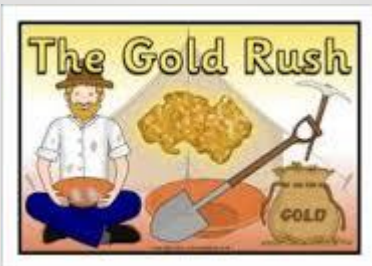


## STAWELL – A BRIEF HISTORY

Before Gold was discovered in our area, many early Settlers had taken up farming large areas of land between Horsham and Ararat. Even earlier than that, Aborigines had lived here for thousands of years.



In 1851 Gold was discovered in Victoria. By 1853 Gold was discovered in Stawell. At the time Stawell was called Pleasant Creek. The first person to find gold was a Shepherd named William McLachlan. He did not make any money from it though but thousands of people came here from all over the world looking for it. Some became very wealthy.



When the name of the town was changed to Stawell, it was named after Sir William Stawell. Many of the important buildings and old houses in Stawell were built during the Gold Rush by people who owned mines and made a lot of money. Some of your Ancestors may have built some of these. Many others lived in tents and bark huts.

As you listen to the stories and look at some of the displays see if you can imagine what it was like to live here 150 years ago.

When you are going to school or shopping, see how many places you can recognise.



## STAWELL

**Just for fun - Test your knowledge.**



Do you know who this man is?

.....



Have you seen this building? Do you know what it is?

.....  
.....



What were these men doing in 1878? They look very fashionable don't they!

.....  
.....

Can you recognise these buildings? They are an important part of Stawell's History.

.....  
.....



And here is something of interest and for fun!



We hope you have enjoyed your visit to The Stawell Historical Society. Please come and visit again.

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