

The Western Port Times

Grantville & Districts



Volume 5 Number 5

FREE

September 2022

Contents:

Local and General News

From the *San Remo Times*, November 1896.

on Page 3

In Memoriam

For two members of the Trewin family.

on Page 5

Meanwhile in Wonthaggi...

News from the new and growing town.

on Page 5

Four Weddings and a Funeral

Goding & Painter; McNabb & Young; Bergmeier & Maud; Dickins & Sleight and Elizabeth Dickins.

on Page 6

Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council

An account of the late February 1883 Council meeting.

on Page 7

Lang Lang Legal

Forgery and a suicide. Not typical cases.

on Page 7

Korumburra Accident

A train derailment on the 3rd January 1902 led to the death of Charlotte Petersen. Or did it?

on Page 8

Jottings From Western Port

Commentary from a Phillip Islander on events in the Shire in April 1883.

on Page 8

Bush Fires

A short account of the bush fires in the region in February 1901.

on Page 8

State School Inquiry

Is James Grey, teacher at the Grantville State School, a drunk and therefore unfit for the job? A Board of Inquiry is set up to find out.

on Page 9

1880s Cartoons

Two cartoons from 1887 which were likely hugely amusing back then.

on Page 10

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

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

* * *

Woolamai Resuming After 31 Years

Defunct since WWI, the Woolamai Racing Club started up again in 1945.

on Page 10

Dalyston Mission Jubilee

Two accounts of the 1952 golden jubilee celebration of the founding of the Powlett River (Dalyston) mission.

on Page 11

Extraordinary Escape From Drowning And Starvation

James Taylor, presumed lost at sea, turns up alive with a stirring story. Unfortunately, it is Thomas Cox Monger who tells it.

on Page 12

Awakening of Wonthaggi

With the coal mine started and the railway built, time to attract businesses to the new town, and what better way than throwing open for long term leases prime positions on the main streets.

on Page 13

A Short History of Allotment 178

Today best known as the business area on the bay side of the Bass Highway at Grantville, until the mid-1880s it was just another large block of land. As a bonus, Joseph's White's 1974 account is scrutinised.

on Page 16

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- Friends of Churchill Island Society: <https://focis.org.au/about-churchill-island/>
- 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/
- 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
- Western Port Historical Society Inc.: hwphs.org.au/
- Wonthagi Historical Society: wonthaggihistoricalsociety.org.au/
- Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.: secretary@wonthaggi-genealogy.org.au



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

Local and General News

The San Remo Court of Petty Sessions will be held on Friday next.

Monday next (Prince of Wales birthday) will be a public holiday.

The Bass Creamery supply for last week was about 5000 gallons. It is steadily on the increase.

Mrs. Smith, of Grantville, has sold her boat to Mr. George Cox, of Cowes, and obtained a very satisfactory price.

The San Remo Regatta Club have decided to hold their regatta and sports on New Year's Day, and a programme will be arranged in the course of a week or two. It is expected that the prizes will be larger for the sailing boats than last regatta. Several boatmen have signified their intention of having a try this time that did not enter last year.

The San Remo Band of Hope will hold their second entertainment on Wednesday evening next, at half-past seven, at the Shire Hall. The evening's entertainment will consist of songs, recitations, duetts [*sic*], etc., given by the children, with the aid of others. Miss Small has gone to a great deal of trouble to bring the children on with their several pieces, and the public cannot do more than show their appreciation of her energy and success by everyone within miles around attending and making the evening's entertainment a success.

Representatives of the Nyora and Kilcunda Railway League visited the Minister of Railways on Wednesday asking for the reference to the railways committee of a rival route going further to the east than a route recently brought before the Minister's notice by the Bass Valley railway league. They urged that the latter line would be no use to the district they represented, and that the land on their route was held by small owners, who would cultivate it and bring traffic to the line, whereas the other route lay through large properties, which would be devoted to grazing for all time. The Minister said they had a heavy handicap in the matter of cost, for the estimates showed that their line would require an expenditure of about three times the cost of the other route. He promised to go to the district and examine the country for himself.

The s.s. "Maitland," from Melbourne arrived at San Remo on Thursday morning about 6 o'clock, and after discharging cargo sailed again at 8.30 for the Gippsland Lakes.

As will be seen by our advertising columns,

holders of electors' rights bearing date on or before the 2nd December, 1895, must obtain renewed rights in lieu thereof in order to have their names placed upon the new general lists to be made up on 1st December next.

Also

[Editor's note: the following is presented as originally written by Thomas Cox Monger.]

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

Mr. Hoddinott commenced shearing on Tuesday morning, the clip will be up to the average standard this year and expects to have all the sheep shorn and ready to send away this week.

Several loads of wool have passed through San Remo this week to be shipped to Melbourne, the clip this year is very good.

Court of Petty Sessions will be held at the San Remo courthouse to-day.

On Wednesday evening at Korumburra three-roomed house, the property of H. Liversage was burned to the ground. A child was also burned to death, and the remainder of the inmates of the house were rescued with difficulty.

A cheap excursion train will be run on Saturday from Melbourne to Korumburra, Jumbunna and Outtrim. It will return the same evening.

Also

From the *San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 20 November 1896, page 2.

It has been decided not to hold a Council meeting to-morrow, the day notified on the card, as there is very little business to be done till the auditing of accounts has been completed. The President therefore thought it advisable to pass over this month without a meeting.

The annual Licensing Court will be held at the San Remo court-house, for the Districts of Corinella and Phillip Island, on Saturday, the 5th day of December, at 2 o'clock.

It is thought by a few of the committee of the regatta and sports that it would be advisable to hold a concert on the night of the ball, to commence at 8 o'clock sharp and terminate at 10, so that dancing could commence at 10.30. As there would be a great number of people here on that day they would attend the concert if not the ball.

The survey is now being made for the

(continues on Page 4)

Local and General News (continued from Page 3)

proposed tram line from the coal mine to Corinella.

A concert and ball will be held this evening at the Grantville Mechanics' Hall, commencing at 8 o'clock. Judging by the number of tickets sold it is expected to be a great success, especially as it is for a good purpose, the benefit of Mrs. Smith.

At the committee meeting of the San Remo Regatta a lengthy programme was arranged, consisting of boat-racing, foot and hurdle racing, vaulting with the pole, and walking the greasy pole over the water.

Our readers will notice by our advertising columns that a good farm can be bought cheap in close proximity to Bass.

As will be seen from our advertising columns, seaside excursion tickets will be issued from 16th November, 1896, till 30th April, 1897, and combined railway and steamboat tickets for the Gippsland Lakes. The tickets will be available for two months, and the journey may be broken at Melbourne for three days, going and returning.

An inquest was held last week at Korumburra on the body of Charles Claude Liversage, 5 years old, who was burned to death when the house occupied by his parents was burned to the ground. The body was charred to an unrecognisable mass. A verdict of accidental death was returned. A young man named Alp displayed great bravery in saving three other children.

Fish are very plentiful in and around the Bay, several good hauls of pike and flathead having been caught by those who are hooking.

The contractors for the Bass Hall will not have any stoppage with their work now that the Tyro has arrived with the whole of the material [for] the building. It will be carted up in a few days.

The Mines Department are calling tenders for the removal of the calyx drill from Mr. Peter's land to Outtrim. The public ought to have not let the drill leave here, as by doing so they will not get the chance to have a drill again for some time to come. It may not be too late now if they took the matter in hand and sent in a petition signed by the whole of the inhabitants of the shire.

The Goodhurst School has been removed from Mr. Good's premises to about a mile and a half away to make the distance more convenient for the scholars. The school is situated on Mr. Daly's farm, who has built it for the Education Department.

The steamer Maitland did not make its

appearance here this week, owing, we understand to her general annual overhaul. We do not give this officially, but heard it casually, and that she will call here next Thursday.

As the s.s. Genista was leaving Melbourne after her annual overhaul, Mr. Charley Martin received a nasty squeeze between the steamer and the wharf. He has been laid up ever since, but we are pleased to learn that he is up and about again.

Foxes are becoming very plentiful up the Blackwood district, causing great havoc among the poultry yards. A son of Mr. Graydon captured three young pups the other day, and brought them down to San Remo, where they are at present in the safe keeping of Mr. Peter Currie, living like "fighting cocks" on beef steak and milk, waiting for the return of the Shire Secretary, when "Peter" will no doubt receive "his pound of flesh." (?) Ah, there's the rub! It is doubtful if they will survive the ordeal, as it was about even money last night if they did not [*sic*] "sing dumb" they would never see the morrow.

Mr. Bonwick is pushing on well with his valuations, and has finished Phillip Island. He has got through a great part of the Woolamai and Corinella Ridings.

Also

From the San Remo Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser, 27 November 1896, page 2.

A committee meeting of the Regatta will be held at Berlin's Hotel on Tuesday afternoon at half-past four.

Several letters have been received this week re coal and its shipping port, but will be held over till our next issue on account of pressure of space.

