

President: Judith Kershaw
5568 2791

Vice President: Peter Grenfell
5568 3004

Secretary: Anne McLean
5568 1828

Treasurer: Graeme Kershaw
5568 2791

Archivist: Lyn Brown
5568 1266

Curator: Lynda Tieman
5568 1432

Committee Members:
Margaret Collins 5568 2339
Andrea Coney 0457 777330
Carol Heard 0418 567437
Angela Syme 5568 2632
Heather Templeton 5568 1515
Jan Willey 0427 340762

Museum and Archives:
30 Gipps Street, Port Fairy, 3284

Website:
www.historicalsociety.port-fairy.com

Phone: (03) 5568 2263

Email:
pfhsmuseumandarchives@gmail.com

Post to: P O Box 152
Port Fairy 3284

PORT FAIRY IN THE FIFTIES



The busy year for the Society continued with an excursion to the Macarthur area on 13 November, and special openings while the Great Victorian Bike Ride was in Port Fairy on 26 and 27 November.

There was then a good attendance for a workshop about digitisation for Victorian Collections that was held on 3 and 4 December. For this, the expert speaker travelled to Port Fairy for the event; a refreshing change because usual invitations ask people to go to Melbourne for workshops like this.

The "Port Fairy In The Fifties" museum display, set up before the Vintage Weekend in September, has helped to draw good attendance figures. A special section featuring Graham Woodrup and his marathon rides became a popular addition for the Great Bike Ride. These two special displays will continue through January.

Pictures on this page are from our Website and Facebook pages. Our thanks to Andrea Lowenthal and Carol Heard who manage these pages.

MEETING DATES

General Meetings

Tuesday 14 January 2020

7.30 PM at the Museum

Tuesday 11 February 2020

7.30 PM at the Museum

Annual General Meeting

Regular Working Party Tasks, Monday Mornings from 10 AM resume 20 Jan.

Usual Museum Times 2 to 5 PM (last entry 4.30 PM) on Saturday and Wednesday and 10.30 AM to 12.30 PM on Sunday (last entry 12 Noon).

It is Annual Meeting Time and Assistance is needed

The usual notices for the Port Fairy Historical Society Annual General Meeting on 11 February are shown on the next page.

In recent years there have been many long serving committee members. This has usually resulted in the nomination of people ready to stand being identified by the Committee for election to an agreed succession of executive positions.

For next year at least two long serving members are standing down and new committee members will be needed. At this time, we also know of no offers of people to stand for the position of President.

Nominations will be needed from our membership. It is always more comfortable at the Annual Meeting to have nominations known before the meeting, but our rules allow for additional nominations for any position to be put in at the meeting. Seconders are not needed and people may self-nominate.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30 PM, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

The rules say the Annual Meeting must:

- Confirm the minutes of the previous annual meeting and of the most recent General Meeting.
- Receive and consider the annual report of the Committee on the activities during the previous year.
- Receive and consider the financial statements for the preceding financial year.
- Elect the members of the Committee.
- Confirm or vary the annual subscriptions.
- Conduct any other business of which notice has been given. If any members wish to place business on notice for the Annual Meeting please submit details in time for distribution to others before the Meeting.

Proxies

A member may appoint another member as a proxy to act for for him or her. It must be given in writing and signed by the member making the appointment.

Annual Report of the Committee

It is usual for the report on activities over the past 12 months to note achievements, hopes, and issues that may need to be resolved; with contributions from the President, Curator, Archivist, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

Election of the Committee

Procedures for nomination are much simpler than they once were, people can self-nominate and seconds are not needed.

The rules specify four committee positions that must be filled as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Annual Meeting decides which other committee members should be elected.

For 2019 the number of other committee members was increased to become a Curator, an Archivist, and six Ordinary Members. This brought active new people to the committee. This increase to maintain a committee of 12 is a likely recommendation for 2020.

Annual Subscriptions (To be decided)

Membership fees adopted at the 2019 Annual Meeting for one year were \$20 Single and \$25 Family; for three years \$50 Single and \$60 Family. We have no joining fee. 'Newsletter only' membership was \$10.

