



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 5472328

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

W: www.castlemaine-pioneers.org E: castlemaine-pioneers@gmail.com

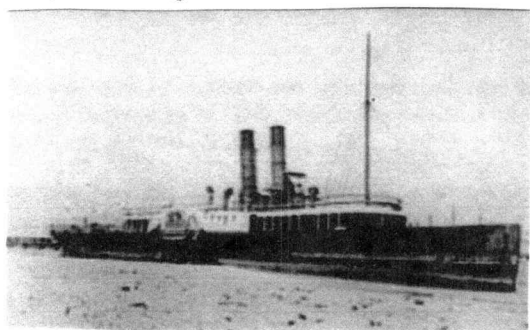
Newsletter October 2024. 3 months to Christmas and all the goodies it brings.

The Old Telegraph Station Barker St Castlemaine. Gale force winds and hail. The newsletter is a bit earlier than usual this month, a few reminders, but before I start the train. Just before I left home J149 came flying up the hill like a young colt on its way to Maldon pulling, 5 carriages and a goods van. I remember when I was a young colt, a callow 17 year old coppersmith apprentice. I was present when the first of these brand new J class steam engines built in England, were unpacked at the Newport Workshops. Many years later when the Goldfields Railway was in its infancy, I was working at the Bendigo School of Mines teaching coppersmithing, I would get some of the apprentices to make the odd piece for J149 as it was undergoing restoration. One of the teachers I worked with who knew me at Newport, was a mad keen volunteer with the tourist railway in its early days, would use my skills to save a bob or two. He was such a tireless worker and good bloke, the engine was named after him. Now after all these years, each time J149 and the K class steam by my window, my mind goes back to when I was just a young colt and the world was there to be conquered. Now the first reminder, The Rochester Trip. Leaving from the toilet car park in the Botanical Gardens at 8am sharp. Car pooling Reminders 2 & 3 make sure the dates for the Christmas breakup and the January 2025 meeting are prominent on your fridge door. These two dates are closer than you think. The long lost gold medallion mentioned in the last newsletter and passed around at the last meeting, has aroused a lot of interest. The Castlemaine Mail is doing story on it soon. A decedent of the E. Taylor whose name is on it is all fired up to find out, how it got England and how it got lost over there.

Mr. E. Taylor was a founding member of the Pioneers 1880, President in 1918 and Hon Seretary 1920 – 1930. All will be revealed as answers are found. The Annual Excursion has always fascinated me. One evening a few years ago in the late Ken Leversha's time as treasurer, we were planning an excursion and he said to me, "have you ever thought just how much that phrase *it would be nice to introduce the country people to the seaside*" said by our founding President Mr. Robert Mitchell, changed peoples lives and the rich history it gave Castlemaine? Think about it." Ken as those of us fortunate to have known him, was a thoughtful, kind, very generous and wise main So your editor has been researching our old minute books and thinking. Here I go. To celebrate the founding day of the Pioneers March 17th 1880 In the years 1881,2, 3 and 4 local spots had been chosen for a picnic. They had been well patronised and successful. But some members had a much bigger idea. To travel by train to Port Melbourne and travel on a Bay Steamer to Sorrento and back. Enquiries were made as to costs for train and ferry. The costs were considered to high and the idea was shelved, but not quite. This was in late 1884. Some of the committee members were also members of another social committee and this committee decided to give it a go. A date was chosen, Wednesday March 4th 1885. Tickets were sold and the Pioneers at the last minute decided to be involved. What follows is a verbatim copy take from our first minute book of the report written and presented to members by Mr A. C. Yandell.

