



# 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 – May 2018

Castlemaine, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018, weather cloudy with a cold wind. The first week, of the last month of autumn, gone. Winter just around the corner, cosy fires, hot soups, good winter food, a time to slow down and enjoy. I only wish it was so, your hard working secretary (unpaid) is snowed under at the moment. Leases both old and new, (more about this at the next meeting), building maintenance and luring new younger members to want to join our fine organisation.

**The Flannel.** (pulling the wool over your eyes). Our 138 year old organisation, has seen age take its toll. Times have changed over the last 50 years. We use it differently. A recurring theme among our stories is *“we did not have much money, we had time and we were happy”*. Life was local, simpler. Life’s expectations were not as great. An apprenticeship, office job, the Mill, Foundry or Bacon Factory The Church, local Sporting Clubs, Service Clubs etc for leisure. When you went down the street you knew just about everybody and there were no traffic lights. Yes we “old timers” remember it well, we were in our comfort zone. Giving back to our community plays a big part in the Pioneers culture. Maintenance of the Diamond Gully and the Pennyweight Flat cemetery’s, the Shepherds Hut and Gold Cairn at Barkers Creek (which had been deeded to us) kept us occupied. Out of our own funds mostly, we looked after them well, until the Government took back control some years ago. With these responsibilities lifted from our shoulders, we were able to concentrate more on our extensive historical collection. This is where you “younger members” come in. The organisation has to have a balance of young and old on the committee, the young will learn from the old. Young people are much more in touch with today’s world than a lot of us old timers, and it is their world now. For our organisation to secure its future, we have to be as relevant today as we were yesterday. The preservation and opening up our wonderful collection to the public is the way to go. To do this, requires an enthusiastic membership (which we have) and a committee to guide it.

Our organisational structure consists of 8 members. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and 4 Committee members. We have a big and bright future ahead of us, to get a vibrant younger committee able to meet this bright future, I propose the following: At this years Annual meeting some new members join the committee, and over the coming 12 months we make a serious effort to lift our profile to attract some fresh young blood to join us. At the 2019 General Meeting we have the Best A team possible elected to take the organisation into the 2020’s. **End of Flannel.** The train has been very busy lately, what with running the old carriages behind a visiting K.class painted a nice maroon with gold trim, as well as the regular services. Dawn Angliss is well known to us, always the teller of a good story. This time was no exception. A story hard to believe, a story of survival in the bush, a young girl aged 4years & 10 months wandering away from an older brother in the bush out Campbells Creek way, and found 6 days later near Glenlyon. 6 days and nights without food, only the water she found and no warm clothing. Searchers everywhere, Black Trackers called in, a huge concerted effort, seemingly to no avail. I can’t do justice to this story in Our small newsletter, it brought a lump to my throat. I recommend that you go over to the Newstead Historical Society on a Monday morning (9am -12 noon) and get the full story Also attached to this story is another, again hard to believe, but true never the less. Dawn has had a long connection with Newstead, via Grand parents. Some years ago a lady browsing at the Fryerstown Antique Fair bought an old autograph book. It turned out that it had belonged to Dawn’s Grandfather, and on one of its pages, was a fantastic drawing of the Little Girl Lost. The lady passed the book onto Dawn. At the meeting Dawn allowed us to see and touch one of her most treasured possessions. Thankvou Dawn.

A couple of months ago I reported that our organisation had been invited to sit on a panel regarding the site of the Monster Meeting, and that President Graeme had volunteered to go. The enquiry has been held and a summery sent to us. Graeme reported that it was a long afternoon, as did Chris Simmons who was also there, both felt that there should be further investigations made about the site. It was also reported that the afternoon tea was a credit to the hosts for the afternoon. From the short conversations I had with Graeme and Chris, it sounded a very interesting afternoon. A worthy subject for a Guest Speaker. The Pleasant Sunday Afternoon film show, I would describe as reasonable. 40 or so people turned up. The story of one of the soldiers from our montage, read by Ian Braybrooke via CD was well received. The film needed an interval, it was a bit long. However money was banked.

**100 YEARS AGO** April & May 1918.

April 24<sup>th</sup>. Letter received from the Public Health Dpt, stating that the Association had been gazetted Trustees of the Old Cemetery at Moonlight Flat. Permission was granted to the Returned Soldiers Reception Committee for the use of tables and forms.

May 29<sup>th</sup>. Letter received from Bjelke-Petersen Bros to hire the hall for a Young Ladies Physical Culture Class. The treasurer reported a credit balance of £22-15-2.

April 11 <sup>1968</sup> Moved that the secretary's report be accepted and all accounts be paid. Owing to the small attendance the picnic report held over to next meeting.

May ? 1968 A request from the local Gem Club to set up a workshop in the hall. To be discussed at the next meeting. Picnic Committee report. Next picnic to be held at Lauriston.



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

*Next Monthly Meeting:*

Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

Guest Speaker:

Extracts from The Diary Of  
Charles William Holloway

December 1888 to 1889

Family & Friends most Welcome

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

