



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 Buntun 5472 3186 •

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

Newsletter - June 2018

Old Telegraph Station Castlemaine 12th June.
Weather bleak & cold, winter has arrived.
Sadly I have to report that another "Old Pioneer" has passed on. John Richard Yandell 12/6/1934 - 20/5/2018. John was special (we are all special), John was almost our last living direct link with one of our founding fathers. The original Yandell Augustus President 1882 & 1894, his son John G. President 1914 & 1929, and our John President in 1977. John had an excellent memory, Often when he was down the street, if the door was open, he would climb the steps make his way to the old kitchen/ come office, where your hard working secretary (U.P.) slaves away. Sometimes he would stay for an hour, other times 10 min, but always with an interesting story to tell. Event dates, time and names were always clear and concise. How I wish I had kept a record of those visits and stories. John lead a very long and interesting life, living through some major changes, socially, economically, & environmental He lived close to nature with his Bee Keeping and took a keen interest in many things, especially in his local community. A huge knowledge bank of our local history, events, people and places has now left us. How lucky are we who shared part of this, nice knowledgeable and quiet gentleman's life. The Old Telegraph Station abounds with echoes of the past at times, and I can hear Wags (John Wagstaff), Malcolm McClure and John the 3 we have farewelled so far this year, saying "get on with it Wilson, there is a 138 year old organisation to run". So-ooo on with the motly. The hall has a full time tenant, Keystone Pilates. What's that? I hear you ask. Well looking at the equipment set up in the hall, to a person who does not do healthy and the thought of physical exercise makes him feel quite faint, he doesn't want to know, so I can't tell you. The front doors of both buildings have been repaired and painted. In the past few weeks we have had quite a bit of local history donated, old photos, books and china souvenir pieces. The Executive Committee has deliberated long and hard over money matters and a list of future projects. Your ideas will be sought, so start thinking.

Now, speaking of ideas. In last months newsletter it was suggested that we get some new blood on the committee. This "little black duck" fills the role of Secretary, Treasurer and Editor. This is very selfish of me, don't you think? This election I am going to nominate to continue as secretary for another 12 months, there are a couple of projects started I would like to finish, namely the Montage project, and book with the Olivet College. Also, sheer pragmatism tells me that I can't continue the newsletter forever. We all have to die eventually. I hasten to add I have no immediate plans of doing so at the moment, but common sense says, it is better that we take control future, and act now. So folks, the minimum nominations required for the A.G.M. in July are 1. Treasurer: no special skills necessary, the committee instructs, 2 out of 3 signatures required on cheques. 2. Trainee Editor: Skills, a desire to give it a go, just nominate and I will give you the ride of your life, you will shake your head in wonder when you see the chaotic way I write the newsletter. Nobody, I repeat nobody could be as bad as me. Finally 3. Three general committee members. Requirements: A desire to see that this 138 year old organisation, its history, the work our forefathers started continues. To keep alive the memory of the society that formed early Australia, and laid the foundations of the society we live in today. Meeting commitments are 4 quarterly meetings and our usual monthly meeting. Our organisation has an exciting future ahead, embracing today's technology. A Web Page (whatever that is), delving deeply into all this wonderful old stuff we have gathered over the years, plus lots and lots of research. All of this to happen in Australia's 5th oldest telegraph station, that can still operate, so folks, step up to the plate and nominate for a spot on the committee, that will guide us into a bright, golden and prosperous future. Nomination forms enclosed, along with a membership renewal form. The annual fee, \$30 delivered to the treasurer, either by direct debit, cheque or cash in an envelope given to me at a meeting. Your name on the envelope would help.

100 YEARS AGO 26th June 1918.

An apology was received from the President Mr. G. D. Mclean and the Vice President Mr. Taylor took the chair. The treasurer reported that the current account held £10-14-6d. Moved by Mr. Williamson, seconded Mr. Taylor that the specifications and estimates obtained from various tradesmen as to the possible costs of installing electric light into the premises, be laid before the Annual Meeting. Mr. Borland moved, seconded Mr. Docking to send a letter of thanks to the Hon. H S.W. Lawson Premier for his gift of photos of early Castlemaine.

50 YEARS AGO 13th June 1968.

Meeting held in the Faulder Watson hall. Meeting opened at 8pm with Mr. Daw in the chair. A letter was received from the Develop Castlemaine & District Committee, regarding the condition of the Pennyweight Cemetery. Suggested date for a clean up of cemetery Sunday 14th July.

The treasurer reported that rent from the hall was \$34.50c, and the bank balance was \$256.37c. Gen Business. Discussion took place re workroom for the Gem Club. It was decided rental to be \$8 a month, with proviso that the association find out about insurance regarding the use of machinery in the hall. Meeting closed at 8-45pm.

Excursion to Ballarat 22nd April 1890.

In response to an invitation from the Old Colonists of Ballarat, the members paid their promised visit to that city. Notwithstanding the unsettled weather 300 mustered at the Railway station on the morning of the excursion. On arrival at Ballarat about 11am, they were received on the platform by the president (Mr. J.P. Murray) and the council of the Old Colonists Association, who invited them to their splendid hall in Lydiard Street. Each Pioneer as he entered, inscribed his name in the visitors book, and was presented with an enamelled card inscribed with "Welcome to the Pioneers & Old Residents of Castlemaine".



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Next Monthly Meeting:

Thursday June 21st 2018

At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. Castlemaine.

Guest Speaker

Peter Sheehan (Painter Extraordinaire)
The Restoration of the Chewton Town Hall
Family and friends welcome.

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

