

The Western Port Times

Grantville & Districts

Volume 6 Number 3

FREE

July 2023

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.

Contents:

Local and General News

From *The San Remo Times*, July 1897.

on Page 3

Car Mishaps

A fishing trip gone wrong in 1935 leads to one death and two damaged cars.

on Page 5

Alleged Attempted Murder

Shoddy work by a shoddy worker leads to attempted murder.

on Page 5

The Route to Gippsland

A short account of an 1844 trip into south-west Gippsland by a party including William Thomas, Assistant Protector of Aborigines, and the Chief Protector himself.

on Page 6

Inverloch Proposed Water Supply

A 1914 plan to connect Inverloch with the new reservoir at Kongwak.

on Page 6

Lang Lang Police Court

A 1916 case of forgery.

on Page 7

Sad Accident

A buggy with six occupants topples into a canal at Koo Wee Rup in 1903.

on Page 7

And Now A Word From Our (retro) Sponsor

An advertorial for the (retro) sponsor of this edition of *The Western Port Times*.

on Page 8

Bluey and Sol

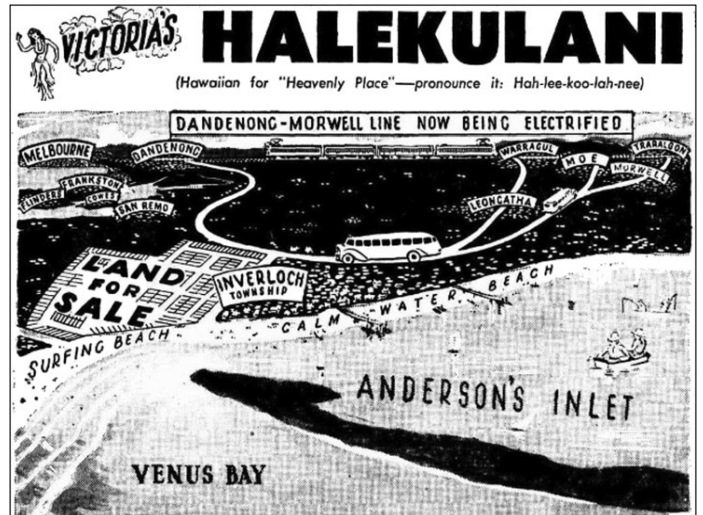
Another installment of the mid-1930s local comic strip.

on Page 8

Updating Chapter 11: The Shire

Chapter 11 of Joseph White's *100 Years of History* is short. This analysis and update of it isn't.

on Page 9



236 Magnificent BEACH HOME SITES

AT VICTORIA'S LOVELIEST BEACH AND LAKE RESORT

INVERLOCH

Announcing opening advance sale of Halekulani Estate, Inverloch—a paradise for lovers of the great outdoors—combining the attractions of glorious surfing and calm water beaches—sublimely beautiful lake, all within 1-2 hours scenic drive from Melbourne, Dandenong and the great Gippsland towns of Warragul, Moe and Morwell, etc.

MAGNIFICENT ELEVATED SITES commanding beautiful panoramic vistas extending over both lake and ocean.

RIGHT AT TOWNSHIP of Inverloch, Halekulani Estate gently slopes down to the calm, silver, sandy beaches in a setting that for sheer loveliness is unsurpassed in Victoria. Three main highways converge at Inverloch, namely, the Bass Highway, passing through Dandenong, and 2 bitumen highways, one passing through Korumburra and the other through Leongatha.

SURF AND CALM WATER BEACHES



At the peak of the season last summer it is estimated that over 30,000 people were holidaying at Inverloch at one time. The Halekulani Estate is to be progressively developed as one of the greatest holiday Beach Resorts in Victoria.

ATTRACTIVE INTRODUCTORY PRICES.

Halekulani Estate has special introductory prices from £48 on 3 years' terms.

Call, write or phone for Plan and Price List:—

WILLMORE & RANDELL

357 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE
Telephone: MU 9715 After Hours: XM 3464

PRICES FROM

£48

EASY TERMS
from 5/- wkly.

INSPECTION, INFORMATION . . .

Arrangements can be made to inspect the Halekulani Estate by car without obligation. If going by car or bus call at W & R office at A'Beckett Street, Inverloch, between the Inverloch Hotel and the Post Office.

POST COUPON FOR FREE PLAN

Please send without obligation free plan and price list of lots available on Halekulani Estate.

M _____

D _____

FIFTY POUNDS REWARD.

THE above reward will be paid by the United Albion and Prince of Wales Gold Mining Company, (registered), Sebastopol, for the apprehension of Alfred Cullimore, late legal manager of the said Company.

Description—Height 5 feet 9 inches, stout build, florid complexion, light hair, sandy whiskers and moustache, age about 35. Is supposed to be accompanied by a female called Fanny Fisher.

CHAS. SEAL,
Chairman of Company.
No. 1857

Ballarat, 14th December, 1868.

Note: If you have seen this nefarious absconder and his wanton doxy, please contact the Editor urgently and I will pass the information on to Mr. Seal.

Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle
 Postal:
 PO Box 3 Grantville 3984
 Phone: 5997 6240
 Email:
 geoffguilfoyle@dodo.com.au
 Website:
 www.grantvillehistory.com.au

Links to other historical groups

Bass Valley Historical Society: 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/
 Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society: kooweerupswamphistory.blogspot.com.au/
 Korumburra & District Historical Society: www.korumburrahistory.com.au or PO Bo 329, Korumburra 3950
 Lang Lang & District Historical Society: langlang.net/historical.html
 Leongatha and District Historical society: 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
 Wonthagi Historical Society: wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/
 Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.: secretary@wonthaggi-genealogy.org.au

Masthead design by Trish Hart

ISSN 2209-3508 (Online),
 ISSN 2207-7163 (Print)

Subscribe Free:

Send your name and email
 address to:
 geoffguilfoyle@dodo.com.au
 Issued monthly.



From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 2nd July 1897, page 2.

Local and General News

The San Remo Court of Petty Sessions will be held at the court-house on Friday next at 2 p.m.

Messrs. Joseph Clarke and Co. will hold their next monthly market at the Bass sale yards on Thursday next, when they will offer horses, cattle, sheep, etc.

The supplementary lists for the electoral district of Mornington, Corinella division, are now printed and may be inspected at the office of Mr. Geo. Hull, Registrar at San Remo, and every post-office within the division.

Mr. T. H. Walker will preach at Kilcunda on Sunday next at 3 p.m.

The Rev. Mr. Potter will conduct services on Sunday as follows:—Grantville, 11 a.m.; Corinella, 3 p.m.

The half-yearly meeting of the Westernport Bay and Flinders Steamship Company was held at the office, Queen-street, on Wednesday, Mr. P. Platt presiding. The report stated that a fairly successful season had been passed, the traffic returns showing an increase on the corresponding half of last year. The directors, however, regretted being unable to recommend a dividend owing to the necessary outlay of £150 in repairs to the *Genista*. Had this not occurred the net profit would have been £192 18s. 4d. The boat was now in good repair, and it was hoped would not require any material expenditure for some time to come. The report and balance sheet were unanimously adopted, and Mr. L. C. Wilkinson having been elected as auditor, the meeting closed.

The Council are at present having a job executed which was badly needed, viz., the cleaning out of the drain along the Main road from the corner of Mr. Cleeland's property to Bergin and Co.'s store. Mr. John Sykes has been employed at it during the week, and is making a really first-class job of it.

The *Tracanini* arrived at Cowes on Wednesday, and had on board a monument that is to be erected at Cowes cemetery by Mr. Cleeland over the grave of Mrs. Blake, who died at his residence a few months ago. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Fink [*sic*] and Co.

NOTICE.

STUBBS and Son request that from and after this date no credit be given without their written authority.

23rd July, 1855.

No. 554.

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 9th July 1897, page 2.

The Court of Petty Sessions will be held at the court-house to-day.

The Bass monthly sale was held at the old pound yards yesterday. The sale was not large, but the bidding was spirited, and the cattle brought very fair prices.

A dance was held on Wednesday night at the Queen Victoria Hall, Bass, the attendance not being so large as was expected. An opinion is expressed that the dances are held too often, as those who reside out a few miles cannot get in, the roads being so bad and the nights wet and cold.

A new sawmill is being erected by Captain Henderson two miles beyond the other mill. The engine is 12-horse power, and the mill is to be constructed under the latest improvements to save labor. It is expected, when finished erection, that it will take two men less to work it than the old mill, and turn out more timber. Captain Henderson deserves credit for his enterprising pluck and energy in pushing the district forward as he is doing.

On Monday night about half-past nine a meteor of unusual brilliancy was observed towards the east, illuminating the heavens for about 15 seconds.

A revision court for the purpose of revising the voters' lists for the several ridings of the shire will be held at 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 24th day of July, 1897, at the Shire Hall.

There was quite a stir at the San Remo pier on Wednesday night, consequent upon the discharging from the s.s. *Queenscliff*, which arrived about 8 p.m., of a cargo of red gum posts for Mr. J. Hoddinott. Four local men were engaged unloading, and they undoubtedly had a lively 2 hours' of it, there [*sic*] clothes when they knocked off feeling like as if they had just emerged from the bathroom. As one of them remarked, "It was worth three bob an hour instead of two!"

A revision court will be held at San Remo on Friday, the 6th day of August, at 2 o'clock p.m., to revise the Supplementary Lists for the Corinella and Phillip Island divisions of the Electoral District of Mornington.