It will be seen by our advertising columns that the Regatta and Sports Committee have prepared a very good programme for New Year's Day.

Mr. H. Richardson, of Rhyll, has secured the contract for sheeting at Bass Landing, also repairs to Anderson's Jetty.

A land sale was held at Jeetho on Wednesday. A farm brought up to £10 per acre, and for scrub land £6 17s. to £7 17s. 6d. The amount of land sold was 699 acres, the distance being about half a mile from the station.

Mutton bird eggging has been on in full force during the week. Nearly the whole of the people around the Bay have been, and they report to have been very successful, several parties obtaining as many as 40 to 50 dozen eggs. The rain somewhat interfered

(continues on Page 5)

Local and General News (continued from Page 4)

with those egging excursionists yesterday. The eggs this year are more plentiful than they were last.

The Customs boat has been surveying the Bay from Queensferry to Settlement Point for the last week, and has almost completed. We have not heard if they intend to do any other surveying in the Bay.

The enclosure for bathing is in a very bad state of repair. There are great holes in the fence that the largest shark could get in. It is high time the Council did something with it, as the visitors will soon be making their appearance, and if not repaired shortly will be detrimental to the place.

Holders of electors' rights bearing date on or before the 2nd December, 1895, must obtain renewed rights in lieu thereof in order to have their names placed upon the new general lists to be made up on the 1st December next.

The Bass and Kilcunda Home Mission will hold services at Kilcunda, Grantville, and Glen Alvie on Sunday, 29th November. Mr. Heaton, who is just newly appointed, will hold services at Kilcunda at 3 p.m., Grantville 7.30 p.m., and Glen Alvie 11 a.m.

Church of England service will be conducted by the Rev. Herbert E. Potter at the Shire Hall, San Remo, on Sunday evening next at 7.30 p.m.

* * *

From *The Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, Friday 20 April 1917, page 2: Family Notices.

In Memoriam

In sad and loving memory of my dear husband and father, ALFRED JOHN TREWIN, who was accidentally killed at the State Mine, Wonthaggi, 22nd April, 1914; also our dear grandpa, TITUS TREWIN, who departed this life on the 1st April, 1912, at Almurta.

Many a lonely hour, many a sleepless night.

I think of you dear husband,
in your Heavenly home so bright.

Memory's pride is more than gold,
a good father's worth cannot be told,

His loved ones who now miss him here will
always hold his memory dear.

Empty is your corner, grandpa,
vacant is your rocking chair,

It is when I visit the old home on the hill,
That's the time I miss you there.

Inserted by his loving wife and children,
S. Trewin, Bert (on active service), Maud,
Fred, Olive, Titus, and little Norman.

From the *Argus*, Tuesday 5 July 1910, page 7.

Meanwhile At Wonthaggi...

Powlett, Monday.—An illuminated address and purse of sovereigns were presented on Friday to Mr Stanley Hunter. Mr. A. J. Crombie (secretary of the presentation committee) presided. The chairman referred to the excellent work done by Mr. Hunter since the Powlett coalfields had been opened up. Messrs. D. C. Mackenzie, Harvey, D. H. Brown, F. Murphy, and Macpherson also spoke.

The machinery for the working of Daly's coal mine will shortly be erected, and, when completed, operations will be started in earnest. The seam at this mine is 8ft. thick. It is the intention of Mr. Daly to construct a line to connect with the railway through Greave's paddock, where a siding will be made at Hicksborough. The coal is being offered to the public at 15/ per ton for large coal and 10/ for small.

In all probability, work will be resumed in the No. 3 shaft on Monday, July 11, as it will take till then to complete the installation of the ventilation plant. So far eight shafts have been sunk, and seven have bottomed on coal. Alterations are being made to the screens, so that no unnecessary stoppage may occur.

The erection of the brickworks on the new site is progressing favourably, and it will not be long before brickmaking is started. Good deposits of clay and mudstone have been disclosed.

A drill which for some weeks past has been boring at Dalyston on behalf of the Dalyston Coal Prospecting Syndicate has finished its contract, having reached a depth of 1,000ft. The only coal found was between a depth of 400ft. and 500ft., when 3in. was passed through.

Mr. John Fitzgerald, aged 61, died at Dalyston last week. He had been a resident of the district for 21 years.

Foxes are making their appearance in the district, and last week three were killed close to the Dalyston township.

WHERE IT PAYS.

It will pay you to shop at E. Cougle's Lang Lang and Kooweerup Stores. The shops are replete with goods of the best quality, and every effort is made to satisfy customers.

Four Weddings and a Funeral

Great Southern Advocate, 24 May 1900, page 3: Glen Alvie.

Goding and Painter

A very pretty wedding took place in the Church of England, Glen Alvie, on Wednesday, 16th, when Miss Eva Goding, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Goding, and Mr. Henry Painter were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. The Rev. H. Potter, assisted by the Rev. Cerutti, being the officiating clergymen.

The church had been very nicely decorated by the young lady friends of the bride, and presented a most attractive appearance.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked very charming, and was tastefully dressed in white *[unclear words]* lace trimmings, wreath and veil. The bridesmaids were Miss Lilley, Miss King and Miss Steele. The bridegroom was supported by his brother, Mr. G. Painter, and the brothers of the bride.

After the ceremony the wedding party, consisting of about forty friends, sat down to breakfast at the residence of the bride's parents. The Rev. H. Potter, in happy terms, proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. Painter suitably responded.

After the wedding breakfast, and amid showers of rice and old shoes, the happy pair took their departure for Tasmania, where the honeymoon will be spent.

The bride was the recipient of numerous handsome and valuable presents of which the following are a few:—Mr. J. T. Paul, lamp; Mrs. N. Steele, colored glass; Mrs. J. W. Grant, cheque; Miss Steele, pair vases; Miss Hales, butter dish; Mr. Goding, cheque; Miss S. Steele, pair vases; Mrs. Gardiner, breakfast cruet; Miss Williams, handkerchief satchel; Miss King, pair vases; Mr. O'Lachlan, lamp; Miss F. Steele, pair ornaments; Miss Young, pair mirrors; Mrs. Worsley, bread knife, butter knife, jam spoon; Mrs. Griffiths, inkstand; Mrs. Craig, afternoon tea spoons; Mr. H. Jackson and Miss Lilley, butter dish; Mr. F. Painter, jam dish; Mr. and Mrs. Matthew, bread plate and knife; Mr. and Mrs. M. Bowman, cheque; Mr. Sinclair, set carvers; Mr. G. Painter, cheque; Miss A. Steele, cruet; Mrs. Walker, cheque; Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, silver teapot; Mr. and Mrs. Goding, crockery, &c.; Miss J. Paul, jam dish; Miss Allen, tray cloth and d'oyleys; Mr. Cope, lamp; Mr. W. Walker, pickle jar; Mrs. McLaren, quilt; Miss McLaren, serviettes; Mr. G. Steele, kitchen utensils; Mr. W. Goding, dinner set; Masters F. and J. King, tablecloth and d'oyleys; Mrs. Findlay, photo frames; Mr. and Mrs. Harding, tea set.

From the *Age*, Tuesday 29 September 1953, page 7.

Wed at School Chapel

McNabb and Young

At Wesley College Chapel yesterday the marriage took place of Marion, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Young, of East Coburg, and Stewart, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. McNabb of Corinella, Victoria. Rev. Leigh Cook officiated.

A gown of white brocaded satin was worn by the bride with a white tulle veil held by a coronet of orange blossom. She carried white orchids.

Miss Beverley Blake, who wore a frock of lemon faille with a head-hugging hat of English daises, was bridesmaid.

Best man was Mr. Bill Garham.

From the *Powlett Express and Victorian State Coalfields Advertiser*, Friday 16 August 1918, page 3: San Remo.

Bergmeier and Maud

The following is among recent marriage announcements:—

On the 22nd June, at St. Stephen's Church, Richmond, by the Rev. Henderson, Henry William, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Bergmeier, of St. Helier, and Bass, South Gippsland, to Isabel Maud, widow of the late Private Alexander Turner, and only child of Mr. and Mrs. William Saul, Melbourne.

From the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 12 May 1886, page 2: Family Notices.

Dickins and Sleight

Dickins and Sleight.—On 5th May, at the residence of the bride, Lancefield House, East St, Kilda, by the Rev. W. Woodall, Mr. Samuel Sleight, undertaker, Chapel street, South Yarra, to Lizzie, widow of the late Mr. J. Dickins, Grantville, Westernport, formerly of Phillip Island, and daughter of Mr. W. J. Smith, Romsey.

From the *Great Southern Advocate*, Friday 20 January 1899, page 3: Local Topics.

Death of an old resident

The death is announced of Mrs. Dickins at one time proprietor of the Grantville hotel. Deceased conducted the hotel years ago, in the good old coaching days, when nearly all the traffic passed through from Foster, Tarwin, Inverloch, Bass, Grantville, to Melbourne. She will be remembered by old residents for her kindness and hospitality. Mr. Smith, station master at Leongatha, is a brother of deceased.

