



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 54723285 • Secretary: Judy Eastwood.

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 November. 2024. 45 days until Christmas 51 days to the New Year.

Monday 4th November The Old Telegraph Station Barker St Castlemaine, blue sky, cool wind and the lawn mowers out in force. Once again an agenda with a lot to digest. Item no 1. **The February Excursion.** Leave Castlemaine approx 7am by coach (to cope with any traffic delays). Arrive at docklands in time to catch the 9-30am ferry to Portarlington. Cruise across the Bay in comfort and style taking in the scenic vistas, the trip takes about 1 hour 15 minutes. Arriving at Portarlington a free courtesy bus will convey us to the Golf Club for a leisurely lunch. After lunch you can catch a courtesy bus back to Portarlington and look at the shops, or stay at the golf club play the pokies, enjoy the ambience and views. Then its back to the ferry and home getting back to Castlemaine approx 5- 5-30pm. Maybe some of our new members might like to come along and join us, or family, friends etc. **Cost.** The coach 50 seats costs \$1100. The ferry and 2 course lunch costs \$65 per head \$60 if the group is 25 or more. Total cost of coach & ferry \$4100. according to my calculator. A full bus makes the cost \$82 a head. Being realistic selling 50 seats is unlikely. My suggestion is to keep the cost down to \$100 per seat and run a raffle. A Christmas Raffle of three Christmas hampers, starting on Saturday 30th November, drawn at our Christmas breakup the 19th December. I am prepared to man a street stall selling tickets to the public. Selling 35 seats \$3500, the shortfall would be \$600. Because of the way that business is conducted these days, all money has to be paid up front and by electronic transfer. To cover ourselves financially if you elect to go, you must pay up front if you don't go, there are no refunds. Names and money taken at the November meeting. (the treasurer will have our "tap & go" machine operating"). This will be discussed at the next meeting to see if it is a goer or not. 35 seats, money up front! The last meeting was very well attended, Vice President Judy conducted a nice meeting. The guest speaker Malcolm Harris a member of the famous Castlemaine Bacon Factory Harris family. Malcolm worked in the

family business for many years, covering the years of its greatest growth. How the company grew, was well known from Castlemaine to Cairns. He illustrated his talk with many old company photos which aroused a lot of interest as they were passed around. After the meeting he left the photos behind for us to scan and add to our collection. Question time was very lively and informative. It was a great meeting, one out of the box. As was our car pooling trip to the Rochester Historical Society. Did you know that there appears to be a surfeit of toilets in our Botanical Gardens? Leave 8-30 am from the car park near the toilets in the gardens, were the instructions. The leader, me, was there at 8-15. 8-45, not a soul, so off I go with the Chief and Marli our passenger. I set off thinking "what a to-do this is, I have lost my sheep". Arrived at the Rochester Bakery, settled down to coffee, a sausage roll and cake. When who should appear, the rest of the flock wagging their tail behind them. Apparently there are two sets of toilets on two separate sides of the gardens. Someone got it wrong. After everyone was watered and fed, we saw some real watering and feeding. A promotion for the Melbourne Cup was doing a country tour. It arrived at the bakery just as we were about to leave. Two beautiful cup winners came into the gardens beside the bakery. The bakery staff came out bearing gifts, salad rolls and fruit buns, and a good time was had by all. In the afternoon the actual cup would be on display in the in the Sporting Museum on the railway station. See the the accompanying photos take by our own photographer extraordinaire, Lois Barry). Then it was off over the river to the historical museum in High St. I am going to digress at this point and continue with museum on the next page. Melva will be in hospital when you get this newsletter, getting a knee re-construction job done. Treasurer Gary should be resting at home after undergoing medical procedure. Barbara kept me on my toes last week with a suspected heart attack. On a brighter note Aileen Cracknell celebrated her 90th birthday last week.