Other Standard Charges

Entry fees for the museum have been \$5 for adults, \$1 teenagers 12-18, children free. Special Openings to be set at \$5 per person with a minimum total of \$40. School groups as negotiated but with no charge for Port Fairy schools.

Fees for research conducted have started at \$30.

Committee Meetings

At least four scheduled committee meetings to provide more time for business not able to be covered at general meetings. Other meetings called if necessary. The Committee will recommend the pattern for 2020.

General Meetings

Plans are normally decided at the Annual Meeting. In recent years the general meetings have been held at the History Centre at 7.30 PM on second Tuesdays, with the AGM in February and other General Meetings in January, April, May, September, October, and November. There has been an aim to have guest speakers at (say) four of them, but help from members to identify suitable guest speakers is always needed. Business at General Meetings includes usual meeting routines, such as reports from the committee, correspondence, and financial reports.

Business on notice can be handled at the AGM or at any other general meeting. Discussion of issues that may result in recommendations to the Committee can also happen at any of these meetings.

Luncheons

Our recent history shows luncheons replacing general meetings in July and December. These have been well supported and their continuation may be recommended. Advice from members about suitable venues will be welcome.

Excursions

We have previously aimed to have two or more visits to places of interest as a regular part of our annual program.

President's Notes January 2020

What a three years it has been in my time as President! Many great achievements, and a few challenges.

The major achievement was to build a stand-alone Archives Facility, and to secure funding from various sources for the building itself, and the internal fittings needed to make the facility workable. Several members have worked consistently to reach our goal, especially Peter Grenfell who wrangled the necessary paperwork, and liaised with Moyne Shire, tradesmen and Heritage Victoria.

At the same time, re-accreditation with Museums Australia (Vic.) was due in 2018. This is always a demanding and time consuming process, and Lynda Tieman was the guiding light. Our Society was in the first group of organisations to be granted accreditation in 1998, so being re-accredited for another five years, makes 25 years of top museum practice. Lynda is to be thanked for her sterling efforts during 25 years as curator of the museum collection. Following the AGM in 2019, we have recruited members to form two committees aimed at making our museum easier to run; and to spread the responsibility for the collection, and presenting new exhibitions, across a range of people. So far this plan has worked very well.

At the AGM on 11 February 2020, I will have served three years as president, and now it is time to move on and to let others take their turn. It is always an honour to be chosen to take on official positions such as president, secretary, treasurer, collection manager or archivist, but success, or otherwise, is dependent on the support and assistance from all members; and in this matter I have been very fortunate.

Thank you to Peter Grenfell, Anne McLean, Graeme Kershaw, Lynda Tieman, Lyn Brown and the other members of the committee for your dedication and support.

The Society is in need of members who are prepared to join the committee; or to take on the role of president to work with the committee and to run meetings. You will not be on your own, as most of the current committee members will be returning, and are very experienced. Angela Syme and I are the only two retiring members. Thank you Angela for your work on the committee for many years, and your three years as president.

Please do not be stand back and assume someone else will do the very rewarding jobs of official positions and committee membership. Think: What can I do? The Port Fairy Historical Society, with its Museum & Archives, is well known for its success in many areas; now is your chance to be recognised as part of that success.

MACARTHUR AND BUDJ BIM EXCURSION

Our guide, Terry Sparrow, met us at the Macarthur Town Hall with stories relating to the Town Hall building and the commercial centre around it. He then took us across the road to the Memorial Rose Garden, a tribute that includes recognition of those who became the soldier settlement pioneers in the Macarthur district.

An invitation from the Macarthur Historical Society followed, with a visit to their museum in the former courthouse. Both the Rose Garden and the Museum are notable features well worth return visits.

Terry then took us to Mount Eccles and Lake Surprise, the north eastern edge of the Budj Bim Cultural Precinct that has recently been given World Heritage Listing. Lava channels and other features in this area are significant, but the evidence of ancient settlements and aquaculture needs to be accessed through Tyrendarra. Developments to provide more access to the Budj Bim Precinct are expected to take some years, with precautions needed to avoid damage.