(continues on Page 4)

Local and General News (continued from Page 3)

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 16th July 1897, page 2.

The Phillip Island Shire Council will meet on Saturday, the 24th inst. On the same date a revision court will be held at 12 o'clock noon.

The Council have not decided on a doctor yet for health officer for the shire. Dr. Jones, from Tasmania, is likely to be chosen but the council have not seen him yet to make complete arrangements.

Mr. W. Peck will preach on Sunday next at Kilcunda at 3 p.m. and Bass at 7.30 p.m.

As will be seen by our advertising columns, tenders are invited, returnable up to the 21st inst., for laying about 110 chains of tramway (labor only.) Specifications may be seen at the Woolamai sawmill and at the Bass Landing Store. Also tenders for 5000 sleepers close at 5 p.m. to-morrow at the Bass Landing Store.

The roads are in a very bad state after the late rains, several places on the hills being impassable. The road from Bass to Grantville, nearly to the cemetery, is one quagmire knee deep. The council should do something to this road before next winter.

The moon on Sunday night last was a wonderful spectacle. At half-past eight it was surrounded by a halo of unusual brilliancy, which is best described as a "ring rainbow." Five or six broad bands of vivid color, orange, green, blue, violet, and yellow, formed in closely drawn circles round the silver disc as [*sic*] centre. The colors were thrown into bold relief by a background of murky clouds which formed a striking contrast with the moon's brilliancy. The phenomenon persisted for fully five minutes.

A bachelors' ball will be held at the Queensferry Hall to night, when there is expected to be a good muster of lovers of the terpsichorean art.

Mr. Harry Hansen has not been very well for the last couple of weeks, consequent upon suffering from a bad cold. Although not confined to his bed, he is compelled, on account of the frightful cold weather we have been experiencing lately, to stay indoors, but his numerous friends will be glad to learn that he is on the fair road to recovery.

The Curator of the Estates of Deceased Persons has administered to the estates of Dr. Samuel Wilson, Bass, who died 24th June, £895 12s 7d; and Wm. Norquay, late of Dandenong, who died May 10th, 1893, at Greenwich East, York, England, £ 119 4s 4d.

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 23rd July 1897, page 2.

The Phillip Island Shire Council meeting will be held at the Shire Hall to-morrow. A revision court will be held at 12 noon.

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

In connection with the Wesleyan church services will be held on Sunday next as follows:—Kilcunda 11 a.m., and Glen Alvie 3 p.m., Mr. James H. Heaton; Milford 11 a.m., Mr. R. P. Peters; Sunnyside 3 p.m., Mr. John Kerr.

The Ven. Archdeacon Langley visited Cowes on Friday, the 16th inst., and preached in St. Phillip's Church. Owing to the inclemency of the weather there was only a moderate attendance. At the close of the service the Archdeacon administered the sacrament to about seven communicants.

Messrs. Gibson and Maplestone have secured the contract for erecting a mile and a half of fencing for Mr. Hoddinott, and made a start on Wednesday morning.

It is rumored that the Great Vicotria [*sic*] Company are about to purchase the rails from the old tram line between San Remo and Kilcunda from the Railway Department.

Improvements to Anderson's Hill are to be made at last. The timber is being carted for the culvert, and when finished the altered grade will make the traffic much easier.

The Railway Department have sent two representatives to measure off the tram line between San Remo and Kilcunda, and take stock of the quantities of rails and other material lying about. They will find great difficulty in giving the amount of material laying about, as a good portion of it is covered with sand.

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 30th July 1897, page 2.

The San Remo Court of Petty Sessions will be held at the court-house on Friday next, 6th August. The Electoral Revision Court will also be held for the Supplementary Lists for the division of Corinella and Phillip Island.

Dr. Jones has commenced practice in our district, and will reside at Bergin's Hotel, San Remo until his family arrives here. He has secured Mr. Pickersgill's house.

(continues on Page 5)

Local and General News (continued from Page 4)

The residents of San Remo and surrounding district are put to great inconvenience in having to clamber over the old coal pier to receive their parcels from the s.s. Genista, the jetty being greatly out of repair, and several planks are falling through with decay. When an accident happens it will be said "Who would of thought of it! Who's fault is it? Why did the steamer, after laying at the jetty so many years, suddenly have to remove immediately after landing her mails and passengers?"

Joseph Smith, painter, notifies through our advertising columns that he is prepared to execute all kinds of painting and paper-hanging work. Orders may be left at this office.

The Victorian Railways Department are, this coming season, about to issue, FREE OF CHARGE, a "Tourist Guide," and have sent Mr. H. E. Coffey, of the Inquiry Office, Spencer street, to collect material and information at the principal watering places of the colony; also to obtain advertisements from the several hotels and private boarding houses. Mr. Coffey left for Melbourne on Wednesday, having visited San Remo and Cowes, and was greatly impressed with the picturesque scenery of Western Port Bay.

At the revision court held on Saturday by the council the voters' list was submitted and examined. J. Menzies, J. Walton, and R. Campbell were placed on-the roll.

The State school at Dandenong has been closed for a week in consequence of the prevalence of diphtheria [sic].

A double drowning fatality occurred at Lake Guthridge, Sale, on Tuesday night last, when two boarders at the Gippsland College, named Robertson and Linton, were drowned. The lads procured a flat-bottomed dingy, and set forth on a sort of exploring expedition about Lake Guthridge, and after visiting a small island, on which they lighted a fire, were returning shorewards, a distance of some 200 yards, when their frail bark capsized. The boys were seen struggling in the water, and when assistance arrived on the spot Linton had sunk for the last time, but Robinson was got out alive, and although every effort was made to keep him alive he succumbed about midnight. A magisterial inquiry was held on Wednesday afternoon, when a verdict of accidentally drowned was returned.

Window Blinds for the summer, all sorts, at the Melbourne Furnishing Coy., Wonthaggi.

From the *Dandenong Journal*, Thursday 17 October 1935, Page 3: Matters of Great Interest

Car Mishaps

Almost inexplicable was the mishap which befel [sic] two cars which had contained business men who had set out on a fishing excursion to Corinella, on Sunday, October 6. It occurred on the Southern Highway, between Lang [sic] and The Gurdies. The first contained one passenger, Mr. V. Rutherford, and his car was lying in a drain at the roadside. The driver was semi-conscious, and suffering from shock. The second car hurried back to Lang Lang to summon Dr. Appleford. As the second was returning, and rounding Gay's corner, it swerved, and in striving to avoid a culvert the driving wheel was wrenched. The front wheels struck the culvert and were smashed, whilst the driver's finger was severely lacerated. Constable Orgill was convinced the mishap to Mr. Rutherford had been due to a fault in the steering gear. In his car had been two cocker spaniels. One was killed, when the other ran for miles, and was not captured until next day. Mr. Rutherford has recovered. The party occupying the other car returned by other means to Melbourne. Both left their cars for repairs at the local garage.

From the *Argus*, Friday 1 March 1901, page 9

Alleged Attempted Murder

Cranbourne, Thursday.

On Tuesday last Mr. J. B. Heward, state school teacher, of Lang Lang, had a narrow escape from being shot by a man named Ernest Wells, who, with some other men, had been employed by Mr. Heward doing some clearing. The men went to Mr. Heward's house for their wages, and Mr. Heward not being satisfied with the work, said he would have to reduce the price agreed upon. Wells became very abusive, and later in the day, it is alleged, returned with a loaded gun, and was in the act of shooting at him when a Miss Dowell, who is on a visit to Mrs. Heward, pluckily rushed in and prevented him. Early the same day Wells, it is stated, rushed at one of his mates, with whom he had had a few words, with a knife, and stabbed him through the hand. He was overpowered, and Constable Kennedy, of Grantville, and Mahr, of Loch, were telegraphed for. On their arrival they arrested Wells, and he was conveyed to the police station at Loch.

From the *Geelong Advertiser*, Friday 10 May 1844, page 2

The Route to Gippsland

(Re-paragraphed for the sake of clarity)

Mr Thomas, Protector of the Melbourne District, crossed the four inlets at Western Port, on Wednesday, and arrived in town on Thursday morning, from accompanying the Chief Protector, who is on the route to Gipps Land. The government party, consisting of one dray, a fine team of eight bullocks, six native police, under Serjeant Wyndrige, with three white men, had arrived as far as the Coal Mines without any particular hindrance, except a slight accident to the dray, which as a smith is among the party, was soon put to rights.

Mr T. describes the manner of proceeding as judicious; one native policeman with the serjeant, going before to direct the way, followed by two white men, one with a felling axe, and the other with a tomahawk to make a passage for the dray. On arriving at a creek all dismount and assist in cutting down trees and dragging logs to make a crossing place. Mr T. states that the Native police conducted themselves well, working hard at the crossing places: two of the native police attended upon the Chief Protector.

The track made by this dray and party is easy to be followed; Mr T. came back by himself, and followed the track the whole of the way.

On his return between Jamison's station and Bass River, he met Mr Hobson's party, which consists of two drays, besides the herd of cattle. Mr Hobson's party encamped at the Hurdy Gurdy Creek (native name Barbin Bullock), on Monday night, the 29th April, where the government party encamped on Monday previous, the 22nd, so that Mr Hobson is seven days behind the government party. Mr T. states that there is a good road over the ranges (between Bass River and Mr Chisholm's station), as fine and direct a road as any surveyor could have formed; the road is about three miles in length, running through a thickly timbered and scrubby country, so straight that it has the appearance of a continued grove, scarce a stump is to be seen, the trees cut down to form it being cut to the very base, and carefully put in the scrub, so that no obstruction intervenes.

