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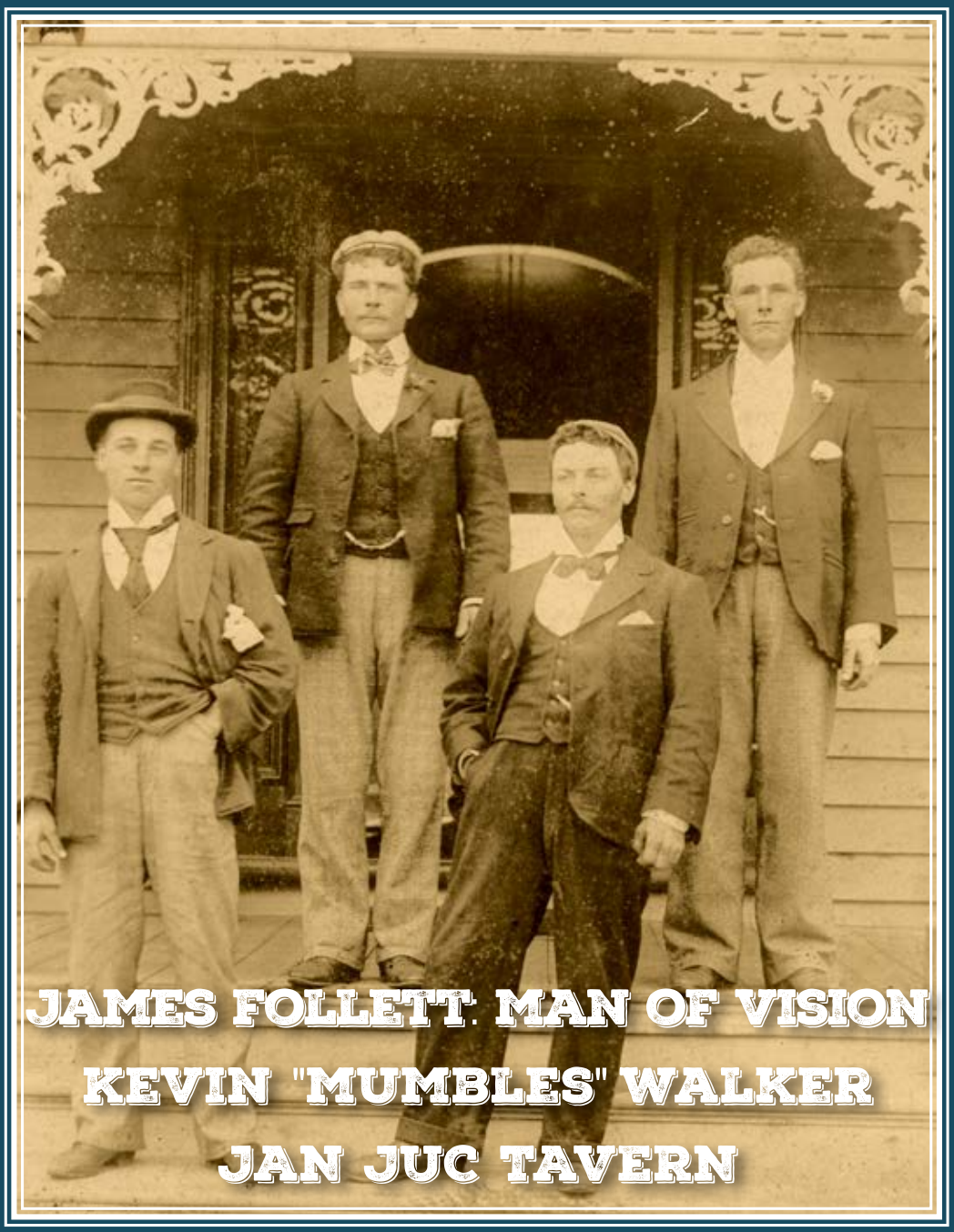

JAMES FOLLETT: MAN OF VISION

KEVIN "MUMBLES" WALKER

JAN JUC TAVERN

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Follett Brothers. L-R - Colin, James, Joseph, John Samuel

OPPOSITE:
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PABS Tavern

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ABOUT US....

Torquay Museum Without Walls is a proud volunteer-run organization. In publishing *History Matters* our volunteers do everything from research, writing, editing, photography and page layouts. Each edition also includes contributions of stories and photography from supporters of our work.

We are very grateful for the support of our sponsors identified opposite and those who contribute in any way to the magazine.

Volunteers play an important role in the operation of our history group. They work in a variety of areas including research, filing, data entry, collections management, photography and working with community groups.

VOLUNTEER WITH US: We welcome new people and you don't have to be an expert in history. A friendly attitude and willingness to join in is all you need.

JAMES FOLLETT

CHERYL BAULCH

A MAN OF VISION

Follett Borthers

The Torquay Pub has been an icon of the town since houses started to appear. It played a role for the Captain and crew of the *Joseph H Scammell* shipwreck, survived fires, adapted and grew with the social trends of the time. The location and style of the hotel was the vision of one man, James Follett and his wife, Anna Rosina.

James Follett (1838-1899) grew up the sixth child of ten children, in the ancient parish of South Petherton as did his parents, John (1805-1880) and Hannah (nee Monkton 1806-1882).

South Petherton is historically a market town located within Somerset in South West England. It is surrounded by the Devon hills, a flat wetland area and the hills of Dorset. Most of the area lies on the low-lying undulating fertile Yeovil Sands at the foot of a ridge of limestone, which was quarried in the 19th century, known as Petherton stone. Bricks and tiles were manufactured, and marl collected.

In 1902 Anna Follett commissoned builders J. C. Taylor & Sons to do extensions to the Palace Hotel.

Open-field farming was abandoned in the early 19th century and tenant farming was established. In 1831 families were engaged in agriculture, manufacturing, and handicrafts. By 1851 the most widespread industry was gloving. Rope and twine were also made in the 1850s and 1860s, with leather knickerbockers and gaiters added in the 1860s. The transition from traditional farming to a commercial centre possibly influenced Charles, the eldest Follett child, to move across to the Channel Islands after his marriage to Sarah (Gudge) in 1848. He continued to work as a farm labourer, and two of his children were born there.

Local newspapers, during the 1850s, described the discovery of gold in Australia and the opportunities that existed, luring people to the colony. Maybe this was the catalyst in 1855 for Charles to pack up the family – his wife Sarah, and children James and Mary Ann to start a new life in Australia. The family travelled aboard the *Himalaya* arriving in Botany Bay. They settled in Terragon, NSW where a third child was born in 1857. By 1861 Charles and the family moved to Marton, New Zealand, as early landowners. Charles farmed dairy cattle for many years before the property was sold in 1866 along with three other adjoining land holdings to prospective settlers, forming the basis of the township. Follett Street, Marton, New Zealand, is named after the family. Charles died in 1873.

Meanwhile back in England, the family relied on the local farms to earn a living. The males were farm labourers, and the females were farm servants; however, the occupations changed with the commercial development of the town.

Two years after Charles and his family left the shores of England for New South Wales, James and his elder sister Elizabeth decided to head for Australia too. They boarded the *Regina* in 1857 with another 291 passengers and crew arriving in Sydney in June. The ship's log indicates that James was unable to read or write, but Elizabeth could do both. Elizabeth found her way to Orange where in 1859, she married Thomas Finnerty, an ex-convict and then police constable. James went to the Geelong area, arriving in Connewarre where he was working for Elias Harding according to a newspaper advertisement that Elizabeth placed in a Sydney newspaper in 1861 just after the birth of her first child. Pescott (1985) recorded that James was a boundary rider for Andrew White. Hospital records in 1864 indicate that James was still living in the area of Barwon Heads.

James married Anna Rosina Baensch on 10 June 1862 at the Wesleyan Church, Geelong. Their union produced 15 children, eight girls and seven boys.

About 1871 the Follett family built a small house at the headwaters of Spring Creek where they had an orchard of apple, pear, and mulberry trees. By 1876 the family had moved to Elias Harding's old property on Grass-Tree Hill at the western corner of Duffields and Grossmans Roads. While living there, the eldest son Charles attended school at Mt Duneed and was taught by Mr Harkness.

James Follett began to exercise a new community influence

and spirit of enterprise around Spring Creek (Torquay). Early in 1877 he applied to lease or purchase land at the north-west corner of allotment 66, Puebla. He wanted to build a store and accommodation for fishermen and visitors. The Lands Department recommended that they sell the land to him for £3 per acre. These allotments located between Anderson and Price Streets had not yet been offered for sale by the Lands Department. A couple of shire councillors opposed the application stating that picnic parties from Geelong used the land. James responded that "*the accommodation was for those visitors, and he wouldn't be disadvantaging his business by depriving the picnic parties the best site on the creek*." The Lands Department initially approved the application pending James paying for the surveyor and approval by Council. The permission was revoked because the section had been withheld from the sale and a grazing licence had already been issued to Andrew White. Consequently, James pursued land at Zeally Bay but ran into objections from Felix Rosser and Andrew White, so the venture never went ahead, which was good for our current community because that land is now Taylor Park.

Not deterred, James selected 80 acres of Crown Land, (in pink above) on which he later built the *Ocean View House* after overcoming Barrabool Shire's objections to his proposal. The Shire believed that the building would infringe on the camping grounds of picnickers. The house comprising a large dining room, and six or seven bedrooms opened in 1883. For the comfort of his visitors, he built a bathing box on the beach and ran a two-horse wagonette service daily between Geelong and Spring Creek at a fare of 5/- return.

Enjoying New Year's Day in 1885 James Follett and Felix Rosser provided locals and visitors with alcohol as part of the celebrations of Race Day and the beginning of a new year. Unfortunately, neither of them held a liquor licence. A dispute between them led to police involvement and resulted in both of them in court for selling 'sly grog'. Both were fined and warned that if it happened again, they would be sent to jail. The magistrate did recommend to the shire council that it would be a better idea if someone in the town held a publican's licence rather than having people break the law. Four months later James was charged again for selling 'sly-grog'. These offences would come back to haunt James when he applied for a victualler's license for 'Ocean View' the following year. Superintendent Toohey who policed the area objected to the application because James had been convicted of selling 'sly-grog'. Despite many respected witnesses attesting to James' character, his fracas with Felix Rosser, a fine for breaching the peace and the involvement in selling liquor illegally impacted on the court's deliberation. The Geelong liquor licencing court referred the matter to the Queenscliff licensing court. There was a large attendance at the court the following day to resume the hearing of the application. The legislation covering the approval of liquor licenses ruled that the courts must consider the locality of other licensed premises, the terrain and population of the town. These points were all debated during this second-day hearing which concluded that James' property was too close to the township of Puebla/Spring Creek. So his application was refused.