From *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 28 February 1883.

Shire Of Phillip Island

No date of meeting given.

Present: E. F. Norton (President), Councillors Clarke, Turnbull, Aldridge, Hayes and Stewart.

The Clerk of Works was authorised to expend sufficient money to protect certain bridges from Long's; to report upon application of Mr. Peters for clearing and draining; to repair bridges at MacIntoshes, at expense not to exceed £5 each; to repair culvert on Cape Paterson road; to report upon the Boundary road between above Shire and the Shire of Buln Buln, and to report upon Deep Creek Bridge.

A renewal of slaughtering license was granted to Mr. F. A. Nowel.—License granted to Mr. L. Griffiths, and Daly's application was referred to the Inspector.

Letters were received from Joel Tomkins, Lands and Public Works Department, and H. Brind.

Extension of time was granted to Mr. Dobbin on his contract No. 259.

R. Walsh applied for further remuneration for valuation of the Shire of Phillip Island, on the ground that the amount did not pay him.—Not entertained.

Extra work was ordered to be done on contract No. 280 at Rhyll.

The Bank overdraft was reported to be £382 15s 3d.

Payments were ordered to be made amounting to £99 16s. 7d.

In committee, the following tenders were accepted:—R. Gall, contract 282, £9s 11 *[sic]* 3d; D. B. Kennedy, contract 284, £20 15s 0d.; and J. Emery, contract 281, £15.—H. Jenner's tender was not entertained as he had an unfinished contract in hand.

The secretary was instructed to write to the hotel proprietors at Cowes with reference to bathing regulations, and to report concerning works performed by the Council re storage of water, also to apply for the subsidy granted for building the bridge at the Bass, and to forward copies of the Shire almanacs to the neighboring council, &c.

On the motion of Councillor West a rate of 1s. in the £ was made payable at once, and the Secretary's salary was increased to £60 per year.

Tenders were ordered to be called for placing seats in the Esplanade at Griffith's Point; cutting at Flat Bottom Creek, and clearing on Cape Patterson Road, on motions of Councillors Aldridge, Stewart and Turnbull.

Notices of motion were handed in for cutting pathway down the Cliff at south portion of Centre road, Cowes, painting Shire Hall; forming at new site Grantville school, and drains at Bass corner, by Councillors Norton, Aldridge and Stewart.

The Council then adjourned to 23rd March at 11 am.

From *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 2 April 1914.

Lang Lang Legal

On the 17th inst. Constable Cole arrested a man named George Stanford for forgery and uttering two cheques for £5 5/6 and £7 10/ respectively, on H. Boulton of Yannathan. The accused was brought before the court on the 30th inst. Inspector Costello prosecuted, accused being undefended. After hearing arguments the police decided to alter the charge to one of imposition, so that the Bench could deal with defendant. After hearing the evidence, which was that on the 3rd inst. he cashed a cheque at Browning's drapery store for £5 5/6, and on the 17th he cashed a cheque at Lawrance's Palace Hotel for £7 10/, accused having pleaded guilty, was fined £3 or fourteen days on the first charge, and on the second charge he was fined £2 or fourteen days' imprisonment. The fines were paid, the accused promising to make restoration of the moneys he received from the cheques.

On the 22nd inst. it was reported to the local police that a man named James Little, a laborer, had shot himself at Kooweerup. Constable Cole proceeded to the place and had the body removed to the Palace Hotel, where an inquest was held before Mr Cohen, P.M., Coroner. After hearing the evidence, which was to the effect that the deceased took the loan of a gun of 410 calibre from a farmer named Johnston, with the intention of shooting rabbits, but instead of doing so he fastened a strap round the trigger, and then round his foot, using his foot as a lever to discharge the gun, the charge from which entered his forehead, killing him instantly. The Coroner returned a verdict that the deceased died from gun shot wounds self inflicted.

WARM in bed, if you have a Snuggly Quilt. Various colours. McLeod's, Kooweerup.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 16 January 1902, page 2.

Korumburra Accident

Death of a Passenger

One of the women who was a passenger on the train to Jumbunna, which was partially [*sic*] derailed on 3rd inst., Mrs Charlotte Agnes Petersen, died at Jumbunna on Monday. Mr G. W. Mitchell J.P., of Korumburra, ordered a post mortem examination, and opened an inquiry on Tuesday with a jury of seven. Drs Scott and Manly gave evidence to the effect that death resulted from septic petitonitis [*sic*], following upon a mishap, the cause of which was not ascertainable.

The inquiry was adjourned until the 21st inst. Dr Charles Ryan visited Jumbunna in connection with the matter on behalf of the Railway department. Mrs Deering, another patient, is in a serious condition, suffering from a similar complaint.

Mrs Hindmarsh, who was injured in the accident, is still in a serious condition. In regard to the case of Mr J. Osella, who it is alleged, had several ribs broken as a result of the accident, the railway officials assert that Osella walked down the street after the accident, and did not complain of his injuries until he returned to the station at 11 o'clock p.m., an hour and a half after the accident occurred.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 13 February 1902, page 3.

Korumburra Railway

Accident Claims

Mr Hawkeswood, claims officer of the Railway department, accompanied by Dr Charles Ryan, the railway medical officer, visited Jumbunna and Outtrim on Saturday, to investigate, adjust, and, if possible, finally settle, all the claims arising out of the recent railway accident at Korumburra, whereby several passengers in the Outtrim passenger train were injured through the derailment of a carriage. It is understood that several of the claims have been satisfactorily settled, but in some instances it is believed that claimants intend taking their cases to court.

WANTED. — Three Labourers (handy with tools). Apply Morton's Pea Factory, Station street, Koowee-rup.

From *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*, 18 April 1883.

Jottings From

Western Port

By a Contributor

Fortiter. Fideliter. Feliciter.

(Re-paragraphed for the sake of clarity.)

I see that a vote of £500 for erection of a jetty at Settlement Point is included in the estimates for the year 30th June, 1883. I hope the residents of that locality will not allow the vote to lapse for want of proper attention, as they did on a previous occasion.

A jetty at that place will result in steam communication to Hastings, which would bring it within 7½ hours of Melbourne, and that will be considerably lessened by a faster boat than the Eclipse and railway from Hasting.

I have every reason to believe that the jetty at Cowes will soon be lengthened and strengthened, as an amount has been placed upon the estimates abovementioned to cover the cost of doing so. Not before it is wanted say I for it is a terror in its present state during winter time.

Two instances of petty spitefulness have come under my notice lately. Mr. Amess, of Churchill [*Island*] wished to enter his sailing boat in the Cowes regatta; just previously to its being held, some person or persons were kind enough to abstract the tiller and damage the centre plate chain, so as to prevent her sailing. Again, on a recent occasion, when the "Eclipse" was laid up at Hastings for repairs, what appeared to be the thrust of a sheath knife was made in the bellows of the forge belonging to the Steam Company.

Cela n'est pas. Comme il faut.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 15 February 1901, page 2.

Bush Fires

On Monday last several bush fires were raging in the vicinity of Corinella and Queensferry. Mr. C. White had several acres of grass burnt and Mr. Bergmeier had a quantity of grass destroyed. A few days before one was raging each side of the road between Grantville and Lang Lang a lot of grass being burnt. At Kongwak, Inverloch and Jumbunna hundreds of acres were burnt. The places being enveloped in smoke the sun was completely hidden from view. The welcome rain was the means of extinguishing all of these fires.

From *The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser*, 6 March 1903, page 2.

State School Inquiry

Before Mr Smallman P.M. and two of the Educational Board.

A board of inquiry was held in the Grantville State School on Monday, against James Gray, late teacher at Grantville, for four charges of intemperance on, May 31st, September 8th, November 19th and December 20th, 1903.

Inspector Ware conducted the inquiry for the Education Department and Mr D. Gaunson for Mr Gray.

In opening the inquiry, Mr Gaunson objected to the charges made on his client, as he had received his salary up to the 31st January, 1903, and he was suspended on December the 10th, 1902, and he wished the board to take note of that.

Constable Stephenson, sworn, on 31st May last saw Mr Gray at the Grantville sale yards, and again at night between 10 and 11 o'clock, he was intoxicated. Saw him on the day of Wonthaggi cricket match at about 3.30, he was under the influence of liquor. On the 20th November he was intoxicated, could tell by his speech and the way he was staggering. On the 20th December he was drunk—that was after he was suspended. He got into his buggy and galloped up the road.

To Mr Gaunson,—Did not report him to my superior officer. Did not lock him up as he never used bad language and always behaved himself when under the influence of liquor. Would not have been here unless summoned by the department. Saw him on 20th December with [*unclear words*] buggy. Did not take him in charge because he was with the two Hardingshams. Was always an intimate friend of his until one Sunday on coming out of church he did not shake hands as usual; that was after he was suspended. Put him on his horse in April.