On his making some enquiry touching this fine road, Mr Thomas was informed that it was made by some barkers; there being no

drays in this part of the country, they were forced to draw their bark on sledges to the coast, which accounts for the pains they had taken: the poor fellows, he learned, after making this road, paying for the bullocks they hired for the job, rations, &c., and working six months, were £15 out of pocket.

The creeks on Mr T.'s return were much fuller of water than when the government party passed through only a few days previous: Bass River was easily passed by the dray and horses, but on returning he had to swim his horse. Mr Hobson's party following the same track as the government party, will make the road so plain, that the ensuing season may expected to be a regular thoroughfare by Powlett's road to Gipps Land. — Patriot.

From the *Great Southern Star*, 17 November 1914, page 2.

Inverloch Proposed Water Supply

Pipe Scheme From Kongwak Reservoir, Wonthaggi

The difficulty of obtaining water at Inverloch in the summer months induced the residents to approach the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission through the Hon. J. E. Mackey with the object of obtaining a permanent service from the reservoir that served Wonthaggi. The following report has been forwarded to us by the Member for Gippsland West from Mr Wm. Cattanach, Commissioner of Water Supply, Melbourne:—

With reference to inquiry of Mr E. Halford, per the Hon. J. E. Mackey, M.P., as to the prospect and likely cost of a service for Inverloch from the Kongwak reservoir, the following is furnished:—Inverloch, on Anderson's Inlet, in the census of 1911 had a population of 193. Drawing from the 12-inch main from the reservoir to Wonthaggi, the shortest pipe line to Inverloch would be 7 miles, along the Dalyston and Inverloch road. The available levels show that there would need to be a deep cutting about 2 miles from the township to convey the water there by pipe. Detailed surveys would be required. The cost of a suitable economical scheme would be many thousand pounds; and the rating many shillings in the pound. The population and rateable value of Inverloch being small, and the length of the pipe main great, the cost and annual charges for a supply appear to be prohibitive under present conditions.

From the *Lang Lang Guardian*, 13 December 1916, page 2.

Lang Lang Police Court

Note: speech marks as per original.

Monday — Before Messrs Cogle (Chairman), and Henderson, Js.P.

Charge of Forgery

Constable Orgill v. Reginald Atkinson, charged with forging and uttering a cheque for £5 12s at Nyora between the 22nd and 29th October. Superintendent Fowler prosecuted, and Mr Joske appeared for accused.

William Puncher, mail carrier, Poowong (whose signature had been forged) said he had known accused for twelve months. The signature on the cheque (produced) had a slight resemblance to his, but was not his signature. He did not authorise the accused to write out cheque.

To Mr Joske.—Had known accused for twelve months as an honest man.

Christina Davis, wife of the licensee of the Nyora Hotel, said she had known accused for some months. On the afternoon of 28th October he came to the hotel, and asked her to cash the cheque (produced), which she did, giving him £5 12s. The accused was favorably known to her.

Joseph T. Davis, licensee of the Nyora Hotel, deposed that on the 28th October his wife handed him a cheque, and he handed it back to her to cash it. He banked the cheque in the ordinary course at the branch of the Colonial Bank, Loch.

Peter James Biggall, clerk in the employ of Colonial Bank, Loch, said that last witness had an account at his bank in October last. The cheque passed through the bank on 1st November, and in due course was forwarded to the Union Bank, Loch, through the exchange.

Stanley G. Veitch, accountant at Union Bank, Loch, gave evidence that Wm. Puncher was a customer of the bank's in October and November. The cheque was received and paid on the 1st November. The signature to the cheque resembled Puncher's signature, and passed as his signature.

To Mr Joske: The money was paid back to the bank.

Constable Orgill said: I have known accused off and on for twelve months. On the 1st December I was at Nyora railway station, and saw accused at about 8 45 a.m. in the carriage at the Wonthaggi end of the train. I had a conversation with accused, and said to him, 'You cashed a cheque of W. Puncher's at Nyora on 28th October last.

Where did you get that cheque from? He said, 'I got it from Chummy Rhodes.' I said, 'I want you to come to Loch with me today, and give me a full statement about it.' He said, 'All right.' At Loch station he made a statement which he signed. (Statement read). After he had made the statement I had a further conversation with him. I said I was going to Poowong, and at my request he wrote a letter to W. Puncher in reference to the cheque, (Letter read). I said to defendant, 'You stated in your first statement to me that you got this cheque from Chummy Rhodes on 25th October. It is dated the 27th October, and could not be a good cheque. He said, 'It is a postdated cheque.' I said, 'It is an easy matter to get Rhodes. You did write the cheque, and what is more I can prove it.' I then produced the cheque, and compared it with his writing. I said, 'Look at that W' and pointed out other peculiarities in the writing. I said, 'The same man wrote the two, and you wrote the letter. Look, lad, what about the truth?' He said, 'I wrote it.' He then made another statement (read) to the effect that he was in W. Puncher's room on 23rd October, and saw a cheque, and wrote it out. It was his intention to go to Melbourne and get married.

To Mr Joske: Mr Flynn, blacksmith, said accused was the best man he ever had.

After discussion the charge was altered to one of endeavoring to impose by false representation in writing with a view to obtaining money.

Accused pleaded guilty, and was fined £10, in default two months' imprisonment. Costs £4 17s 3d.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, Friday 27 March 1903, page 2.

Sad Accident

An accident occurred a few days ago at Kooweerup to three women and three children named, Mrs Cheury, Mrs Dempster and Mrs Sykes and their three children. Mrs Dempster who was driving alongside the Kooweerup canal, lost her balance and was thrown to the bottom of the buggy, losing the reins. Mrs Sykes made a grab for them and only caught one, pulled the horse off the *[unclear words]*. Mrs Cheury rolled into the canal. Mrs Sykes was thrown over the front and one of the children under the horse's feet, where it was shockingly injured, the two others were uninjured. Mrs Sykes' child lingered until Tuesday when she died.

And now A Word From Our (retro) Sponsor...

Forget going to the pictures or dinner with friends tonight. Instead sit down in front of the radio at 9.15 for another enthralling episode on 3AR of the documentary series on the vanished towns of Australia. Tonight's episode deals with Grantville – gateway to the Bass Valley and south-west Gippsland – which thrived in the late 19th century then died.

At it's height it is said to have boasted a hotel on each corner, two general stores, a post and telegraph office, police station, court, a butcher, baker, blacksmith and painter, a grand hall for grand entertainments, and was at the centre of the of Western Port trading hub. But no more. Today there is almost nothing there: a blink-and-you'll-miss-it blur along the Bass Highway on the way to more important locations such as Glen Forbes and Ryanston.

And don't forget the other fine programs available on Radio 3AR, such as the ever popular *Bill Belcher's Band Bazaar*, *In Quires and Places Where They Sing*, *Folk Dancing*, *Agricultural Talk*, *French for Schools*, *Religion in Life* and the *Country Women's Session*.

We thank Radio 3AR – 620 on the radio dial – for (retro) sponsoring this edition of *The Western Port Times*.

PICK of the AIR

The story of Grantville, Victoria, will be told in the feature series "Ghost Towns of Australia" at 9.15 tonight, through 3AR.

by Dennis Matthews. 5.15.—AW: Playmates of Stamina. 5.30.—UZ: Hospital Session. DB: Rod Craig. AW: Dinner Music. 5.40.—LO: Songs of South America. 5.30.—DB: All Sports. 6.0.—AR: Clive Amadio Half-

From the *Argus*, Friday 7th October 1955, page 17.

*

*

*

BLUEY and SOL

Time and Place For Everything !



From the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* and *Lang Lang Guardian*, 17th December 1936

BLUEY and SOL

Cheap! --- At Half the Price !



From the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* and *Lang Lang Guardian*, 7th January 1937

Updating Chapter 11: The Shire

by Geoff Guilfoyle

In Chapter 11 of *100 Years of History* (Shire of Bass, 1974), Joseph White actually does a (mostly) reasonable job (for 1974) in dealing with the initial years of the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai and some of its later ins-and-outs, though, naturally enough, he misses much and goes into little detail. Fifty years on there is considerably more information available (or, more accurately, accessible) on this admittedly obscure part of the shire's history. It is presented here along with, in *bold italics*, White's original text.

After the Shire of Phillip Island was formed the six councillors carried on; the new riding of Woolamai was not represented in the council until elections were held in August 1875 when B. Kennedy and A. Stewart took their seats as new councillors.

Polling day was 12 August 1875 with the candidates being David B. Kennedy, Stewart Sloss, Alexander Stewart and Thomas Smith. Solomon West was the Returning Officer. Oddly, there was a second, more limited poll on Monday 8 November, with Hugh Anderson and Mark Turnbull standing. Anderson won 107 to 97 votes. Given that the August election was to fill ordinary annual vacancies, the November poll has to have been a by-election or special poll. As no sitting or newly elected councillor seems to have quit, this second reason seems correct.¹

A dispute that had been simmering for some time between Cr. West and Cr. Richardson seemed to come to a head. Cr. Richardson objected to Cr. West being president saying that he was illegally elected and left the room in protest. He was followed by Cr. Kennedy and Cr. Stewart. This walkout occurred at a council meeting on the 21st August 1875. It is not clear from the old council minutes why it was thought the president was elected illegally, but at one stage Cr. West resigned as president then was re-nominated again together with Cr. Kennedy. The voting being equal, neither was elected and the deadlock continued. It was not resolved until the 14th August 1876.