Terry Sparrow talking with the excursion group at the Lake Surprise lookout.

Terry told to us about his own background and provided insight into a life starting on a small farm very near to Mount Eccles. His activities as a child; his schooling at the Lake Gorrie Primary School (he showed us the building that remains) and by bus to Hamilton Technical School before he left school and had to leave home to fend for himself at age 14; and his later employment history; gave us fascinating stories.

Terry made the stories even more relevant when he spoke about the recent placing of a memorial plaque near the property in Lake Gorrie Road in memory of the five members of his Sparrow family who lost their lives due to the 1946 floods.

His bicycle, and part part of the museum display recognising achievements of Graham Woodrup

Cycling details shown at the Museum list long distance record times starting with Melbourne to Adelaide and back to Port Fairy in 1977, then six others between 1978 and 1986.

In 1988 he set a time of 10 days, 17 hours, 56 minutes and 35 seconds for his ride from Perth to Sydney.

With his wife Hester "Woody" was part of the first Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay from Mildura to Port Fairy in 1987 and helped to make this a most successful annual event. His memory is celebrated with the Graham Woodrup Memorial Award given each year as "Woody's Murray to Moyne" cycling event continues



From Murray to Moyne History (Internet)

The Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay had a humble beginning, when in 1987, Hester Woodrup and a team of Port Fairy women challenged her husband, Graham 'Woody' Woodrup, the Port Fairy Apex Club and another team of local identities to ride in relay from the Murray River in Mildura to the Moyne River in Port Fairy. The very first ride, which would raise money for the Port Fairy Hospital, started at 2pm on Saturday afternoon and with riding through the night, was completed within 24 hours. Right from the first ride Woody saw the potential for the event and his dynamic personality and enthusiasm in those early years established the M2M and enabled it to grow into the huge event it has become today.

That growth saw the event go from raising \$10,000 in 1987 to an estimated \$1.3m in 2011 when 1,204 riders representing 150 organisations rode on behalf of hospitals and health services throughout Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

Woody himself was a cyclist of some repute with his legendary feats including riding from Perth to Sydney in 1988. Many other rides were ridden and cycling records broken in order to raise money for the Port Fairy Hospital.

Tragically, Woody's life ended while on a training ride on the 17th February 1992.

In memory of this marathon man of Australian cycling, and to honour his commitment to raising funds for hospitals and health services, the Murray to Moyne continues on today, some 25 years* after its inception. [**Now 32 years*]



The words on the photograph read
Graham 25

BELFAST GAZETTE 1870

Provision for school education was a major issue in the lead up to the Victorian Education Act of 1872 that is commonly said to have provided for school education to be “Free, Secular and Compulsory”.

With separation from New South Wales in 1851 the state accepted major responsibility for education. Victoria inherited a dual system of publicly funded schools. Funding was distributed through a Denominational Board and a National Board. These became a single Board of Education in 1862 and the schools became “Common Schools”.

The 1872 Act established an Education Department, and most of the religious denominations, with the exception of the Catholics, allowed their schools to be part of this new system.

Belfast Gazette Editorial JAN. 20th 1870.

The approaching session of Parliament will see another vigorous attempt to amend the present monstrously extravagant and deplorably inefficient system of Government-subsidised Education. The keynote has already been struck in the voluntary surrender of the denominational privileges by a body which has held them in their particular school since 1854, in that constituency which has the honour to be represented in the Legislature by the Hon. George Higinbotham.

It is notorious that the great majority of youths educated in endowed schools in large towns, leave them after many years' constant attendance, barely able to spell a simple word correctly, or distinguish between the different parts of speech. We have under our own personal notice many such instances, and yet the masters of the schools in which these youths have been trained, have been drawing salaries from the Government and parents of the children in every case much greater than the graduates of Oxford or Cambridge receive in the public and the best conducted private schools in England.

If this is the case in towns, what must be the state of Education in country places. Mr Higinbotham says that in places where he has travelled, the children are described as growing up “like young kangaroos.” This description is undoubtedly true, though it is lamentable to be compelled to admit it.

