## STAWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

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President: Dorothy Brumby

Secretary / Treasurer Greg Robson

Our Headquarters - 44 - 46 Longfield Street, Stawell ----- Open 10 am - 4 pm, Wednesdays & Thursdays

# Newsletter <u>September - December 2017</u> Welcome to our End - Year Newsletter for 2017

At our Annual General Meeting on the 14th of September the following positions were filled by:-

President - Dorothy Brumby
Vice President - Jim Melbourne
Secretary Treasurer - Greg Robson
Cataloguer - Wendy Melbourne
Publicity Officer - Carol Jones

Research Officer - Jim Melbourne



From all of us at the Stawell Historical Society to all of you..

Seasons Greetings to all and thank you for your

Seasons Greetings to all and thank you for your support during 2017.



Our Facebook page is proving to be of great benefit to us and the wider community with posts being well recieved eg: Photo of unknown cricket team (possibly Ararat) reaching 727 people, membership form posted and Disabled Access sign has been added to the page

Our new web page is attracting a lot of visits with 2050 "hits" or visits, as of December 2017. We are attracting people and groups to visit our facilities

From September 2017 to

December 2017 we have had approx 60 plus people visit us for Research and Museum visits.

We have also welcomed students from Somerville Secondary College and Residents from Eventide Retirement home who inspected our Research facilitity and Museum displays

Our End of Year Raffle Results, Drawn 11/12/2017.

1st Prize -Kaye Evans
2nd Prize -Jim Browne
3rd Prize -Rodney Farrer

Congratulations to June Radford, one of our Researchers

for her Knittting entries in the:

Melbourne Show 2017 - 1st Prize

Stawell Show 2017 - 1st Prize x 4, and 2nd Prize

Wimmera Show 2017 - 1st Prize

## CHRISTMAS CARDS AND POSTCARDS FROM YESTERYEAR





















#### SOME INTERESTING HISTORICAL FACTS

- Swimming In 1838 it was declared illegal to swim at public beaches during the day! This law was enforced until 1902.
- The secret ballot was first used in Victoria and South Australia following the granting of responsible government. Other states introduced secret ballots as follows: 1856 Victoria & South Australia 1858 New South Wales & Tasmania 1859 Queensland 1893 Western Australia. The secret ballot was referred to as 'kangaroo voting'. Worldwide, secret voting is often referred to as the 'Australian ballot.
- Female vote Australia was the second country to give women the vote in 1894.
- Australia was the 3rd country, after the US and Russia, to launch a satellite into orbit in 1964. It was for the British, using a 'Blue Streak' rocket
- Convicts were not sent to Australia for serious crimes. Serious crimes, such as murder, rape, or impersonating an Egyptian were given the death sentence in England.
- Police force In 1789 Australia's first police force was a band of 12 of the most well behaved Convicts
- Mass Moonings in 1832, 300 female convicts at the Cascade Female Factory mooned the Governor of Tasmania during a chapel service. It was said that in a "rare moments of collusion with the Convict women, the ladies in the Governor's party could not control their laughter."
- Alcohol...In the 1830's

It has been reported that the first European settlers in Australia drank more Alcohol per head of population than any other community in the history of mankind

• On the 26th Feburary 1606 ...

The first European sightings of Australia were made by a Dutchman called Willem Janszoon on the Duyfken (Little Dove). Janszoon sailed into the Australian waters charting 300 km of the coast on the journey. Janszoon also met with the Aboriginal people on the journey. Janszoon was the first recorded European to achieve such feats. Later that year Louis Vaez de Torres sailed through the Torres Strait, named after himself. Both Captains have been recorded as having sighted the Cape York Peninsula.

• Captain James Cook first landed on Australia's east coast in 1770. In 1788, the British returned with eleven ships to establish a penal colony. Within days of The First Fleet's arrival and the raising of the British flag, two French ships arrived, just too late to claim Australia for France

## GREAT WESTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF EDUCATION OCTOBER 2017



1881 - Great Western State School No. 860



Great Western Primary School celebrated 150 years of Education in October 2017 - 1867 - 2017.

Displays were placed in most classrooms, and the students welcomed past students. There was a parade on the Saturday morning which was well attended and received. The weekend consisted of activities and celebrations. Approximately 400 people attended on Saturday and approximately 200 attended the dinner on Saturday evening.



1867 - Great Western Common School



Past teacher Mr Kevin Murphy and past students in front of the original school



School Bell -1881



Restored School Bell 2017



## **100 YEARS AGO**

September 29, 1917



A German official report says the battle in Flanders continued uninterrupted all day long, and night long. We repulsed repeated assaults astride Langemarck. The enemy penetrated a kilometre between St. Julien and the Menin-Ypres and Stubbarn fighting. Menin-Ypres road. Stubborn fighting occurred at St Zonnebeke and Gheluvelt. The latter remained ours. Re

October 10, 1917

#### DISTRICT NEWS.

#### Callawadda

(From our Correspondent.)