J. T. Paul, sworn, could not say if it was on the 31st of May, if it was, saw him driving, he was about 100 yards away, he seemed alright.

R. Ward, sworn, am correspondent of the Board of Advice, saw Mr Gray on Sale day, May 31st, he was under the influence of drink. Did not see him on other dates.

To Mr Gaunson,—Do not drink at all. He has never been brought under my observation by the Department. Saw Gray at the sale yards. He wanted a few repairs made to the school. Told him I did not think him in a fit state to

do business with. He was staggering.

A. W. Hardingham, sworn, saw him on the 31st May, he was under the influence of drink, and saw him on the 29th November and 20th December.

C. Hardingham, sworn, on the 31st May saw him under the influence of liquor, do not remember the 20th December.

T. C. Monger, sworn, saw him on 31st May he was under the influence of drink, and on the day of Wonthaggi cricket match.

C. T. White, sworn, did not see him on the 31st May. Saw him on the 20th December, he was not sober. Saw him on the Sunday morning after 31st May, he was brought into my house after laying out all night, he was unconscious.

M. Monk, sworn, remember the day of the Wonthaggi cricket match. He had enough. He asked me to have a drink, but I told him I thought he had had enough. It was half-past five or six o'clock. Never saw him drunk, he was always muddle-headed, but able to look after himself.

B. McKenzie, sworn, saw Gray on the 31st May, he was swaggering about as though he had a drop in him. Again saw him at the Wonthaggi cricket match, he was the same.

To Sir Gaunson,—He was able to take care of himself. Both days were on Saturdays.

C. McKenzie, sworn, did not see him on the 31st May. Do not think Mr Gray unfit for a teacher.

James Gray, sworn, have been in the department 23 years, 19 or 20 years in this district. Will deny that on May 31st, September 8th, November 29th, and December 20th, that I was under the influence of drink. On one of those days I went to Grantville and signed my lease for land. Am not of intemperate habits and was was [*sic*] never drunk in my life. Have the respect of the parents of the school. On the 10th of December was suspended and my salary has been paid up to the 31st of January. My accident was not caused through intemperance, my pony had a bad mouth and threw me against a tree. Was staying about Grantville all day, left about 11.30 p.m., was part of the day at the hotel. The publican did not refuse to supply me with any more drink.

J. A. Read, sworn, am in receipt of a pension from the Educational Department after serving 23 years. Do not think Mr Gray a man of

(continues on Page 10)

State School Inquiry (continued from Page 9)

intemperate habits. Do not think the accident was caused through intemperance. He appears to be a respectable sober man.

J. B. O'Meara, sworn, am a member of the Board of Advice and president of the Shire. Consider Mr Gray a fit man to teach children.

Mr Ware,—My children attended his school for about eight years. Never saw him under the influence of liquor.

G. Stewart, J.P., sworn, known Mr Gray for eighteen years. He is a sober man and is fit to take charge of a school.

L. Henderson, sworn, have known Gray for 15 years. Do not allow any slandering gossip at my house. Never saw Gray under the influence of liquor.

This closed the Inquiry. The Chairman stated that the decision would be given in the usual way.

From the *Weekly Times*, Wednesday 11 April 1945, page 29.

Woolamai Resuming After 31 years

Woolamai Racing Club, founded 75 years ago and moribund since the start of the last war will resume racing again on Saturday next with six events for amateur riders.

Under the direction of the president (Mr S. A. Greaves), well-known as a judge of light horses at the Royal Melbourne Show, the committee has reconstructed the course which, with its natural sloping banks, has a ready made grandstand.

Names of six events honor the memory of famous district horsemen.

Woolamai, winner of the Melbourne Cup of 1875, was bred and owned in the district, in which several sons and grandsons of the original founders of the club still reside.

From the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal (Suppliment)*, 26 October 1887, page 1 and 3.

1880s Cartoons

Likely hilarious and witty then; today...not so much.



A BACKHANDER

Edith—"What a lonesome spot a sociable gathering is where one is such a stranger. I don't know what I should have done but for you. You are the oasis of this evening's desert."

Harold—"Oh; pon' honor, I'm awfully glad to hear you say so!"

Edit—"Yes; you are the one green thing in all this dreary waste."



FRIENDLY ADVICE

Clergyman (turning corner suddenly and meeting parishioner)—"Ah! Mrs. Swiggem, is that you! I believe I have to take to glasses."

Mrs. S.—"Don't do it, sir; follow my advice and drink it out of the pewter; it tastes better, and you get more fur yer money."

Dalyston Mission Jubilee

From the *Advocate*, Thursday 28 August 1952, page 19.

The "Daly's" and Dalyston

The "Daly's" will be well represented at celebrations next month marking the golden jubilee of the establishment of the Powlett River (Dalyston) mission and the opening of the Holy Cross church. The railway station and the district were named after the pioneer family who gave the site for the first church, and which, for 60 years, has been closely connected with all church activities. Old P. J. Daly's son, Chas (still living), was the first altar boy and his son, James, will be one of the altar boys at the celebrations on September 14.

Western Port possesses special interest—first, as having been discovered by Bass on January 4, 1798, during the memorable voyage in which he found the existence of a strait between the mainland and Tasmania; then as having been seen by Flinders in 1802 from the summit of Arthur's Seat; and, more especially from the action of the Sydney Government which, in 1826, made a settlement on its shore to prevent the colonization there contemplated by France.

[The] Only record of this early history is that the name of France was given to one of the two islands in Westernport. The other—Phillip Island, better known to tourists—is 50 square miles and contains many holiday resorts notably Cowes, which possesses a Catholic church.

Both islands form part of the extensive parish of Dalyston which is the only parish in Victoria where a priest has to travel over water to Mass. In the past 20 years, Phillip Island has been connected to the mainland by means of a suspension bridge but on his visitations to French Island the pastor must use a boat.

[The] First church in Western Port was opened by Archbishop Carr on March 15, 1891, at Kilcunda, and was to provide for the Catholics of that remote part of Father Quilter's Dandenong mission. Up to that time Mass was celebrated in private residences and then only at rare intervals.

Father Fennessy, care of the Catholic presbytery, Dalyston, would be pleased to hear from old parishioners of the Westernport district willing to attend the parish and church jubilee celebrations.

From the *Advocate*, Thursday 4 September 1952, page 21: Catholic News From Country Centres.

Dalyston Jubilee on September 14

The golden jubilee of the establishment of the Powlett River (Dalyston) mission and the opening of the Holy Cross church will be observed on Sunday, September 14. Old parishioners of the Western Port district are invited to attend the celebrations and should communicate with Father Fennessy, at the presbytery, Dalyston.

As was mentioned last week, the first church in Western Port was opened by Archbishop Carr, on March 15, 1891, at Kilcunda, then part of Father Quilter's parish of Dandenong.

The church of wood, cost £120, and was built on land donated by Mr. P. J. Daly. It was used for Mass and for Sunday school for nine years. With the development that followed the establishment of the Gippsland railway, the church was found to be remote from settlement and a new building was decided upon at the Powlett River – where Dalyston stands.

The present Holy Cross Church was opened on September 14, 1902, by Dean Phelan, and P. J. Daly's son, Charles, was the first altar boy. The building, standing on 5½ acres of land, purchased for £67 is a wooden structure 40 feet by 25 feet, exclusive of sanctuary and sacristy. It cost £350 and was designed by T. A. Payne.

Just eight months previous to its opening, Rev. P. Parker had been appointed first parish priest of the section cut off from Dandenong. He purchased another 4½ acres of land adjoining the church site, on which a wooden presbytery was erected early in 1903. Much of the material of the old Kilcunda church was used in the erection of the presbytery outbuildings.

Father Parker was continually on the move. He crossed to Phillip Island monthly and celebrated Mass in the small settlements at Cowes, Rhyll and Newhaven. He was responsible for the erection of the church, dedicated to St. Joseph, at Bass, and opened by Dr. Kelly, P. P. Fitzroy, on August 20, 1905, and the Sacred Heart Church, Glen Alvie, opened a week later. He also erected the San Remo church, opened by the Archbishop, in April of the following year.

When Father Parker was moved to Heidelberg, in 1907, Rev. M. Dolan took

(continues on Page 12)

**For bronchial coughs, take
Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, 1/6**

Dalyston Jubilee... (continued from Page 11)

his place and remained seven years. It was during his time that Wonthaggi came into existence and within two years a church was opened, a convent established and a parish "within a parish" made. First Mass at the coal township was celebrated by Father Dolan on July 28, 1910. Because of the rapid rise of the State Mine, a curate, Rev. T. F. O'Sullivan, was sent to assist. He and Father Dolan were instrumental in erecting the Wonthaggi church.

Father Walsh

Rev. W. P. Walsh was third pastor of Dalyston (from June, 1914, to March, 1917) and he was followed by Rev. Patrick D. O'Connor, who died early this month, had *[sic]* extended the presbytery and provided improvements to most of the churches. He is credited, too, with having been one of the first owner-drivers of a car in that part of Victoria. His car was a "Single-seater, Self Starting Ford" secured on a deposit of £25 in October, 1921, for a total cost of £246-10-0.