This is a rare instance of White informing the reader of the primary source being used, and an even rarer instance of him admitting he isn't sure as to the 'why' at the core of events. This is understandable as the minutes of the council meetings will offer little insight to what is going on behind the scenes, off-camera, so to speak. At least White had the minutes of meeting for 1875. Fifty years on and they seem to have vanished into the recycle bin of history along with much other material of historic interest.

During this period the secretary called the meetings when due, if all the councillors attended,

the dissenting councillors would then walk out and leave no quorum. No council business was transacted or accounts paid for the 12 months, towards the end of this interval seven new councillors were elected, G. Crump, Stewart Sloss, Wm. Sunderland, Joseph Fowler, Thomas Smith, Mark Turnbull and John Kidd. At a special meeting on the 14th. August 1876, Cr. Turnbull was elected president: the deadlock was ended and normal business was resumed.

The origin of the dispute between Richardson and West is possibly found buried in *News of the Day in the Age* (24 February 1876). It is worth quoting in full. A similar story also appeared in the *Argus* (24 February 1876, page 5).

A deputation consisting of the president and two members of the Shire of Phillip Island waited on the Commissioner of Roads and Railways yesterday, for the purpose of asking for some relief from a difficulty in which they are placed. The president explained that the council consisted of six members, three of whom, those representing the territory on the main-land, would not meet, owing to certain real or fancied grievances under which they labored. They desired the shire office removed from Cowes to the Bluff, and to have some other arrangements carried out, which were objected to by the rest of the council. Not being able to carry their desires into effect, they refused to meet, and the consequence was a municipal deadlock. It was suggested that the shire should be divided into three ridings, each riding to return three members. Those councillors present were willing to resign if the others would do likewise, and submit the whole question to the ratepayers. If this compromise were not agreed to, the subject would have to stand in abeyance until the local elections. Mr. Jones agreed to direct a division of the shire into three ridings, and expressed a hope that when this was done the council would resign in a body, and settle the difficulty by fresh elections.

This was not a new idea. In late January a petition from ratepayers of the shire calling for

(continues on Page 10)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 9)

a split into three ridings (Corinella, Woolamai, Phillip Island) had been presented and the Minister may have been taking his cue from it. The subdivision was put into effect on 17 March 1876.²

White is vague as to when the election returning the new councillors he lists was held. The answer is the usual month, August, specifically the 10th, with most of the 1875 councillors not standing. The subdivision and election brought peace to the council...for a time. Turnbull was indeed elected president at a special meeting, as stated by White. The 23 December 1876 meeting of the council consisted of Turnbull, Crump, Fowler, Kidd, West, Stewart, Smith, and Sunderland. The 9th councillor, Stewart Sloss, had resigned and a by-election was arranged for the Corinella Riding with Crump as returning officer.³

Given that the location of the meeting place of the council was the main issue of contention in 1875, relocating from Cowes to Griffith's Point (San Remo) was a priority. This raises the obvious question: why tiny, insignificant Griffith's Point? Why not Bass or Kilcunda? Simple. Whether coming from Bridge Creek, Grantville or Cowes, getting to Griffith's Point inconvenienced most councillors equally.

The exact course of events is hard to work out, and it depends on whether the shire offices (where the Secretary worked and the records were kept) and the shire hall (the actual monthly meeting place) were separate locations. A building was secured and in use as the shire office by 1st January 1877, and it presumably doubled as a temporary meeting place for the council. Unless, of course, the council still continued to meet at Cowes until a new hall was erected at Griffith's Point. This is unlikely as it wasn't until mid-1877 that a grant of one acre was requested and secured from the government for a shire hall. Calls for tenders went out for the erection of the building in November and December with George Coates being the winning bidder at £325 17s. 6d.⁴

And not a moment too soon as...

An alarming fire occurred at Griffith's Point on November 6th, resulting in the total destruction of Mr. Smith's boot shop and dwelling house, the Shire Office, and Mr. Smith's hotel. At eleven o'clock a.m. smoke was observed issuing from the roof by Mrs. Smith, who quickly gave the alarm. It was quickly responded to by five or six men from the coal

jetty, who used their utmost endeavours to stop the progress of the flames as they burst from the roof by throwing water on them, but, seeing that their exertions were of no avail, they turned their attention to the furniture and effects, which they succeeded in saving with very little loss. The Shire Secretary was present, and managed to save all the papers, books, and furniture belonging to the Shire Council... (South Bourke and Mornington Journal, 14 November 1877, page 2: Local Intelligence).

At some stage in 1878 a new shire office for the Secretary, Clerk of Works and the shire records was acquired and the new shire hall constructed. It seems to have been opened with as much fanfare as the Grantville pier later was, in other words, none. Back to Joseph White...

Cr. Kennedy was to figure in another dispute during a council meeting on the 24th March 1877 when Cr. West objected to a name Cr. Kennedy used when referring to him and demanded an apology. The meeting was adjourned for a period while other councillors tried to calm the angry councillors. The meeting resumed and a fracas between the two councillors began. The meeting was again adjourned, and whatever the president said to the two men must have had some effect for there was never any disturbances of this nature again.

There was no council meeting on 24 March 1877. It was on Saturday 31 March. At this time Mark Turnbull was Shire President, not Solomon West. Nothing untoward is recorded as occurring.⁵

However, at the January 1877 meeting there was a bit of a stir according to the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*:

...the meeting was a very protracted one, owing to Councillor Fowler raising objections to Mr. Norton dictating to the Council about the Bathing ground at Cowes. Councillor Fowler took a stand in this matter that all well-wishers of the Council must agree with; however, he was overruled, but if I understood Councillor Fowler, his objections did not go against the motion as proposed by Councillor West, but on the principle that the Council is well able to transact any business brought before them without being dictated to by the above-mentioned person. (24 January 1877: Bass District).

The incident White is referring to in regard to Kennedy took place over two council meetings in 1878, not 1877: 16 February and 27 March. White appears to have missed

(continues on Page 11)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 10)

the first, noticed the second and wrote down the wrong year. (Given that *100 Years of History* is an unedited first draft, there is a lot of this). According to the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*:

The President here left the room in consequence of some remarks from Councillor Kennedy, and was recalled by the Council, and Councillor Sunderland moved, seconded by Councillor Monk, that Councillor Kennedy's words be taken down, viz., "That he (Councillor Kennedy) would take his seat and listen to the President's double-faced ruling"—Carried. Councillor Kennedy was then asked to withdraw the expression and apologise to the Council, which was accordingly done, and the Council then adjourned for fifteen minutes. (20 February 1878, page 3).

Presumably someone took Kennedy aside and told him to, "Cool it, Bro," (or the 1870s equivalent) for when the Council resumed there was no further problem – until the next meeting, when, as reported in the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*...

At this stage Councillor Kennedy diversified the proceedings by calling Councillor Sunderland a "lap-dog." The President directed him to withdraw the expression, also the Secretary to take down the words used in reference to himself, viz., that "he (Councillor Kennedy) has listened to Mr. West ruling on the bench that day." (27 March 1878, page 3).

"Double-faced ruling" and "lap-dog" may sound mild in the 21st century, with much, much worse routinely said (think of public remarks about Donald Trump or Pauline Hanson, for instance). They took personal honour and decorum more seriously in those days. This is not the last time D. B. Kennedy will disrupt proceedings, the next occasion having more serious consequences than slighted honour. But that's a story for another day.

At one time during 1885 Cr. A. Stewart lost his seat on the council. He had been invited to go and inspect the timber forests in Borneo, and before leaving he failed to obtain leave of absence. Councillors who did not attend meetings could have their seat declared vacant. This happened, and a by-election was held and Isaac Delaney was elected. The day he took his seat ex. Cr. Stewart attended, and after informing the council of his opinion of their action he left the meeting.

This is a fascinating and complicated story but one for a future edition of *The Western*

Port Times. Joseph White continues...

Arguments among councillors concerning distances travelled to the shire hall at San Remo for meetings led to an unusual idea being adopted. It was an attempt to try and satisfy everybody but in the end nobody was satisfied. The proposal adopted was that the council meet in the different halls in the shire or "went on safari". The scheme started in the Kilcunda hall when a council meeting was held on 17th February 1913 and continued there until June 1916. The meetings then shifted back to the shire hall at San Remo from July 1916 to November 1916, then back to the Kilcunda hall until July 1917. From 1917 to 25th January 1923 the council held meetings at Dalyston 12, Kilcunda 11, Bass 3, Cowes 3 and San Remo 3 before finally returning to the shire hall at San Remo. The Shire Secretary had objected to carrying the shire books "all over the country". The councillors made sure of their meals while on "safari" as a caterer had to be appointed who travelled with his pots and pans wherever the council went. The matter of a site for council chambers was another bone of contention within the council and among ratepayers. Ratepayers preferred to have their rates spent on roads and necessary works while councillors were just as sure that offices that reflected the prosperity of the district should be built. When any suggestion was made in the council concerning this matter some hall committees in the shire would vie with each other in attempting to attract council opinion in their favour. In 1896 a petition signed by 140 ratepayers was presented by Cr. Grout at the council meeting. The ratepayers complained that with the shire hall being at one end of the shire it was impossible for a large number of ratepayers to make known their wants to the council. The site suggested was Bass. Cr. McFee of Phillip Island opposed the idea, as the Island councillors had to come over by boat to San Remo and if the council meetings were held at Bass he and others would have to hire a buggy and pair to get to Bass. The petition was not agreed upon.

