



Castlemaine Pioneers and Old Residents' Association Inc.

Reg. No. A 0006803 W Est. 1880.

Faulder Watson Hall & Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker Street, Castlemaine.

• President: Russell Sheehan 54723285 • Secretary: Wilson Bunton 5472 3186 •

All welcome to meetings held on third Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm. Annual Subs: \$30.00.

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Newsletter – October 2nd 3 weeks to the Exhibition & 11 to Christmas.

The Old Telegraph Station Barker St Castlemaine
A fine spring day with a gentle south breeze an expected temperature of 20c degrees. This is the first newsletter since the death of Queen Elizabeth 11, there will be more about this sad event on the next page. Next Sunday is a day out. Departure time 10-30am from the Railway Hotel side of the Station. Firstly, a perusal of the train as it prepares it's the run to Maldon. Lots of steam, oily smells etc, a trip down memory lane. Then a look at the Goldfields Railway display, before setting off on a quiet jaunt in our beautiful countryside, stopping at an idyllic spot for a B.Y.O. hot water, sandwiches, cakes, tea/coffee fruit, chairs etc. (toilets on site). After lunch the drive will continue to Doug & Kerri's magnificent museum. This is an ideal day out for members to invite a friend to come along too. As written earlier there are only 3 full weeks to our exhibition, At the September quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee, it was decided to scale back the October meeting. The plan for the day 9-30am start, set up the display & have it finished by late afternoon Thursday. As the Thursday is our usual meeting night, the meeting will be held in the town hall, among the exhibits. A light supper will be served, Barry Palmer and Co will musically entertain us. Another opportunity to invite along a friend. If you are going to bring along some friends to either the museum or the October meeting, please let the President or myself know, for catering. We have a rather full social calendar until March next year. November is our experimental day meeting. 17th November starting at 2pm in the Telegraph Station. If numbers warrant it, we will move into the Faulder Watson hall. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be served. An interesting afternoon is planned for this meeting. Next cab off the rank is the Christmas Breakup. Judy our Vice President has taken this on board. Buda has been chosen as the place. Entree, followed by roast lamb or chicken served alternately, then folks it is pudding time. Tea/coffee provided.

B.Y.O. drinks. Musical entertainment, a quiz or two and more. All this for the paltry sum of \$40. And folks; socially we are not finished yet. The January meeting (where we visit something historical) the executive committee has decided to visit the new Porcupine Village at Maldon. Lastly but certainly not least "THE ANNUAL FEBRUARY EXCURSION. Plans have been laid for a Luxury Air Conditioned Coach Trip, to look at 6 pieces of Silo Art. Leaving at 8am returning at 5pm. A 9 hour excursion, but nothing like the excursions of old. *Up at 4am breakfast, put the horse in the buggy, load the family, make your way to the Castlemaine Railway Station. Park the buggy, stable the horse and catch one of the three steam trains to Port Melbourne. Leaving at 6am, 6-15 am and 6-30am. If you lived in town it was a little easier. Board the paddle steamer for the day. Visiting Sorrento for a paddle at the back beach, then Queenscliff and a return trip up the bay back to Port Melbourne for the return train trip to Castlemaine, arriving back around midnight. For many years it was the major fund raiser everything had to be paid for in full before the excursion, approx £250.* Prices are being sought from local bus lines you will be kept in the loop. Last month It was reported that our sickies all seemed to be travelling well. Not so this month. Andy Graham has taken a couple of steps back and is not so good. We wish you all the best Andy, and Melva we are thinking of you too. Last newsletter identified the Guest Speaker as Mr. Panasonic, wrong, wrong, wrong, the name is Mr. Samsung. Whatever the name, we were treated to the story of the birth of the Postal Service in Australia. Two things stuck in my mind, 1. A prison sentence in those early days was not a problem to getting on. 2. The sheer vastness of Australia. The video (yes folks the guest speaker was our T.V.), was a trifle long (1 hour) for our hard chairs. But never the less we all enjoyed it. Before moving on to the 100 & 50 Years Ago segment, I can report that the bills are still being paid.

The recent death of our Sovereign Queen Elizabeth II was mentioned on the first page. I was greatly saddened as I am sure, you were. Many messages of condolence were expressed in the press, sent to the Royal Palace printed in many local forums. After much thought and searching for the right words, of how the Pioneers could express our deep sorrow. The words written by Richard Broome A. M. President of the Royal Historical Society Victoria, published in a special letter and sent to all member organisations expressing the Societies grief could not be bettered. Changing the Societies heading to the Pioneers here they are verbatim:

The Executive Committee of the Castlemaine Pioneers & Old Residents Association and our many members extend our deepest sympathies to the Royal Family, the members of the British Nation and the Commonwealth on the death of Q.E. II. We express our greatest thanks and respect for the dignified life of Queen Elizabeth II.