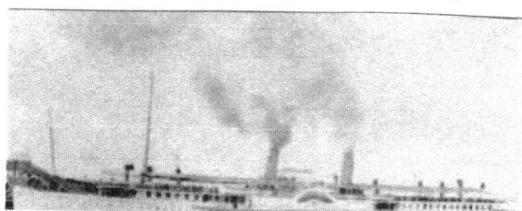
On Wednesday March 4th 1885 members were to be seen winding their way to our local railway station. The Old Pioneers were joining the "Castlemaine Citizens" picnic

excursion to Williamstown, a more lovely event could not have been chosen and all seemed bent on a happy outing. We took departure as soon as our Maldon friends by the quarter past seven a.m. train. Our train stopped at Chewton, Taradale, Malmsbury, arriving Kyneton 20 minutes behind time, however this was gained on our arrival at Williamstown. Some of our friends had grave doubts about our days enjoyment, as a light rain was falling and a cloudy sky seemed to darken their hopes. Here we were joined by brother member and highly esteemed representative in Parliament the Hon. J. B. Patterson. He had obviously come bent on seeing all make themselves happy, and all I think would agree with me he succeeded. About 10 miles down the Bay a beautiful breeze sprang up right into our face, causing some ripples on the nice green waves, but the good steamer LONSDALE

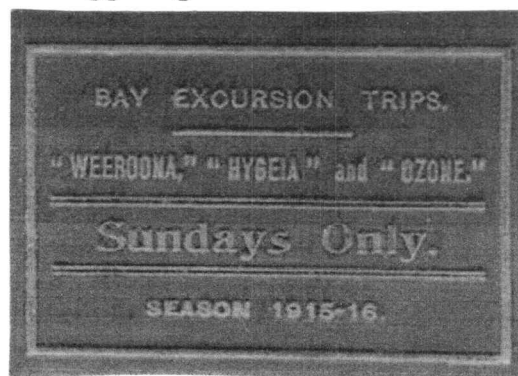


Bay steamer Lonsdale

behaved well and steady with not a roll or list in her. At the invitation of the Hon J.B. Patterson the Pioneers and Old Residents were invited to assemble in the Saloon and, there with champagne liberally by him several toast were heartily drank and responded too. The toast of prosperity to the Pioneers being given by the Captain, was responded to by founding member Mr. Yandell, then before we got this well over, Queenscliff appeared ahead, and all joined the company parading the decks. We soon made fast to the pier and a great number went ashore to view the cliffs and



famous lighthouse which is eighty feet in height. This was thrown open to visitors and proved a great attraction. Then the local defences were visited and the thirteen ton guns inspected, here everything appeared ready for action. The artillery were being drilled at the time. Around the rear of the Battery was a brick wall having iron doors and towers, the walls are loop hold. Having spent our time most enjoyably, our steamer was seen coming back from Sorrento, now all rushed back along the beach or street for the pier, here splendid fresh fish were awaiting to be taken into the cooks galley, to be served up in good style while on the way back. We arrived back at Williamstown at eight o'clock and our special train brought us safely home a little after 11pm. In conclusion I beg to move that a cordial vote of thanks be sent to our worthy representative of Parliament the Hon. J.B. Patterson. signed A.C. Yandell. Well there you are a first hand account of the very first excursion. Below are some interesting old photos relating to hugely, very popular event that ran from 1885 – 1942, 57 years. I will do some thinking as Dr. Ken suggested and come with some rather staggering statistics Ed.



Going back to the gold medallion, Edward Taylor our member who's name is on it, lead a very full life. A wife two daughters, a journalist, proprietor of the Castlemaine Leader, he was connected with the press for more than 60 years. He was a member of numerous Lodges and Organisations staying with them until his death. Pertaining to the article about the bay excursion earlier Mr Edward Taylor apart from being a founding member, he travelled down the bay 45 times. Among some of other; played football volunteer fire fire fighter (first secretary of Taradale Fire Brigade and was married for over 60 years. This is just a small sample of the mans life. I am looking forward to finding out more about this man. The English connection where this story started, and the Queensland connection who brought the medallion back to Australia are a agog curiosity of this mans story. Another story that is bubbling on the stove is the old Police Barracks house and its last occupants, the Morrow Ephemera project. From a very light foray into it, (there is so much to look at, sort through, and catalogue before putting the story together, here are a few old local business headings and cards.

14-16 TEMPLETON STREET, CASTLEMAINE.
TELEPHONE 191.

Aug 9th 1929

M^r. A. Morrow

Dr. to Castlemaine Art Furnishing Co.,

E. V. CLARKE.

Complete House Furnishers

AGENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER CO. Pty. Ltd.

