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The Warrnambool Area of the A.I.G.S. Inc. Newsletter # 93

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INFORMATION

Monthly Meetings

The Warrnambool Area of the A.I.G.S. Inc., meets at 8.00 p.m, on the second Thursday of each month in the Library of the Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village, 23 Merri Street, Warrnambool. Visitors are most welcome.

Research Library

The Library is open at various times {Monday to Sunday} when staffed by volunteers of the Group. Ring Flagstaff Hill on 035564 7841 between 9.30 a.m, and 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday, to check specific opening times.

Workshop Nights

At the Flagstaff Hill Library at 7.30 p.m. on the Fourth Wednesday of each month.

Correspondence

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P. O. Box 607, Warrnambool, Victoria 3280

Newsletter Subscriptions

\$8.00 per year, including postage

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Treasurer: Dan Eyre

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Dear Members,

The year has nearly passed since the election of office bearers was held. Have you thought about standing for a position that has to be done for the club to function~ Maybe a role that can be shared with another which makes the commitment much less than doing it as an individual.

We have always had a shortage of people prepared to be more involved than just being a member. Our club is no worse than other organisations that rely on volunteers to do the work. It is always a battle to fill the quota and that is a shame.

Without your support the club will suffer and never meet members' expectations.

OUR SEMINAR WILL BE HELD ON MAY 15TH.

BE THERE.

BAPTIST HALL

IT HAS GOOD SPEAKERS AND GREAT COMPANY.

Dan Eyre

Editorial

The Rotary International District 9780 Conferenee99 was held this year in Warrnambool for the first time since 1985. Warrnambool was chosen because it is customary to hold the Conference in the home town of the district governor who, on this occasion, was our member Ray Welsford. 57 Rotary clubs gathered for the event. Mr Welsford is to be congratulated on being appointed to this responsible position in a Club that contributes so much to the community, and for the effective way in which he has interpreted the requirements of his office.

A happy group of members, local residents and folk from out of town met at the Warrnambool Cemetery on Easter Monday morning for another of Marie's popular Cemetery Walks. As usual Marie's material was carefully researched and she had some remarkable stories to tell. Listening to her accounts of our pioneer population it is easy to understand why our settlement here on the banks of the Hopkins has never looked back.

Betty Beavis
(Acting Editor)

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"GRANNY" RADDLESTONE

PILGRIMAGE TO HER GRAVE

LARGE GATHERING PAYS TRIBUTE

More than 86 years ago Mr and Mrs James Raddlestone, humble fisher folks, lived in a tent at the foot of what is now known as the cutting leading to the surfing beach. In 1848 Mrs Raddlestone died and she was buried amid the native trees and shrubs which then lined the eastern beach. A rude fence was placed round the grave, but as time went on this gradually disappeared and the burial place of the first white woman to be laid to rest by the "Long wash of Australian seas" in this part of the State was almost forgotten. For many years the sea crooned its quiet lullaby as its waters caressed the gleaming sands or pealed out its mighty diapason as the storm tossed billows pounded on the shores, and the raging winds piled the drifting sands on "Granny's" Grave, and she was forgotten. But not by all. In later years some public spirited citizens bethought them it would be a sacrilege to allow the historic spot to pass out of human ken, and so some years ago a stone was erected to mark the place. Last year the Progress Association moved by a commendable sentiment decided to make the place a permanent memorial and had the grave covered with a concrete enrailed cairn with the headstone firmly affixed bearing an inscription recording the facts of Mrs. Raddlestone's interment. A further tribute of homage was paid to the elderly pioneer yesterday when, under the direction of the Progress Association a pilgrimage to the grave was held. There was a satisfactory attendance, composed mainly of elderly folk or representatives of families long resident in Warrnambool. The weather was propitious for such a gathering, and the proceedings were rather unique. Seated among the marram grass in the shelter of a large sand dune one tried to visualise the scene enacted there 86 years ago. In place of the lone ti-tree shrub which now valiantly withstands the buffeting of the sea breezes, memory re-clad the sandy waste with trees and shrubs and flowering acacias wherein the native birds lived their happy lives and where the little wild creatures of the bush found a home - but, alas, long since destroyed by the devastating hand of man. Instead of the quiet seclusion of the wooded gullies the grave stands out cold and exposed to every wind that blows, yet it is a warm tribute of appreciation by the present generation to the early pioneers who helped to make this city. To reach the spot yesterday many went by car, the road leading to the mouth of the Hopkins, while others enjoyed the pleasure of a walk through the sand enclosure. The Scouts assisted to point the way to those unaccustomed to the locality, and an Australian flag fluttering from an improvised pole marked the site of the grave.

