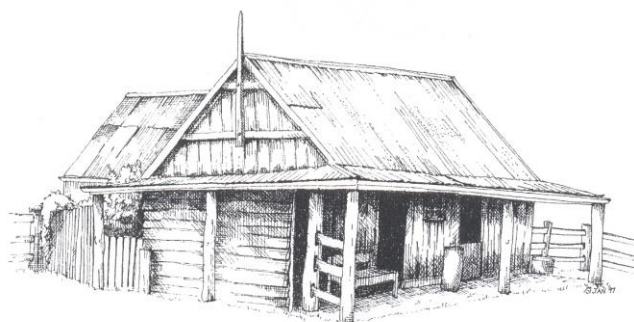


# FRIENDS AND RELATIONS OF GULF STATION FEBRUARY 2019



## Diary Dates (except if a Total Fire Ban for *Central District*)

### Open Day for Heritage Festival

Thursday 18 April  
Showing volunteer activities and *possibly* offering children's activities

### Bunning's BBQ

Tuesday 23 April (after Easter Monday)

### David Clark 180th anniversary 2019

Sunday 27 October  
Enquiries: davidclark1839@gmail.com

### Bunning's BBQ

Wednesday 23 December

### Thursday Work

Newcomers welcome, all skill levels, gardening, general maintenance etc. Also visitor reception.

### Newsletter arrangements

Emailed to those with email. Volunteers' copies available for collection at Gulf Station.

Newsletter **contributions** always welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Work completed by Volunteers, 2018

#### Regular Volunteer tasks include:

- Maintained the cleanliness of the buildings
- Cleaned the toilets
- Maintained the garden
- Conducted tours of groups, individuals and school visits
- Conducted two Open days, and now extra open days on the first Sunday of the month over summer
- Raised money at sausage sizzles at Bunnings.

#### Major infrastructure tasks include:

- Repairs to damaged rear wall of kitchen (bakery)
- Repairs to rear wall of butcher shop
- Realignment of front gate post
- Install posts and restore southern boundary fence
- Removal of fallen timber from tree lanes on boundaries and cut grass
- Repairs to post and rail fence in front of car park
- Repairs to railings of the sheep dip
- Erection of Horse shelter in front paddock
- Build post-and-rail fence and gate at end of Southern laneway
- Complete restoration of stock yards near slaughter house
- Repairs and reconstruction of cattle yards

## Report from Work Group

We've had a mixed start to the year: the January First Sunday was successful regarding official visitor numbers but not good regarding an unofficial visitor in the early hours (see page 3 for details).

However, the end of 2018 was marked by a very pleasant lunch-time get-together for volunteers, family and friends.

We said good-bye to **Don Macdonald**, who has moved to near Nagambie; we'll miss both his company and his careful work on fences, gates and other infrastructure. But we've also welcomed **Ian Hoyle**, with his electrical skills (see page 3).

This year, Gulf Station will again take part in the Trust's Heritage Festival. Last year, the Trust did us proud with our entry in the program, which resulted in excellent visitor numbers. If you are not already a regular volunteer but think you might be able to help on our 2019 date (18 April), please send Irene an email.

Having exhausted Gulf's grass, the agisted sheep were put through Harvey's rebuilt sheep race to be drenched before being moved on to the neighbouring farm - the race worked a treat. The plan is for the flock to spend some time back at their home farm, then return to Gulf for mowing duties when our grass starts to grow again.

As we get stuck into 2019, look at what we achieved in 2018 below, put together by **Peter**.

**Mike Ridley, for the Work Group**

- Removal of reeds in dam and waterways
- Place gate in fence between paddocks 6 and 7
- Place gate in fence between home and dam paddocks
- Build new traditional gate in fence between toilets and the forge
- Commence reconstruction of sheep handling race behind shearing shed
- Constructed new support frame for the large grinding wheel located in the front of the butcher shop
- Replaced rotted gate post behind the mower shed and beside the calf shelter, re hung gate (but there's more work to do there yet)
- Replaced rotted sleepers lining handicapped parking area with solid replacements donated by Yarra Valley Railway
- Purchased new mower. Talked Bunnings into donating post-hole digger and tree lopper
- Ongoing maintenance of post and rail fences
- Ongoing and continuous mowing and control of grass
- Negotiated with Shire to obtain 3000 trees as part of their environmental green corridor programme for the next 3 years

## FROGS and Volunteer news



Congratulations from all at Gulf Station to **Gwen Sadlier** (a long-term FROGS member and hard-working volunteer in earlier years) on reaching her 90th birthday!