The business was booming at the *Ocean View House* on Torquay Road with often no vacancy for hopeful visitors. However, this allotment was not big enough for their aspirations of operating a grand accommodation close to Spring Creek, with the ability to sell liquor. More land was released for sale in the township during 1886, so Anna and James took the opportunity to purchase allotment 7 in section 6 of the crown land (west corner of Rudd Avenue and Bell Street).

To secure ownership James purchased from the Crown in 1887 the 80 acres of land he had selected to build *Ocean View House*. Around the same time, he bought the much larger property on the eastern side of Rudd Avenue where the Torquay Hotel sits today. Following this purchase, James announced in January 1888 that he was going to build a Coffee Place within walking distance of the creek.

To build his vision James secured the services of architect Joseph Watts from Geelong. The hotel was built of weatherboard with a corrugated iron roof by Mr C. Mills, carpenter and builder of Geelong. It had 35 rooms across two wings. Two large windows provided a good view of the ocean, and the large verandah provided a pleasant place to sit and take in the scenery. The large dining room was complemented with a sitting room and a parlour on either side. Overall, the palace could accommodate 150 visitors.

Tenders were called to build the Coffee Palace, and a month after his purchase, the Geelong Advertiser carried an advertisement in October 1887 for the sale of the Ocean View Estate and Boarding House. The estate was located from the Surf Coast Highway to The Esplanade spanning from Beach Road to Darian Road. It was described as having *eleven rooms, stable and outhouses located on 4 paddocks with a strawberry garden. The property provided views of Cape Schanck, Barwon Heads, Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff, and located close to Zeally Bay.*

The Coffee Palace opened in December 1888, and to attract visitors James was granted a license to run a stagecoach between Geelong and Spring Creek. But it wasn't long before James was looking for a tenant to run the hotel then the business was 'for sale or rent'.

It seems James may have given up his plan for selling or letting out the Coffee Place as he was advertising rooms for hire in January 1889. He was also given the contract for the loose (post) bag daily run for six months at £10 pa. The very popular New Year's Eve Torquay Races were again being held, and James was keen to provide a choice of alcohol to the thousands of visitors. Aware that his police record was likely to be an obstacle, Anna successfully applied a few weeks earlier, but they had to wait until New Years Day for it to come into effect. The name changed to Pioneer Palace Hotel with Carl Voss as the first nominee.

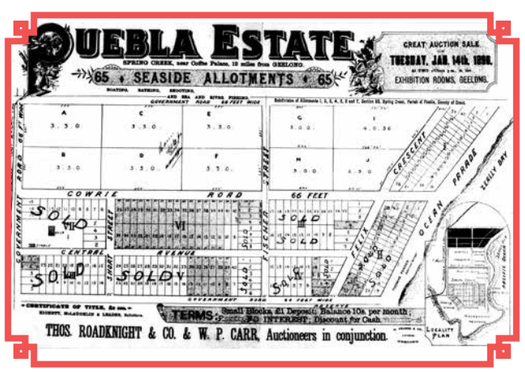
In January 1890 Follett's 65 allotments (Ocean View Estate) had been advertised as Puebla Estate. The following year he again advertised a three-year tender for the Pioneer Palace Hotel with the potential for a general store and a post office on the premises.

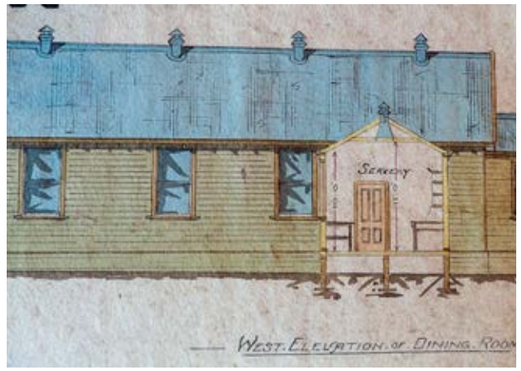
Frustrated by confusion about where 'Spring Creek' mail was to be delivered, James recommended in 1891, to the Spring Creek Improvement Association that they ask the Post Master General's Office for the name of the town to be changed. It is not conclusive who suggested the name *Torquay*. It is often said that James suggested the name *Torquay* after his hometown, but he did not come from County Devon where England's Torquay is located. Did he have another connection to the English town or did someone else suggest '*Torquay*'?

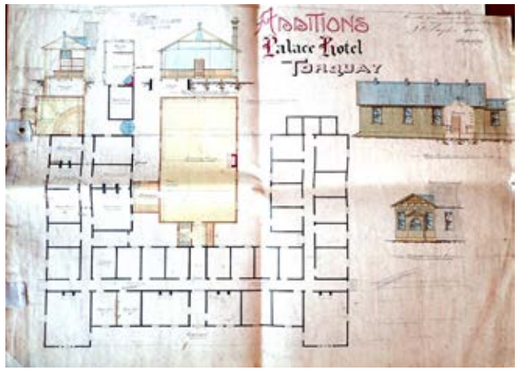
In the latter half of the 1890s the property was advertised again for tenancy or sale several times. When advertised in 1898 the property was described as having *36 rooms, including a billiard room, store, post office, 16-stalled stable etc. and is erected on about two acres of land commanding an uninterrupted view of the ocean and surrounding coastline. The property is nicely furnished with a piano, billiard table, and every convenience was to be sold with the hotel. The coaches and horses to be taken at a valuation.*

Anna Rosina Follett transferred the liquor licence to Harold Bray in 1898; then it was transferred to Eliza Edwards of Barwon Heads Coffee Palace. She continued to operate both businesses in 1899 before the licence returned to Anna Rosina in 1900 after a court battle.

James died on 16 October 1899 in the Geelong Hospital at the age of 61 years. He was buried in the Eastern Cemetery at Geelong. After James death, his wife Anna Rosina married John Paulke in 1901.The following year J.C. Taylor & Sons were contracted to build additonal rooms onto the Palace Hotel.







Anna Paulke (Follett) died on 16 February 1905 aged 60 and was buried in the Germantown Cemetery (Grovedale).

James was known for getting things done. From repairing roads, bridges to planting trees which he often did without compensation to persisting with a land purchase that would fulfill his vision of a hotel providing quality accommodation and that could serve alcohol to locals and visitors. In April 1918 the South Barwon Council approved the Torquay Improvement Association recommendation that 'Follett Street', located at the eastern end of his initial property, be named *'out of respect to one of the oldest residents.'*

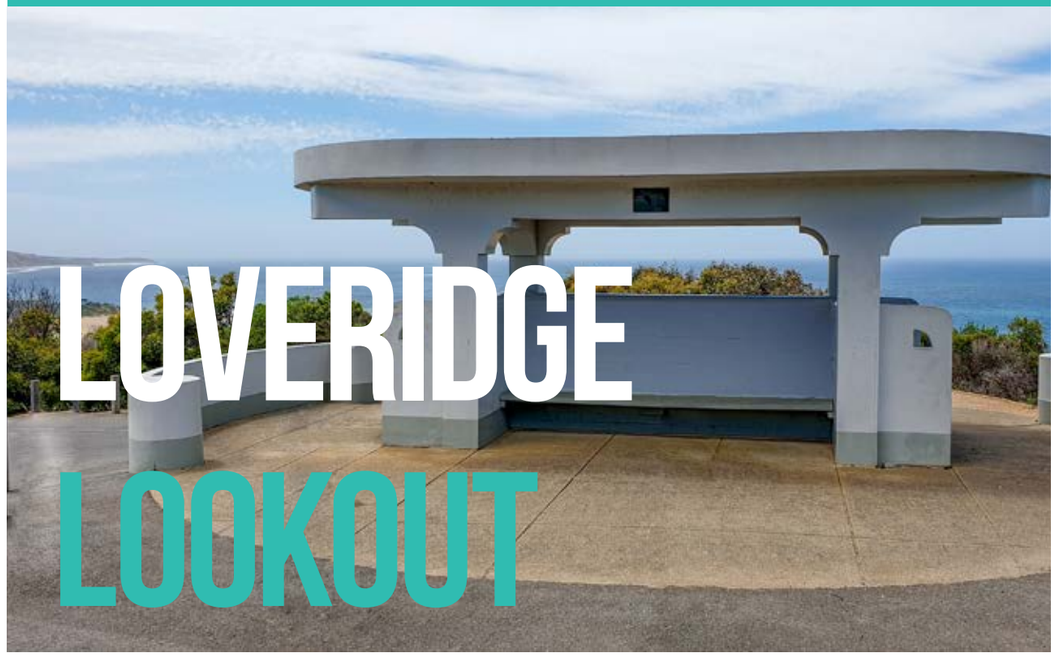
SOURCES

1. http://www.lynly.gen.nz/HUFollettGudgeabout1849England
2. The Sydney Morning Herald, 4/2/1861 p1
3. Pescott (1985) South Barwon 1857-1985
4. Geelong District: Admission Books of the Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Asylum
5. Nowell Voss
6. Geelong Advertiser, 14/3/1877, p4
7. Geelong Advertiser, 15/9/1881, p3
8. Geelong Advertiser, 3/10/1881, p2
9. Geelong Advertiser, 16/2/1885
10. Geelong Advertiser 23/12/1897, p3
11. Geelong Advertiser, 6 April 1918, p7

PHOTOS
Jan Voss
Alwyne Merritt
State Library Victoria
Torquay Golf Club

BUILDING PLANS
Geelong Heritage Centre

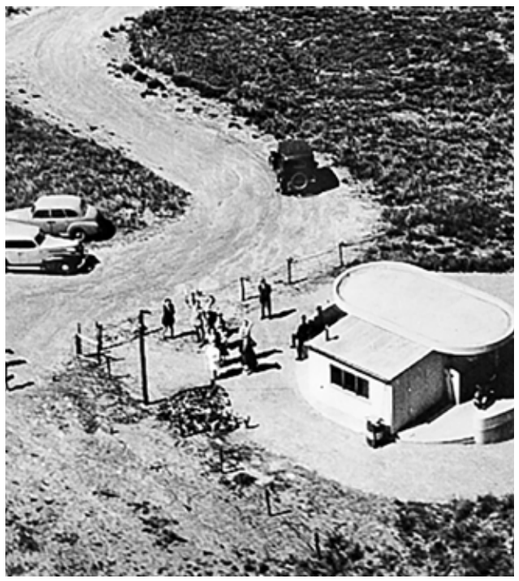
MAP
Adapted from 1866 Map Puebla, Public Record Office Victoria



LOVERIDGE LOOKOUT

BY JAN MORRIS,
ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOW VICTORIAN HERITAGE LISTED



The Loveridge Lookout with temporary building added during WW2
Australian War Memorial - P00024.005

We nearly lost Anglesea's Loveridge Lookout in the early 2000s. It had concrete cancer and some people thought it would be best to just demolish it. But others recognised its historical significance and fought for it. These people included councillor Jim Tutt, architect James Kelly, historian Lindsay Braden, shire employee Peter Bromley and others. They were able to convince authorities of its historical significance and obtain government funding to have it restored. It stands today as one of the memorials to the Second World War (WW2).