THE CEREMONY

The President of the Progress Association (Cr. Swan) conducted the proceedings yesterday and, at the outset, apologised for the absence of Mr. C. J. Kenyon, President of

the Historical Society of Victoria who was to have been present but was unable to keep the appointment. There was a member of the Society present in Mr. P. E. O'Grady, who was now a citizen of Warrnambool, and to whom they gave a hearty welcome. He explained that the pilgrimage had been arranged by the Progress Association as a memorial to one of the early pioneers - Mrs. Jas. Raddlestone - the first white woman who died in Warrnambool. In 1904 the City Council erected a headstone to mark the grave, and this year the Progress Association had the concrete base and the guard rail erected. The function that afternoon marked the opening of the gala week celebrations, for which a comprehensive programme had been arranged.

The Mayor (Cr. Oakley) said it was a happy thought that prompted the Association to arrange the pilgrimage. The idea behind the gathering was to honour the pioneers who had put in the spade work of settlement in this district. It was just a little way from where they were gathered that the waggon track ran between Melbourne and Port Fairy and no doubt that was why the burial had taken place there. Where they had travelled that day by motor car the pioneers travelled by bullock waggon. For the sake of the younger generation, he thought it was a good thing for them to give a little time to honouring the pioneers and reminding themselves what they owed to the pioneers and what their parents had done for them.

The Shire President (Cr. Rollo) joined the Mayor by thanking the Association for the invitation to be present to honor the memory of one of the old pioneers. Living as we did today we could fully realise all the pioneers had done for the State of Victoria, and indeed for the whole of Australia. The pioneers had come to this country and had faced hardships such as it seemed impossible for human beings to face and overcome. They had carved out homes for themselves in the forest and reared their families in conditions that were almost unbearable. There were no roads or bridges, and in the winter time if they had not obtained a store of provisions, they were in danger of starvation, as it was impossible to travel. He had heard of pioneers who had to go out and chase kangaroos to get a supply of meat. There were settlements going on now and brave men and women were facing hardships, but they were nothing to those faced by the early settlers, for now they had good roads and motor trucks and villages where they could get provisions near at hand. There were still some of the pioneers with us, and they were deserving of all honour and respect.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Mr. P. E. O'Grady thanked the Association for the welcome accorded him and conveyed the best wishes of the Historical Society for the success of the ceremony and to express the willingness of the Society to co-operate in any work of an historical nature. Referring to the life of Mr. Raddlestone he said that the information was fairly slight. As far as we know Mrs. Raddlestone and her husband were fisher folk, who eked out a livelihood by catching crayfish. They lived in a tent in the locality now known as the cutting, and it was said that many years after her death the marks of their camp fires on the stones could be clearly seen. The first intimation of white settlement in Warrnambool was in 1844 when sealers, whalers and fishermen made this a port of call, but there was no actual settlement until 1847 when the first Government land sales were held at which half-acre blocks were

sold for £20. Mr and Mrs Raddlestone must have been among the first settlers. The population of the town in 1850 was 250 so that when Mrs. Raddlestone died there would not be more than about 100 people in the settlement. There had been no death in the settlement up to that time, and there was no undertaker and no clergyman and so there was some difficulty about the burial. **Mr. Allan**, who occupied considerable property on the bank of the Hopkins, was carting material from the town and he expressed his willingness to bring the body to the burial ground in his bullock waggon, and he suggested that the site chosen should be set aside as a cemetery. **Mr. Chisholm and Mr. Allan** arranged to make a coffin, and **Mr. J. Manning** rode to Port Fair! to get a clergyman, and was successful in getting **Father Slattery**, afterwards well known as Dean Slattery, to come back with him and perform the burial service. He understood that Mr. Manning's grandson, Mr. Beattie, was present that afternoon. It was not known how old Mrs. Raddlestone was when she died, but as she was known as "Granny" no doubt she was elderly. It was not known whether she had any relatives. In concluding his address, Mr. O'Grady paid a tribute to the pioneers of the State.

