

# 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 – July 2020.

The Old Telegraph Station Barker Street Castlemaine, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July and the weather, “the Chill Winds of Winter blow”, enough said? Even though we are in the early stage of winter it is a beautiful English winters day. Recently I was out in the bush, walking the dog and I came across a young wattle tree, about 10ft high it was out in full blossom. Absolutely beautiful. In the gardens of old deserted and ruined cottages, the first jonquils planted by the early settlers are out. To add to the beauty, the russet brown of the dead leaves still hanging, on the branches of the oak trees, add another splash of colour to an already exquisitely beautiful vista. We are so lucky to live in this part of the world. But! “There is many a slip be-twixt the cup and the lip”, as somebody famous was overheard to say, so many years ago. Last months newsletter proudly trumpeted, “that General Meetings would recommence in July”. Not so dear friends, not so, “its the virus Min, the dreaded virus”, (apologies to the Goons). This editor is not going to even, hazard a guess, as to when we will sit around the meeting table next. But when we do, it will be a case of “take your shoes off at the door”. Gentlemen a Black Tie please. Ladies a gown to compliment your escort. A freshly painted meeting room, with a sanded and polished floor, on which will sit a nicely refurbished table. The exhibits will have been freshened up, along with updated explanatory notes. Its going to be very posh. So, Covid 19, we are still going strong. The governance of this mighty organisation goes on. Last week President Graeme and I (wearing my treasures hat) visited our bank. Its a funny thing, when I go in as just plain ordinary me, I am not noticed. But when I go in as your “treasurer”, the red carpet appears”. Anyhow I digress, we transferred money into the working account, so that the afore mentioned work could proceed. This happened last month, to late to go into the newsletter. The Head Honcho of one of Castlemaine's iconic institutions, our Art Gallery and Historic Museum, Naomi (yes folks we are on first name terms), contacted me. The reason, the State

in place a scheme to digitise the art collections in the regional Art Galleries. Naomi knowing of our collection, (which is kept in the Gallery), asked us if we would like it digitised as well. A very nice gesture indeed. This was duly done and paintings etc put back where they belong a u.s.b. stick presented to us, containing some very high resolution images of some of our treasures. Still on the subject of governance. President Graeme, now with time on his hands due to Covid interfering with his annual world travels, floats this idea, as we won't be holding our Annual General meeting until we are able to meet as a group again, “*why not move the Annual Meeting to our foundation month, March?*”

You know our address and email, so if you have any thoughts on this matter, send them in. (the best letter will receive one of the many “payola chocolate bars I received from those generous members, who appreciate the hard working secretary (unpaid). A note from Russell.

*24<sup>th</sup> Oct 1873 Trove – Shooting a Lover.*

*The quiet village of Muckleford has been the scene of a sensational episode. From the M.A. Mail we learn that on last Monday evening, a young man James Monks and a young woman, Catherine Brown, the daughter of a highly respectable local farmer, took a walk together towards the racecourse. For sometime back it seems the couple have been on extremely good terms, and the girl is enceinte. Whilst walking near the fence the girl put the question to him pointedly as to his intentions of marriage, to which he replied in the negative, adding that it had never been his intention to become her husband. Upon this she retired a short distance from him, drew a pistol from her pocket and deliberately fired at him. The pistol was loaded with shot, and this took effect in the young man's side and left arm, but being too much scattered it did not do much harm. On Tuesday Monks had his wounds dressed, and then took out a warrant against his late inamorata. This was duly executed on Wednesday by detective O'Callaghan who brought in Catherine Brown, placing her in the lock-up on a charge of unlawfully wounding*

Government through one of its agencies had put

She was speedily bailed out by her friends and will make her appearance to day in the Castlemaine police court. Monks denies that any improper intimacy ever existed between himself and his assailant. On the application of Superintendent Ximenes, Catherine Brown charged with shooting, was discharged, as Monks could not be found. **Some more nostalgia.**

**100 YEARS AGO, July 14<sup>th</sup> 1920.**

Annual General Meeting Mr. Docking in the chair Mr Eacotts notice of motion re- alteration of rule 34 was allowed to be withdrawn. The secretary read a statement of receipts and expenditure for the past year. There being no discussion, the President moved seconded Mr. McLean that it be adopted. Election of Office Bearers. Messrs Goldsmith, Williamson, & Docking were nominated, and a ballot took place Mr Docking re-elected. Senior Vice President Mr Goldsmith. Congratulation speeches took place.

**50 YEARS AGO, July 9<sup>th</sup> 1970.**

Annual General Meeting, 15 members present, 9 apologies and Vice President Mr. Ron. Hall in the chair. The treasurer reported that the Bank Balance was \$247.88c. General Business, it was decided that Mr. Robertson be allowed to hire the hall for 2 months trialling at \$3 a night his weekly dance. Ladies to use the toilet at the back of the hall, the gentlemen would use the ones at the rear of the Town Hall. Mr. Gaulton suggested that more young people be approached as new members of the P. & O.R.A. Mr. Hall wanted a photo of the old Rechabite Hall, where Cusack's garage now stands. Annual Meeting. Election of Office Bearers. President Mr. Ottery. Vice President, Mr. Ron Hall, Sec / Treasurer no takers, Mr. R. Bradfield suggested that Mr. G. Stevens continue until the August meeting. The auditors suggested that money be taken out of the Thompson Bequest to pay for the pensioners who could not afford to pay their subscriptions.



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

*Next Monthly Meeting:*  
**Thursday July 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 CANCELLED**  
**THE DREADED COVIS 19**  
has struck yet again.  
At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. Castlem  
**Family, friends and anybody else welcome.**

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