We have ourselves witnessed in the Police Court in the town several cases in which young persons could not be sworn through ignorance; either the fault of parents or of circumstances. In one case we remember a very serious charge against a youth had to be dismissed through the complainant, a girl of fourteen, not having been to school or church for years, and who was ignorant of the existence of a God or of the obligation of speaking the truth; and on more than one occasion we have heard our respected Police Magistrate reprimand parents for the heathenish way in which their children were being brought up.

A great deal of this- [*two words not legible*] - barbarism may be directly traceable to the weakness of the Government in yielding to the clamour of a small section of the community. In Heales's Education Act, if honestly and fearlessly administered, there is sufficient power to provide some means of education in country places. The bitterness of falsely called *religious* differences, however has defeated the intention of the framers of the Act, and keeps the country places in almost hopeless bestialism.

It requires, no doubt, a large amount of courage to face a noisy and pertinacious priesthood intent on wringing from the State an endowment of their peculiar method of instruction. There will always be a class of men who dread self-reliance, and cling to pauperism as though it was part of their very existence. This class, fortunately for humanity, is small, but nevertheless it has up to the present time had power enough to defeat every scheme that has been devised for advancing the civilization of the masses of our fellow creatures.

By listening to these agitators the Government has ignored the principle of legislating for the greatest happiness of the greatest number, and has subjected the majority to the despotic will of the minority.

We trust the inhabitants of the country will not remain the supine victims of a selfish and pauper agitation when the next Bill for providing a national system of secular education comes before the country, but that they will hold public meetings and petition in overwhelming numbers, and insist on the country being saved from sinking into utter barbarism, which it is rapidly doing under the present execrable Education system.

Belfast Gazette Editorial 13 JAN. 1870

[Pressure to promote Adult Education.]

The Annual meeting of the subscribers to the Mechanics' Institute will afford an opportunity to bring forward the establishment of a library in this town. We say a library advisedly, because we know of no collection of books accessible to the general public of Belfast, which is worthy of such a designation.

It is true the shelves of the Mechanics' Institute present an array of volumes which at first sight would lead to the supposition that a valuable library was one of the attractions of that otherwise well conducted and agreeable place or resort, but a closer examination tends rather to a conclusion that the works have been selected much on the same principle as that which actuated a wealthy but unlettered boor who, hearing that his establishment was without a library, ordered his storekeeper to send him "a ton of books".

To over a thousand volumes possessed by the Mechanics' Institute, we may say without fear of contradiction that there are none whatever of the slightest value as works of reference. The shelves are filled with novels, and many of these of the most trashy descriptions, but standard works in Political Economy, Philology, History, Biography, and Poetry are conspicuous by their absence. The committee who have chosen the additions to the so-called library at various times, have no doubt consulted the taste of the subscribers, and in times gone by, when society here was unsettled, books which could be hastily read, and which required no thought, were found ample for all requirements.

A different and more hopeful state of affairs now exists; mutual improvement societies are springing up in our midst, and a growing taste for study is rapidly displacing that former craving for sensational literature. Some of the essays written by the young men of this town and read before the Mutual Improvement Society in its last session were highly creditable for their authors, but in many instances the writers were fettered by the want of access to works of reference for verification of the facts. - - -

The reading room of the institute is well supplied with periodicals and newspapers - - - but there is a danger of the institution degenerating into a mere newsroom for evening resort unless the library receives more liberal and more enlightened attention than it has done for the last few years.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE

6 January 1870

THE HARBOUR WORKS.—The second contract of Messrs. J. & R. Gibson for the Belfast Harbour Works is now nearly completed; the contractors have made very rapid progress during the last few months. We are informed that the additional grant passed in the supplementary Estimates for carrying on the work until Parliament again meets will be available, Messrs. Gibson having agreed to the continuation of their contract at schedule prices.

