soon be restored.

### Pioneer of Wonthaggi Mine

Sir Peter McBride was born in Dunnolly, Victoria, on February 9, 1867, and was educated at Wesley College, Melbourne. At the age of 30 he entered the political arena as member of the Victorian House of Assembly for Kara Kara. He evidently satisfied his constituents, who held him in that seat for 16 years, when he resigned and took up the Agent-Generalship, in London. In January, 1909, Sir Peter received Ministerial honours, by appointment as Minister for Mines and Forests, and Vice President of the Board of Land and Works. He proved himself a capable administrator, and was largely responsible for opening up and developing the State coal mine at Wonthaggi. He remained in these positions until 1913; but in the meantime held other portfolios. He acted as Chief Secretary for seven months in 1911, and was Minister for Railways in May, 1912, and March, 1913.

### "Sir Peter"

In 1915, after two years as Victoria's Imperial representative, his services in that stressful period won royal recognition, and Mr. Peter McBride became "Sir Peter." He also achieved European distinction, being awarded the Order of St. Sava and the Belgian Order of the Crown. He was also a Grande Officer, Order of Leopold II. Sir Peter had two sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Peter, who was a member of the York and Lancashire Regiment, was killed on the Somme in 1916. The second son, Alan, holds a commission in the Royal Field Artillery. Lady McBride was with Sir Peter at Cannes.

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**KURES Kiddies' Kolds. Tromax Emulsion. Get it at McDougall's.**

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From the *Australasian*, Saturday 24 March 1917, page 21: Wheel Notes

## Westernport And Beyond

By Fortis

There is some beautiful valley country lying between Lang Lang and Korumburra, where are situated also the pretty and thriving townships of Loch and Jeetho. I frequently have motored or cycled along the winding roads and tracks which connect these places, and almost as often have I been puzzled by the way they double round the hillsides, and come out at unexpected places. But, provided one has the time, that is the real pleasure of the pottering tourist; and it is on occasions like these that I find the motor too fast. Last week I made a circuit embracing Lang Lang, Nyora, Korumburra, Jumbunna, Wonthaggi, and Grantville, regaining Lang Lang along the east coast of Westernport.

An extension of the trip led me over the country lying within the circuit defined. I first cut out Nyora, and motored to Loch, when a southerly course was shaped along reconstructed roads over rather aggressive country, but with many attractive features. I passed a turn-off to the west to Woodleigh, on the Bass Valley line, but took the next divergence in the same direction, which, according to the fingerboard, led to Glen Alvie, in what once was known as the "Blackwood Country." Numerous sidetracks made progress relatively slow, as inquiries were necessary; but I passed through the village of Kowera [*sic*], among the hills, and bore more to the south, and eventually came upon a cluster of buildings at a junction, including a large tenement which bore the sign "Glen Alvie Public Hall."

I learned later that that corner was not really Glen Alvie, though I came across nothing else resembling a township in the neighbourhood. A little farther east, after a run of a few miles, during which I passed a very pretty reservoir in the valley of Lance Creek, I ran through Kongwak, famous for its butter, and climbed to the higher road connecting Inverloch and Korumburra, on which road contractors were operating, when some rough travelling fell to my lot before passing Jumbunna, and again farther along to Korumburra. Before leaving the Kongwak road, by the way, I endeavoured to get through to Jeetho from a place called Moyarra P.O., but, after a mile of bad going, a broken bridge stopped further progress, and I retraced my tracks.

From Korumburra the main Melbourne

road was followed for a short distance, when a turn to the west was made past Whitelaw, and through Bena to a cross road. Here a northerly direction was taken, and eventually I worked a way round to Jeetho, in a deep valley, followed by a long climb out; and in half a league came out upon the road connecting Bena and Loch, where I turned towards Bena, but only for a mile or so to a junction from which the Kilcunda road diverged in a south-west direction. This I followed for many miles over good touring country, but the tracks were bad enough in places. Some of the hills were steep, but none very long. Enroute, I passed a settlement where the State school bore the name of Kilcunda road, though I was many miles from Kilcunda, which is on the coast between Wonthaggi and San Remo.

From the behaviour of the horses met with, it was evident that not many motors passed along these roads. At one place I was called to a stop, the man stating that, as a team of horses and a waggon had been overturned on the cutting I was about to ascend, would I be careful in passing a team a short distance ahead. From the top of the ridge I descended into the Bass Valley to Almurta, whence I turned north through Kernot and Woodleigh to within two miles of Nyora, and bore away once more for Lang Lang, 10 miles distant, over some very bad roads; but the remaining 50 miles to Melbourne is generally in fine condition, especially if the road leading across the line at Dandenong is taken to Dingley Dell and Cheltenham, instead of along the main road to Oakleigh. It is a mile and a half longer, but that matters little if the surface is better. In addition to the 50 miles each way between Melbourne and Lang Lang, I covered fully another 50 in Blackwood country.