For 70 years, this gracious Queen has underpinned the political stability of multiple administrations in Britain and Australia, She has been a shining light, a beacon tolerance and restraint in a world so given over to anger. She has also been an example to so many Victorians, especially to young women, that they could achieve great things and be better people.

May she rest in peace.

The Castlemaine Pioneers & Old Residents Association.

Over the years the Pioneers have had a lot of contact with the Royal Family starting in 1882. Many request for a Royal Grant for the Telegraph Station and the land it stands on, which finally was successful. Sending condolences when Queen Victoria died, congratulations at various Regal events etc. Looking back over our old records we were very pro the Monarchy. Despite great depressions, two world wars the Pioneers have survived, prospered and lived the good life. History will I believe remember Queen Elizabeth II reign as very, very good years and I believe we have enjoyed the best of them.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on her way to open the N.S.W. Parliament in 1954.

THE CASTLEMAINE RAILWAY TERMINUS.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—Having waited till my patience is completely exhausted, to know for certain where the Castlemaine railway terminus is to be situated—for neither Mr. Higinbotham nor the Government has intimated anything definite as respects the site—I trust you will allow my ebullition of feeling to evaporate through your columns. First, then, I trust their silence is indicative that a further investigation in reference to the site will take place, for it is beyond doubt that Mr. Higinbotham's recommendation, that Barker's Creek is the most eligible, is simply an over-sight,—for how it can be pretended that a spot which is periodically flooded, and evidently liable to be inundated, even worse than the neighbourhood of Gisborne has been of late, is a better site than Clinker's Hill, where no flood can take place, and which is in every other way adapted for a terminus, would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer. It is all nonsense to talk about gradients and expense of approach; and, in fact, there is nothing in the world, except local interest, acting illegitimately, that could lead any Government to decide that the most preferable site for the terminus is anywhere but Clinker's Hill. It is high and dry, yet with plenty of water easily procurable, and most eligibly situated for the reception of branch lines. It also stands so prominently, that a good terminus erected there would make Castlemaine the handsomest town in the interior of the colony, and, besides this, it is immediately adjacent to all business places, the banks, and the market, while the site recommended by Mr. Higinbotham is out of town, and comparatively buried. In a pecuniary consideration, too, it is highly desirable the Government should select it as the terminus site, for it would materially enhance hundreds of acres of Crown lands, which otherwise will not realize the upset price. These are facts; and I propose, therefore, that three engineers, altogether unconnected with Castlemaine, hold a commission of inquiry and discrimination in reference to the matter, and that the ruling of the majority be final. This would be satisfactory to the general public, the Government would save being charged with favouritism, and the true eligible spot for the terminus would be ascertained beyond further discussion.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

A CASTLEMAINE SUBSCRIBER.

This October is the 160th
anniversary of the arrival
of the railway in Castlemaine.
A contribution from a happy
Train Tragic. Pres Russell.

Mount Alexander Mail Fri 11 Dec 1914
TO-MORROW'S "STEAMING OUT"
CEREMONY AT THE FOUNDRY.
FIRST LOCOMOTIVE MOVES OFF.
PUBLIC ASSEMBLY VIA HALL STREET.

Tomorrow afternoon, at four o'clock, the first of twenty engines manufactured by Messrs. Thompson and Co. (Castlemaine) Pty. Ltd., for the Victorian Railway Commissioners, will steam out of the Foundry. Details of the ceremony have already been published. The official party from (Melbourne, including the Minister of Railways (Mr Mackinnon), Minister of Public Works (Mr Hagelthorn), and the Minister of Lands (Mr Lawson. Mr W. A. "Watt M.H.R. who was State Premier when Messrs. Thompson and Co. secured the contract, will also be present. Various Departmental heads and public dignitaries will also attend the function. Fitting arrangements have been made for the convenience of the public at the ceremony. As the engine will steam out through the north end of the locomotive shop, the gathering will assemble there. Employees of the firm also occupy position with the public.

In order that confusion may be avoided, it is advised that the public desiring to witness 'the steaming' out, should reach the north end of the Foundry by way of Hall street. Special provision has been made for the people to enter, and a comprehensive view of the operations may be had by adhering to the arrangement.