**Betty Williams** sent a card with her 'best wishes to Gulf Station Helpers.'

**Maureen** has been cruising but is now back in the garden.

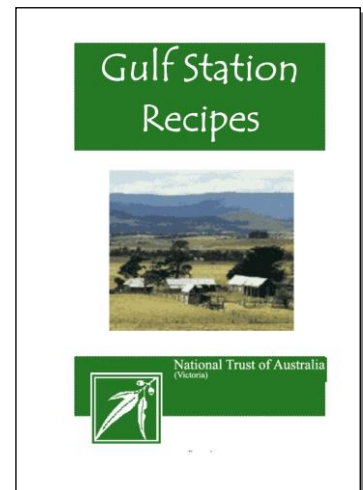
## To cool you down...

**Carina** shared two photographs she took on her 2016 Antarctic trip - delightful chinstrap penguins.



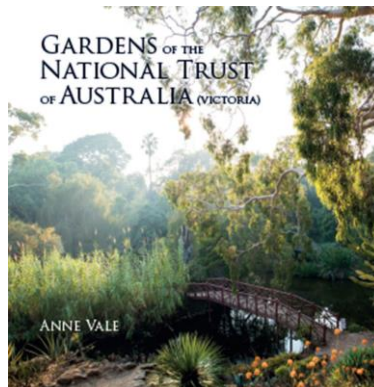
## Gulf Station Recipe Books

From an initiative of **Paula Herlihy**, a supply of 30 of these small books is being printed at mate's rates. Paula is also generously meeting the full cost so *all* sales income goes to FROGS - thank you, Paula. The supply will be at Gulf Station during February and in next newsletter we'll be able to give the cost for orders by post.



## National Trust Gardens

We have only three copies left of the *Gardens of the National Trust of Australia*. Price \$44.95 to Trust members and volunteers (\$49.95 otherwise). A chapter covers Gulf Station, with glorious photographs taken at different seasons.



## Information folders

Some folders are being compiled, containing information on various related topics. These are on the table in the house for visitors to browse if they wish. Current topics include:

Items about Gulf Station generally

Items about the 1839 voyage of the *David Clark* and later anniversary celebrations

*Voices from Gulf Station*, being the compilation of postcards from Gulf Station to Kongwak, beautifully put together, with commentary, by Gay Bell

All are works in progress and will be added to over time. Any suggestions or contributions for these folders would be welcome.

## Tours and School visits

The numbers for the First Thursday openings have been high enough to cause **Pam** to set specific times for guided tours, rather than take visitors as they arrive (this resulted in some people joining tours part-way through to the detriment of tour content and visitor attention).

Guides and helpers hope for another busy year of school visits.

## The electric Gulf Station

New occasional volunteer **Ian Hoyle** has begun a careful program of assessing and updating the wiring at Gulf Station. He started in the barn, replacing all wiring: no more power cables



festooned around the walls as in this Trust photograph. Not only is the new wiring invisible but the lighting is improved. Ian removed what he estimated were 1950s fittings. He has also wired a power point in the buggy shed, which will make running a tea and coffee stall from there much easier when there's an event.

While Ian doesn't plan to be a regular, he will attend to anything electrical and ensure all the necessary certification is obtained. Welcome Ian and thank you!

## Gulf Station in the news

We're usually grateful for publicity, but not this time, although things turned out much better than we could ever have hoped. All those with Gulf Station in their hearts will send their warmest thanks to the local police at Lilydale and Yarra Glen and their Gippsland colleagues for the outcome.

On our Open Day, first Sunday in January, volunteers arrived to find the place had been seriously burgled overnight (a ute, two trailers, a ride-on mower, a push-mower, chain-saw, all sorts of tools, several gas bottles, a compressor - the list grew as people remembered things). He also took a long route out to avoid the main drive which is lit at night. Instead, he went via a chain of paddocks, leaving gates open as he went including the gate from car park to road. The robbery took place sometime after **Bri** had attended to the horses at 7pm Saturday and the first volunteer arriving on Sunday at 10am (an unpleasant thought for Bri who is usually on her own when she visits).

Each of the early volunteers on Sunday assumed another volunteer had already opened the car park gate. However, we didn't notice that a gate was *also* open between the car park and the adjacent paddock. When the first visitors drove into the car park and took longer than expected to come in and pay, **Vicki** looked out and saw they were chatting to three Clydesdales over the fence. **Irene** was surprised that any horses were in that paddock, but assumed they'd been moved on purpose (they weren't visible earlier). After a couple more minutes, one of the visitors came in and asked, 'Should the horses be in the car park?' Vicki and Irene shot out and, with the visitors, tried to move the horses back into the field, but they just wanted to get to the oak trees along the edge of the car park (very tasty, oak leaves). Then Gil turned and started to walk away; Irene turned in the same direction to go after him, and realised Gil was making for the open gate onto the road. Irene did a 30 yard dash (for those who don't know her, she's not built for sprinting) and slammed the gate shut in the face of a car about to drive in. Luckily, it was another volunteer, and even luckier Gil didn't put on any speed. With the aid of carrots that the visitors had brought, the horses were persuaded back the other side of the paddock fence and the gate shut.