As we celebrate 75 years since the end of WW2, Loveridge Lookout has recently (August 2020) received a Victorian Heritage Assessment. The Surf Coast Shire has accepted the responsibility to preserve it and keep it in good order for future generations.

Just why is it important as a WW2 memorial?

Before WW2 James Loveridge, a wealthy importer, built a house, maybe better described as a mansion, just above where the lookout stands today. He and his wife Bertha retired to Anglesea from Melbourne. They not only had a beautiful house, but they also had their own electricity plant, water pressure from a high tank, a Graf & Stift car (equivalent to a Rolls Royce) and a considerable number of staff to run their household. They certainly enjoyed their retirement and were very generous to the Anglesea community.

Each day James Loveridge walked down along the cliff where the lookout now stands. Folklore says that he kept a supply of his favourite alcohol in the shrubs there. That may or may not be true. However, it was certainly the spot he visited frequently. After he passed away Bertha had the lookout built to his memory in 1938.

Little did Bertha realise that only a few years after being built the lookout would be used for important war defence.

A small temporary room was built beside the lookout for the volunteers who staffed it 24 hours a day. They had direct access to centres at Geelong and Preston. The Volunteer Air Observers Corps (VAOC) was formed to establish a series of continuous and regular observation posts. The books in which they kept details of all spottings are in the museum at Anglesea History House, as is their Morse Code machine and other memorabilia relating to the VAOC activities.

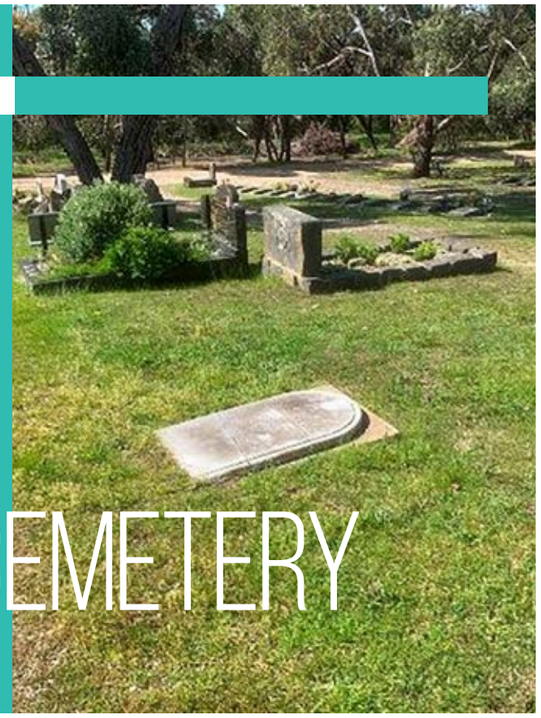
Different people over the years have attempted to have this lookout declared a Victorian Heritage Site. In 2020 the assessment of the Loveridge Lookout was a joint project by the Veterans Branch in DPC and Heritage Victoria to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of WW2. The Heritage Council of Victoria committee recommended just two sites this year, and Loveridge Lookout was one of them. On 8 August it was announced that Loveridge Lookout was officially recognised and now holds the status of being a Victorian Heritage site.

State Library Victoria H32492/7774

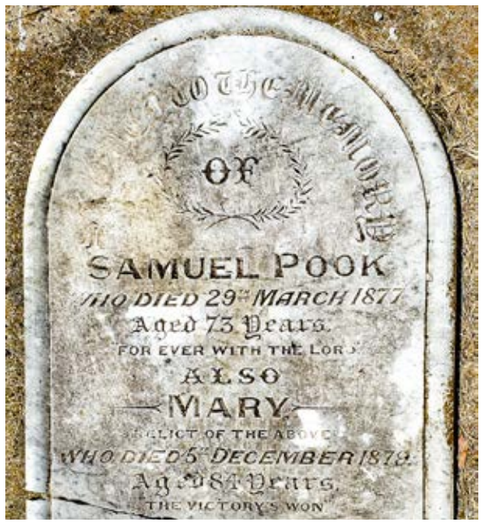
A VAOC volunteer observer outside Loveridge Lookout, c1945.
Source: Australian War Memorial.

Spotters working at Loveridge Lookout during WW2
Source Anglesea & District Historical Society

POOKS OF BELLBRAE CEMETERY



Story by Martin Hooper



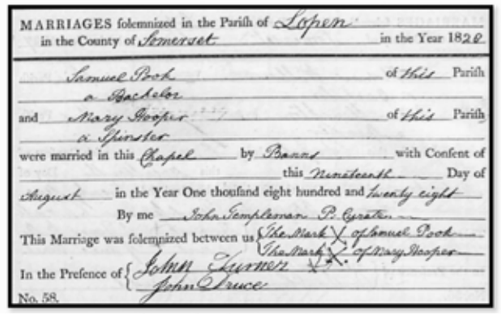
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF SAMUEL POOK
WHO DIED 29th MARCH 1877 YEARS
FOR EVER WITH THE LORD
ALSO
MARY RELICT OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED 5th DECEMBER 1879 AGED 84 YEARS
THE VICTOR'S WON

An old cracked headstone of a grave lies fallen and lonely at the little Bellbrae Cemetery. It is surrounded by neatly mown grass, a tribute to the Bellbrae Cemetery Trustees. This grave has been there for over 140 years now. Many have undoubtedly wondered who were the people buried there and from whence did they hail before coming to old Jan Juc as Bellbrae was called in the 1870s.

Pook is an interesting and unusual name. Numerous references suggest it is of old English/ Anglo-Saxon origin and refers to someone' small in stature and whimsical in nature'. (1) (2) It is perhaps not unrelated to William Shakespeare's Puck (***Pu-ck***) in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Puck is a mischievous sprite who delights in playing pranks on people. (3) Whether Samuel Pook was such a character, is lost in time.

The writer discovered Samuel Pook in the Non-Conformist and Non-Parochial Registers of Somerset, namely in the South Petherton, Roundwell Street (Independent) Register for 1804. (4) (5) It reads *'Samuel Pook Son of Robert Pook and Annis his wife of Lopen in the County of Somerset born the 7th day October, was baptised the 25th day of November 1804 by R. Herdsman'.*

The marriage between Samuel Pook and Mary Hooper (the writer pricked up his ears), was solemnised on 19 August 1828 in the Parish of Lopen, Somerset. They were married by John Templeton, Principal Curate. Banns were read for the prescribed three times on Sundays 15, 22 and 29 June by Curate Alexander Templeton. (6) (7)



MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of Lopen in the County of Somerset in the Year 1828

Samuel Pook a Bachelor of this Parish
and Mary Hooper a Spinster of this Parish
were married in this Chapel by Banns with Consent of
this Nineteenth Day of
August in the Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty eight
By me John Templeman P. Curate
This Marriage was solemnized between us { The Mark of Samuel Pook / The Mark of Mary Hooper
In the Presence of { John Turner / John Druce
No. 58.

Image 3: Marriage of Samuel and Mary Pook

Mary Pook, nee Hooper, seems to have a variable age. In the 1851 census record she was recorded as 50y and born in Chillington, Somerset. (8) In the ship's record when Mary came to Australia in 1852, her age was logged as 47y. (9) On her death record of 1879, she was recorded as 84y. (10) A search for Mary Hooper born in Chillington, Somerset covering those possible birth years throws up a Mary Hooper, daughter of Richard and Jeney Hooper, who was baptised on 15 November 1795, at St James Church, Chillington. (11)

Chillington is about 8 km (5 miles) from the village of South Petherton, and Lopen is between these two places. (12)

Image 4: The Parish Church of St. James in Chillington Somerset (13)

The village of Chillington has two parts, Lower Chillington and Higher Chillington. The older part of the village, Lower Chillington, was built around the Church of St James. The church is of historical significance with 13th-century origins and two bells. (13)

It appears after the marriage of Samuel and Mary Pook that they lived on in Lopen in Somerset. The region was broken up into smaller administrative areas called 'hundred'. From 1832 in the administrative Hundred area South Petherton, Parish of Lopen, Voters Roll, Samuel was leasing a dwelling house from John Trott.

With hindsight, we see some familiar surnames, in this roll, which have a link with early settlers in Jan Juc, namely Masters, Gundry, Pitcher, and Hunter. (14)

Pook Children

A search for Pook baptisms told that Samuel, the father, and Mary, the mother, had several children and it appears that the newlyweds spent a little time in a neighbouring village. The first child, Oliver, was baptised in 1830 at the Parish church of St Michael at Seavington Saint Michael. (15) The little village of Seavington Saint Michael is about two kilometres from Lopen.