When Father O'Connor left for Seymour in 1925, he was succeeded by Rev. J. L. Egan (1925-28), Rev. H. Lynch (1929-30), Rev. J. O'Keefe (1931-1936), Rev. P. E. Sowersby (1936-39), and Rev. P. Garvey (1939-1947).

Father Garvey, now parish priest, Iona, was the original planner of the scheme popularly known as the "Dalyston School Bus." Realizing the impossibility of establishing a school in his parish, he conceived the idea of a parish bus to take the children into the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart School at Wonthaggi. Messrs. Daly and McRae went into the business side of it—considered it was practicable, and the first bus commenced to run at the commencement of 1947.

Outlay for the first year was £150. Today, it cost over £600 to provide this service for



Wonthaggi children call these boys and girls the "Dalyston crowd." They are brought daily to school by a parlour car chartered by Holy Cross parish.

the 14 or so Catholic families in the vicinity of Dalyston. If it was not for the faith, confidence and financial assistance rendered by these people, the 40 or so children would have to go to four State schools in the area. In the other 21 State schools in the district the present pastor, Rev. E. A. Fennessy, makes regular visits to instruct Catholic children.

Cowes, some 20 miles from Dalyston, has no bus service—children have to attend the State school—but fortnightly the Sisters from Wonthaggi visit and spend two hours on Saturday morning giving catechetical instructions in the church. They are transported in the parish car, and en route, children are picked up and brought to the church.

A similar scheme operates on the alternate Saturday at Bass, and on the occasion of the visit of our representative, no less than 15 children were met and carried in the car to St. Joseph's Church.

From The Western Port Times and Phillip Island and Bass Valley Advertiser, 14 June 1901, page 2: San Remo.

Extraordinary Escape From Drowning And Starvation

Editor's note: run-on sentences and punctuation (or lack of it) as per original; spelling mistake noted; missing verbs and indefinite article added by editor for the sake of clarity.

A telegram received at San Remo at 2 p.m. Monday stated that James Taylor Postmaster French Island was missing he having left Stony Point on Saturday, in a dingy *[sic]* painted white, Constable O'Shannassy was just about to start to cruise round the bay in search of him, when looking seaward, he saw a small boat coming in from the open sea through the eastern passage. It proved to *[be]* Taylor, hungry and famished, but otherwise well and hearty. He states he left Stony Point on Saturday afternoon and shortly afterwards lost *[an]* oar, and was blown out to sea through the Western passage, in his efforts to scull the dinghy *[like]* a small skiff, he lost his second oar and was carried into the open sea. At daylight on Sunday morning he could faintly see land, so made sculls out of the lining boards and pulled all day Sunday, at night he sighted a light probably the Schanck, all night he pulled and early Monday morning got sight of Woolamai, he made for it, reaching here at 3 p.m. His escape is marvellous there being a high sea running outside on Saturday and Sunday.

The Awakening of Wonthaggi

First Sale of Leaseholds
Jump from £15 to £5,880

The Powlett coalfield, under the wand of an enterprising and progressive Government, has awakened. The potentialities of its vast mineral resources which lay dormant from geological ages have suddenly been revealed, and Victoria is now possessed of the one thing needed to make her manufacturing supremacy assured—a practically unlimited supply of the best quality of black coal. Parliament wisely decided that an asset so precious and of such prime necessity to the whole community should never be alienated, but should belong to the people and be worked for their benefit for all time. The development of any great industry involving the employment of large numbers of men must always mean a consequential opening up of subsidiary avenues of enterprise.

A new coalfield, therefore, must have in its immediate vicinity a new town where the countless wants of a prosperous population in regular work and pay can be supplied. In the past history of Australia we have had disastrous experience of the futility of investing in real estate in those mushroom towns which sprang up on all sides during the early gold-digging days.

It might therefore be expected that the public would be shy of putting much of its capital in any new speculative enterprise of this description. But it was early recognised that the permanence of a thoroughly and scientifically tested coalfield, especially when under State control, was a very different proposition to such a will-o'-the-wisp, as many a promising gold discovery has turned out to be. We venture to predict that the next generation will see a large and flourishing centre of population at Wonthaggi. The citizens of that town will look back with pride on the courage of the hardy pioneers of 1910. It will also be a matter of great interest for them to peruse the records of the first land sales in the principal streets, just as local historians are never tired of chronicling the prices realised for the corner blocks of the metropolis.

The critical task of selling by auction the first leaseholds of the town was entrusted by the Government to Messrs. Baillieu, Patterson and Sons Proprietary Limited. The sale was held in the upper hall of the Athenaeum, Collins-street, Melbourne, on the

Tip Top Price Realised
Upset Price clean “upset.”

22nd March, 1910. When the auctioneer, Mr. T. A. Patterson, faced the large and expectant audience the scene was intensely animated and exciting. The hall was packed to the doors with a crowd of nearly 600 persons, many of whom were ladies.

It was originally intended that the leases should be for 21 years, but it was subsequently decided to extend the period to 33 years, and it was upon those terms that the lots were put up. There was also a covenant that the lessees should erect within three years buildings to the value of £400 upon each block. Thirty blocks were submitted to competition facing Murray-Street, and ten on either side of McBride-street.

Mr. T. A. Patterson, who is no novice at the art of selling real estate, might be described as an hereditary auctioneer, being the son and nephew of, in the by-gone days, two of the best-known knights of the hammer in Melbourne. By that subtle instinct which only an experienced auctioneer possesses, Mr. Patterson mentally cinematographs the situation at a glance. He saw that the crowd beneath him was there for business. It was not a gathering of merely idle sightseers assembled out of curiosity. T.A.P. was right.

A few pertinent questions and unhesitating answers made the conditions perfectly clear—the only additional one being the prohibition of two-gallon licences. Without further delay the first lot at the corner of McBride and Graham streets was submitted at the upset price of £25.

After rapid and spirited bidding it was knocked down to Mr. J. A. Granter, of Brighton, manager of the National Oil Co., for £40. The other lots were speedily disposed of, in nearly every case for sums largely in advance of the upset. The highest priced lot was No. 10, on the west side of McBride street, which was also bought by Mr. Granter for three times the amount of the upset.

The Government and the auctioneers had good cause to congratulate themselves upon the unqualified success of the sale. The resulting income to the State was something like £1470 per annum from about 5 acres of land. If capitalised at 20 years purchase the total value would equal £29,400, or in other words, an acre of this land bought a few

(continues on Page 14)

The Awakening of Wonthaggi (continued from Page 13)

months prior to the sale at £15 per acre had risen meantime in value to £5880 .

The "Age," of 23/3/10, reported on the Sale of Leaseholds as follows:—

There was keen competition yesterday afternoon when, in the Upper Athenaeum Hall, Baillieu Patterson and Sons Proprietary Limited offered, on behalf of the Government, a number of leaseholds at Wonthaggi. The blocks, according to the original conditions, were to be held on lease for 21 years, but the Government conceded a further twelve years, making the currency of the leases 33 years. The tenants must erect on each block, within three years, premises of a minimum value of £400. There were 30 blocks offered, facing Murray-street, which adjoins the new railway station, and ten on either side of M'Bride-street, which runs at right angles to Murray-street.

The auctioneer, Mr. T. A. Patterson, announced that there was an extra condition of sale not on the printed schedule—that no one would be permitted to carry on a two-gallon licence business in the township. The auctioneer was asked if a State hotel was to be erected by the Government, and replied in the negative. He was then bombarded with questions from every side. One questioner asked whether there was any limit to the number of buildings that might be erected on any one block. Another inquired whether the Government would form the roads and pathways. In reply to another query, Mr. Patterson said that tenants would get the preference should the Crown decide at any time to part with the freehold.

The first land offered was the block at the corner of M'Bride and Graham streets. The bidding was animated, and the price quickly rose from the upset of £25 to £40. It was finally knocked down to Mr. J. A. Granter, of Brighton, who is manager of the National Oil Co. Mr. Granter bought the blocks at this corner, and also at the Murray-street end as well, paying £51, £75, £57 and £72 respectively for them, the upset price being £25 in each case. He also bought three other blocks in McBride-street. In nearly every case a substantial advance on the upset price was realised. A few lots were passed in, but they were disposed of later in the afternoon. The buyers were mostly contractors and builders, but many business people—drapers, store-keepers, hair dressers, chemists, etc.—obtained one or two blocks. The lots were disposed of as follow :—

McBride-Street (Eastern Side).