A scientist, giving a lecture to some students, asked one to name a poisonous substance. The amusement was intense when he replied, "Aviation, sir."

"Come, come," snapped the professor, "this is no time for hilarity. What do you mean?"

"Well, sir, one drop will kill!" was the reply.

*Koo Wee Rup Sun and Lang Lang Guardian* 17 May 1934



# The 'Special Lot' Problem...Solved.

by

Geoff Guilfoyle

Note: this piece is a belated follow-up of sorts to a problem initially discussed and dismissed in part one of *The Hotels of Grantville* in the December 2020 edition of *The Western Port Times*. At that time I needed to satisfy myself that the 'Special Lot' advertisement had nothing to do with Henry Schuler or any hotel at Queensferry or Grantville. In this article I will go into more detail and explain why it is/was a problem and offer a solution – and how I made a basic research error.

## SPECIAL LOT.

County of Mornington, parish of Corinella, at the site of Mr. W. B. Brandrick's improvements, Grantville. Upset price, £2 per acre. Allotment B. 6 acres. Valuation £70.

Plans and information can be obtained at the Crown Lands Office, Melbourne.

J. J. CASEY,

Minister of Lands and Agriculture, and President of the Board of Lands and Works.

From the *Record and Emerald Hill and Sandridge Advertiser*, Thursday 7 August 1873, page 2.

This advertisement offers few details on the location of this land. It can't be Section B in the surveyed Grantville township for a number of reasons, the most telling being that none of these allotments are 6 acres.

There is actually a 6-acre Lot B elsewhere, so problem solved. Well, no. It is located at Stony Point, south of Coronet Bay, about 20 kilometres from Grantville. There is also no evidence that W. B. Brandrick owned it.

So what land did Brandrick possess?

While giving testimony in the Brandrick v Johnson libel trial in 1875, he is reported in the *Age* and *Argus* accounts as saying he arrived in Grantville in March 1872, selected 86 acres and built a house. We know of one block – 176B, and from the Phillip island rate book (entry 546) for 1878, that he leased a "house and land" to Henry Rowland. There are no other details as to location beyond it being under the ambiguous heading of "Grantville & Bass Road."

It appears to be a meaningless category judging from the number of rate book entries listed there. Many of these properties had no Bass road frontage. For instance, entry 571 showing F. A. Nowell's general store and 320 acres of land, which was at Fern Hill (more or less today's St. Hellier). The property of L. H. Williams – the Victoria Hotel – was certainly on the Bass Road, but at Queensferry. The rate book also shows that considerable subdivision was taking/had taken place, thus making it harder to track what is going on.

Intriguingly, in the 1875 rate book (entry 426) a G. Brandrick is shown as having a house and land on Allotment 6 which he is leasing to George Casey. Is this a scribal error and actually W. B. rather than G? It is the only year this name appears which indicates either an error corrected the following year, or this Brandrick sold up and left the district, or W. B., already gone, had disposed of the property.

And that is the sum of our knowledge on Brandrick's land acquisitions.

Helpful, isn't it. So what now?

What six acre blocks were in and around Grantville in 1873?

Not many. A few, such as 187C, 219H, 187C and 95 (future site of the Grantville Hotel) were too small. The opposite problem is seen in 172B, 181 and 219G which carried just a little too much heft.

What of the 'Goldilocks blocks' that are just right? Or close enough. A few: 175A, 4C, and the previously mentioned 176B which was owned by Brandrick.

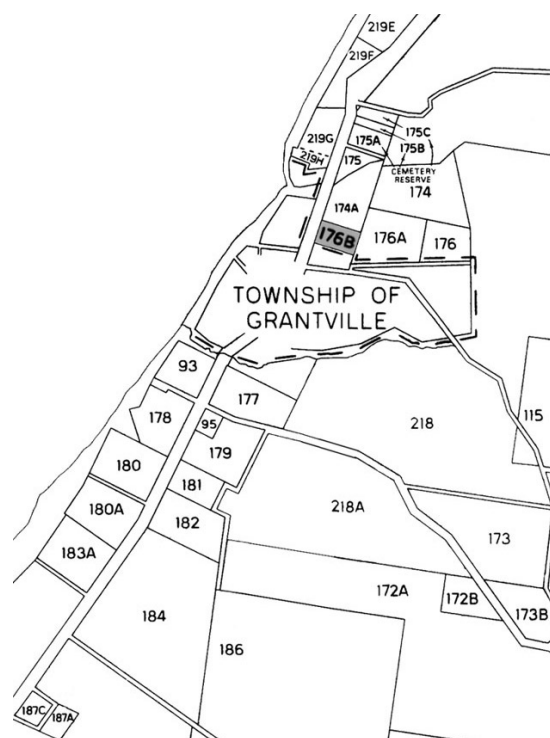
175A is an improbable candidate, given that it was an informal burial ground, eventually became an official one, and is today known as the Grantville Cemetery. 4C, or rather Lot 4 in Section C of Grantville, was still Crown land at the time and not offered for sale until later. That leaves Brandrick's 176B.