The subsequent three children were baptised at All Saints in Lopen. The fourth child was named Thomas, and as this was the same name as child three, the writer went scurrying off to death records. (16) Alas, there the writer found a sad story, the deaths of Oliver, Emma and Thomas all within a few weeks of their baptisms. (Table 1)

Table 1 Baptisms and Burials for children of Samuel and Mary Pook (15) (16)

Pook Baptism	Pook Burial
Oliver on 23 May 1830 St Michael, Seavington Saint Michael	Oliver on 12 Aug 1830, age 2 weeks (?) St Michael, Seavington Saint Michael
Emma on 29 May 1832 All Saints Lopen	Emma on 7 June 1832, age 1 week. All Saints Lopen
Thomas 24 Jun 1833 All Saints Lopen	Thomas on 6 July 1833, age 1 week, All Saints Lopen
Thomas 25 Aug 1835 All Saints Lopen	

A search for Thomas Pook baptised on 25 August 1835 (Image 5) has failed to find any further mention of him.

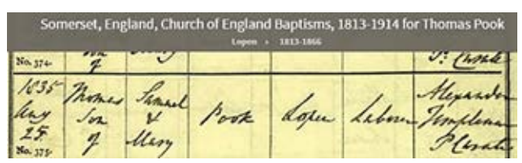


Image 5 Baptism of Thomas Pook 1835

In the 1841 and 1851 censuses, Samuel and Mary Pook were recorded as still living in Trott's cottage in Lopen.

There was no one else in their household. In 1841 both were recorded as labourers. In 1851 Samuel (48y) was listed as a manufacturing labourer. Mary's occupation is undecipherable. (8)

Meet the Englands

In the census records, it was noted that a William England was living next door. In the 1851 census William was 46 years old. William's first wife was Sarah Pook, a younger sister of Samuel. They were married in 1831 and had five children, including Harriet (bp 1831) and Anna (bp 1835). The other three of the England children died in infancy. Thomas England, child number 5 was baptised on 9 February 1837. Alas, both mother Sarah and baby Thomas were buried on 19 February 1837. (15) (16)

From the 1851 census for William England (8), it is seen that he has married again for other members in the England household were his wife Anne 38 years and Harriet, 19 years, his daughter from his first wife. Anne's place of birth was recorded as Shepton Beauchamp which is a nearby Somerset village. William and Anne had a daughter, Mary Ann, baptised on 21 August 1851 in Lopen, Somerset. (15)

English Eyes Look to Australia

Talk of adventure was in the air. It was a period of hard times for the labouring class in England and there were stories of opportunity in Australia, on the other side of the world. The discovery of gold in the Colony of Victoria was on every second person's lips. Assisted passage for suitable migrants was being offered. Others from South Somerset had gone before and letters back home spoke of opportunity. (18a, 18b)

The ship, *Sir Edward Parry*, under the command of Captain W McLeod, sailed from Plymouth, Devon on 7 July 1852 and arrived in Geelong, Victoria on 23 October 1852. On board were the Englands, William (44y), Ann (38), Mary Ann (an infant) and Harriet (20y) and Anna (18y). They settled initially in Ashby (West Geelong). In 1853 Harriet England married Stephen James Bartlett and settled in Queenscliff. William and Ann England also moved to Queenscliff where they lived until their deaths in the 1870s. Anna England had a job in Yarra Street, Geelong, working for a Mr Howell. (19).

It was only a few months later that the Pooks followed. They sailed on the *Persian* departing Plymouth on 18 September 1852 and arrived in Melbourne on 27 December 1852 under the ship's Captain, James Peat. (20) Samuel was under contract to Thomas Burnley of Hopkins River. The Hopkins River rises near Ararat and flows into Bass Strait at Warrnambool. Samuel's contract was for 12 months and wages were £50 for the year plus rations.

Geelong and Jan Juc

One can only speculate as to when the Pooks left Hopkins River, as no records have been found, but they did move to the Geelong area where their one-time brother-in-law and neighbour back in Lopen, William England now lived and where their two nieces Harriet and Anna lived. They ended up in Bellbrae (old Jan Juc) where they would have known and been known by many including the Gundrys, Musgroves and Susan Cunningham. A search of Barrabool Shire rate books failed to find any evidence of the Pooks owning or leasing land. (21) It seems likely Samuel worked as an agricultural labourer and Mary in domestic service. On Mary's death certificate, she was listed as performing domestic duties.

Samuel died in 1877 and Mary in 1879 and they share the joint grave in the Bellbrae Cemetery as shown in Image 2. Their death certificates have been purchased. The information contained therein suggests no relatives were present at their burials.

From Samuel Pook's death certificate he was listed as a labourer, aged 73 years, and died on 29 March 1877 at Jan Juc. The cause of death was given as exhaustion from the debility of old age. There was no medical attendant. Information was provided by Frederick Beard of Jan Juc to A T Abercrombie Registrar, Mount Duneed on 30 March1877. Samuel was buried on 31 March 1877 at the Jan Juc Cemetery with Frederick Beard acting as undertaker. The Rev^{d} James Apperly of the Congregational Church conducted the burial at the Jan Juc Cemetery.(22)

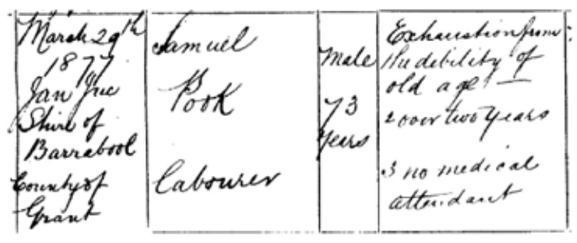
On Mary Pook's death certificate it was written that she was 84 years old, and was buried on 7 December 1879 at the Jan Juc cemetery by Mr B King and Sons. (10) The names of witnesses at funeral were Thomas Evans and John Smart. She died on 5 December at Jan Juc. The informant was Frederick Beard, occupier, Jan Juc. Cause of death was listed as old age and Morbus Cordis (i.e. unspecified heart disease).

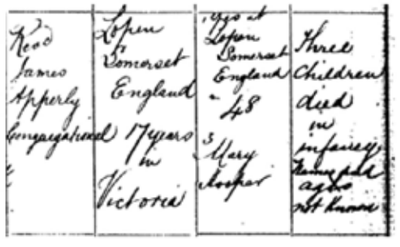
On both certificates it was reported that they had three children who died in infancy.

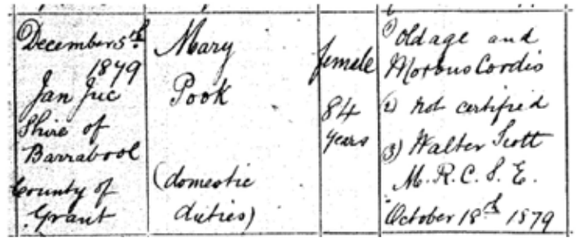
Frederick Beard was a butcher in Jan Juc at that time (21) and sometimes took the role of undertaker. He was employed by the Cemetery Trust as the gravedigger/ sexton. (23)

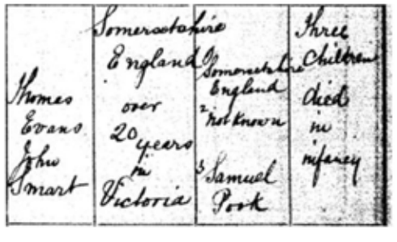
Samuel Pook arrived in Victoria in late 1852. He died in 1877 and had been in Victoria for over 24 years. On his death certificate, it stated that he had been in Victoria for 17 years. A not unreasonable speculation might be that the 17 years period corresponded to his arrival in Jan Juc in about 1959-60. On Mary's death certificate nearly 3 years later the number stated was 20 years. The informant in both cases was Frederick Beard of Jan Juc.

Snippets from the Death Certificate for Samuel and Mary Pook


March 29th 1877 Jan Juc Shire of Barrabool County of Grant | Samuel Pook Labourer | Male 73 years | Exhaustion from the debility of old age 1 year 2 over two years 3 no medical attendant


Reed James Apperly Congregational | Lopen Somerset England 17 years in Victoria | Lopen Somerset England 48 3 Mary Cooper | Three Children died in infancy


December 5th 1879 Jan Juc Shire of Barrabool County of Grant | Mary Pook (domestic duties) | female 84 years | 1) Old age and Morbus Cordis 2) not certified 3) Walter Scott M.R.C.S.E. October 18th 1879


Thomas Evans John Smart | Somersetshire England over 20 years in Victoria | 1 Somersetshire England 2 not known 3 Samuel Pook | Three Children died in infancy

Rest in Peace
Samuel and Mary Pook
at the
Little Bellbrae Cemetery

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23. Bellbrae Cemetery Trust Minutes, Copy held at Geelong Heritage Centre, Geelong.

For thousands of years, the Wa tarung Bulluk clan of the Wathaurung had practised a tribal way of life in the Geelong area. Just before Europeans arrived in the area a baby boy was born at the side of a lagoon near what is today Geelong's Market Square. The baby was destined to be King Billy, the last of the tribal Wathaurung in the Geelong area.

When his son was born, the father saw a bunyip while hunting at Waurn Ponds. He named his son Willem Baa Ni ip, meaning "home bunyip".

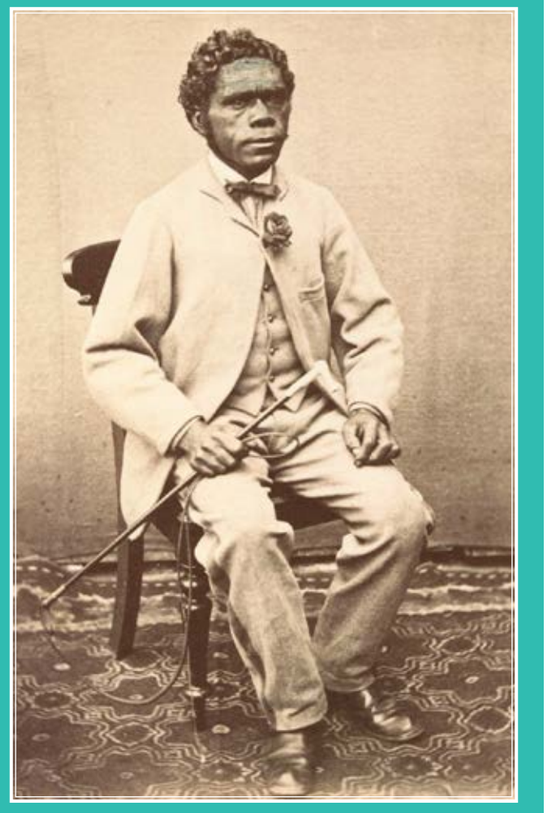
Willem Baa Ni ip's grandfather, Waa Waa was the first to make contact with Europeans when Matthew Flinder's party climbed the You Yangs in 1802. Escaped convict, William Buckley made contact the following year and lived with the Wathaurung for 32 years. Permanent European settlement began in 1835 when John Batman sailed from Van Diemens Land and set up camp at St. Leonards.