13 January 1870

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS.—The numerous works of improvements and new buildings now in progress in Belfast, besides affording employment for a large number of masons, carpenters, and labourers, show that the residents have confidence in the future prosperity of the place. The new Bank of Victoria is now nearly completed. The alterations and additions to the Customs House are making rapid progress. On the additions to the Court House a considerable number of masons are employed and the contractors, Messrs. Gibson and Co., are quickly pushing on with the work.

The new causeway of solid masonry between the lighthouse and the quarters is about three parts finished. The manner in which this work is being executed reflects no little credit on the contractors, Messrs. Southcombe and Ireland.

The stonework of the Wesleyan School room, a building of blue stone, 50 feet long and very lofty, is approaching completion, and the substantial two-storied stone store, erected by Mr McMahan in Bank-street is also nearly finished, and is quite an ornament to that portion of the town. We hear that several other private buildings and stores, are shortly to be commenced, amongst which are places of business for a grocer, a watchmaker, and a butcher.

BOTANICAL GARDENS.—The Botanical Gardens now present a very beautiful appearance from the number of plants in flower. We are glad to see that nearly all the young trees and shrubs planted last winter have rooted and some of them are making new wood. The gardens are kept very neat and tidy, and the tasteful style in which the new beds are laid out reflect great credit upon the curator, Mr. Prior.

Glimpses from 100 years ago

Port Fairy Gazette

1920

8 January 1920

“ON OUR SELECTION”

Next Tuesday night the Bert Bailey and Julius Grant Comedy Company will make a reappearance in Port Fairy, and will stage the evergreen, ever popular comedy drama, “On Our Selection”. Most people have read Steele Rudd’s books, and they know the particular atmosphere he has created; the rough and tumble humour, and the undercurrent of serious truth running through his series of pictures. The life of the selector is at no times burlesqued, but these plays are immensely humorous throughout, and there is a touch of very valid reality in these wonderful plays. Old Dad is a character typical of what everyone who has travelled in the bush knows by heart. Rough in exterior, abstinent in argument, not always reasonable, inclined to play the tyrant in small affairs in the home, yet has a heart of oak, and in all his ways that really matter, he is the best of parents. The younger members of the family are just such boys and girls as are growing up today on small farms where the parents have to fight long strenuous battles, and pass middle age before success appears as a tangible reality. The play will appear in Port Fairy for one night only. Patrons are advised to reserve their seats.

STOCK PRODUCTION

Speaking at the opening of the Matangi Glaxo factory, the New Zealand Prime Minister referred to the danger where the whole body of the milk was utilised for manufacture as at present, of the country becoming depleted of stock, owing to the lack of skim milk and whey for feeding the young animals. He would not suggest that they should curtail the dried milk industry, but they would have to find some other suitable food upon which young stock could be reared. There are other ways to raise cattle than on the bucket, - - -

12 January 1920

JANUARY VISITORS.

Though a good few Christmas and New Year holiday-makers have now taken their departure the accommodation in the town is heavily taxed and is likely to be for many weeks to come. Every business person has had the busiest time of his life, especially those who provide anything in the eating line. Wimmera and other inland residents are now amongst us in this ideal seaside resort.

12 January 1920

SPEED OF MOTOR CARS ON BEACH ROAD

The excessive speed with which motor cars are driven into and along the South Beach road has created quite a scare amongst the women and children who use the thoroughfare on their way to Boarding School Bay. A local resident saw several narrow escapes last week, and heard ladies and little children screaming as they hurried off the road, out of the reach of the madly driven cars. A few years ago, there were notices warning motorists to slow down before entering the Beach road and then drive on at a speed not exceeding 8 miles to the beach. The notices have disappeared, and the Council should display fresh ones and request the proper officer and the police to give immediate attention to the numerous complaints before someone is maimed or killed.

FORMATION OF CRICKET CLUB

It is 14 years since there was a decent cricket club established in the town. A few mushroom affairs sprung up since, but no truly representative club was formed or matches played. - - - Tonight (Monday) a meeting of members and intending members will be held in the borough room, at 7.30 to form a club. [To be called the Belfast and District Cricket Club.]