The weather for the past few days has been very boisterous and wet, and Saturday's register showed a total of 87 points since Wednesday last, which is very beneficial to gardens and late crops as the short spell of a few dry days had dried everything up nicely. Some of the crops in the district are looking very forward, and are beginning to show out in ear, and we have grass in abundance. The we have grass in abundance. The weather to day has turned extremely cold, and will no doubt prove very severe on the newly shorn sheep.

The Stawell Harmonic Society paid a visit to Callawadda last Wednes.

day and gave a concert in aid of the local Red Cross, which was a very enjoyable evening to all present. It is not definitely known at present but I hear that the result of their endeavour combined with the energetic efforts of combined with the energetic efforts of the secretary and Red Cross workers, amounted to about £13. Mrs E. Evans donated a beautiful crochet canisole yoke which was raffled and realised £1, and won by Mr C. Evans, who had it put up he appetion and the who had it put up by auction and the who had it put up by auction and the bidding was very spirited for a short time and finally it became the prop-erty of the donor, for about another

8s 6d.

The rainfall for September was 294 points.

September 29, 1917

The state of the s

## THE TEST-PATRIOT OR SLACKER

small measure to the null-ifying of the attempted small measure to the nullifying of the attempted
German domination of
the world.

In a time of peril, such as now,
the paramount duty of men physically
able to bear arms is to share in the
defence of their country.

But men are wanted to

show that they are shirker or slacker.

THIS is a critical period in the war. The Australian soldiers by their fine tenacity and courage acclaim themselves as have contributed in no Australians.

But men are wanted to fill the gaps in the Australian ranks. Much remain to be done before the German dream of power over all is dissipated.

The Australian soldiers have proved themselves to be worthy citizens of the Commonwealth, and have exemplified the patriotism of Australia.

They are looking to the eligible men of Australia to show that they are shirker or slacker.

October 20, 1917

#### VISITING SENATOR.

IMPRESSION OF STAWELL.

A SPLENDID TRIBUTE.

In an article in last issue, "Wanderer" referred to a music examiner's impression of the beauty of the surroundings of Stawell, and it was quite refreshing on Tuesday night to hear the opinion of Senator De Largie, who was up on an electioneering campaign. In the afternoon, Mr. Hugh Menzies, who was here on a similar mission, took the senator up on the Big Hill, and he was delighted with what he saw. In the evening Senator De Largie told the Mayor (Cr. Dalziel) that he had gone over New South Wales with the Parliamentary party in search of the Federal capital, and had seen nothing to beat Stawell. He summarised it thus:-"Stawell is better than nine-tenths of the places he saw, and as good as the best." He thoroughly enjoyed the scenery from the hill, and was much taken with our water supply. The town is undoubtedly prettily situated, although we do not see it in the same light as visitors do.

[REUTER S CABLES.]

### New British Positions

**Heavy Counter Attacks** Fail.

#### : Australians Good Work.

## Germans View Advance With Alarm.

Gen. Sir Douglas Haig reports that the enemy made four separate counter attacks on our new front from Tower-hamlets to the St. Julien-St. Graven stafel Road. All enemy attacks were repulsed. His losses were extremely heavy.

Wireless.

heavy.

Wireless.
A German official report says the battle in Flanders continued uninteriorupted all day long, and night long. We repulsed repeated assaults astride Langemarck. The enemy penetrated a kilometre between St. Julien and the Menin-Ypres road. Stubborn fighting occurred at St Zonnebeke and Gheluvelt. The latter remained ours. Re peated assaults further southward broke down. broke down.

broke down.
Published in the Times.
Mr Robinson telegraphs that the
unquestionable seriousness with which
the Germans regard the defeat is shown the Germans regard the defeat is shown by the documents on all the prisoners alike. A prisoner, aged 16, innocently states that he was hustled to the front untrained owing to the scarcity of men. Three companies of the 7th Reserves suffered terribly from artillery fire during the march to the front till only a fifth of the original strength reached the front. Officers drove the men with revolvers.

The "Petit Parisien" says the captured Polygon redoubt, whereto the Germans attached the utmost importance, will remain one of the most glorious feats to the credit of Australian arms.

October 1917

## LADY BROOKS KINDERGARTEN STAWELL 1955



#### DO YOU RECOGNISE ANYBODY IN THIS PHOTO?

#### An Australian version of "Jingle Bells"



Dashing through the bush, in a rusty Holden Ute Kicking up the dust, esky in the boot Kelpie by my side singing Christmas songs It's Summer time and I am in my singlet, shorts and thongs

Oh! Jingle Bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way Christmas in Australia on a scorching Summers day. Hey! Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut! Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.

Engine's getting hot, we dodge the Kangaroos
The Swaggie climbs aboard, he is welcome too.
All the family's there, sitting by the pool,
Christmas day the Aussie way, by the barbeque.
Oh! Jingle Bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia on a scorching Summers day. Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut!
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.

Come the afternoon, Grandpa has a snooze
The Kids and Uncle Bruce are swimming in their clothes,
The time comes 'round to go, We take the family snap,
Pack the car and all shoot through before the washing up
Oh! Jingle Bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia on a scorching Summers day. Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut!
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.