Batman and the Wathaurung signed a treaty that became controversial. The colonial government in New South Wales refused to recognise it as legitimate, and it is believed the elders would never knowingly sell the land of their ancestors. Although the treaty was exploitative, it has been the only attempt by the Europeans to involve Australian Aboriginal people in a treaty or transaction rather than simply claiming the land outright.

For more than 2000 generations the Wathaurung had nurtured the land and lived a good life with its bounty. The land and water provided ample food and ingredients for medicines.

Squatters soon arrived. Subsequently 700 of the Wathaurung people that Buckley reported seeing gathered for special occasions, had been to reduced to 297 when counted in 1837 by Foster Fyans, the newly appointed Geelong Police Magistrate. Another count of the local Aborigines was taken in 1842 at Bukar Bulok, now called Fyansford, when Willem Baa Ni ip was six years old, and was listed in this census as 'Wormebaneep'. There were only 118 of his people left — 179 fewer than only five years before. Eleven years later 101 people had disappeared. Only nine women, seven men and one child remained in 1853. Willem Baa Ni ip was 17 at this time and counted as a man. For many years, he may have lived inconspicuously at the edges of the white settlements. He may have lived off the land. In the early years of his life he would have learnt to gather plant food, seafood, small mammals and reptiles. However, much of the traditional diet had been destroyed by the grazing livestock brought in by the settlers. A lot of the game, fish traps and dwellings were destroyed by the settlers.

John Armstrong, at Mount Duneed squatted on the traditional winter camp of the Wathaurong. When the stations were divided up, John Stewart purchased part of this land. A few acres of land along the banks of Armstrong



Billy of Geelong Tribe
State Library Victoria

Alexander Webb, Yarra Street 1872
Geelong Art Centre

Creek were used by the remaining ten Wathaurong people. By 1861 there were seven adults now known as the Barrabool tribe. They were moved from Stewarts Reserve to live on one acre of land on the Ghazeepore Road which was declared the Duneed Aboriginal Land Reserve. It had a wooden hut for shelter. [map]

J. M. Garratt, Honorary Correspondent of the Central Board appointed to watch over the interests of the Aborigines, reported in the Geelong Advertiser in 1862 that there was "plenty of wood and water". He also reported to parliament that he had distributed:

October 1860, 12 pairs moleskin trowsers, 12 cloth caps, 2 flannel petticoats, 2 common cotton gowns, 12 paris strong shoes.

December 1860, 1 chest tea, 2 bags sugar, 4 bags flour, 25lbs. tobacco

May 1861, 24 pairs blankets, 24 pairs trowsers, 24 twilled shirts, 24 blue serge shirts, 24 pairs strong boots, 24 felt hats.

November 1861, 4 bags flour, I bag sugar, 1 half-chest tea, 10lbs soap

March 1862, 800lbs flour, 100lbs tea, 300lbs sugar, 12lbs soap, 12 pair blankets, 12 pair trousers, 24 shirts, 6 pair boots, 6 billies and 12 panicans (enamel camping mugs).

The Wathaurong people could not sustain themselves with such small food resources so they would walk to Geelong each day to trade or beg because they were not allowed to stay in the town after sunset.

Frank Armstrong remembered as a young boy he would see the Barwon Tribe approaching Geelong every morning over an open plain, where they would stop at the house and ask for food. He also recalled Willem Baa Niip teaching him to throw a boomerang. Frank described how "Billy" would walk *"backwards and forwards as if to gauge the wind. Then when he thought everything was favourable, he would let go. Away it soared until it poised in the air for a second or two, and then returned with not a little force, dropping to earth a little behind us."*

Alexander Webb's painting of Yarra Street in 1872 shows two Aboriginal men. One seems to be selling boomerangs to a man on horseback. Could the two be Willem Baa Ni ip and his last companion Dan Dan Nook? They were known to make and trade boomerangs. Others of the tribe had died earlier – Dick (1862), Ellen (1864), Jemmy Nelson and Timboo (1866) and Harry Gore (1868). Only Dan Dan Nook and

Willem Baa Ni ip were left.

Through the hard times, Willem Baa Ni ip and Dan Dan Nook had resisted being moved to the Aboriginal Reserve at Coranderrk preferring to live out their lives on Wathaurung country. Frank Armstrong states that "Jerry (Dan Dan Nook) was King and after he died in 1870, Billy was proud of being styled King." All alone Willem Baa Ni ip regularly stayed near Edwards Point on the shores of Swan Bay and at Skepper's Well, Ocean Grove. It was near the home of fisherman, Thomas Blackwell who was the Aboriginal warden issuing rations.

Willem and Thomas were friends who had a falling out in 1877 after a 'drinking' session. Consequently, Thomas asked Willem to leave his property; land which Willem looked upon as his own territory. Blows were landed on each other until Thomas attacked Willem with a soldering iron. Willem Baa Ni ip went to the police charging Thomas with assault. Willem was laughed at in the Geelong Police Court when he gave evidence, and the case was dismissed even though Thomas admitted to giving Billy a good "prodding" in the side with a soldering iron. After this Willem Baa Ni ip moved to Portarlington.

Willem Baa Ni ip died in Geelong Hospital on 11 November 1885. He was 49 years old. He was buried at the Western Cemetery where others of the Wathaurung had been previously laid to rest. The memorial stone was laid over the collective grave soon afterwards by the former mayor of Geelong, Robert De Bruce Johnstone. The railing was provided by Mr Shirra of Commun a Feinne.

A mural of Willem Baa Nip is featured in Dennys Place, Central Geelong and a road constructed during 2015 in Armstrong Creek, Geelong was named Baanip Boulevard in recognition of him.

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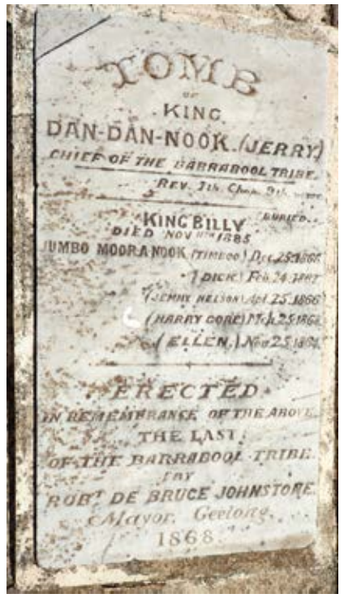


King Billy mural in Dennys Place, Geelong
Geelong Street Art

1852 Geelong Aborigines

Print has names as
Back row, L-R: Billy, Jerry Harry;
Front row, L-R: [illeg.], Eliza, Emma, [Illeg. Harry?]
State Library Victoria H3406

GOING, GOING, ... BARWON RIVER AQUEDUCT

BY CHERYL BAULCH

PARTIAL DEMOLITION OF BARWON RIVER OVOID SEWER AQUEDUCT APPROVED BY HERITAGE VICTORIA

The arrival of Europeans to Geelong in the 1830s impacted on the natural environment. The Barwon River was tidal, and salty upstream to Fyansford (now Buckley's Falls) until the Breakwater was built by Foster Fyans in 1839/40. The river became a source of drinking water along with run-off from roof catchments. It soon became polluted from the industries that developed along it and was generally used as a waste disposal location. It was not uncommon for dead animals to be thrown into the river. Illness became common, and many people died from a variety of infectious diseases.

By 1854 the water supply and sanitation had deteriorated. Citizens complained, but it took almost 20 years before a piped supply of water from Stoney Creek became available. However, as Geelong continued to grow, the increase of household and industrial waste into street channels and therefore to the river and bay continued to compromise the water quality.

Over the next few decades as Geelong continued to expand so did the number of Torquay residents and visitors. Torquay faced similar sanitation issues which came to a head with the outbreak of typhoid fever during 1904 in Belmont, and the health inspector drew attention to the need for a compulsory night service.

In Geelong's quest for the answer to sanitation and hygiene, they held conferences, investigated other systems, held public meetings and approached the government. In 1906 the Board of Health had inspected and approved a disposal site on the Torquay Road known as "Grass Tree Plain". Geelong Town Council approached South Barwon Council, but there was strong opposition from the Torquay Improvement Association (TIA) so the request was refused.

A new surveyor, Charles Campbell Breen was appointed in 1910, and he wasted no time in looking for alternative locations for a sewage farm. Point Henry was a site considered, but the Cheetham Salt Company reacted strongly against the suggestion of any discharge of sewage near its works. R. T. McKay from Sydney was appointed as the engineer. With the Barwon River not an appropriate site for the discharge of effluent, an ocean outfall was considered. The suggestion was made to dispose of the sewage to the ocean at Black Rock, midway between Barwon Heads and Torquay.

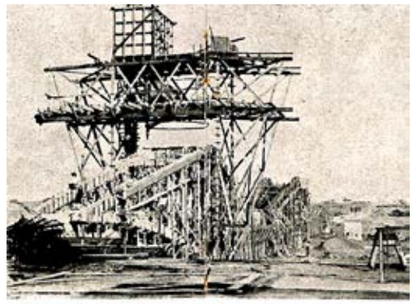
The Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust adopted McKay's recommendation for an ocean outfall scheme. Consequently, further surveys were undertaken, and an aqueduct scheme designed – 12 spans each of 176 feet and one span of 136 feet. Another two spans were added to the design later. Each span was to consist of two cantilever arms supporting a central girder four feet in length. The sewer was to be suspended by reinforced concrete hangers. After the drawings and specifications were approved, excavation commenced at the outfall, and a factory at Marshall was established.