- Lot 10 (upset £25), £51, J. A. Granter.*
- Lot 9 (upset £20), £39, J. A. Granter.*
- Lot 8 (upset £20), £34, J. Denholm and Webster.*
- Lot 7 (upset £20), £30, E. Sheean.*
- Lot 6 (upset £20), £30, E. Sheean.*
- Lot 5 (upset £20), £33, Eva Levy.*
- Lot 4 (upset £20), £30, N. M. Guilfoil.*
- Lot 3 (upset £20), £36, 10s., C. D. Taverner.*
- Lot 2 (upset £20), £36, 10s., C. D. Taverner.*
- Lot 1 (upset £25), £57, J. A. Granter.*

Murray-Street Frontages

- Lot 40 (upset £20), £26, G. N. Heywood.*
- Lot 39 (upset £20), £26, M. Slocomb.*
- Lot 38 (upset £20), £22, M. Rollan.*
- Lot 37 (upset £20), £21, G. R. Abrahamson.*
- Lot 36 (upset £20), £22, R. R. McKenzie.*
- Lot 35 (upset £20), £20, J. Sheean.*
- Lot 34 (upset £20), £20, J. Elliot.*
- Lot 33 (upset £20), £20, W. Scott.*
- Lot 32 (upset £15), £15, S. M. Reynolds.*
- Lot 31 (upset £15), £15, Reynold Bros.*
- Lot 30 (upset £15), £15 10/, Reynold Bros.*
- Lot 29 (upset £15), £15 10/, J. Sheean.*
- Lot 28 (upset £15), £15, H. Hanger.*
- Lot 27 (upset £15), £15 10/, E. Sheean.*
- Lot 26 (upset £20), £20, E. Sheean.*

(continues on Page 15)



Mr J. A. Granter.

The Awakening of Wonthaggi (continued from Page 14)

McBride-Street
(Western Side)

- Lot 10 (upset £25), £75, J. A. Granter.
- Lot 9 (upset £20), £44, H. Rawson.
- Lot 8 (upset £20), £47, T. V. Litte.
- Lot 7 (upset £20), £44, A. George.
- Lot 6 (upset £20), £48, J. A. Hyams.
- Lot 5 (upset £20), £51, Llewylm and Wilson.
- Lot 4 (upset £20), £54, J. A. Granter.
- Lot 3 (upset £20), £54, J. A. Granter.
- Lot 2 (upset £20), £54, J. A. Granter.
- Lot 1 (upset £25), £72, J. A. Granter.

Murray-Street Frontages
(Western side McBride-street)

- Lot 40 (upset £20), £32, H. H. Murray.
- Lot 39 (upset £20), £28, J. B. La Roche.
- Lot 38 (upset £20), £25, T. D. Daniell.
- Lot 37 (upset £20), £25, W. J. Lee.
- Lot 36 (upset £20), £23, H. Twentyman.
- Lot 35 (upset £20), £23, J. Archdeacon.
- Lot 34 (upset £23), McIndoe and Cook.
- Lot 33 (upset £20), £23, McIndoe and Cook.
- Lot 32 (upset £15), £21, M. H. Bloustein.
- Lot 31 (upset £15), £20, R. Parker.
- Lot 30 (upset £15), £22, A. Lewts.
- Lot 29 (upset £15), £20 M. Cantali.
- Lot 28 (upset £15), £20, C. Miller.
- Lot 27 (upset £15), £25, J. Parer.
- Lot 26 (upset £20), £30, J. Parer.

The Minister of Mines (Mr. McBride) was present, and expressed himself as being well satisfied with the result, the bidding showing, he said, clearly that the people really wanted the land. The Surveyor-General (Mr. Reid)

and Mr. T. H. Taylor, who represented the Land department, were also spectators.

The last sale of land that in any way rivalled yesterday's was the sale of the Moe Swamp lands by Messrs. Baillieu Patterson and Sons in October of 1899.

Several sales were subsequently held, the following being a synopsis of the series:—

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| | Total Rentals |
| Athenaeum 22/3/10 50 lots Business Sites | £1569 per annum |
| Masonic Hall 10/5/10 50 lots Business Sites 26 lots Residential Sites | £2495 per annum |
| Masonic Hall 25/5/10 30 lots Business Sites 25 lots Residential Sites | £1308 per annum |
| Athenaeum 21/6/10 30 lots Business Sites 33 lots Residential Sites | £819 10 per annum |
| Athenaeum 5/7/10 8 lots Business Sites 17 lots Residential Sites | £210 10 per annum |

Apart from these sales of leases over two hundred ¼ acre blocks have been allotted by the management on rental terms to mine employes, who are erecting residences thereon at their own expense.

Source: Powlett Coal Fields and Coal History of Victoria 1825-1910. The Strand Publishing House, 1910.



Land sales conducted by Mr. T. A. Patterson of Messrs. Baillieu, Patterson and Sons Pty. Ltd., in the Masonic Hall, 10th May, 1910.

A Short History of Allotment 178

by

Geoffrey Guilfoyle

Those of you familiar with Joseph White's *100 Years of History* are probably scratching your collective heads and wondering why I'm covering this topic. Didn't White discuss this in his 1974 book? What more is there to say?

The answer to these two questions is 'yes' and 'plenty.' First, a reminder of what Joseph White wrote. From page 35-36:

Grantville's First Subdivision.

Crown Allotment 178 and its Early History.

Crown allotment 178 of 17 acres was purchased from the Crown in 1876 for the sum of £18 by Thomas Lynn Sawyer, sawmiller of Grantville.

Sawyer sold the land to John Quiggan, sawmiller on the Bass river. John Quiggan retained ownership until 9th April 1888 when he sold to J. T. Paul of Grantville and James Walker, surveyor, of Armadale Street, Armadale, who, as joint owners began to develop this allotment. Within a few months James Walker surveyed the 17 acres into 49 building lots intersected with streets and rights of way. At the completion of the survey the partners began selling the lots of the new subdivision LP 1956. Within a period of two years all the lots were sold. The original owners and the lots they purchased are given. Most were bought by speculators.

Thomas Sawyers original cottage was on Lot 49.

Lots 1-30, 48, 44, 31 — Marian Hall of Swan Street, Burnley; Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 22 to 26, 33 to 44 — John Williamson of Ballair Street, Kensington and John Stewart, Napier Street, Footscray, contractor; Lot 6 — Annie Payne; Lot 7 —

Alice Coghlan, hotel proprietor, Grantville; Lot 8 — Charles Williams, blacksmith, Grantville; Lot 9 — Henry Misson, saddler, Grantville; Lots 10 and 11 — Jane Chinn of Bass; Lots 12, 13, 14 — House Property Investment Co., Chancery Lane, Melbourne; Lots 15 to 20, 45, 46 & 49 — William Davis; Lot 21 — Joseph Albon; Lots 27 to 29 — Ernest Walker; Lot 32 — Margaret Paul.

This is detailed, clearly taken from primary source material, probably from the Titles Office where White did much of his research, and looks authoritative.

It is also almost completely bogus.

First, it wasn't Grantville's first subdivision. It wasn't even the second. In fairness, it was certainly the largest to that time.

Next, as usual with Joseph White, you need to ignore any dates he provides. Sometimes he is correct, or could be but the date offered can't be verified. Mostly he isn't. Sawyer's purchase of Allotment 178 was in April 1886, not ten years earlier. This is an obvious typo. No lengthy publication is without at least one or two. That Sawyer was an ex-sawmiller at that stage was probably unknown to White, as was the correct spelling of Quiggin's surname. Few got it right in the 1870s and 1880s, and the few primary sources White had would have reflected this. So White gets a pass on these points.

Now we get to the bogus. If White is actually drawing on Titles Office material, how did he not notice that many of these blocks were sold on the same day, namely Tuesday 17 April 1888 when all 49 blocks were offered up for sale at the rooms of Munro & Baillieu in Collins Street East? If he had noticed he wouldn't have written "John Quiggan retained ownership until 9th April 1888 when he sold to..." Oh, and he missed the advertisement for the sale in the *Australasian* on 7 April 1888, two days before Quiggin supposedly sold the land to Paul and Walker.

But did Quiggin even own Allotment 178?

By this stage it appears that the Quiggins and Sawyers had established some manner of friendship. Both families ended up running sawmills at Bairnsdale, either co-operatively or in friendly competition. It is also possible that with the breakup of Brazier Monks and

(continues on Page 17)



A Short History of Allotment 178 (from Page 16)

Sawyer at the end of 1879 that Thomas Sawyer sided with John Quiggin in any dispute with Elizabeth and Josiah Brazier. Sawyer was leaving the district so it was logical for him to first offer the land to John Quiggin.

On to more substantial evidence...

I have previously mentioned that the Phillip Island rate books are a superb primary source – and also often flaky when covering the non-financial (and thus less important to the Council) details on the left hand page of the books. This is one of those occasions. Entry 921 in the 1888 book lists John Quiggin as a merchant in Melbourne. (That's how quirky these books can be, when no one else at the time was, they spell his surname correctly!)

And now comes a *what the hell!* moment.

The same entry (921) lists his holdings as Lots 3, 4 and 6. This is the land he purchased in Section A in the first iteration of Grantville in 1873. There is a problem here which I will return to in a moment.