The 'Special Lot' was sold at the offices of Gemmell Tucket and Co. for the outstanding amount of £1200, 19s. 6d.

Yes, £1200! (ignoring the loose change).

Now you understand why I was very much taken aback at this information. The six acres, even cleared and drained with a large house on

(continues on Page 20)



*The 'Special Lot' Problem... (continued from Page 19)*

it wouldn't come near a quarter of that total.

That amount of money means a hotel. In 1876, Henry Schuler's 3-acre Lot X (with hotel) at Queensferry was also valued at £1200.

Was, therefore, the Grantville Junction Hotel on 176B and not Lot 2 in Section A as I believed then and still believe today?

No, otherwise it would have been mentioned by either William or Elizabeth Brandrick, Alexander Stewart or any number of the other witnesses or one of the lawyers at the 1875 Brandrick v. Johnson libel trial. There was a passing reference to an hotel by Elizabeth (almost certainly the Grantville Junction Hotel) without any claim of previous ownership or even the name.

What about a general store?

The *Vic. Gov. Gazette No.58* (August 1876) carried notice of the sale of the "rural store site of Mr. L. H. Williams" on 3 acres at Queensferry with an improved value of £507, the price of a functioning store, not a hotel. Also, the trial testimony applies equally here. A store would have been at least mentioned.

During my 2020 research I concluded that whatever was going on with this 'Special Lot' had nothing to do with any of the hotels (current or future) or their builders (Schuler and Dickins). This was correct at the time and remains correct.

So how did I account for the £1200?

The 'Special Lot' advertisement places the total value (land plus improvements) at £70. That is a long way off £1200. Nothing about this sale makes sense. Unless you accept that the £1200 is a typo, a very common occurrence. Knock a 'zero' off the amount and you have an unexceptional £120.

Thus the 'Special Lot,' probably 176B despite the dates not quite fitting, was sold on 24 August 1873 for £120, the cost of the land and Mr. Brandrick's improvements, likely a house, sold cheaply because Brandrick had left the district in a hurry – or maybe it was a good price. It would depend on the quality of the house and work put into the land in regard to clearing and draining.

And that's where I left it in 2020.

But there was a superior explanation available which, in my relief at whittling down that £1200, I completely missed. This was a mistake which, now revisiting the topic and realising this, the problem being compounded by another typo – one I made – I am now going to rectify.

I may have noticed the above advertisement in the *Gazette* at the time; if so, its significance

## SPECIAL LOT.

COUNTY OF MORNINGTON, PARISH OF CORINELLA.

*At the site of Mr. W. B. Brandrick's improvements, Grantville*

Upset price 2*l.* per acre.

Lot 17. Allotment B, Ga. Valuation 70*l.*

J. J. CASEY,

Minister of Lands and Agriculture, and  
President of the Board of Land and Works.

Office of the Board of Land and Works,  
Melbourne.

From the *Victorian Government Gazette No.53*, Friday 18 July 1873, page 1270. Lot 17 indicates it is the 17th property listed in a particular section, in this case as a 'Special Lot.'

passed me by. On coming across it recently, it hit me immediately, that unlike the *Record and Emerald Hill and Sandridge Advertiser*, it was a government publication. This caused me to revisit the advertisement in the *Advertiser* and have a closer look at the wording.

It isn't William Brandrick selling the land. It is the Victorian Government.

Further, in 2020 I confused the date of the report of the sale with the date of the actual sale and was further misled by a typo (this time mine) in the December 2020 article. The text gave the correct date of the purchase of the property by Brandrick; however, the accompanying graphic showed the 13th – and I, unfortunately, took my cue from that.

The sale was on the **19 August**. When did William B. Brandrick purchase the land? On **19 August**. There is no longer any doubt about the 'Special Lot.'

Brandrick was leasing the land – 176B – and it was a Government sale, offering it as freehold, not the Brandrick fire-sale the advertisement makes it sound, reinforced by the knowledge that Brandrick left the district in controversial circumstances. So Brandrick quite sensibly purchased the property. Just as John Dickins on Lot 95 and John Monk on Lot 93 and others were to do three years later.

The leasee, of course, didn't have to pay for the improvements, such as clearing, draining, fencing and buildings – just the value of the land, in this case £2 per acre x 6...equals not £1200, not £120, but £12. That 19*s.* 6*d.* probably reflects council improvements.

And that 1878 rate book reference to the "house and land" leased to Henry Rowland by Brandrick on the "Grantville & Bass Road?" It has to be Allotment 176B, the land Brandrick kept after he left the district in 1873.

This explanation best fits the evidence whilst making the fewest assumptions – in fact, it only makes one: a typo in a newspaper report.

Nah! That can't be right. Newspapers never make mistakes.