In regard to the petition and McFee's response, for once we know the source White uses but, of course, being Joseph White, doesn't mention — the *Great Southern Advocate*:

At the last meeting of the Council of the Shire of Phillip Island a petition, signed by about 140 ratepayers and presented by Cr. Grout, was read asking that a more central place be found to hold the meetings in, as San Remo was at one end of the Shire and this fact prevented a large number of rate payers from personally making known their

(continues on Page 12)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 11)

wants to the Council. The Bass township was suggested as being more central...

Cr. McFee rose to oppose the motion. Many years ago when the question of the site was considered, it was decided that San Remo was the most suitable place for Councillors. It was far more inconvenient and difficult for the Phillip Island Councillors to come across the water than it was for the Corinella Councillors to ride 20 miles. What about the Island Councillors travelling to the Bass? We have to come across the channel anyway, and would then have to get a buggy, and when we got back perhaps have to stay 4 or 5 hours at San Remo if it was too rough to cross. He therefore thought San Remo the most convenient place to hold the meetings. (7 May 1896, page 3).

There was an attempt in April 1902 by Councillor Bowman to get Council meetings held six months of the year at Bass and the other half at San Remo. It failed. He tried again the following year and achieved a compromise solution in that two meetings would be held each year at Bass, one in June and one in August. In other words, mid-winter.⁶

The issue flared up again in 1914, the railway now entering the calculation with stations at Woodleigh, Kernot, Almurta, Glen Forbes, Woolamai, Anderson, Kilcunda and Dalyston. Why it took so long after the opening of the railway is unknown. White seems to be correct in his belief that some scheme was in effect to swap meetings between Kilcunda and San Remo. The details are another matter.

Much debate ensued. With the Woolamai and Corinella Riding vote doubling that of the Island, the matter should have ended with the meeting placed moved further inland. Instead local political considerations prevailed; there was a split in the vote, and nothing was resolved. Stalemate.⁷

Six months later and the Reverend H. E. Potter entered the debate, pointing out that under the council's constitution the matter could not be decided without a mandate from the ratepayers. Nothing seems to have come of this. Either Potter's interpretation of the constitution was in error or the councillors simply interpreted it as advisory and not compulsory. Something of a competition began among the townships with railway stations – Dalyston, Kilcunda and Kernot – to offer up their halls as meeting places. The Kilcunda bid even came with use of a piano.⁸

And then there is this offer of a hall from the last place anyone was considering:

Sir,—I see there are several halls now being offered to the Council of the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai at a price by the committees and secretaries of same. Whatever right they have to sell them, and they mostly have the “monkey” on them for more or less. Well, I will be pleased to have an offer for the Grantville Hall, and as it is out of debt, it is a better offer. What is more, the Island councillors can, by motor boat, land at the door, and go when the meetings are over, without minding the trains. As to the mainland men they won't be much loss if they never come to the meetings at all.—Yours, etc., A Trustee.⁹

In early October 1918 it was proposed to house the Shire secretary (and books, records, etc.) in a temporary office at Dalyston. This was defeated; however, on 25 October a breakthrough occurred. The temporary housing of the secretary at Dalyston was approved and the shire hall fixed permanently at Kilcunda, the vote being 7-4 in both cases.¹⁰

And that ended the matter of the location of the Council Hall. It never came up again (until, of course, it invariably did).

Confusingly, Joseph White also talks about the Shire halls in Chapter 8: The Shire Offices (page 16), and does a decent job of it (for 1974). I already covered much of it in my commentary, which raises the question of why the section in Chapter 11 dealing with the peripatetic shire hall and accompanying council wasn't placed here, all the more so as *100 Years of History* is structured thematically not chronologically. Oh, yeah, I forgot: unedited first draft.

Back to Joseph White and Chapter 11...

During 1890 the council was involved in a law suit with a ratepayer. This ratepayer sustained injuries when the wheel of the vehicle he was driving went through a hole in a bridge. The ratepayer, Mr. Amery was thrown out and injured to such an extent that £3,000 was claimed from the council. To settle the matter privately the council offered £75 in compensation. After protracted legal litigation the council won the case much to the relief of the riding councillors. While the case was proceeding Cr. Anderson had brought forward a resolution that the expenses of any legal action were to be paid out of the ridings fund concerned, probably in an effort to confine expenses that would occur if a legal matter in which the council was involved was unsuccessful.

This is another case of Mr. White not being
(continues on Page 13)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 12)

able to read his own notes, misspelling Emery as Amery. He also gets some of the details wrong. The lack of dates is also puzzling as he still seems to be using the minutes of meeting of the council.

On 8 July 1890, the horse Isaac W. Emery was riding along the San Remo road stumbled and fell through a culvert. Emery sustained severe injuries, including broken ribs. Emery blamed the council for allowing the culvert to fall into disrepair, a plausible claim given the Shire's chronic lack of funds and constant complaints it received about the state of the roads and drains. The council denied the allegation, suggesting that Emery knew the road well and failed to exercise ordinary care. The jury of six failed to reach a decision and were discharged. A second trial took place in September, resulting in a victory for the council. A year later Emery's application for a new trial was dismissed with costs.¹¹

Mr. Amery had probably been influenced by some successful claims on the council for damages, one in particular where a horse put its hoof through a hole in a bridge and had to be destroyed. The council paid part of the claim.

Joseph White probably has the Fisher case in mind. In May 1888, Robert Fisher sued the council over the loss of his horse whilst crossing the decrepit Powlett River bridge. Fisher won compensation despite, in the opinion of the council's solicitor H. H. Budd, "the verdict being against the evidence." Of course, he would think that, wouldn't he.¹²

In another instance R. Casey claimed £3 for loss of time through a bullock being injured at a culvert — £1-10-0 was offered and the claim settled.

This was in June 1890, about a month before Emery's claim.¹³

Mr. Amery's case set a precedent as no other claims of these types were considered by councillors.

White now moves on to other matters...

It may not be generally known that it was a council responsibility to see that no unseemly behaviour occurred on the public beaches particularly at San Remo and Cowes. At Cowes, public baths were built during 1891 where members of each sex could bathe at certain times, as no mixed bathing was allowed. So rigidly were these regulations enforced that permission had to be obtained from the police for men to enter the baths to go to the assistance of a woman bather in danger of drowning. West Rocks at Cowes was set aside for ladies' bathing and West Rocks for men. Matters seemed to get

out of hand when by-law No.XI was found necessary to be introduced in 1910.* The public were not allowed to bathe in the sea for a distance of ½ mile of each side of the baths unless clothed in a neck to knee costume of close texture, the penalty for offending if caught was £10. At San Remo, part of one beach was reserved for ladies' bathing only. A hut donated by a Mr. Morey, who owned the Kilcunda Coal mine workings, was erected by the council for use as a bathing box.

In December 1890, the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai decided to borrow £5,000 for public works in the district. Of this £300 was allocated to building public baths at San Remo and a similar amount for baths at Cowes. On 17 September 1891 tenders were sought for the construction of baths at Cowes. This was followed at the end of October 1891 by a similar call for the baths at San Remo. While the baths at Cowes seem to have been completed by December, with a bathing house added in September or October 1892, there was initially no response for the San Remo baths so the tender was re-advertised and the baths weren't in use until the following year.¹⁴

After that the council lost interest in the baths at both locations which seem to have received only intermittent attention. Money was the main problem. The council had little of it.

From Thos. Bergin, that the San Remo baths require repairing.—On motion of Crs. Anderson and Gunn, to be informed no funds available. (Great Southern Advocate, 17 October 1895, page 3: Phillip Island Shire).

And...

A petition was received, signed by a number of ratepayers, re San Remo Baths.—Cr. Anderson moved that the petitioners be informed that there are no funds available. (The San Remo Times, 1 January 1897, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council).

The residents of San Remo became so exasperated at council inattention that in November 1898, as reported in *The San Remo Times*, they...

It is the intention of the San Remo residents to hold a Concert and Ball early next month; the proceeds are for the purpose of repairing the baths at San Remo as they have been sadly out of repair for considerable time. (18

(continues on Page 14)

* White, as usual, doesn't provide the source he is using, but you'll find By-law XI in the *Victorian Government Gazette* No.25, 23 February 1910, page 1559. He does, however, get the details right.

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 13)

November 1898, page 2: Local and General News).

Both sites were leased from the Lands Department, the San Remo site at £1 10s in 1896. The difference between the locations seems to be that a fee for use was charged at Cowes while free public access was maintained at San Remo. In regard to Cowes, the council largely solved the problem of day to day management by, from 1896, leasing the baths to G. Finley (and his successors), hence the fee for use. This was still the case 20 years later, and likely remained so for the remaining life of the baths, which wasn't long as the once unthinkable – mixed bathing – became the norm after WWI.¹⁵

The doom of the San Remo baths was, oddly enough, a lack of water...

*Cr. O'Meara moved and Cr. Anderson seconded, that the residents of San Remo be allowed to take the stakes, under the Clerk of Works' instructions, from the San Remo baths, as it is filled up and dry at low water, and it was thought if the stakes were removed, it would wash the sand away...*¹⁶

And...

*Have inspected the baths, San Remo, which are quite silted up with sand. The whole beach from the coal jetty corner for ¼ mile has altered during the last few years, and caused the silting up of the baths. I cannot advise the expenditure of any money in repairs until the foreshore alters.*¹⁷

And that appears to be the end of the San Remo baths: silted up and abandoned.