Fantastic, the only word to describe this superb collection, covering every aspect of a living, breathing community, both past and present. All facets of life are covered in a way that tells Rochester's story from its beginning to the present day. Scouts and Guides, local council, religion, sporting clubs, the armed services, transport, trade & commerce, schools, kinder, primary, secondary, farming, agriculture and its shows, yes folks its all there, and more. Set out in a very user friendly way. There was not a spec of dust to be seen, The silver (there is a lot of it cups, trophies etc), all lovingly polished on a regular basis. Included in the display is a collection of everyday items used in the home, empty food packets, source& cordial bottles, tins of fruit, jam cereal packets etc and including an eclectic collection of old radios that brought back memories of the golden days of radio. Blue Hills, Dad & Dave, Pick a Box Jack Davy etc. The most astounding thing that stood out to me about this museum, its buildings and lovely surrounds is, the fact that it is run and maintained by an extremely small group of volunteers. Les than a dozen and most around the 80 years of age. They were extremely welcoming, helpful and knew their stuff. At the entrance sat a grandmother, daughter and grand daughter making woollen red poppies for remembrance day, the whole place was very welcoming. One Could make a full day out visiting the two museums, the Sporting Museum at the railway station in the morning. lunch cafe, pub or a picnic in the grounds of the museum, just over the river. It was a wonderful, wonderful day out.





Mr. Edward Taylor.

Who was this man? Readers may remember the story in last months newsletter about a gold medallion surfacing at an antique fair in England 20 years ago. It was presented to this man by the Pioneers in 1905. It made its way back to Castlemaine via a Queensland reader. The photo shows a rather serious looking man, but looks can be deceiving. Edward was Hon secretary of the Pioneers from 1920-1930 and President in 1918. He was a staunch supporter of the Annual Excursion travelling down the bay to Sorrento 45 times, (the medallion was presented to him for his service to the Excursion Committee). However there is much more to this man. One of his death notices reads: *Veteran Journalist Dies. Castlemaine. Tuesday Mr. Edward Taylor veteran journalist of Castlemaine and Taradale died today aged 87. He had been connected with the press for more than 60 years, and was proprietor of the Castlemaine Leader. He was recognised as a district historian. His funeral was described in the local press. Lodge Members March at Funeral of Pioneer Resident Mr. Edward Taylor. Mr. Taylor who was the oldest male living native in Castlemaine. He was associated with the printing industry for over 60 years. After attending school at Harcourt and Taradale commenced to learn the trade at the latter place. He was subsequently employed by both the "Guardian" and "Observer" before going to the defunct Daylesford "Herald". Returning to Castlemaine Mr. Taylor became foreman printer of the Mount Alexander "Mail". After six years he bought the "Leader", another local*

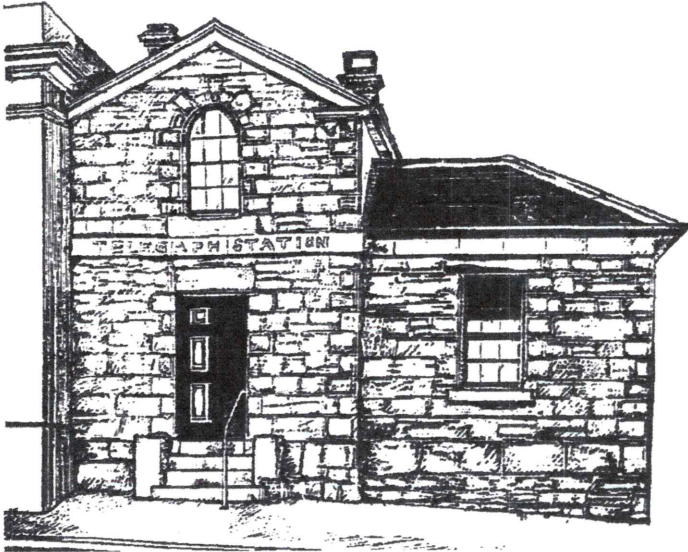
newspaper. For 20 years Mr. Taylor conducted the paper. When he retired he had been associated with his trade for 60 years and a day. It was further reported,

He Can Claim Records.

