



# 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: Russell Sheehan 5472 3285 • Secretary: Wilson Bunton 5472 3186 •

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

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## Newsletter February 2024. Annual Excursion Celebrating Our 144<sup>th</sup> year

The Old Telegraph Station Castlemaine. There is only one word to describe the weather, weird! New years greetings to you all, lets hope that 2024 is a much better year for the world than last year. Yes folks, this newsletter is early and for a very good reason. The Excursion. Not enough detail in the December edition. **Date 21 Feb 2024**  
**Destination. Bendigo**, the Chinese Museum & Gardens, the New Law Courts and the R.S.L. Museum in Pall Mall. **Departure Time 8-30am** from the Information Centre. **Return 5pm**  
**Cost:** \$20 coach fare which has been subsidised by the Biscuit Tin, the \$20 will be collected on the coach. Entry fees you pay on the day so take some real money. Chinese Museum tour and gardens \$12. R.S.L. Museum \$7 concession. Law Court free. Total \$39. Lunch & Coffee at your own expense. **Lunch** will be at the Botanical Gardens Hotel at White Hills, where meals start at \$9. This is a cheap day out considering, travelling in an air condition coach (no driving or parking worries). Visiting 3 diverse and interesting places with good company. There that clears up any ambiguity. Now this is **Very Important!** The secretary has lost the list with the names of those who said they were coming, at the November meeting. Please, please would you ring me, and confirm your seat. The hire of the coach is \$980, so a lot of support would be welcome. Bring along friends, family anybody! Now on with the motley. The Christmas breakup at the Maldon Hotel a great night, especially for the extremely hard working. Secretary (unpaid). I won the raffle, a large hamper full of Christmas goodies. The winning ticket drawn by my daughter down from Queensland. President Russell gave a nice Christmas speech, along with some rather awful jokes. A good night was had by all. The January meeting at the newly refurbished Harcourt Heritage Centre was a great night out. A picnic tea followed by a very interesting talk by George Milford. George spoke on the relevance and the importance of keeping our societies strong in today's society, giving instances of some recent societies closing, and

some of the dramas of what to do and where to store their collections. Grahame & Lois Barry made a donation of an old photo showing his maternal great, great grand parents who were old Harcourt residents. Grahame is very proud of his Harcourt Ely connection, as well he should be. In the 1880's a shipment of Harcourt pears grown on the family orchard here in Harcourt was shipped to England, entered in an exhibition for the best eating pear. The Harcourt pear beat the other competitors from far and wide, hands down. The Photo (which is inside along with photos of our Christmas breakup) was taken on the 25<sup>th</sup> December to celebrate their Diamond Wedding. Going back to those prize winning pears, grown in Harcourt, shipped by sea to the other side of the world, taken by train to the exhibition, and then to come up trumps! what a great end to the story. (*that Harcourt soil is so good, you could almost eat it*) Ed. Now for a little bit of "good gos" on the train. My source tells me that the line from Muckleford will be closed soon for track maintenance. All the sleepers are to be replaced. Steam should be back hopefully by Easter. Refurbished J.149 is almost ready to go. Now folks, a Rally, Rally, Rally call, the April Exhibition. Sporting History in the Shire 1852 - 2023. Greg is working tirelessly, sending out invitations to over 50 sporting clubs to be involved. Gathering sporting material, both old & new for display. To take some of the pressure off, it would be nice if the the "Duty Roster" could be finalised now. Three six hour days Friday, Saturday & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> April, Anzac day weekend. Each day is broken up into two shifts, 10am - 1pm, & 1pm - 4pm. A minimum of 6 members for each shift required. Now is a chance for some of you new members to become involved. The work is not hard, manning the front desk, a little patrol around the exhibition (showing our friendly face) etc. The sporting clubs involved will man their own stalls with flyers and at times, with man / women power over the three days. This is our Major Event. H Held every 2 years, so Rally Rally Rally.



Page 2.

The shop window in Mostyn St is proving very popular with the locals and visitors alike. Our association has received a lot of praise both verbally and by email. There seems to be a genuine thirst to learn about our history of the town and district, from all and sundry. Now seems to be a good time to introduce some new blood. There is a wealth of material and photos to choose from, lots of help on hand, so why not give it ago? Choose a historical subject, research it, design and mount it on the boards and pop it in the window. There is a cost attached to each window display, which the association covers as part of our charter which is; *To collect, preserve and promote our local history, also to give back to the society we live in some thing that enhances it and makes it a better place.* The next two window displays are underway, The Castlemaine Militia and Entertainment.