Mr. L. E. Whitney, in a brief speech, expressed the hope that further steps would be taken to honour the pioneers and mentioned that the Rotary Club was doing something in that direction by arranging an annual treat for them so that they could meet and exchange memories of the early days. **He moved a vote of thanks to Mr. O'Grady, the Band under Mr. Turner, Mr. Carter, the Mayor, Shire President, Cr. Swan, Mr. F. Steere, the Scouts and Scoutmaster, Mr. E. Saywell.**

Wreaths given by **Messrs. Beardsley Bros., the A. N. A., and Mr. E. Richter**, were placed on the grave by the Mayor.

During the ceremony the hymns "O God our help in Ages Past," and "Nearer my God to Thee" were sung, and the City of Warrnambool Band under the leadership of **Bandmaster S. Turner**, played a number of selections.

The ceremony closed with the National Anthem.

Warrnambool Standard 24th December, 1934

Contributed by Marie Boyce

WARRNAMBOOL & DISTRICT HISTORICALS

APRIL 100 YEARS AGO - 1899

[As reported in *The Warrnambool Standard*. compiled by Betty Beavis]

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MR & MRS BICKLE (7)

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Farewell and presentation to newly-weds MR & MRS L BURGESS at Christ Church (21).

Accidents to ANDREW GRAY, Youngers' employee (11); to son of Mounted Constable MULCAHY at Panmure- also to his brother (11); to EARLS, Town Council laborer (11); to jockey D MAHONEY (11); to 4 year old daughter of MOORE SHEPHERD, Winslow (18); to JAMES SMITH, (son of butcher P SMITH) found at railway crossing by child of ganger JAMES KENNEDY. References

(Cont.)

100 YEARS AGO, APRIL 1899 - Cont.

Accidents (Cont.)

to Constables CROAGH and SHOEBRIDGE and to neighbour, MICHAEL SHERRY (24).

Nullawarre School picnic - references to G R HORNE (H.T.), Mesdames JOHN BELL, OLIVER WALLACE and JOHN KAVANAGH, MISS J J FRANCIS. Music by JOHN WHITE, GEORGE PALMER, BERTRAM BURNIE and JOHN M'ENTEE (25).

Fete competitions at Wesley Hall listed. Many details (6)

Tea meeting at Grasmere Baptist Church - lots of names (7).

Fete at St John's - references to MISS ESTELLE PERROTTET and her mother, to MRS W McMEEKIN, to MISSES ANNIE KEITH, LUCY MURRAY and JEAN KNIGHTS and to MASTERS GEORGE M'MEEKIN, LEWIS and LESLIE STRANG, and JAMES PATTERSON (21).

Western Hotel sold to J J CHURCHYARD of St Arnaud. MR & MRS TASSELL (5 & 6)

Additions to Youngers' premises - JAS McLEOD (architect), KINGSTONE & TISSOTT (masons), SPICER and GLANVILLE (carpenters), EVAN JONES (plasterer, GEORGE LANCE, jun. (plumber) and J J VILLIERS (painter and glazier) (6).

Wangoom Creamery picnic - mentions FRANK SHADY, JOEL TRIGG's paddock and music by MR MURRIHY (12).

Activities of Warrnambool Hunt Club (27).

Town Council inquires into DR SCOTT's Private Hospital (20).

Ladies in charge of Town Band stall named (8). Town Band plays at races, - opens bazaar to raise funds - states why money needed (26). MISS RUBY HOOPER gives exhibition of fancy dancing at bazaar (27).

MRS O'MEALLY (O'MEALLY's Hotel) fined. Reference to JAMES O'MEARA (18).

M HEAVER receives handsome severance bonus from Council (4).

Machinery trial on property of MR HARKNESS (Cassidy's Bridge) (15)

Solicitor C O'MAHOONEY to dissolve partnership with E W KLINGENDER (19).

JAMES BATES, stove manufacturer, moves to new premises - also in Liebig St and next to H H SMITH. Details of premises (24 & 27).

DENIS RYAN seeks opening of road on his land between Hopkins Point and the Hopkins River (6).

C NAGEL writes to paper re 'Clearing Pillar Boxes.' (20).

Costumes at Race Ball (28) and at the races - 2 columns (29).

Junior Steeplechase - A J ROWAN's 'Otway' (26).

JAMES ROCK writes to paper re accident on railway line. WILLIAM COGHLAN was JAMES SMITH's brother-in-law (25).

JAMES SMITH's INQUEST. Jury - ALEX BREBNER (foreman), M HEAVER, jun., G U PETTARD, J SUTHERLAND, T HART, M J MURPHY, H PARKINSON. Witnesses - PATRICK SMITH, jun., & train driver FRASER (25).