COMPULSORY CADET TRAINING

To comply with the requirements of the Defence Act youths who reach the age of fourteen by 31st December next must register for compulsory naval or military service. Forms of registration can be obtained from area officers, or at the post offices, and the youths must register in January or February of this year. Failure to obey the law involves a penalty not exceeding £10.

RECORD BREAKER FINED

Harold Parsons, the motor cyclist, who reduced the motor cycle record between Adelaide and Melbourne by fifteen minutes on December 17 last, was charged at the Casterton court last week by the police with driving his vehicle through Henty-street on that occasion at an excessive speed. Constable Howe stated that defendant came down Henty-street between 60 and 70 miles an hour and the noise made by his machine brought a number of people out from the places of business. There was a number of vehicles in the street, horses played up, and, in one instance, an accident was narrowly averted. Mr Murrell, J.P., said this sort of thing should be put down strongly. He had seen the incident himself. A fine of £2 was imposed, and a month was allowed to obtain the defendant’s licence for endorsement.

22 January 1920

STREET LIGHTING.

There is a wonderful improvement in the condition of the street lighting in most parts of the borough, as compared with a few months back, and the numerous visitors who are about at night make no secret of their delight at seeing such an effulgence of light from gas-lamps cast on footpaths and streets. New lamps have been erected, the one at the corner of Cox and Sackville streets being a particularly powerful and brilliant one. The borough should be well lit before the winter is upon us.

26 January 1920

MIXED BATHING.

A writer in a Mount Gambier paper says, "Portland people, if one may judge by the best of them, are neither parochial nor puritanical. They are open to the receipt of new ideas and to the adoption of new customs—such, for instance, as mixed bathing, which, when properly conducted, is quite decent and does no harm. At Portland, on the contrary, this seaside pleasure, by a recent edict of the Town Council, is still taboo." We are not aware that this restriction exists at Portland, but, if such be the case, its observance is little heeded by the numerous bathers who throng the beach in hundreds the whole day long.

29 January 1920

COMPULSORY VACCINATION LAW AMENDED.

The health of a child is now regarded as a matter of importance in connection with vaccination, and parents who think their children will suffer in health by being vaccinated are now provided with a "loop-hole" for escape under the provisions of the amended Act that provides that the parent of any child shall not be liable to any penalty for non-vaccination if such parent makes, within four months of the birth of the child a statutory declaration that he conscientiously believes vaccination would be prejudicial to the health of the child.

MONEY IN RABBITS

Owing to the high prices ruling for rabbit skins, experienced rabbiters are making up to £15 per week in parts of N.S.W. The school children have taken advantage of the boom to acquire much pocket money during the holidays, and all sorts and conditions of amateurs, from theological students downwards, are replenishing their purses by making raids upon Brer Rabbit.

29 January 1920

FEMININE FASHIONS.

Rev. Father M'Gloin (formerly of Warrnambool), preaching at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, on Sunday on the subject of Pride and Humility, made reference to the indecency in style of dress worn by many married women and girls of various ages at the present day. The scanty attire was said to be in accord with up-to-date fashions, but it was nevertheless, said Rev. M'Gloin, an abhorrence to all decent-minded men and women. Humility and modesty should go hand in hand, but some women, anxious to be in the ruck of fashions, lost all self-respect and decency in the matter of dress.

DREDGING OF THE MOYNE RIVER.

The dredge Priestman is to do the work of removing the sand-bar at the mouth of the Moyne River, a driver having arrived this week to work the dredge. Mr Northey, the supervisor, states he has ample supply of coal for 10 or 12 days' dredging, and, with fine weather, the river should be dredged by the Priestman in that time to enable the steamer Casino to negotiate the river comfortably. A crew of 13 men was required, and it is possible the number will be secured by this morning.

BLIND ENTERTAINMENT.

The Port Fairy Lecture Hall was far, far too large for the audience which assembled here on Monday night to participate in a concert given by the Blind Company of performers. There was a beggarly array of empty forms and chairs. Perhaps the wet and boisterous night was the cause of this, but there was an absence of organisation, although the object should have appealed to all in the borough. The program was an excellent one.