There isn't much more to say on the baths, other than to point out another, albeit amusing, Joseph White proof-reading error (not that there was any proof-reading done on *100 Years Of History*). The error? Bathing was so rigidly segregated that at Cowes *West Rocks* was set aside exclusively for women and *West Rocks* was chosen for men. No wonder matters got out of hand!

White now moves to postal matters and so shall we...

Postal and telegraph services were the subject of many petitions from ratepayers soon after the shire was formed. Though not in any way responsible for these services the council was expected to use whatever influence it possessed to have improvements made. Letters bearing the council seal were sent to the P.M.G. Department on many occasions. It was not until the end of 1888 that mail services were increased to three times per week instead of twice. Not until the end

of 1888 was a daily mail service granted, coming from Tooradin to Bass, Kilcunda and San Remo.

I have no idea how Joseph White reached his conclusions in regard to the times per week mail was delivered. I believe (and I may be mistaken in this) that the complete or nearly so collection of the *Victorian Government Gazette* was available in the 1970s. Though he rarely provides the issue number and even less often an actual date or hint that he's using it, the VGG is clearly one of White's main primary sources. Yet he doesn't appear to be employing it here, nor the council minutes of meeting (which likely wouldn't mention it).

From the *Victorian Government Gazette* we learn the following. In August 1877, Jonathan Murphy Junior was awarded the contract to deliver the mail **two** days a week to and from Cranbourne and the Bass, by way of Tooradin, Grantville, Queensferry and Corinella. It was probably done along the Western Port Road (Main Coast Road) by pack horse. In late 1876 George Usher established a Cobb & Co. coach service from Dandenong to Grantville. It ran **three** times a week. What comes next is entirely predictable, unless you are Joseph White who seems to have missed it despite writing about it in Chapter 6A. The mail contract in July 1878 – ten years before White would have it – went to George Usher, delivering to the Bass, by way of Tooradin, Lang Lang, Corinella, Grantville and Queensferry **three** days a week which, likely not a coincidence, is the same number of times the coach made the trip to Grantville each week. Also, note that “to the Bass” means the township of Bass (aka Woolamai).¹⁸

In the sentence after stating the increase in the mail service from twice to thrice White claims, “Not until the end of 1888 was a daily mail service granted, coming from Tooradin to Bass, Kilcunda and San Remo.” It isn't clear what he means. He seems to be saying that Bass, Kilcunda and San Remo had a daily mail service from this time (but not Grantville or Queensferry?). Given that the mail reached Grantville (and thence Bass) by coach three days a week and San Remo by steamer three days a week, this scenario is unlikely. So what was the situation towards the end of 1888 in regard to Kilcunda and Griffith's Point?

From the *Victorian Government Gazette*... At the end of June 1888, tenders were let as follows: R. Topping and R. Gutheridge won

(continues on Page 15)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 14)

the contract to deliver mails by steamer to Hastings and Newhaven via Cowes and Griffith's Point three days a week. Moving along the coast, Robert Fisher took the mails to and from Griffith's Point and Tarwin Lower via Kilcunda and Anderson's Inlet three days a week. The only daily mail service was to and from the Griffith's Point post office and the pier (and the ferry).¹⁹

About the same time a deputation of the president, Cr. Cleeland and Cr. McFee waited on the Director of Postal Services and asked that postal facilities be granted.

Granted for where? And what facilities? I'm pretty certain that in 1888 there were post offices all over the shire. And hang on a moment. "A deputation of the president, Cr. Cleeland and Cr. McFee..." John Cleeland served as a councillor from roughly mid-1886 to mid-1889 and was never president, and McFee started his long (if interrupted) tenure in late 1888. He was president a few times, his first stint from the end of September 1896 to the end of September 1897.

To have the telephone brought to Bass the council had to contribute £5 per year for 5 years.

Although the telephone was certainly around in 1888, it wasn't anywhere around Bass. But White doesn't say it is 1888. It is a throwaway sentence tacked onto the end of one to which it has no relationship. If White is talking *telegraph* and not *telephone* then 1888 (and Cleeland) makes some sense (though wrong), and if *telephone*, then 1918 (and McFee) makes more sense. After all, 1918 was the year...

The silence cabinet for the telephone at Bass which was applied for through the Central Office, has been erected. (Farmers' Advocate, 26 April 1918, page 4: Bass).

This sounds very much what today would be called a telephone booth. It says *the telephone*, implying only one. A public phone at the general store or outside the hall, perhaps (though 1918 seems a little early).

It is probably best that readers just ignore the paragraphs in Chapter 11 dealing with the mail. Have I mentioned that *100 Years of History* is clearly an unedited 1st draft?

Still not convinced? Well, remember how I chided White for having matters regarding the shire hall in two chapters (8 and 11), pointing out how narratively it would serve the story better to combine them. Well, guess what he does with the discussion on the mail and telegraph.

Yep. This matter is also covered in *Chapter*

26: Items Of Shire Postal History. And, yes, in the interest of thoroughness I'll have a brief look at the relevant bit and leave the rest for another time. (Don't hold your breath waiting).

From Chapter 26...

The mail was conveyed to and from Cranbourne and the Bass by way of Lang Lang, Corinella, Tooradin, Grantville and Queensferry. The service operated twice weekly and mail was conveyed on horse back over the 55 mile route...

It isn't clear what year White is talking about, but it seems from the previous paragraph in Chapter 26 discussing the Grantville post office to be 1875. So far so good, but the the concluding sentence of the paragraph, coming directly after *55 mile route* is:

One of the contractors in 1860 was the firm of Hood and Greenfield who owned property in the Cranbourne area.

Thus White might be referring to 1860. Well, he does get the right people. According to the VGG No.103, 21 August 1860, Hood and Greenfield did win the contract, receiving £51 14s. 6p. for delivering the mail **once** a week from Cranbourne and Corinella via Yallock (Lang Lang). Grantville, Queensferry and Tooradin did not yet exist.

Other contractors who carried the mail over the same route were Patrick O'Heare, and John Murphy, the contract price being £88-17-6.

Again, the year or years is uncertain as is the exact route, which varied over the decades. Joseph White can be maddeningly vague; understandable when writing in 1974 with few primary source references, less so when writing in 1974 and obviously using the *Victorian Government Gazette*.

For the record and taken from the VGG covering the 1860s and 1870s, some of the contractors over this period until the coach service took over in 1878 were William Evans (1863), John Murphy (1864-1865 & 1868), James Smethurst (1866), P. Murphy & J. Hennessy (1869-1870), P. D. Bowman (1871), Patrick Murphy (1873-1875) and John Murphy Junior (1876-1877). The £88-17-6 amount Joseph White presents is the 1877 contract figure.²⁰

Chapter 26 also resolves the telephone vs telegraph conundrum in Chapter 11:

During 1882 some complaints had been made to the council concerning the mail service. The support of the council was also sought in an endeavour to have the P.M.G. install a telegraph

(continues on Page 16)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 15)

service in the district.

The council convened a meeting of rate-payers in the Pier Hotel at San Remo on the 4th October 1882 at which representatives from Phillip Island, Bass, Kilcunda, Corinella, Grantville and Jeetho attended. Many ideas were put forward, but it was finally agreed that three delegates Cr. Norton, Cr. S. West and Cr. Turnbull should wait on the Postmaster-General to press their claims for improved mail services, and telegraphic communication.

Although I can not confirm the names of the members comprising it, a delegation was sent to meet the Minister...

A deputation from Port Phillip Island [sic], introduced by Mr. Gibb M.L.A., waited upon the Postmaster-General yesterday to ask for a daily mail service to Port Phillip Island [sic] and Griffith's Point... (Argus, 26 October 1882, page 10).

No mention of the telegraph or mail services elsewhere in the shire. And then there is this from the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*:

I believe that it was during the latter end of the year 1882 that a public meeting was held at Fraser's hotel, Griffith's, Point, to consider the question of telegraphic communication. It was resolved that a deputation wait on the Postmaster-General. The deputation was held, with the result that the matter would be favorably considered. On the 18th May 1883 a very strong deputation waited on the Postmaster-General with the result that sufficient money would be placed on the next estimates to carry out the work...(7 May 1884, page 2).

Note: Fraser's hotel at San Remo was the Pier Hotel, so it is clear that some manner of public meeting was held there in October 1882. It appears that it resulted in two delegations, one in October 1882 (mail) and the other in May 1883 (telegraph).

Continuing with Chapter 26: *As a result of the delegates' visit mail services were improved though not immediately...*

Sort of. Phillip Island got a six-day-a-week mail service in the early 1890s. Most other towns in the shire already enjoyed a three-day-a-week mail delivery/pick up, so there was no change needed there, and the proposed (by the denizens of Cowes) telegraph line to Melbourne via Hastings never came about.

But, as Joseph White continues:

...and telegraphic communication with Cranbourne and the main towns of the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai was made in

1885.

Correct. The *Victorian Government Gazette* No.71, 27 June 1884, page 1961 lists Francis Irving winning the contract for the building of the telegraph from Cranbourne to Cowes at the cost of £1481 12s. The same publication in its No. 28, 13 March 1885 edition (page 765) announces the opening of public telegraph offices at Griffith's Point and Grantville.