In August 1912 the Geelong Advertiser described the sewer aqueduct progress -

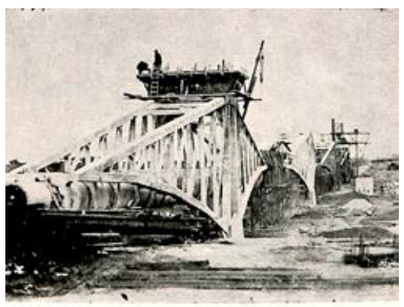
GEELONG'S OUTFALL WORKS GOING AHEAD FROM MARSHALLTOWN TO BLACK ROCKS.

Citizens tempted by the early spring weather to drive to Barwon Heads will see ample evidence that the engineer is pushing ahead with the main work, and that the contractors are busy.

A factory for making reinforced concrete pipes is almost complete at Marshalltown; several miles of a narrow-gauge railway has been laid to convey the pipes to the trenches; canvas towns are beginning to be planned; tunnels are being bored, shafts sunk; one part of Connewarre reminds us of a mining field at rush times; and at the edge of the ocean the visitor can see the deep cut through which the stream of Geelong's sewage will enter deep sea-rushing out under the huge billows which break on the Black Rocks. Mr M'Kay's plans are steadily and rapidly progressing; ratepayers who care to go along the route will be interested to note how the



Stripping formwork on reinforced concrete cantilever arms; travelling gantry in the foreground



Completing caps on a cantilever at the northern end of the aqueduct.

Above images from Geelong Historical Society, Investigator, March 1981

scheme is developing. Within two months large gangs will be hustling at every part of the main drain line.

By the end of June 1917, 52 miles of the sewer had been completed.

The 100-year-old aqueduct was inspired by Scotland's Firth of Forth Railway Bridge. The Geelong sewer aqueduct was decommissioned in 1992 and replaced by a new sewer main under the river. The structure which is now degrading, was retained. Today it poses an elegant picture of the past in its setting across the Barwon River and flood plains. It spans from near Leather Street, Breakwater towards Tannery Road, Marshall.

Because of safety concerns, Barwon Water recently successfully applied to have the spans across the Barwon River to be removed from the Heritage Victoria listed structure. Friends of the Barwon River Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct believe that there are alternative solutions for safe public access under and around the aqueduct without any demolition.

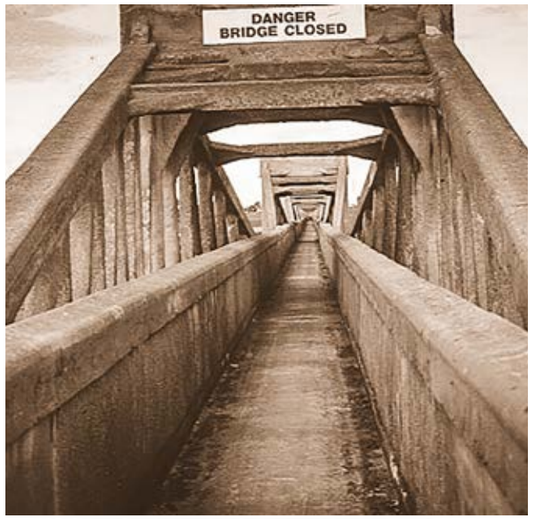
Friends of the Barwon River Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct are passionate about retaining the structure in its entirety and continue to fight the Barwon Water application. Read their story https://friendsofbarwonriverovoidseweraqueduct.org/

Learn more about the background, threats to the aqueduct survival as a whole structure and the alternative suggestions to partial demolition put forward.

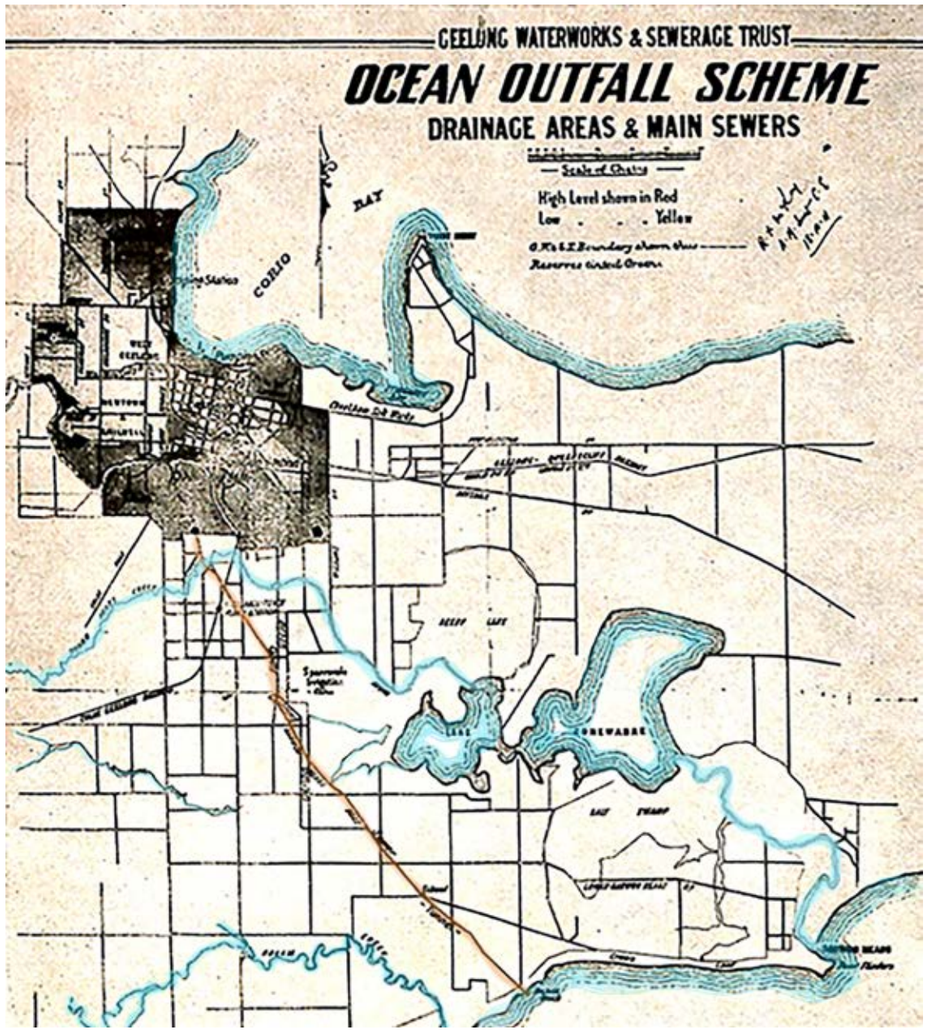
SOURCES

Investigator, The Geelong Sanitary Conference, A. Cooke, March 1981

Geelong Advertiser



Michael Menzies & David Le Lievre protesting outside Barwon Water, Geelong

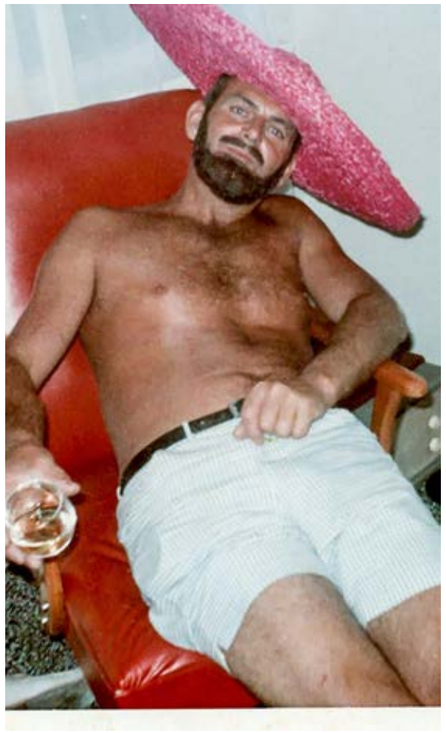


A Life Less Ordinary

STORY OF KEVIN "MUMBLES" WALKER

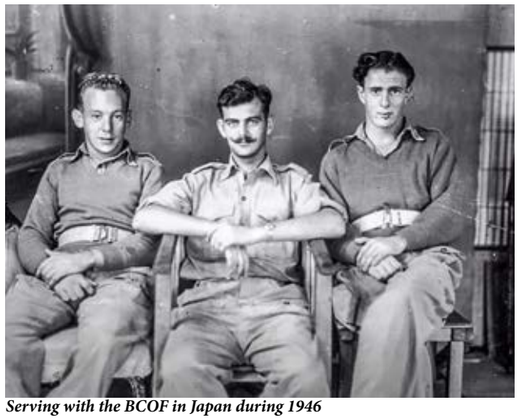
By Chris Barr and Jacquline Walker

In the '50s and '60s some colourful characters were drawn to the freedom and lifestyle that the tiny hamlet of Torquay offered. The fact that there were beautiful beaches and they might learn the new art of surfboarding was an added attraction. The Torquay Surf Club became a gathering place for these characters and a place where lifetime connections with Torquay began and lifetime friendships were born. Kevin *Mumbles* Walker was one of these characters.



Mumbles was born in Thornbury and was still a baby when the family moved to Geelong in 1928 where his father worked as a Factory and shop inspector. It wasn't long before the family holidayed at Barwon Heads and in the summer of 1934 George Walker made the decision to holiday in Torquay. It soon became an annual tradition, and a Mumbles love affair with Torquay began.

After leaving school he worked briefly at *Donaghy's Rope Works*, but there was something in Mumbles that set him on a course of adventure. He was interested in the war effort and as a 17-year-old joined the boat Patrol, patrolling Corio Bay at night. As soon as he turned 18 in April 1945 he joined the army and went to Queensland to volunteer for the Medical Research Unit in Cairns. The research unit was experimenting to find cures for tropical diseases like Malaria that our troops had been exposed to during the war years in the tropics and New Guinea.