Comment is unnecessary upon the importance and significance of the ceremony the people of Castlemaine. It is fully expected that they will rally to view this interesting event, and incidentally pay tribute to the enterprise and ability of the firm.

On arrival, about four o'clock the visitors will make a preliminary inspection, and after the steaming out, the official guests will be entertained by Messrs. Thompson and Co., prior to returning to Melbourne by the evening train.

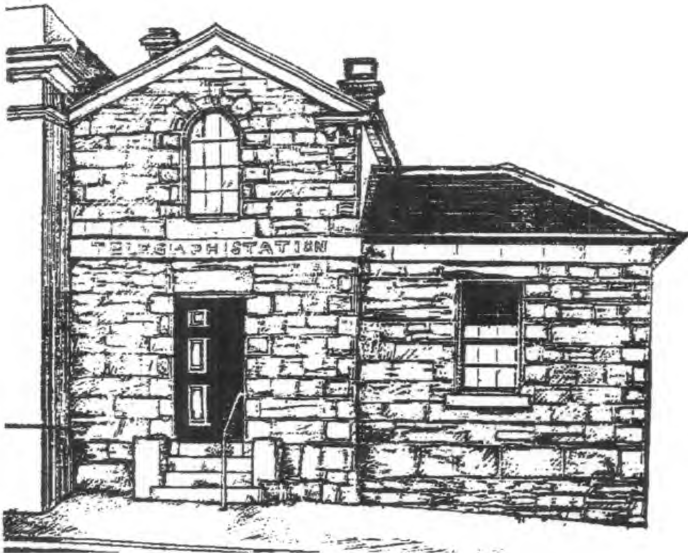
The engine is of the heavy DD type, and will be used chiefly to draw goods trains. It is fitted with 18 inch diameter cylinders, with piston valves. The total length of the engine is 56 feet and the total weight 91 tons. The whole of it was manufactured at the works, except the wheels, which are imported by the Government. The engine therefore is, with this slight exception the product of the Foundry

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100 YEARS AGO 28th October 1922.

Mr. T. Eacott in the chair, who apologised for Mr. Williamson (President) who is too ill to be present. The treasurer reported a credit balance of £8-9-0d in the current account. The secretary reported that Mr. Whitehall had presented a splendid Rustic Chair to the Association and a letter of thanks had been sent to Mr. Whitehall. The secretary stated that the Associations display in the recent "Back to Castlemaine" procession, had been awarded 20/- for 1st prize. He referred to the kindness of Mr. Dobney for lending his lorry, also to Mr. Carrol, in decorating and driving the same. Also the kind assistance rendered by Messrs C. Brown, M. Warren and J. O'Halloran. Accounts for payment: Mrs. Eacott 5 weeks salary £3-2-6d. Mr. J. Thompson renovating £1-5-0. Gas. Co. 16/3d. Newham, papers 10/3d. Mr. Carrol (donation) 10/6d. Mr. Shelton cards 5/- The Honorary Secretary petty cash 1/6d.

50 YEARS AGO 12th October 1972.

Mr. Gaulton in the chair & 14 members present. A letter from Mr. Holland was received regarding the hoardings outside the Associations rooms was received, in which Mr. Holland stated they would be removed in the near future. Treasurers Report. Moved Mr. McShanag, seconded Mr. Rilen that the following report be received, carried. In. Rent \$100.18c. Subs \$4.20c Donations \$36.80 Out. Hall Keeper \$20. Public Liability. \$9.91c. Workers Comp. \$11.80c. Bank Bal \$2, 385.81c. Gen. Business. J. Harrison reported the Cairn at Barkers Creek needed a general clean up and the replacing of slate walling was needed. A letter of thanks to be written to Miss Judd, Mrs Harris and Miss. G. Buse on their generous donation of a Cuthbert Clarke painting of the Fitzgerald Brewery given to the Association. A letter was received from Mrs. R. Veryma asking if she could become a member was discussed. A letter answering the same has been sent to the lady.



**Castlemaine Pioneers
and Old Residents' Association Inc.**

*Next Monthly Meeting:
Thursday 20th October 2022 7-30pm.*

*Guest Speaker Mr. Justin Shortal
reading a paper written by Mr G. Showell
covering "The First Ten Years of my Life".
Friends & Family welcome.*

Pioneers and Old Residents' Association
208 Barker Street, Castlemaine 3450