The *Leader*, via John Tulloch, in its 31 January 1885 edition (page 12) reports on the setting up of the Grantville office:

As a farther instance of progress we are to have telegraphic communication directly with the metropolis, Mr. J. T. Paul having erected premises at Grantville. The same gentleman has also in a very spirited manner undertaken to pay the operator, as the department did not consider the business likely to be transacted would be sufficient for the Government to bear the expense. The office is well situated, as Grantville is the central outlet for a large and thickly settled district.

The 1888 Report Upon The Affairs of The Post Office And Telegraph Department For The Year, records that in 1887 the Grantville Post office sent 1,581 and received 1,244 telegrams earning £58-7-6, which compares favorably to the resort town of Cowes (1,942/1,308/£74-1-1) and easily beats the slightly less trendy Griffith's Point (1,263/1,068/£40-6-9). So, good call, Mr. Paul.

The rest of Chapter 26 is a motley medley of information: good in parts, usually when White deals with matters closer to his own time and should be ignored when he's talking about the 19th century.

Back to Chapter 11...

The approach of rabbits towards the shire was another matter that the shire was expected to deal with. In 1888 the rabbit had approached as far as Tooradin. Council discussed the matter and offered a reward of £15 for a conviction against persons letting rabbits loose in the Woolamai riding.

Fortunately, no one in the shire needed to worry as, according to the President of the Cranbourne Shire Council in January 1890...

...The President said that complaints had been made by the Phillip Island Council of the spread of rabbits at Tooradin, and a Government Inspector had been sent down to report on the matter. He thought it bad taste on the part of Phillip Island Council to communicate with the Department before writing to this Council. In any case the rabbits were not likely to spread into that Shire, "as the roads

(continues on Page 17)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 16)

were in such an abominable state that the rabbits would be drowned before they had got far into Phillip Island territory; that Council had been in existence sixteen years, and their roads were still in a disgracefully crude state."²¹

He was half-right. The roads were in a deplorable state and remain so, according to some, to this day. The excuse of the council at the time was lack of money. This probably remains the default excuse today. As for the rabbits...somehow enough of them managed to survive the roads – they breed like rabbits, after all – and went on to infest all areas of the shire soon after.

Police in the exercise of their duty have to cope with many strange situations. Constable Taylor in 1882 informed the council that he had inspected the bridge at Bass and found that a Mr. Smith had erected a stable underneath, immunity was claimed because he was in possession of a "miner's-right".

Just why anyone would build a stable under a bridge is problematic; why they would do so under a short wooden bridge at Bass, in those days a river noted for flooding, makes no sense. But stranger things have happened in the shire, so I'll give this to White, despite neither bridge nor stables being mentioned at the 18 February 1882 Council meeting, just the order to see the building removed at council expense.²²

The same constable while stationed at San Remo was yearly appointed Inspector of Slaughterhouses for the shire at a fee of £5. It was said that the Constable's method of determining whether a slaughterhouse was up to the required standard was by the odour that came from the house. Slaughtering licences were easily obtained from the shire and it was many years before qualified inspectors were available who saw that slaughterhouses were of the required standard.

The anecdote, while amusing, is obviously fake. Senior Constable Harold Taylor, serving at Griffith's Point, was first appointed Inspector of Slaughterhouses in 1878. His counterpart at Cowes, George Ardill went back further, to 1875 when he was stationed at Griffith's Point, though he was an Inspector of Slaughterhouses for the Bourke district as far back as 1866. In addition, constables also acted, or could be employed as Summoning Officers (compelling parents of school age children not sending them to school to attend court), Crown Lands bailiffs, Assistant Inspectors of Fisheries, Wharf Managers, and Clerks of

Petty Sessions at the local Magistrates' Court. White is correct in that Inspector of Slaughterhouses was not a specialist position at that time; however, given that the constables were paid (Taylor £5 as noted by White, and at Grantville Constable Pipe receiving the same amount), councils expected value for money and there is no reason to think most of the constables didn't take the duty seriously.²³

Constable Deacon, Ardill's predecessor, perhaps took it a little too seriously...

The charge preferred against Constable J. Deacon as Inspector of Slaughter-yards, by the President, of inducing persons other than slaughtermen to supply him with meat, was gone into, and Mr. Sharp, who was present, stated that he had supplied him with meat on six different occasions at his request.—It was moved by Councillor Turnbull, seconded by Councillor Sunderland, that as the charge had been substantiated, Constable Deacon's resignation be not accepted, but that he be dismissed from the office of Inspector, and the Secretary be instructed to inform the Police Department of the circumstances of his dismissal. Carried. (South Bourke and Mornington Journal, 7 August 1878: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council).

In 1882 George Black of Tarwin wrote to the council stating that he and others had been paying rates to the Alberton Shire for 25 years and had not received any benefit therefrom. He wished to join the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai.

As reported in the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal* (22 March 1882, page 2), George Black, a prominent grazier from the Tarwin region, did indeed suggest the annexation of the land between the Tarwin River and the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai to that shire. The council referred the matter to Mr. Black for more information and that is where the matter ended. Until, as reported by the same source in December 1886...

From George Black, re annexation of Tarwin district to this Shire.—To be replied to that there is no objection on the part of this Council, subject to the calling of a meeting in that district to ascertain the wishes of the residents in that locality. (1 December 1886, page 3: Shire Council Meetings).

Black either didn't pursue the matter or any consultation with the few residents the area boasted registered a lack of enthusiasm, for the matter seems to have been dropped, never to be raised again.

(continues on Page 18)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 17)

At the same time some ratepayers in the Jeetho area voiced a similar complaint: but, they wanted to leave the Shire and join Buln Buln Shire.

This is also true. Shire swapping was not uncommon in any area then or now. A more serious severance arose in 1928 when Phillip Island formed its own shire, an idea that lingers still among many Islanders today. The severance Joseph White is referring to was requested in February 1882 and made official on 19 May. The area concerned was part of West Jeetho and Jumbunna. In 1882 it was probably considered no great loss. Twenty years later Jumbunna was an important coal producing centre. Another notable annexation came in March 1898 when Kongwak and the area about it deserted the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai for the Shire of Poowong and Jeetho, itself a severance from the Shire of Buln Buln in May 1891.²⁴

In 1888 Cr. Hoddinott found himself chairman of a public meeting convened by the shire on the 7th July for the purpose of considering the name to be given to the newly proclaimed township at Griffith's Point. The name of "Southport" was mentioned among others; but, on a vote being taken the name "San Remo" was unanimously adopted. This decision was transmitted to the Minister of Lands.

As with the Shire hall debate, White also covers this topic elsewhere, specifically page 46 of Chapter 12 and in slightly more detail. Here is the paragraph:

The first suggestion that the name of the town be changed was made in 1885 on July 1st. The Council minutes do not say who made the suggestion, but the name Southport was suggested.

(Sigh). Those of you familiar with White will be unsurprised to learn that, even using the council minutes of meeting, he got the date wrong. It was the 24 July council meeting. Here is the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal's* account:

A memorial was read from a number of residents asking that the name of Griffith's Point be changed to Southport.—It was moved by Councillor Aldridge and seconded by Councillor Griffith that no action be taken in the matter.—An amendment by Councillor Stewart seconded by Councillor West, that the petition lie on the table for consideration, was carried, and the motion was negatived. (29 July 1885, page 3)

It clearly sat upon the table for some time, as it wasn't until three years later that the issue came up again. Joseph White has to have noticed this but makes no mention of it, continuing on:

The Council resolved that a public meeting should be convened to consider the question of a new name for Griffith's Point. It was almost unanimously decided to change the name. The Shire informed the Government of the residents' decision and the change of name from Griffith's Point to San Remo was proclaimed in the Victorian Government Gazette 11 August 1888.

Those of you familiar with White will be unsurprised to learn that there was no VGG on the 11th. It is actually the 10 August edition (No. 73). You'll find it on page 2527.

So, what is the actual story?

The debate about the name change took place in June and July 1888. As it was a council initiative (a motion by Cleeland and Anderson), Hoddinott was present at the meeting at San Remo (which took place and either the 8th or 9th July) and would have acted as chairman. Mirroring Joseph White, both the *Argus* and *South Bourke and Mornington Journal* report that the debate took place spurred on by Griffith's Point having recently been proclaimed a township (the Shire Council at the 19 May Council meeting resolving to see that "Griffith's Point be Gazetted a township," and, apparently, having had it done). Contradicting this is the *Victorian Government Gazette* for 19 March 1886 – two years earlier! – in which Griffith's Point was declared a township.²⁵

Either the Council and papers are grossly in error, or there is some subtle legal jiggery-pokery going on here which is lost on the modern reader.

Although the name of San Remo found favour with the people of the town itself, not everyone was happy...

The name-changing mania still continues to spread throughout the community. The latest victims of the disease are the residents of Griffith's Point, who have unanimously decided that the name of the locality should be changed to San Remo. Whilst we can sympathise with the desire of any ill-named locality to re-christen itself, we think that a better taste and a more Australian spirit would be displayed by the selection of native names, instead of going to the Old World for titles. If persons must change the names of their towns, for goodness' sake let them give up this senseless plagiarism of

(continues on Page 19)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 18)

Continental copyrights, and select appellations racy of the soil. (Melbourne Punch, 12 July 1888, page 1: Current Notes).

There was a later attempt, this one in 1915, to change the name of San Remo, this time to Hovell after the William H. Hovell, one of the duo of explorers who made an overland journey from N.S.W. to Port Phillip Bay in 1824/25. See *The Western Port Times* June 2022 edition to see how the suggestion turned out. That San Remo continues to bear the name today offers a hint as to the fate of the proposal.