As the Shire wasn't formed until 1875, it isn't until a year later that the Council first recorded this purchase in the rate books. Entry 405 in the 1876 rate book is strange, the owners (or lessees) recorded as Quiggin, W.V. & J. with no location or size of the land given. The NAV (Net Annual Value) is £100, which is about right for, say, a sawmill but not three blocks of land (3,4 & 6 in Section A) totalling 2¾ acres.

However, there is an explanation. That the entry (405) is grouped with Crump & Grant and Brazier and Co. tells you exactly what is being recorded. It is the tailend of the Quiggin and Mutlow sawmill.*

Clearly some confusion on the council's part, as the sawmill was not located on either Lots

* In the January 2022 edition (The Grantville Area Sawmills, page 14) I wrote: *The Victorian Government Gazette provides further evidence for a continuing Quiggin involvement with Brazier & Co. The Contracts Accepted section of the 7 July 1876 edition (page 1263) has Quiggin as the winning bidder to supply...fifty telegraph poles of 40 feet in length and fifty of 45 feet in length at 1s. 5d. and 1s. 11d. per lineal foot respectively. This seems to be before Quiggin acquired his Redbank mill (more on which later), which means it has to be on behalf of Brazier & Co, the only other mill he had an interest in at that time.*

While this is still probably the case, the Quiggin & Mutlow sawmill was, possibly, still operating. The Council certainly believed so, as mentioned above. Hence this Quiggin contract might have been filled by that mill alone. More likely, the work was shared between the two, with the waterwheel mill taking a secondary or adjunct role. Whatever the case, by April 1877 the waterwheel mill was finally abandoned.

3, 4 or 6. They got round this by completely ignoring these blocks in the 1877 ratebook, and they completely ignored these blocks by completely ignoring the Quiggins.

Warning: confusing and complicated text follows. Skip the next five paragraphs to avoid.

The 1878 rate book does record 3, 4 and 6 (entry 548) at 2¾ acres. By the following year Quiggin had picked up Lots 1 & 2 (probably from Frederick Dowel), giving him Lots 1 to 4 plus 6 for...2¾ acres (entry 531). Unless Lots 1 & 2 were the size of matchsticks, this should read closer to four acres.

From 1879 to 1885, Quiggin continued to own Lots 1 to 4 and 6 in Section A of what was by then "old" Grantville. However, in the 1886 rate book (entry 635) it is back to just Lots 3, 4 and 6 in Section A. No acreage given. The 1888 rate book (entry 921) is the same, with one difference. And this is the problem I mentioned earlier: the acreage gives the game away – 17 acres, the same amount as Allotment 178.

Case closed. Quiggin sold Lots 2, 3 and 6 in Section A and bought Allotment 178 from Sawyer and the rate books didn't quite record the change correctly. But...

I haven't mentioned the 1887 entry (706) which also lists Lots 3, 4 and 6 at 17 acres. Further on, entry 742 shows: Sawyer, T.L. Gentleman. Melbourne. House and 17 acres. This is Allotment 178, still owned by Sawyer.

Furthermore, entry 911 lists John Payne on Lot 8, 17 acres. Lot 8 is in Section A, just along from John Quiggin. It isn't 17 acres either. Given that the rate books maintain this listing into the 1890s, it at least can't be Allotment 178. It also can't be in Section A if it is indeed 17 acres.

Bewildering, isn't it?

Did Quiggin purchase Allotment 178 or not? Joseph White says 'yes', and offers no evidence. The rate books don't clarify matters. Possibly he did; possibly he didn't.

As Sawyer vanishes from the rate books after March 1887, someone had to have owned Allotment 178 after that time and up to the Munro & Baillieu sale. Quiggin is the best and logical candidate (but, admittedly, not necessarily the correct one). The evidence, such as it is, does point to him rather than Sawyer, Payne or Paul.

Speaking of which...

We now need to bring J. T. Paul and the mysterious James Walker into the story. This raises all manner of problem.

(continues on Page 18)

A Short History of Allotment 178 (from Page 17)

No member of the Paul family is listed in the 1889 rate book as owning any of the still unsold blocks of the subdivided Allotment 178. James Walker isn't listed in the rate book either.

Speaking of Mr. Walker... Why would J. T. Paul, now in 1888 well established and prosperous at Grantville, need to go into partnership with Mr. Walker? Why not just hire him to carry out the surveying and do the rest yourself? And who was James Walker anyway?

The *Melbourne and Suburban Directory for 1885* has no James Walker listed in the *Surveyors – Licensed* section. Maybe James Walker wasn't in Melbourne in 1885. He could, for instance, have been the James Walker, a mining surveyor at Ballarat from at least 1883, the same man who married Miss S. Morey in May 1886 and might also be the J. T. Walker who was President of the Ballarat branch of the ANA in September 1888.

The key document here has already been mentioned by Joseph White: P1956, the subdivided Lot 178. Presumably White didn't sight the actual document or a facsimile. If he had, he would have seen James Walker's signature on it and noted the date. It is a little hard to read but it is either the 1st or 11th of April 1888 (probably the earlier one).

But what about his "partner" in the venture? Again, it is a little hard to discern, but the accompanying signature might, with a bit of imagination and squinting, just be that of J. T. Paul – but who signed as a witness in his capacity as a Justice of the Peace!

Question: Could a late 19th century J.P. witness and sign as a J.P. a document in which he had a financial stake? Would this not be a conflict of interest? Probably 'no' and 'yes,' which makes it less likely that if he was involved in the development that this is Paul's signature.

And now we need to remove J. T. Paul from the story. Why? There is no evidence that he had anything to do with Allotment 178 beyond possibly acting as a J.P. and Margaret Paul purchasing Lot 32. John Quiggin was quite capable of paying a surveyor, in this case Walker, to subdivide 178 then sell the lots through Munro and Baillieu himself.

Additionally, not all the blocks sold within two years. If White was really using Titles Office documents, he should have picked up on that. That he did not mention the initial

Munro & Baillieu sale, and instead records the vague Paul and Walker "started selling lots" at the completion of the survey, also raises questions as to his sources.

Problem. I mentioned that neither Paul nor Walker are recorded as owning the blocks that didn't immediately sell. The same applies to John Quiggin (and Sawyer if he kept the land and developed it himself). The rate books record those sold and leave those unsold in limbo.

This brings us to White's most blatant error. According to White, Marian Hall purchased Lots 1 to 30, 48, 44 and 31. Immediately he contradicts this, recording that Williamson and Stewart bought 2, 3, 4, 5 and 33-44. Further on Jane Chinn buys 12-14 and Williams and Mission 8 and 9 respectively. Nor does he account for No.47. Also, he has William Davies as William Davis.

This is more evidence, if any be needed, that *100 Years of History* is an unedited first draft. My guess is that it was published "as is" in order to be out by the 1st January 1975 and the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai. It turned out not to matter; so authoritative and detailed did it appear that no one has questioned White's work for 46 years – until now. Even his Titles Office material (if it is derived from that place) can not be trusted. Eschewing any photocopiers available (5c per copy machines were common in 1974) Joseph White took copious notes. His handwriting was apparently appalling, and the reason for the misspelt names and wrong dates may be found here, at least in part: he simply couldn't read his own writing. I offer this as an explanation, not an excuse.

In order to make White's list work, you need to assume that Hall's 1-30 is another typo and 1 and 30 is meant, assigning No.44 to Williamson and Stewart, and fill in Hall's swiped No.44 with No.47. Thus the entry for Hall reads: 1, 30, 31, 47, 48. This accounts for all the blocks, all of which White asserts sold within two years.

So how accurate is White's (amended) list? Not very when compared to the Phillip Island rate books for 1889-1891. One problem is the names he misses: Andrew Skene, Thomas Hall, William Coghlan, B. Hennings and J. B. Perrins. Neither Annie Payne nor Alice Coghlan are listed in the ratebooks as owning any of these blocks. Annie Payne was just 19 in 1888 and

(continues on Page 19)

A Short History of Allotment 178 (from Page 18)

unlikely to have purchased any land in her own right. (I suspect then, as today, few 19-year-olds would have had the money to buy a block of land, even in a rural area).

Another puzzle is the inclusion of House Property Investment Co. This company wasn't registered until 11 November 1887. Its nominal capital was £2,000 in 400 shares. This makes it the smallest of the dozens of finance and agency companies registered in that period. None of this excludes the possibility that it purchased Lots 12-14; it's just that the company doesn't appear in the rate books. Interestingly, Lots 12-14 are three of the four that weren't sold by 21 February 1891 (No.6 was the other). Coincidence? Or is something else happening not reflected in the sources?

Despite occasional flakiness (in the case of John Quiggin, persistent if consistent flakiness), the Phillip Island rate books are a first-rate primary source. Joseph White, on the contrary, provides no footnotes or source list and usually not a hint of where his information comes from. How is it that his account of Allotment 178, despite its detail and seeming authority, is so very different from what the rate books say?

His inability to read his own handwriting, refusal to use photocopiers (if available), relying on note-taking, and the inevitable typo will only get you so far. A misspelt name here, a wrong date there.

