



# 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 •

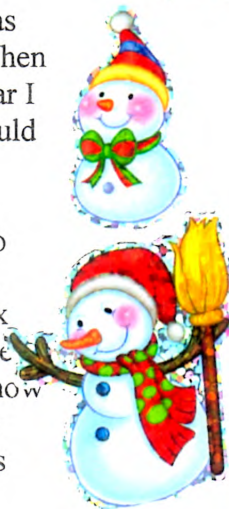
All welcome to meetings held on third Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm. Annual Subs: \$30.00.

Newsletter – December 2019. ~ C

The Old Telegraph Station Barker St Castlemaine Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Weather, hot, dusty, dry. Your Executive and Committee wish you all “A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Yesterday I went to a concert in the Bendigo Town Hall, there was a 25 member mixed choir 8 came from Castlemaine, with a 5 piece stringed orchestra conducted by Castlemaines very own Mr. Michael Bottomley. It was fantastic. The voices and singing was out of this world, so harmonious and beautiful. Early into the program the lead soprano Louise Clarke, Michaels daughter, sang a piece written in 1575, 444 years ago. Her voice held the audience spell bound. The last notes were so high and full, they filled this magnificent hall to the brim. The sheer beauty of her voice brought tears to the eye. As the last notes died away the audience knew that this was going to be a very, very special concert and they were not wrong. The rest of the program was magic. Your old hard working secretary was feeling rather tired and jaded, the concert sparked him up. Reflecting on the concert on the way home, I thought how marvellous saving the past is. That first song was beautiful when it was first written 444 years ago, and is just as beautiful today. I take my hat off to the ones who collected it, saved it and made it possible for us to enjoy it today. This is what we are doing in the Old Telegraph Station. Collecting, saving and preserving our history, past and present for others to enjoy. Long may we continue. Well last Thursday night. What a cracker, our Christmas Breakup. The Running Rabbit did it again. When you opted to return to the same venue this year I was a little hesitant, thinking that last year could not be topped and we might be a little disappointed. How wrong I was. The interior of the cafe reflected Christmas so nicely. Barry and Leah were in fine form and when I took my first mouth full of Braised Ox Cheek, I was transported direct to heaven. The taste of the stuffed Chicken Breast (I don't know what the stuffing was), was pure ecstasy. The Sticky Date Pudding with Caramel Sauce was decadence sublime.

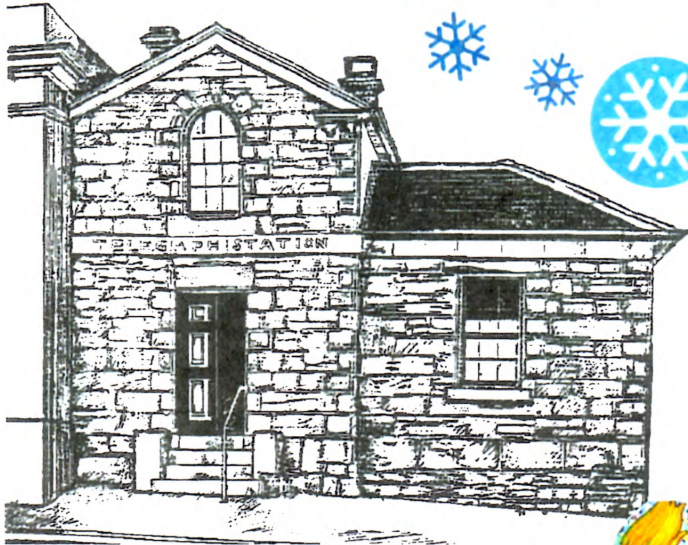
*Merry Christmas*  
&  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

I popped into the kitchen to compliment the chef, who is a daughter of Peter Bottomley our host, she told me that the recipes used belonged to her grandmother. Now here are a few points to think about, Michael and Peter are brothers. The Chef and the Lead Singer are cousins. Both moved their audiences to tears of sheer joy, one spiritually the other gastronomically. Finally both brothers waved the baton from centre stage. What a talented family, a the talent goes even further. When I popped into the kitchen, the wife and mother of the afore said chef and host, was at the kitchen sink, what a woman. On behalf of us all “Running Rabbit” Thank You.





**January Meeting** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020.  
*Scenic Tour of Chewton. B.Y.O. picnic tea, which will be eaten in a nice cool place on the tour. The tour will finish at one of the smallest town halls in Australia, to view a fine collection of memorabilia, and to meet some of the locals. Start 6pm. Opposite the Motel Duke St.*



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

*Next Monthly Meeting:*  
**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. Castlemaine.

Meet opposite the Motel in Duke St 6PM b.y.o. Picnic  
 B.Y.O EVERYTHING including tea/coffee cool drinks

**Family and friends most welcome.**

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