In addition to being the oldest Castlemaine native resident in the town, Mr. Taylor can claim many interesting, if not unique records. He was born near where the Camp Reserve is situated. His wife was the niece of a former Lord Mayor of London (Sir Henry Knight), they were married the wedding, took place at Holy Trinity Church of England Taradale, on April 25 1881. He is:- The last foundation member of the Corinella Mark Lodge, No 18. An exceptionally old member of the Loyal Southern Cross G.U.O.O.F which he joined in 1872. (This may be a world's record). The only original member of the Castlemaine Pioneers & Old Residents Association. A former Castlemaine League footballer. and an ex-fireman, having been the first secretary of the Taradale Fire Brigade. In my opinion this rather serious looking man was an exceptionally intelligent and nice man. To have run a newspaper for so many years, been a member of so many prominent local organisations (and held high office), requires very high people skills and a genuine interest in other peoples welfare. A short service at home and at the graveside took place and the beautiful polished casket was covered with many beautiful floral tributes. The list of names reads like a Castlemaine Who's, Who. at that time. The worshipful master, officers and brethren of the Corinella Merk Lodge. Mr. C. C. Juniper Leader Printing Works. members of the A. N. A. Castlemaine Citizens Pioneer Excursion Committee. Worshipful master, officers and brethren of the Mount Alexander Lodge. Officers and members of the G.U.O.O.F. Pioneers and Old Residents Association. Red Cross Society. Church of England Ladies Society. Mr. and Mrs. J. Daniels (neighbours for 41 years. The Old Boys Association. The casket was carried from the hearse to the grave by: Messrs C. Gaulton (A.N.A.). R. Butterworth (Pioneers Excursion) and W. Cooper, while Messrs W. Chapman (Mt Alexander Lodge) T. Hattam, A. Pensom, (Church of England). J. Daniels, R. Coakley (Old Boys), and G,D McLean (A.N.A.) acted as pall bearers. Quite a man and a great asset to Castlemaine.

130 years ago. 30th November 1894.

The 30th November will long remain a red letter day in the annals of the Pioneers & Old Residents Association. The occasion was the laying of the foundation stone of the Pioneers new hall. Which is to be called the Faulder Watson Hall, named after the late husband of Mrs. Faulder Watson, who donated £250 to the hall building fund. At the December meeting Mr. Cornish moved that consideration to furnishing the new hall should be undertaken now for when it was completed, such as seating. Mr. Williams thought that chairs would do, as many halls in Melbourne had chairs. There was further discussion as to who should choose the chairs and how much should be put aside. It was decided that a committee would decide when the hall was completed and that committee would make the decisions.



35 years ago. 9th November 1989.

Meeting opened at 7-35 Bill Webb in the chair and 12 members present. The President reported that the "Council was not at present interested in installing fluorescent lights in the Faulder Watson Hall. Keith White moved, Cliff Sheehan seconded that we let the hall to Roma Ivetic for a donation of \$55 day session, plus a donation after her Christmas concert. The treasurer reported a credit balance of \$1146.60c. The correspondence was dealt with as read. From John Brumby M.H.R. insisting a representative to attend the foundation meeting of a committee to gain World Heritage Listing for the Victorian Gold Fields. Keith White Vern Pollard seconded that Bill Webb and John Yandell the luncheon and meeting at Maldon. (apparently we carried a bit of weight 35 years ago, and still do it seems. A proposal to join another group trying to promote a similar thing we voted too "Take no action" have come back for another bite of the cherry offering to select some one to represent us in their group. If we are to be represented, we should at least I believe, choose our own representative". Ed.

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Next Monthly Meeting:

Thursday November 21st 2024

At the Old Telegraph Station 208 Barker St. castlemaine.

Guest Speaker

Lyn Cooper one of her ancestors was a policeman in Castlemaine in the very early days of gold. You will be riveted to your seats as her story unfolds.

A very exciting tale of gold the Chinese and gratitude. **A guest speaker not to be missed.**

Family & Friends most welcome.

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