I do not believe he is setting out to deliberately deceive. He is making a sincere attempt to put together a history of the shire. That he had never written an actual book before, was on a time limit, and out of his depth is also clear.

The answer is obvious when you consider that he never names his sources. He rarely states that this or that came from Titles

Office material because, at least in this case, it didn't. It can't have.

Joseph White was using an unpublished secondary source or secondary sources, perhaps put together by his father or a family friend, or maybe given to him by someone who knew of his interest in history. It isn't a perfect solution and doesn't explain how this source or sources also managed to get the details wrong, but it does explain much.

The Subdivision of Allotment 178 (2022 Version)

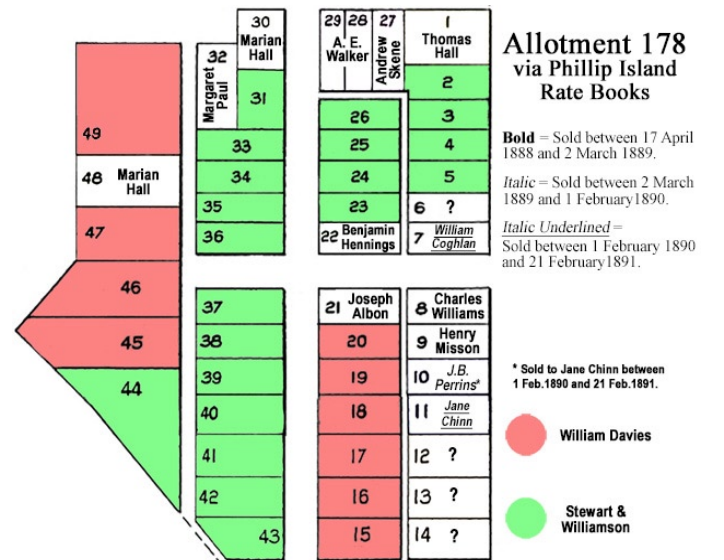
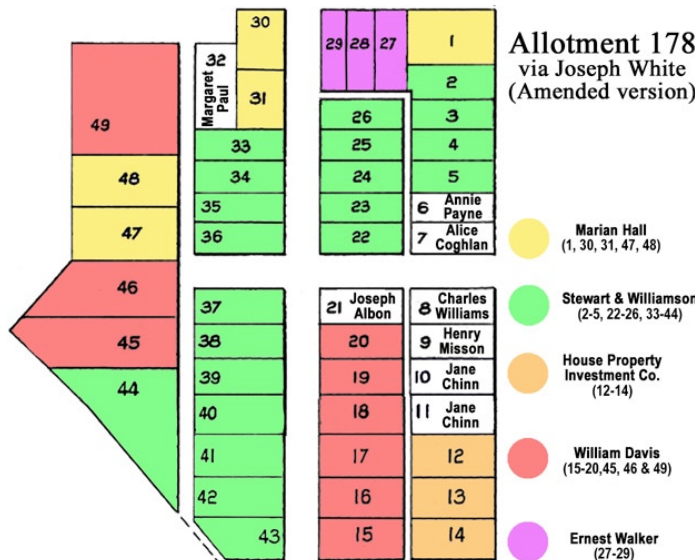
Crown Allotment 178 of 17 acres was purchased from the Crown in April 1886 by Thomas Lynn Sawyer, former partner in Brazier, Monks and Sawyer (also known as Brazier & Co. and the Grantville Sawmills). It isn't recorded how long Sawyer had leased the land and if anyone did so before him.

The *Victorian Government Gazette No.21*, 15 Feb. 1978, in the *Issue of New Licenses, Etc.* section on page 375 shows Sawyer receiving a license for 18 acres in the Parish of Corinella. This is probably Allotment 178, with the acreage rounded up.

The 1881 Phillip Island rate book lists Sawyer as having a house and land in the Parish of Corinella. It doesn't list the acreage but the 1882 *Selections at the Bass & Powlett Rivers* map shows him either leasing or (incorrectly) owning Allotment 178. Either way, his name is on the parchment, and as he was no longer living near the Bass River it is logical that he lived on Lot 178.

Tradition (and White, almost certainly correctly for once) puts him in the 6-room weatherboard cottage plus stable in the north-west of the block which became Lot 49 after the subdivision. That it was the only

(continues on Page 20)



Allotment 178 via Phillip Island Rate Books
Bold = Sold between 17 April 1888 and 2 March 1889.
Italic = Sold between 2 March 1889 and 1 February 1890.
Italic Underlined = Sold between 1 February 1890 and 21 February 1891.

* Sold to Jane Chinn between 1 Feb. 1890 and 21 Feb. 1891.

- William Davies
- Stewart & Williamson

A Short History of Allotment 178 (from Page 19)

substantial structure on Allotment 178 at the time of the 17 April 1888 sale is also evidence that Sawyer lived there before moving to Melbourne in 1886 or 1887.

While it is possible that he could have sold Allotment 178 to someone other than John Quiggin, the evidence for this is lacking. Quiggin decided to subdivide and sell the land. By the standards of the day, he was well-off; he didn't need to bring in a partner to purchase and develop the block. (The same would apply to Thomas Sawyer). James Walker was hired to do the survey work.

The 49 blocks were offered for sale on Tuesday, 17 April 1888 at three o'clock at the rooms of Munro & Baillieu in Collins Street East. It isn't known how many of the blocks sold on the day but it is probable that William Davies and Stewart & Williamson made their purchases at this time.

Lots 1-5, 8 & 9 and 15-49 were purchased either on the day of the initial offering or before 2 March 1889.

Between 2 March 1889 and 1 February 1890 the only block sold was Lot 22 to J. B. Perrins.

Sometime from that date to 21 February 1891, Jane Chinn purchased No.10 from J. B. Perrins*, as well as the unsold No.11, and William Coghlan, husband of the licensee of the Grantville Hotel, Alice Coghlan, picked up No.7. Only Lots 12-14 and 6 appear to have remained unsold by 21 February 1891. Or these blocks were sold but, as pointed out, this isn't reflected in the Phillip Island rate books.

Of the purchasers, while many were local, most of the blocks were bought by speculators: William Davies (a brickmaker from Hawthorn), Stewart & Williamson (Footscray), Thomas and Marian Hall (Richmond), Andrew Skene and J. B. Perrins (Melbourne) and A. E. Walker (Preston). As depression of the early 1890s grew worse they may have regretted their decision. So too may some of the locals who, unlike Charles Williams (blacksmith) and Henry Misson (saddler) do not seem to have brought their block with any business in mind or desire to reside there.

With the exception of those facing the Bass Highway (increasingly important commercially from the 1980s) and the row (44-49) nearest the bay (which became the caravan park and is today's Frenchview Lifestyle Village), most

* This Lot 10 isn't the same as Lot 10 in Section A of "old" Grantville, which Perrins purchased in 1886 and seems to have disposed of soon after, as he was to do with this Lot 10 (to Jane Chinn).

of the blocks remained undeveloped until recently. Even today (2022) many remain vacant. Given the rapid growth of Grantville, it is unlikely they will still be so in 2032.

Sources:

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Argus, 29 June 1888, page 5: The Promotion of Companies – Finance and Agencies. [House Property Investment Co.]

Ballarat Star, 30 April 1883, page 2: Warden's Court; 7 May 1886, page 3: A Fashionable Wedding; 6 September 1888, page 2. [James Walker].

Flyer: Grantville on the Sea. Grand Subdivisional Sale. Munro & Baillieu, 17 April 1888.

Map: Selections at the Bass & Powlett Rivers, County of Mornington [cartographic material], Department of Crown Lands and Survey, 1882.

Map: Corinella, County of Mornington [cartographic material], Department of Crown Lands and Survey, Victoria, 1973.

Melbourne and Suburban Directory for 1885, Sands & McDougall, Collins Street West, 1885.

Shire of Phillip Island & Woolamai rate books (various years).
Subdivision of Crown Portion 178, Parish of Corinella, County of Mornington, 4500G P1956.

Victorian Government Gazette No. 100, 18 November 1887, page 3302. [House Property Investment Co.]

White, Joseph. *100 Years of History*, Shire of Bass, 1974.

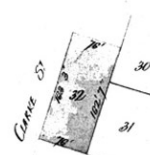


under SECTION 134 of the
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1891. N^o 1243.

Name and address of Owner in Certificate of
Title Vol. 2043 Folio 408439
Margaret Paul the wife of John Thomas Paul of Grantville
Stockkeeper

Date of Registration of Title. 5th July, 1888

Situation and description of land
Part of Crown Allotment 178
Parish of Corinella County of Mornington



Margaret Paul purchased Lot 32 on 5 July 1888. According to Joseph White's account, this was while her husband and James Walker were busy subdividing Allotment 178 for future sale. Obviously White missed this certificate while researching the sale at the Titles Office. Unless, of course, the information came from elsewhere.