



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 – August 2018

The Old Telegraph Station Monday August 6th. Weather, a real bitterly cold winter's day. There is much to report, so here we go. The Annual General Meeting. Financially we finished in the black, unfortunately on the membership side we lost a few members to sickness and old age. We have had a few younger members join our ranks. Nature's way of the young replacing the old, but it is sad to say goodbye to old friends. Two members Chris Simmons & Trevor Shill were elected to the committee, replacing John Wagstaff & Tony Steiner, both falling victims to the insidious cancer. Both will be sadly missed. A warm welcome was given to Donna a nice new young member attending her first meeting. On a sadder note, Lin Macdonald wife of past President Don 1996/7/8 (deceased) has had a stroke and is in hospital, along with a more recent member Clive Sharplin, who also has suffered a stroke. We extend our best wishes and hope for speedy recoveries to you both. Now on too the train. On a Saturday afternoon a couple of weeks ago, the K class went down pulling a humungous yes I know, the spelling, (the computer couldn't help) mixed train. A mixture of passenger carriages and freight, about 12 in all. Later in the afternoon on its return trip to Maldon, it attacked the steep incline outside our house. Thundering over the iron bridge at a great rate of knots, belching smoke and steam, then a dramatic slowing down, stopping, turning into a backward decent, down to the flat. After much hissing, puffing and snorting another attempt was made to climb the incline, which was successful (just). But wait, there's more. The K class is a coal burner, the J class burns oil. Last Saturday the J came flying down the incline, tail up, pulling 8 freight wagons (a Driver Experience train). After poncing about on the turntable in the Castlemaine yard, it was time to return to Maldon. Throttle wide open lots of smoke & steam it hit the start of the incline and flew over the top. You could see what the J was thinking, "now Mr K, this is how it's done". I heard the J descend the other side, and then a dis-paring, dying hiss of steam accompanied by weakening whistle blast.

No steam, it had run out of fuel O'h the ignominy of it all, having to wait for the K class to come and push it back to Castlemaine. The library talk, Chronicles & Curiosities of Old Castlemaine, based on one of our books, our history and some of our collection was a great success, Over 60 people braved a very wet and cold Friday afternoon, to attend the Faulder Watson hall. Where they were treated to a very professional stage show by 3 actors and 1 actress, whose acting skills brought some of our founding fathers back to life in a very realistic way. I was standing at the back, (it was standing room only) and watching the audience. For the whole time it was, totally absorbed in the story. After the show tea, coffee, biscuits & cake was offered, 20 cups & saucers yes folks cups & saucers, no plastic (we can be "Proper Posh") were put out, thinking that would be enough. Not so, just about everyone stayed to chat and ask question etc. The Castlemaine Theatre Company, did them selves, the Library and the Pioneers proud. A very big thankyou. To those of you wondering, yes we did have enough cups and saucers. We must do it again. Last Sunday your hard working secretary U.P. was up at the crack of dawn to take delivery of a very early piece of Castlemaine,s Fryerstown and early Australia's history. It is a very early Colonial oval dining table with six chairs, (I believe that originally there would have been 12) with two extension leaves, made from Australian red cedar. It was made by H.W. Niebuhr & Sicker, Cabinet Maker & Undertaker, operating from Market Square Castlemaine. For many years it lived in the residence of a Butchers shop in Fryerstown, before moving with the butcher to Brighton. Down sizing the family wanted it to return home, and thought of us, it now lives in the meeting room. Since the last meeting there has been some changes made. Things that have not been on display for quite sometime have been brought out, replacing stuff that is being given a rest. The second weekend in December Sat8th & Sun9th are the dates for our major Exhibition. The Town Hall has been booked. Please be available.

100 YEARS AGO 25th August 1918.

A gift of early photos by the Hon. H.S.W. Lawson was laid before the meeting, & a letter of thanks was endorsed. The matter of having the photos suitably framed was left in the hands of the President & Secretary. In answer to an appeal from the Soldiers Comfort Fund, the meeting endorsed a donation of One Guinea. Mr. Owens seconded by Mr. Taylor that the association protest against the Old Cemetery located at West Melbourne being interfered with.

50 YEARS AGO 8th August 1968.

Meeting held in the Faulder Watson hall. Letter was received from the Develop Castlemaine Committee, regarding the Annual Citizens Award. Secretary to notify that this organisation meets only once a month, we feel we are not in apposition to take any action. The secretary was instructed to write to the Historical Society asking them to send a

delegation to our next meeting on the 12th September. The reason being to enlighten them of our association, and to about what we are doing regarding the promotion of interest in the history of the city.

Income for the month \$56.30. Accounts \$27.
Bank Balance \$193.42.

From one of our many Church Records.

Church of Christ Parsonage. 1921
Amount of Purchase Money £700.
Paid by Mr. Handcock in cash £300. bal £400,
bearing interest at 6% per annum.
Amount loaned to Church for 3 years at no Intrest
Mr. John Howarth £100.
Mr. Joseph Fry £ 25. Donation
Mr. D. Ross £10. Donation
Mr. Stroughan £ 5 Donation
Mr. A. Clarke £25. Donation
Total £165.
Overdraft from Bank £300.



**Castlemaine Pioneers
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Next Monthly Meeting:
Thursday 16th August at 7-30pm
At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. Castlemaine.

Guest Speaker
Mr Bill Chapman A Steam Train Spectacular

Family and friends most welcome.

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