But, it isn't too late for a name change! Aboriginal monikers are not only now in vogue, they are becoming obligatory.*

Here's a few suggestions for future San Remo: Borhoneyghurk, Boomahnoomoonah, Burrumbuttock, Cabradubbera, Dopewora, Carraragarmungee, Dooboobetic, Lamegong, Goongacubbin, Coolungoofun, Mudgeegonga, Naringaningalook, Upotipotpon or Chowaberry. Unfortunately, Tittybong is already taken. However, Mamungkukumpurangkuntjunya may be available. Send your suggestions to the Bass Shire Council.

The rest of Chapter 11 of *100 Years of History* is a potpourri of unrelated topics White was unable to shoehorn in elsewhere and thus dumps here.

The reason is not quite clear but Cr. O'Meara in 1897 had the resolution rescinded that fixed wages at 5/- per day, new rates of 6/- per day and for a man, horse and dray 9/- were decided upon.

Really Mr. White? You can't figure out that Cr. O'Meara is proposing a probably long overdue pay rise for the day labour the council employs to fix roads and clear scrub? The relevant council meetings are the ones of June and either July or August 1897 (the source not giving a precise date).²⁶

Additionally, you are supposedly using the minutes of the monthly council meetings and you couldn't see anything more interesting to include. Here's two suggestions, also from 1897: the kerfuffle over changing the name of the shire, and the call for splitting the Corinella Riding into two.²⁷

Back to Chapter 11...

During the years of the 1st World War the council took an active part in recruiting drives

* According to the *Age*, (28 March 2023, page 7) from 2025 all new state schools and campuses in Victoria will be given Aboriginal names, presumably whether the teachers, students and parents want them or not.

for volunteers who would enlist for overseas service. A committee consisting of Crs. Hollins, Lloyd, Bowman, Walker, McGrath, Hade, Nowlan, Mcllwraith, Dixon and the shire secretary Mr. Bonwick was formed.

This committee organised appeals of all kinds for recruits. In one appeal 550 letters were sent out to possible recruits on the mainland and Phillip Island with very unsatisfactory results. The council decided to give wristlet watches to all soldiers going overseas, and the names of 27 recipients are listed in the council minutes.

The shire joined in a scheme promoted by the Gippsland Borough and Shires Development Association to raise money to purchase a war plane, and the shire contributed its share of £142.

After the end of the war the shire formed a local committee to co-operate with the Closer Settlement Commission in regard to the purchase of land suitable for settling returned soldiers thereon.

It is not the intention of [this] writer to go into details of the activities of the Closer Settlement Commission in the shire, or to discuss in any way its policies for the settlement of ex-soldiers, but to state that the shire and individual councillors did everything possible that a council could do.

It is not the intention of this writer to go into the details of this huge topic (the Shire in WWI and the C.S.C.) either. This article is already long enough.

There have been occasions over the years when councillors' tempers have been strained, and wordy battles have taken place over the council table, when some contentious business has been introduced. Possibly one of these occasions would be the efforts made by Cr. T. Stewart and Cr. U. P. Broome during their terms as president in 1952 and 1955, to have new council offices built at San Remo. Had it not been for the efforts of Cr. Don McRae it is possible that either of these presidents would have succeeded. Cr. McRae contended that money spent on roads was of more use at that time than on buildings.

Um, why dump this here, Mr. White? You discussed the shire hall and council offices earlier, it should have...oh. I keep forgetting. Unedited 1st draft.

Fortunately, White saves the best for last, concluding the chapter with...

Cr. Broome was the first president of the shire to give a presidential ball during his term of office. No shire president since has followed his example; but this last few years a municipal dinner has been an annual event at the end of the council year in August.

That Joseph White labels Chapter 11 as

(continues on Page 20)

Updating Chapter 11... (continued from Page 19)

“The Shire” is clearly a reference to the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai, not its 1928 successors. He includes a bare minimum on the Shire of Bass and Shire of Phillip Island. It is clear that the minutes of council meetings he based the chapter on ended with the split in 1928.

In fact, he should have concluded Chapter 11 with the breaking of the shire into two, and detailed the circumstances which brought it about. A nice dramatic flourish. But nowhere in *100 Years of History* does he cover this in depth.

Oh wait! He does. In Chapter 20 dealing with Phillip Island. It is sandwiched between statistical information about the Candowie reservoir (located at Almurta, not Phillip Island) and some history (semi-reliable to wrong) regarding the old police stations in the pre-severance shire. I'm surprised White didn't pick this up – or someone point it out – in the editing phase of...

Oh.

Footnotes:

1. *Argus*, 5 August 1875, page 8: Advertising; 17 August 1875, page 8: Advertising; Saturday 30 October 1875, page 8: Advertising; Saturday 13 November 1875, page 8: Election Notices.
2. *Argus*, 28 January 1876, page 3: Advertising; *Victorian Government Gazette No.23*, 17 March 1876, page 529
3. *Argus*, Friday 4 August 1876, page 8: Advertising; Saturday 5 August 1876, page 8: Advertising; Saturday 19 August 1876, page 5: Municipal Elections; *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 10 January 1877, Page 3: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council.
4. *Age*, 12 November 1877, page 1: Advertising; 14 November 1877, page 1: Advertising; *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 17 January 1877, page 2: Advertising; 13 June 1877: Phillip Island Shire Council; 18 July 1877: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council; 7 November 1877, page 2: Advertising; 5 December 1877, page 2: Advertising; 2 January 1878, page 3: Meetings of Local Bodies.
5. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 4 April 1877: Phillip Island Shire Council.
6. *Great Southern Advocate*, 18 June 1903, page 3: San Remo; *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 24 April 1902, page 2: Proposed Shire Meetings At Bass.
7. *Great Southern Advocate*, 29 January 1914, page 6: Phillip Island Shire and Place of Meeting.
8. *Great Southern Advocate*, 28 May 1914, page 5: San Remo; *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, 2 November 1917, page 3: Shire's Meeting Place.
9. *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, 9 November 1917, page 3: A Shire Hall.
10. *Ibid*, 11 October 1918, page 3: Shire's Meeting Place; 25 October 1918, page 2: Shire Matters.
11. *Age*, Wednesday 2 March 1892, page 5: News of the Day; *Great Southern Advocate*, 24 July 1891, page 2: Local Topics.
12. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 23 May 1888: Phillip Island Shire Council; 27 June 1888: Phillip Island Shire Council.
13. *Ibid*, 18 June 1890, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council.
14. *Age*, 17 September 1891, page 7: Advertising; *Argus*, Wednesday 3 December 1890, page 9: Country News; *Bendigo Independent*, 17 December 1891, page 3: Advertising; *Great Southern Advocate*, 30 October 1891, page 2: Advertising; 13 November 1891: Phillip Island Shire Council; 22 September 1892, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council.
15. *Great Southern Advocate*, 17 October 1895, page 3: Phillip Island Shire; 27 August 1896, page 3: Phillip Island Shire; 10 March 1904, page 5: Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai; *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, 30 November 1917, page 3: Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai; *The San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 23 October 1896, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council; 10 December 1897, page 2: Phillip Island and Woolamai Council; 18 November 1898, page 2: San Remo Baths.
16. *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 28 July 1899, page 2: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council.
17. *Ibid*, 15 December 1899, page 2: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council.
18. *Victorian Government Gazette No.81*, 3 August 1877, page 1474; *No.73*, 26 July 1878, page 1776.
19. *Ibid*, *No.58*, 29 June 1888, page 2077; *No.73*, 10 August 1888, page 2554.
20. *Ibid*, *No.103*, 21 August 1860, page 1569; *No.10*, 27 January 1863, page 220; *No.12*, 2 February 1864, page 245; *No.10*, 31 January 1865, page 228; *No.18*, 9 February 1866, page 360; *No.23*, 28 February 1868, page 478; *No.9*, February 5 1869, page 258; *No.13*, 18 February 1870, page 339; *No.12*, 10 February 1871, page 274; *No.12*, 14 February 1873, page 310; *No.53*, 6 August 1875, page 1512; *No.55*, 4 August 1876, page 1450; *No.81*, 3 August 1877, page 1474.
21. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, Wednesday 15 January 1890, page 3: Cranbourne Shire Council.
22. *Ibid*, 22 February 1882, page 3: Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai.
23. *Victorian Government Gazette No.129*, 16 November 1866, page 2517; *No.29*, 23 April 1875, page 772; *No.108*, 18 October 1878, page 2512; *No.109*, 7 October 1881, page 2779; *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 25 February 1880: Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council.
24. *Argus*, 31 March 1898, page 6: Severance From Phillip Island Shire; *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 22 February 1882, page 3: Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai; *The San Remo Times*, 4 February 1898, page 2: Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai Severance; *Victorian Government Gazette No.22*, 3 March 1882, page 557; *No.55*, 19 May 1882, page 1125; *No.73* (Suppliment), 29 May 1891, page 2280.
25. *Argus*, Monday 9 July 1888, page 8: Country News; *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 23 May 1888, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council; 27 June 1888, page 3: Phillip Island Shire Council; 11 July 1888, page 2: Local Intelligence; *Victorian Government Gazette No.35*, 19 March 1886, page 783.
26. *Great Southern Advocate*, 24 June 1897, page 3: Phillip Island Shire; 5 August 1897, page 3: Phillip Island Shire.
27. *Ibid*, 25 February 1897, page 4: Phillip Island Shire; 28 October 1897, page 3: Phillip Island Shire.