Serving with the BCOF in Japan during 1946

When the war ended, Mumbles applied to be part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces (BCOF) and was deployed to Japan after the Declaration of the Japanese surrender. Sapper Walker served for two years in Japan. He was responsible for guarding the prisoners in Southern Japan and spent time in Hiroshima in 1946. At only 19 his life of travel was well underway.

Mumbles returned to Geelong in 1948 and began work at the Ford Motor Company. Having acquired some engineering skills in the BCOF, he had no trouble getting a job.

Summers were still always spent in Torquay. During these early years at the surf club Mumbles made lifelong friendships and the shenanigans he and his mates got up to in the campground are legendry. He became more involved at the Surf Club and was a member of the successful Torquay Surf Life Saving Open Boat crew at the 1952 Victorian Championships. The Team that included Keith Waddling, Howard Glover, John Bennet and George Packam went on to the Australian Championships in Woolongong.

Like a lot of other young Aussies, Mumbles had a mind to see the world and his travels this time took him to the U.S.A. Having met all the requirements and armed with a letter of reference, he set sail to take up a job at Ford in Canada, and it was here he fell as much in love with the snowfields as he had earlier with the Ocean. In Canada he was able to catch up with his old Torquay mate Aub Cherry.

After four years abroad, and 25,000 miles of globetrotting, Mumbles began making his voyage home to Australia. He visited Bermuda and worked for a time as a lifeguard. Adventure seemed to follow Mumbles wherever he went. He and three mates, all inexperienced sailors, offered to take the 38 ft. British racing Yacht *Uomie* home to South Hampton. The crew, including two students, set off in calm weather with assurances that the conditions would remain favourable. After some days, however, they struck two gales, which the yacht rode out with ease. However the worst was still to come. They were some 600 miles from the nearest land - the Scilly Isles - when another gale came up.

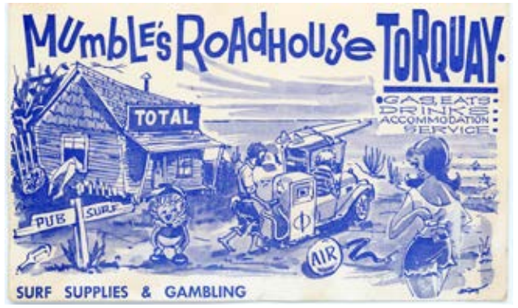
The wind howled above them, and the barometer kept dropping. No matter how hard the crew tried to straighten their course, the yacht kept sailing in circles. Mountainous seas developed and a tremendous wave struck the boat just off the Azores. The yacht rolled completely underwater then up the other side again with Mumbles lashed to the deck with a lifeline. The weight of the water snapped the boom as the *Uomie* righted. The storm raged for 31 hours and blew the yacht 80 miles off course. They reached Britain after 24 days of nerve-racking experiences of sailing, enough to put an end to sailing for life, but not to be deterred Mumbles announced that he would re-join the *Uomie* in Australia to sail in the Sydney-Hobart race the following year. He also visited Africa and climbed Mt Kilimanjaro.

Back in Australia, he arrived in Torquay to find the little service station up for lease in town. It was a perfect fit for him, and thus the famous *Mumbles Garage* was born.

Running the garage over the summer months gave

Mumbles the opportunity to become an integral part of the Torquay community again. He expanded his business when he took over the lease of the beach Kiosk at the back beach. He teamed up with another local character, Owen Yateman, in a scallop boat. Back in the days when the station attendant filled your car for you Mumbles had plenty of tales to tell at the bowser. His parents Beryl and George moved into the house attached to the back of the garage and were able to help him out with the running of the business.

Don Loveless teamed up with Mumbles to add some surf gear to the shelves, and thus he laid claims to being one of the earliest surf shops in Torquay. When things quietened down in Torquay over winter Mumbles headed to the snowfields, where he managed lodges at Mt Buller, Mt Hotham and Falls Creek.



Always a handy cook he honed his skills as a chef when working at the snowfields, so much so that when the wanderlust struck him again he applied for a job as a chef on an Antarctic expedition.

Mumbles made several expeditions to Antarctica from the early '60s until the early seventies and became one the most hardy Australian expeditioners there making several trips on the famed *Nella Dan*. He left for Antarctica as a chef but soon became a jack of all trades and member of the sledge teams exploring the territory.

It is clear from his meticulous journals that his sense of fun and adventure went with him to Antarctica. One entry in August of 1962 describes him being restricted to rest indoors as a result of knocking himself out at a birthday celebration several days earlier. He recalled he was told he made a speech standing on a case of beer when it slipped and he struck his head. He also recalled not remembering a thing and having a drinking ban placed on himself by the doctor.

In 1962 Mumbles was part of a team that undertook journeys with teams of huskies to carry out exploration and glaciological studies on the *Amery Ice Shelf***.** Leaving from the Australian base at Mawson with a tractor contingent their goal was to find a heavy vehicle route onto the ice shelf that had not been previously visited and to undertake survey work. On one expedition, once the expedition party arrived at the *Shelf*, Mumbles and two others travelled with two dog teams 215 km to the south where the Lambert glacier, the largest glacier on earth, fed the Shelf. They then turned back and travelled 600 km back to Mawson, covering a sledging total of some 1000km. The entire journey took almost three months. After this exercise the Antarctic names committee named Nunatak in the area after him.

On a trip to Antarctica in 1970, Mumbles was working with a survey party at the *Moore's Pyramid Camp***,** in the Prince Charles Mountains in a blizzard when he developed appendicitis. He was forced to wait until there was a break in the weather then, with the help of the crew, they dug out the helicopter, he was rushed back to Mawson after 4 hours in agony the appendix was removed in a fairly rudimentary makeshift surgery. Mumbles later said he numbed the pain with a mix of medical alcohol mixed with canned fruit cooked up into *gluhwein* - a new interpretation of a hot toddy. Once again he was honoured by the naming committee, this time Walker Valley came into being. Mumbles had great affection for his time in Antarctica and the beauty of the sunrise over the *Prince Charles Mountains*. In 1969 he was awarded a Polar Medal by the Queen for exemplary service as a member of the Australian Expeditionary Force. The medal was awarded for human endeavour against appalling weather conditions.

Mumbles leased the garage in Bell St for several years but was able to buy it in March of 1967. By 1969 he was on another lengthy trip to Antarctica and in July of that year, the garage was sold to John and Wilma Pettigrove. Mumbles bought a house at 16 Follett Street, and his parents moved there after George Walker passed away in 1970. Beryl continued to live at Follett Street until her death in late 1983.

After years of travelling it was eventually Noosa that captured the spirit of Kevin Mumbles Walker and calmed his travelling soul. Mumbles was one of a group of Torquay Surf Club boys who headed to Noosa in the early seventies. The group included Ray "Darky'Pettigrove, Henry Lees, Billy Wardell, and Graham "Knuckles "Wall. Asked recently why so many of the boys headed to Noosa Knuckles replied "I don't think its all that surprising that half the gang ended up in Noosa. All we cared about was booze, birds and the beach and there was plenty of that here."

Mumbles had worked briefly for Barry Ritter at his restaurant in Lorne and when Barry announced he too, was heading to Noosa to open a restaurant on Laguna Bay, Mumbles knew he would follow him. Mumbles became head chef at "Barrys on the Beach", his food and was described by locals as the "heart and soul" of the Noosa Social scene". Mumbles loved Noosa and Noosa loved him. He, had a great reputation as a chef, his food was described as "beyond compare". He ran travel trips up the coast, had a motel for a time and continued surfing and paddling. He would spend many winters back down in Victoria at Hotham and Falls Creek managing lodges and skiing when he could. He kept in touch with the Torquay mates by visiting them in town or catching up on the ski slopes, and they were also regular visitors to his place in Noosa.

He was a member of the infamous D's club, a larrikin offshoot of the TSLC whose members gathered at Boot Hill in Torquay for fun and frivolity. The club was so named as entry to it required you to provide one dozen bottles of long neck beer. Mumbles was a regular attendee at the annual "D's Club" lunch in Torquay.

Mumbles passed away in 2015 and shortly afterwards his family, supported by some of his old mates, returned his ashes to the surf in Torquay. He is fondly remembered and talked about, and his antics are still a topic of conversation in the bar at the Surf club. Torquay and her history is richer for the tales and adventures of the much loved Mumbles Walker.

Mumbles in Antartica with the Nella Dan

Mumbles shows his Polar medal to a young Max Pettigrove

Mumbles in the Torquay campground with his mate Aub Cherry

PABS

CHRIS BARR

A Tavern for Jan Juc

Photos Anne Udvardy

John Ainsworth hatched a plan for a tavern in Jan Juc on his retirement from the army in 1988. He had volunteered to join the army during the Vietnam War and this led to a career that spanned 20 years and saw him rise to the rank of Major. He saw deployment in Australia, New Guinea ,Germany and England during that time.

John had holidayed in Torquay with his family from the early fifties, camping at the surf beach and later caravanning on a block they bought in Darian Road. So now, some thirty years later, John and wife Ingrid were keen to return to the town with their own young family.

When he was discharged from the army John bought land in Jan Juc with the intention of building a hotel, but first he had to fight a long battle with many in the community who were wary of there being a liquor outlet in a residential area.

In 1989 Torquay residents had objected loudly when the Barrabool Shire approved the plans submitted by the Geelong Regional Commission to build a Tavern and Bottle Shop at the Surf Coast Plaza. These plans included a drive-through bottle shop and nearby residents and other tenants claimed it would lead to "vandalism and hooliganism" in the plaza, as well as massive traffic problems in the area. The idea of a further tavern in the pipeline in Jan Juc had rumours spreading that the town would be overloaded with large liquor facilities.

Objectors to the Jan Juc venture feared "the peaceful seaside town of Jan Juc would become a haven for drunks and drug addicts". John Ainsworth and his two partners Barry Boocock and Peter Papworth applied for the liquor license and, after council approval had to face the Victorian Administrative Appeals Tribunal and then lengthy Liquor Licensing Commission hearings. They insisted they were building a tavern and bistro not a hotel and eventually got the go-ahead to start construction.

PABS tavern was named after the owners, ***P*** for Peter Papworth, ***A*** for John Ainsworth and ***B*** for Barry Boocock. It was opened in time for the Melbourne Cup in 1990.