M. W. Shelton, Printer, Castlemaine.

Mary Blue Pen



5 12 6
2 6
5 10 0

Castlemaine Presbyterian Church.

Grand Scottish Night

Scots Songs with Talk on Burns

Supper including HAGGIS

FAMILY TICKET 4/-

G. G. JUNIPER PRINTER, CASTLEMAINE

Borough of Castlemaine
Annual Election

Polling Day—
Thursday, 28th August, 1947
8 a.m.—7 p.m.

**VOTE FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE
CANDIDATES**

NESBIT, R. W. 3

Sheehan, N. 4

STEWART, T. C. 1

WEYNTON, A.G. 2

Remember fill in all spaces.

CASTLEMAINE CHAFF AND WOOD MILLS.

VOICE. *John Morrow* TEMPLETON STREET.....193

M.....

Please Receive from BASSETT BROS.,

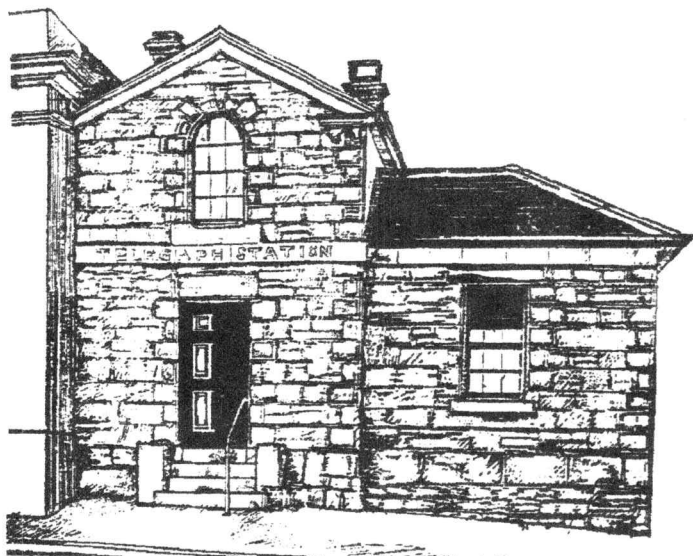
The undermentioned Goods, in good order and condition :—
ALL BAGS CHARGED FOR TILL RETURNED.

BAGS		TONS	CWT.	QRS.	LSB.	RATE.
	Chaff					
	Hay					
	Straw					
	Oats					
	Bran					
	Pollard					
	Wheat					
	Barley					
	Maize					
	Flour					

11 2/10
1-14
25

9th OCTOBER 1947 (77 years ago).

The monthly meeting was held in the committee room in the Faulder Watson hall at 8pm. The President Mr. Duggan in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed. Correspondence was received from the Income Tax Office with an assessment for the P & O R A, the secretary reported that Senator Sheehan had taken up question of tax on the association, that finality had not been reached. It was decided to send a vote of thanks to the Senator. In General business it was resolved that the necessary repairs be made to the ceiling in the back vestibule. The treasurer presented his report showing receipts and expenditure which was adopted. Balance in the working account £75 – 8 – 11d. The President declared the meeting closed.



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

19th SEPTEMBER 2024 (last month).

At the last meeting several books were donated to our library (we are still looking for a librarian), one deserves special mention. **GOLD & CHINESE In Australia 1851-1900s.** Written by Derrick I Stone. Price \$145 plus postage & handling. I hear you gasp, but readers it is worth every cent. The book covers Where Chinese goldseekers ventured and what was left behind. The quality of the book cover, pages, print, illustrations are all what you would expect for such a price. Why did the author gift such a quality book to the Pioneers I also hear you ask? A couple of years ago your hard working secretary U.P. was asked by the author for permission to use a copy of our Edwin Stocqeler 1858 painting Castlemaine from ten foot hill, I said yes. The gift is Derrick's way of saying thankyou.

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

*Next Monthly Meeting
Thursday 17th October 2024 7-30pm.*

*Malcome Harris member of the famous old
Castlemaine Bacon Factory
A trip down memory lane for a lot of us*

Family and friends welcome.