The merry month of May is the next vacant date. I reiterate that there is plenty of help available should you need it. Try something new. Speaking of trying something new. Times are a changing and we should change with them, to keep ourselves relevant. How we present our content to the public can be done in many different ways successfully. The committee is investigating. Watch this space. Speaking of new ways we must not forget the old. Trove is a wonderful source, but can be a pain to some. One of our new members with a very solid background in curating very large libraries (which honed her skills in using Trove) has offered to run a class in the Telegraph Station for members on, **How to use and get the best out of Trove.** Once again, Watch this space. On a more serious not, it has come to my notice that a few of our members have wives, husbands, partners, children in a very bad way in hospital. To you all, Our thoughts are with you and another part of our charter is *to help our fellow members when in trouble.* So if you would like help, don't be frightened to ask for help.

You may be wondering about the old advertisements scattered about. Well; I was given a calendar for Christmas with a lot of ads of thing we all grew up with, reminding me of slower times and of the Australia I grew up in. So I thought I would share them with you.







**AJAX** new  
miracle cleanser  
with exclusive  
"foaming action"  
cleans  
twice as easy,  
twice as fast!

No other cleanser cuts grease so fast!

No other cleanser polishes so brightly, so fast!

No other cleanser keeps metal so bright, so long!

**AJAX IS GUARANTEED!**

See Ajax in a glass! It's the only cleanser that's guaranteed to remove grease, grime, and dirt from any surface. It's the only cleanser that's guaranteed to keep metal so bright, so long. It's the only cleanser that's guaranteed to be safe for your hands and the environment. It's the only cleanser that's guaranteed to be the best!

**AJAX THE FOAMING CLEANER**

MADE IN CANADA





**February 24<sup>th</sup> 1882.** 142 years ago.

Mr. Holmes moved, Mr Slattery seconded that copies of all letters sent by order of the Association, shall be kept in a letter book by the secretary. Carried. Mr. Seedorf proposed Mr. Yandell seconded W.J. Coggan as a member, carried. The chairman reported that the Banquet and Pie Night committee had met twice, and had not found anyone that could carry out their wishes for the Picnic and Banquet. Both the Railway and the Golden Crown said 5/- was too low. It was decided that the Picnic & Banquet would be held, and tickets would be 7/6d

**February 14<sup>th</sup> 1974.** 50 years ago.

The meeting opened with Mr. Cappy in the chair and 11 members present. With nothing to discuss from last months meeting and no correspondence, The treasurer presented his report.

Receipts: rent \$3. Subs \$4.

Expenditure: Hall Keeper \$20.

J. Wilson \$6.

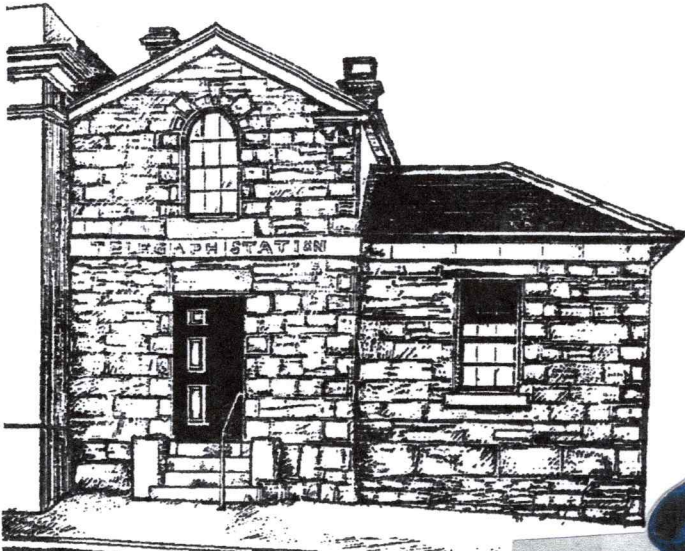
F. Cappy.	\$2.
S.E.C. Power.	\$6.25c
Commonwealth Bank /Public Health	\$5.
J. Gaulton.	\$1
P.O. Box.	\$6.
Castlemaine Mail.	\$1.05c

His report was accepted and all accounts were passed for payment.

General Business: A discussion took place as to the time members would make themselves available to help the Apex Club on the Labour Day weekend, by opening the club rooms to the public. The matter of the loss of tables belonging to the association, to be looked into.

*Quite what a contrastcontrast between the two, I like the idea of a Picnic & Banquet committee. I also wonder what one got for 7/6d. At the Picnic & Banquet? Ed.*

**Very Important** Please make sure you contact me re your seat booking 54723186.



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

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

*Next Monthly Meeting:*  
Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7-30pm

**Guest Speaker**  
**A Mystery? As the newsletter is so early  
f arrangements have not been finalised  
Friends and family welcome.**