John and Ingrid held the freehold of *PABS* for 19 years. Over this time they were generous supporters of the Jan Juc community that welcomed them. The Friday night meat raffle that supports the little Kindergarten a stone's throw from *PABS* began during their time continues to this day. *PABS* has had some changes over the years and despite the early criticism has become a much loved meeting place for locals and visitors alike.

Ingrid and John Ainsworth with sister Anne Udvardy

MBARDI'S BISTRO

PABS TAVERN
Bar
Bottle Shop
Bistro
Bar

BLUESTONE COTTAGE

Contributed by Gwen Threlfall
Mt. Duneed History Group

A subgroup of the Mount Duneed Progress Association

History meetings are at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of the months of February, March, May, August, October and November.

DUE TO COVID-19, SCHEDULED MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

http://mdpa.weebly.com/blog

As you drive through Marshall travelling towards Barwon Heads your attention has probably been drawn to the bluestone cottage near the roundabout on the Horseshoe Bend Road corner.

The cottage was built for Frank McAteer, who was born in Newry, Ireland in 1828. He was the son of Michael and Margaret (née Tranier) McAteer. He married Catherine Mulroney in 1859.

The couple had the following children:

- Margaret Mary — born in 1861 at Geelong, married Thomas Fowler in 1890, died on 5 December 1942 aged 79 years at Kew, buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery
- Michael — born in 1861, died on 9 June 1892 aged 31 years at Marshalltown, buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery

- Alice — born in 1869 at Geelong, died on 14 April 1870 at Geelong, buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery
- Edward — born in 1871, died on 28 May 1934 at Geelong, buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery
- Rose — born in 1877, died on 30 October 1896 aged 19 years at Geelong, buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery

On 28 September 1866 Frank bought a crown allotment on the corner of Barwon Heads and Tannery Roads on which he built the four-roomed cottage. This block was sold later than other crown allotments in the district as it had been retained to be used as a cemetery before the gazetting of Mount Duneed Cemetery. He also bought two other allotments in Horseshoe Bend Road and allotments 1 and 2 on the north side of Tannery Road which stretched to the Barwon River. After his death on 15 November 1901, he left a lifetime interest in his property to his wife and then his assets would be divided between his surviving children, Margaret and Edward.

The former Marshalltown Post Office as it is today at the Lakers Siding station on the old Geelong to Queenscliff rail line.

Margaret was postmistress at Marshalltown Post Office from 1886 until she married in 1890. Catherine took over the position after this and continued until 1896. This tiny post office, less than 2 metres square was at Marshalltown Railway Station from 1873 until the station closed in 1953. It was then carried across the road where it continued as the Marshall Post Office until 1979. It was thought to be the smallest post office operating in Victoria.

Catherine died on 28 March 1915 aged 73 years at her daughter's residence, "Barwon" in Brighton Street, Richmond and was buried with her husband and other members of her family in the Roman Catholic section of the Geelong Eastern Cemetery.

As the cottage was kept in the family until at least 1937 much of it was in original condition at this time. There is also a bluestone outbuilding which has a nineteenth-century appearance. By 1957 the property was owned by market gardener Reno Saccardo. After this, it was under threat from vandalism.

The cottage is now certain to be demolished because of the widening of Barwon Heads Road unless strong community involvement prevents it.

TOWN TALK

AS REPORTED IN THE GEELONG ADVERTISER

BREAM CREEK

NEW NAME FOR BREAM CREEK Before the Department of Lands and Survey gazettes the new survey of the Bream Creek area, it desires a new name for the place, as it is considered that Bream Creek is not suitable. The opinion of the South Barwon Council was sought on the question of a name, and the council has decided to recommend that the place be named Wavell in honour of the leader of the Allied forces in the Middle East. Should Wavell not be acceptable to the department, the council has chosen Breamlea as its second selection. This was one of the suggested names submitted by the department. 24/4/1941

FRESHWATER CK

After its third successful season, the Freshwater Creek and District Football Association will hold its annual wind up celebration at Freshwater Creek on Tuesday, 38th inst. in the form of a plain and fancy dress ball. During the evening, the trophies will be presented by Mr. J. Galbraith. The 'Premiers' trophy' a beautiful hot-water kettle, given by Mr. W. Galbraith, will be presented to the Belmont Club; while the runners-up trophy given by Mr. A. J. Parer, will go to the Grovedale Club. The promoters are determined to make the ball worthy of the occasion. This annual ball has attained tho reputation of being one of the best of its kind in the district. The floor has been specially prepared, music will be supplied by Mr. Dudley Johnson's jazz orchestra, and a good supper is guaranteed. Four prizes are offered for fancy dress costume. 21/8/1923

MT DUNEED

The Red Cross workers of the district held a Gymkhana in the school ground; on Saturday, the 18th to augment the Red Cross and Australian Wounded Soldiers' funds. Tho Mayoress of Geelong (Mrs. Holden) performed the opening ceremony and expressed her pleasure at coming into the country to do what she could to help any local efforts. In commending the ladies of the district for their good work in the past, the Mayoress made a strong appeal to them not to slacken, but rather increase their efforts in the future, expressing the opinion that the need for help in connection with Red Cross work was never more urgent than at present. The gathering was well attended during the afternoon and evening. The sum of £35 was realised. 22/3/1916

TORQUAY

A meeting of the Torquay branch of the Women s National League was held on Tuesday last at "Two Bays" Guest House. A fair attendance was present. The district president (Mrs Cooper), accompanied by Mrs Howard and Miss Newberry, journeyed from Geelong for the meeting, which was presided over by Miss Duthie, who said that owing to her removal from Torquay she would have to resign her position as president of the branch. The resignation was received with sincere expressions of regret, several speakers eulogising the work and influence of Miss Duthie during her term as president, and trusting that she would be long spared to work in the cause. 1/4/1927

EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

VISITORS TO TORQUAY

Visitors to Torquay Photo donated by Alwyne Merritt

Some of the many visitors to Torquay that James Follett had always wanted to cater for.

Visitors to Torquay Photo donated by Alwyne Merritt

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Where The Past Meets The Present

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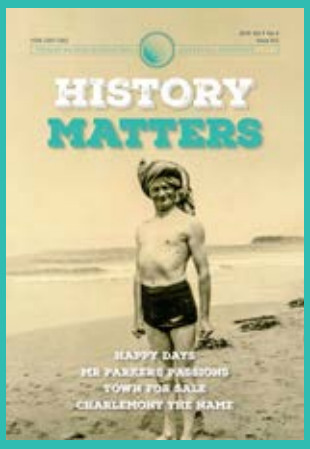

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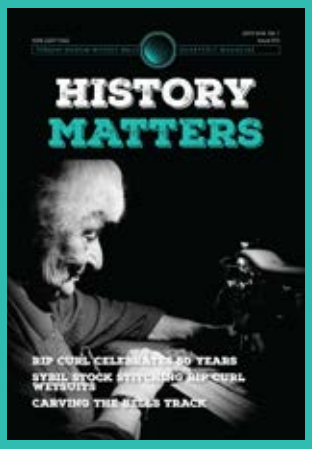

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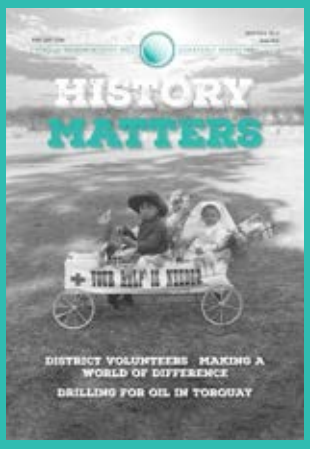

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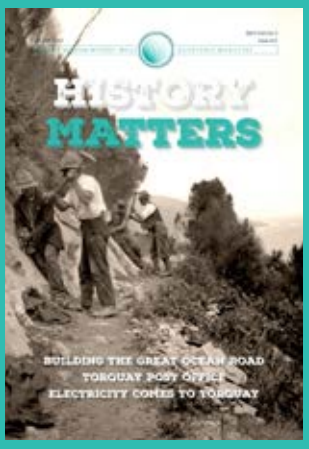

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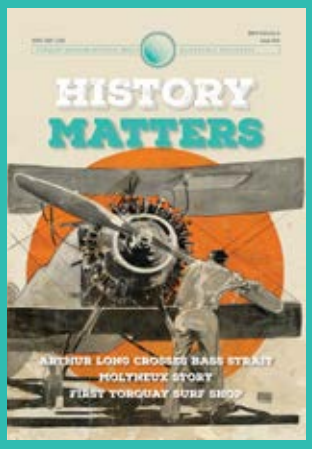

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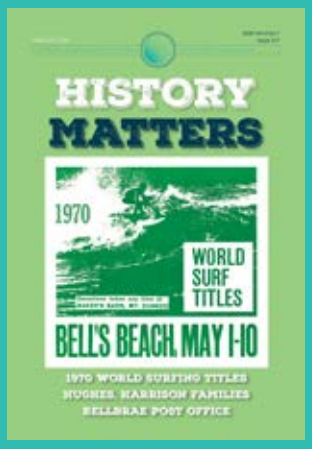

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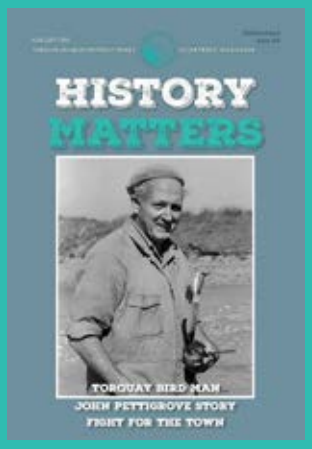

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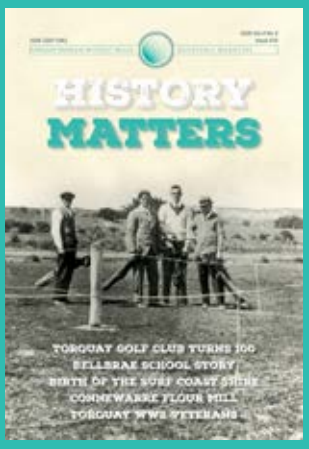

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