Aid for MICHAEL COSTELLO of Kirkstall tire disaster (13).

Details re REV. S M'GEORGE of Christ Church(7). Tribute from Ararat (13).

LINDSAY FLETT finds charts thrown from ship (4).

MRS HALL, Koroit St, attempts suicide in the Hopkins. Reference to MRS WEBB. (4 & 7).

JAMES DANDLE, lighthouse, museum donations (12).

Money stolen from MRS J KIRBY's till (14).

MRS THOM sues saddler JAMES M'CREEDY for forgery (17).

DICK YEW (Fairy St shop) charges JAMES O'GRADY with insulting behaviour (18).

(Cont.)

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100 YEARS AGO - APRIL 1899. Cont.

SPENCER SMITH, manager of Warrnambool Exchange, robbed (22).

ROBERT GREER charged with larceny from MRS SPENCER SMITH, sen. Reference to MR VON ROMER, Fairy ST (24).

Stones thrown on roof of J CALLAGHAN's house at South Warrnambool (25).

G ZENNER (Allansford) and N MCKINNON witness pick-pocket's activity at Warrnambool races. CONSTABLES TRAINOR and LAWFORD make arrests. (29)

HENRY VERNON arrested for attempt to defraud P J MCGENNAN (17) Reference also to JOHN PORTER (29).

Fire destroys house at Purnim owned by MRS JAMES McLEOD (16).

417 acres of Farnham Survey for sale by T F RUTLEDGE. Detailed description (15)
Long report of sale (21).

106 acres (Gorman's Lane) bought by S CARSON from MR RUTLEDGE at £15 per acre (27).

D O'BRIEN writes to Standard re handicapping of his horses. WE DAKIN replies (21).

More re EDWARD SMITH (7, 11 & 18).

More re PETER BROWN's allotment dispute (14).

DEATHS

DOHERTY, J HIGGINS and FELIX GROGAN killed at Mt Margaret Mine, W.A. (22).

MRS WILLIAM J WILLIAMS (nee ELIZABETH M HARRIS) aged 42, dies at Coolgardie, W.A.
(Lizzie) (11)

Deaths in Warrnambool Hospital - JAMES INCH, aged 74. Cause given (8) and
JAMES WILLIAM M'GEE of 'Airlie.!' (15)

WARRNAMBOOL & DISTRICT HISTORICALS

APRIL 75 YEARS AGO - 1924

[As reported in *The Warrnambool Standard*, compiled by Betty Beavis]

ENGAGEMENTS

JOHN ROBERT ASTBURY, Warrnambool, to MAY JESSEN, Warrnambool (11).

WALTER L COOPER of West Heath, Batterley, Cheshire, England, to GWEN WINES of 'Ashlyn', Timor St, Warrnambool (25).

FAREWELLS & PRESENTATIONS

MRS P H LOCK - to Europe aboard 'Mongolia' (4, 14 & 25); MR & MRS W J GOODEN at Illowa. Chairman - JAMES LYNCH (5); MR HEALEY and E DALTON by Garvoc Football Club (5); CONST. DOWSETT by Warrnambool Football Club (9); J H SMITH, Headteacher at Warrnambool State School (12, & 13); sale of household effects at 10 Merri Crescent (24); C SILVESTER, accountant at Union Bank - promoted to Adelaide (12 & 14); DESMOND DUNNE - 6 months abroad (14); JACK MCPHAIL by Grasmere Football Club (19); MR & MRS P GIBLIN at Illowa. References to HYDE's Farm (Yangery) - also to JAMES WHELAN and W STACEY (16)

ACCIDENTS

To W HAIN, Koroit - caused by owl (23); to CLARENCE FOX, aged 18, at Dunmore. Fatal.

ITEMS OF INTEREST to MRS ARCHIE LINDSAY and THILL - car collision (7). (??).

MRS J F NAYLOR returns from overseas (25); S JESSEN and son, ARTHUR, arrive safely in London (12); MR & MRS ESMOND SHIELDS leave for Europe aboard 'Maloja' - also MR & MRS R A PAUL (11).

Paragraph re MISS MOLLIE SALTER (Woman's Realm) (19); Personal paragraph re MISS RITA LINDSAY (25).

Veteran rider J S EDGE welcomed at Flemington (10).