SATURDAY CLOSING

Since 1914, when the law was amended to provide for a universal half-holiday throughout Victoria, the tendency has been gradually to adopt Saturday as that day. There were at one time about 150 separate localities observing other days than Saturday. However that number has gradually reduced - - - As time goes on, it is believed that, with the exception of such places as Queenscliff, Portsea and other places where numbers of holiday makers go on Saturday, the whole of Victoria will have adopted the Saturday half-holiday, and will enjoy the benefits contained in the Act.

9 February 1920

ANZAC DAY.

Ever since the untried Australian troops, with a dash and gallantry that astonished the world, hurled themselves onto the beach at Gallipoli, the day of the famous landing—April 25, 1915, has been celebrated in a more or less unofficial manner by Australians. Throughout the subsequent war years, Anzac day was always recognised as soldiers' day, when tribute was paid to the gallant dead and the equally gallant living who were fighting on the other side of the world for their country. With the ending of the war, it has frequently been suggested that this day, which has been described by some as the anniversary of the day on which Australia truly became a nation, should be permanently preserved in the calendar. Henceforth this will be the case. The Federal Cabinet, at its meeting on Wednesday, discussed the matter, and subsequently the Prime Minister announced that it has been decided to set apart Anzac Day (25th April) as a national holiday to celebrate the part played by Australia in the great war.

19 February 1920

HORSE KILLED BY BEES.

On Saturday, a number of young men from the Kirkstall district drove to the Koroit picnic races and tied up their horses in the yard of an obliging neighbour, but they failed to notice five beehives in the vicinity of the horses. When the men had gone to the races, the horses became restive, and knocked the beehives over, when the bees at once attacked them. Four of the horses broke away, but the other was tied too securely to get loose, and was attacked by the whole five swarms of bees. When discovered it was on the ground and appeared to be in great agony. It died shortly afterwards.

26 February 1920

POST OFFICE FOOTBRIDGE.

A small footbridge in front of the post office in Sackville street has been removed by the road overseer, by order of the council. The bridge is the property of the Postal department but it has become dangerous and was put out of use by the public. The department took no action to put the structure in order—indeed they contended that they did not own it—and as it was considered to be an obstruction in the street its removal was ordered. The footbridge is an absolute necessity at this particular spot.

26 February 1920

BUTTER RISES.

The Federal Government has acceded to the strong representations recently made on behalf of the dairying interests that the price of butter sold for local consumption should be increased. The wholesale price has been increased to 1/9½d, which will probably mean that the householder will have to pay two shillings per lb. The new price is expected to operate from today.

A BACHELOR TAX.

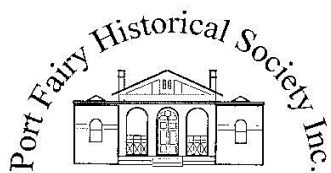
We want home raised population more than ever before; and never was the outlook in this respect so bad as now. Never was the starting of homes wanted to a greater degree than now; and never was there greater evidence extant that the people are "not having any", they are simply not marrying and setting up house, and this is because, though wages are high in most departments, the wage getters say they can not afford to marry because they perceive what troubles befall those who have families to support.

The single men are so well off, as compared with their married brothers, that they prefer to remain single. Their lives are those of unalloyed bliss, and billiards, rum and races, fun and frolic, laughter and luxury, while their brothers who have families can not make ends meet. And the inevitable outcome will be depopulation, unless something is done to rectify the cruel disparity between the married man and the single man.

Both men receive the same wages. That is right, for if a different scale were adopted to give the married man more than the other, the effect would be to throw the former out of work, as preference would go to the cheaper man. If a law were passed demanding preference to the married man, that would be an unfair interference with an employer's liberty, as it is his right to employ whoever he wishes and exercise preference at his own sweet will. Compulsory preference is wrong and cannot be advocated in this regard; yet something must be done, and it is here a problem presents itself for the law givers to solve.

