



# 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: Graeme Barry 5472 3768 • Secretary: Wilson Bunton 5472 3186 •

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

## Newsletter – June 2019

The Old Telegraph Station Barker St Castlemaine June 13<sup>th</sup>. Weather, cool, cloudy with rain. §"here we are again, happy as can be all good friends and jolly good company". This refrain and tune keeps running through my head, we are all good friends and we are as happy as can be, and the A.G.M. is coming up. I have a feeling that someone is going to step forward and take on the job of TREASURER. I hope I am not whistling in the wind. Since I have been secretary and then secretary/treasurer, I have written over \$60,000 worth of cheques, (details in my report at the A.G.M.). You can't afford me. So, won't somebody, somebody please take the cheque book away from me" (apologies to Johnny Ray and his song The Great Pretender). Now with my serious hat on, the job of treasurer is not hard but a very important one. Spending money is easy. On a sad, sad note I have to report, that yet another one of our members has passed away, Dawn Felstead. Dawn as many local members know was a senior journalist for many years at the Castlemaine Mail. Dawn was liked, loved and well respected by all who knew her. Dawn had a lot of time for our organisation, giving our events lots of good publicity and never missed a chance to promote us. A little before she retired, Dawn and husband Ken joined our organisation, they thought we were worthy of their support. In here retirement Dawn and Ken gave our organisation a lot of support through me. Advice on how to write books using our extensive collections. At the moment there are three projects under way, which without Dawn and Kens encouragement and help, would still be pipe dreams. We all share your grief Ken, and her memory will be long remembered by us, Continuing on this sad note, another of our younger members is having to put his affairs in order. He has been a member for many years and has always had an deep interest in our local history, particularly family and that, pertaining to gold. Some time ago he donated a copy of his Family History, and just recently he donated to our collection a scarce and beautiful book printed in 1869 that relates to the Victorian Gold fields.

His donation of this book I believe was a very courageous & realistic thing to do. It sets an example to us "old timers" with time running out. To take charge, to place our possessions where we want them to go, while we can. This "old bloke" has been inspired to add to the Pioneers collection. Now onto what has been happening in our normal day to day world. Not much at first glance, but with a second glance, a lot. I had not the slightest idea of just how much was involved with setting up a web page. Cass of CircleWorks, our Guru exstrordinaire and solver of problems has been working extremely hard in the background, building our web site. I won't say to much and raise expectations, other than to say "you will be pleasantly surprised. Financially speaking we still have money in the bank, (in spite of what was said earlier). The final figures are in and all accounts paid re the exhibition in the town hall. Eight to nine hundred people saw it for very little cost to them (a gold coin donation). Without being smug we can say that we gave something tangible to our community, fullfilling part of our charter of Giving to the Community and Promoting our Local History. A couple of bonus's were, we had fun preparing it. Interaction with the public their comments and advice was great. Some people came back with items to add to our collection. We put some money into the coffers of a couple of local institutions. A highlight for me was the Thompson Foundry Band on the Saturday night, playing music of the period. I thought the town hall roof would lift off and we would have lost our bond. Great Stuff! Plans are under way to have a bus tour taking in 3 local Historical Groups in October as part of History Week.

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**ANNUAL SUBS** now due \$30. Com Bank Castlemaine

B.S.B. no. BSB 063509 Acc No 10028096

Old Pioneers Account. It would be nice if you would put your name with your deposit please.

**DON'T FORGET A.G.M. JULY MEETING**

**CONSIDER APPLYING FOR A JOB.**

100 YEARS AGO 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1919

Messr E. Taylor President presided over the meeting. The following candidates for membership were balloted for, and all were successful:- Messrs Drum (honorary), Charles Robert Lowe (honorary), Gilbert M. Douglas (Old Resident)

The President reported having sent a letter of condolence to the Wilkinson family, as well as a letter of thanks to His Excellency Sir. Arthur Stanley for presenting the Association with a photo of himself. The Presidents action was approved. A letter of thanks was ordered to be forwarded to Mrs. Aitken widow of the late Col Aitken for her gift of an enlarged photo of Col Aitken. Also for a curiosity in the shape of a promissory note for Gen ? (can't read the name)ed, issued by Messrs Sterling & Son of Manchester in 1856.

At the conclusion of ordinary business the President spoke to the fact that the long awaited

peace was now within sight. He expressed the hope that it would be of a lasting character. The following resolution was ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

*The Castlemaine District Association of Pioneers & Old Residents, express its pride and pleasure that peace was about to be signed. That Great Britain had won the war for the worlds liberty and justice.*

The members then sang the National Anthem under the leadership of Mr. T. Reid.

**50 YEARS AGO 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1969.**

Treasurers Report: Rent \$59.60, Subs \$1.80 Donation \$5.00. Accounts \$16.00 Hall Keeper. Mr. G. Rilen reported on the working bee held to re-paint the hall, remarking on the wonderful job done by the few who turned up. After much discussion it was moved that the Trustees interview Mr. L. Muir re the Thompson Bequest. One minutes silence was held in memory of Mr. Murray Caldwell.



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

*Next Monthly Meeting:*

**Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup> 2019 7-30pm**

At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. Castlemaine.

**Guest Speaker**

**The Old Signal Box part 2**

**Family and friends welcome.**

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