It can be solved easily, and that is by a heavy and revenue producing bachelor tax, running side by side with liberal subsidy payments for every child a man is supporting. This would have the effect of making the single man pay for a share of the upkeep of the married man's home, a perfectly just proposition. - - - - Even after paying the taxation referred to the single man will have more residue for luxuries than his married brother has.

<p>26 January 1970</p> <p>Premier to open Hawkesdale Swimming Pool</p> <p>The Premier (Sir Henry Bolte) accompanied by Lady Bolte will visit Hawkesdale on Thursday, February 19, when the premier will open the new swimming pool. Prior to this they will be entertained by the Mount Rouse Shire Council after the opening of the Senior Citizens' Club rooms and Pre-School centre at Penshurst.</p>	<p>5 February 1970</p> <p>W. MURPHY AGAIN HEADS HISTORICAL SOCIETY</p> <p>At the annual meeting Mr W. Murphy was re-elected president for the coming year. Other officials elected were: Secretary, Mrs C. Brown; Treasurer, Mr J. W. Powling; Committee, Mr L. Robertson, Mr H. Wilcock, Mr A. Hill, Mrs H. Wilcock, Mrs G. Egan, Mrs J. Newton, Mrs A. Wilson and Miss M. Keating.</p> <p>Reports mentioned publication of Mr Powling's booklet on the Mahogany Ship, another successful Pioneers' Dinner, excursions to Warrock near Casterton, and to Camperdown and Timboon. Our Booklet "Historic Port Fairy" is still selling well. - - -</p>
<p>29 January 1970</p> <p>Clean glasses from July 1</p> <p>Victorian hotels will have to serve every drink in a clean glass from July 1. The Minister for Health (Mr Dickie) said the delay had been decided to give businesses time to provide an adequate number of glasses and install the washing facilities.</p>	<p>9 February 1970</p> <p>DEAR AT HALF THE PRICE</p> <p>Things are not getting any cheaper for football clubs. The other day we heard about one club who had an ex-league player who was interested in coaching its team. He asked a fee of \$280 a week, a job for his wife and a house rent free. Then he wanted a business! Free, of course! He was shown a business with a very lucrative income, but it was not enough for him. He didn't take the job.</p> <p>Some country clubs are beginning to realise that it is better to pay their own players on so much for a win and lose basis with a good non-playing coach, rather than trying to meet the demands of some applicants. There was a time when a big name coach meant increased support and improved finance. These days seem to be gone forever.</p>
<p>TOWER HILL IS A BIG ATTRACTION</p> <p>The wild life reserve at Tower Hill is fast becoming one of the most popular attractions in the district and is visited by an ever increasing number of tourists.</p> <p>From observations it would appear that planting schemes are making good headway and in a few years time these native trees should present a very pleasant sight.</p> <p>It is rather surprising to see the number of tourists who have picnic parties and afternoon tea near the natural history museum site. Children delight in feeding the emus who are never far away, waiting to eat up the scraps of food from these visitors.</p>	<p>25 February 1970</p> <p>PORT FAIRY BAND SCOOPS THE POOL</p> <p>Port Fairy Citizens Band gave an improved performance in the South Western Band's Group contest at the Port Fairy Gardens Oval on Saturday when it made a clean sweep by winning the street march and every section in the musical competition. The Port Fairy band had a very easy win with a total of 236 and finished 26 points ahead of its nearest rival, Portland. Port Fairy bands' win was due mainly to the excellent musical knowledge of its bandmaster (Mr L. Murdoch).</p>
<p>5 February 1970</p> <p>FOOTBALL LEAGUE'S ACTIVITIES CEASE</p> <p>After promoting football in the South Western District for nearly half a century, the Port Fairy District Football League ended its role in promoting the game at its annual meeting last Monday night.</p> <p>The decision of the League to seek an amalgamation with the Portland League, coupled with the fact that both Penshurst and Hawkesdale Clubs sought clearances to the Mininera League were the prime reasons for the League deciding to wind up its activities.</p>	



30 Gipps Street, Port Fairy
PO Box 152 PORT FAIRY 3284
Telephone: 03 5568 2263 Email:
pfhsmuseumandarchives@gmail.com

PORT FAIRY POST