While **Peter** and **Mike** spent the day with the Lilydale police who attended, the other volunteers had to put on welcoming smiles when we really felt like crying.

### Gulf station burglary

A 45-year-old Healesville man was arrested in Bairnsdale and charged in relation to a burglary at Gulf Station.

Police charged the man burglary and vehicle theft and recovered all the property stolen except for one trailer.

Between 7pm on 5 January and 10am on 6 January, police found a stolen vehicle dumped outside a home opposite Gulf Station, Yarra Glen.

They allege the man stole gardening tools including a chainsaw and mower and broke into an unregistered white Mitsubishi ute with a silver tray which was used to tow two trailers - one which had a green John Deere mower on it.

**Simon Ambrose** (Trust CEO), **Sherredan** and **Alyse** came the next Thursday, having worked hard finding all sorts of stuff for us so work could continue. We also heard that the ute was, in fact, registered (only used around the farm to carry heavy items or as a mobile work platform for higher jobs). Quotes are being sought for security improvements including a container for equipment.

**Barry** (a local policeman) thought it likely that we'd get back at least some items and also thought there was a suspect: both turned out to be true. During the following week, we heard the alleged thief had been caught and a major part of the loot was recovered in Gippsland (the thief had filled the stolen ute with petrol, driving off without paying; the service station rang the police so the highway patrols were looking out for him). At Gulf Station, some items left behind had his fingerprints, and he'd left another ute (which he'd stolen earlier) near Gulf Station with some of identifiable clothes in it.

## Openings on the First Sundays of Summer Months

When it was first decided to open Gulf Station one Sunday a month for November to February, we didn't discuss how to assess the value of the openings. However, it is clear that visitors will come if there is publicity. The last newsletter reported on November and December but here's a summary of all openings:

November - *Visitors* only a few - *Publicity* the 'open' banners

December - *Visitors* 54 - *Publicity* banners, a listing on the Garden page of *The Age*

January - *Visitors* 54 - *Publicity* banners, listing in local newspapers

February - *Visitors* 2 - *Publicity* listing in local newspapers (one with photograph below), Trust email

31 January from 6pm at Innocent Bystander Healesville. All current TNV members are welcome, as is anyone who has an interest in tourism in and around the Yarra Valley and would like to learn more about the association.

**Gulf Station Open**

Historic homestead, Gulf Station, is having an Open Day on Sunday 3 February from 11am to 3pm. Take the opportunity to tour the house, picnic in the grounds, fly a kite or just bring a carrot for one of the friendly Clydesdales. Adults \$9, concession \$6, children over 12 \$3 or a family ticket at \$20. Gulf Station is at 1029 Melba Highway Yarra Glen and details at [www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/gulf-station/](http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/gulf-station/)

Up close with a Clydesdale at Gulf Station.

Mountain Views Mail 22.1.2019 p4

We could have expected a similarly good February opening but, given the forecast temperature and weather generally, and on advice from **Barry** (police) and **Peter** (CFA), we decided not to open. **Mike** and **Irene** spent the day at Gulf Station to apologise to anyone who did turn up; the only visitors were a hardy couple who'd come specially after seeing the newspaper listing so Irene did show them around.

Helpers over the other openings include **Pam** and **Ros** (tours); **Marion** and **Luella** (garden); **Alan** and **Stan** (BBQ) and Mike's friend **Ann** (tea and coffee) on one Sunday and all helped generally other days; **Peter**, **Glen**, **Betty**, **Mike**, **Irene**, **Paula** and Mike's friend **Vicki**.

### Who dun that?

There's an oak tree in one paddock where the four and a half male Clydesdales often hang out (the 'half' being one-year-old Cobber). It's a favoured spot because (1) it's shady, (2) oak leaves are good to eat and (3) they can watch the humans at work. Also under the tree, in addition to a pile of bricks, was a trailer carrying a large plastic container of water with a pump and hoses (ready to take to a grass fire or to water distant plantings), so four and a half Clydesdales were a bit squashed if they were *all* under the tree. One Thursday in December, volunteers found the trailer at the bottom of the hill, crashed into a fence. Did the Clydesdales decide the trailer was a waste of shade so pushed it out the way? Was one of them having a vigorous scratch against a corner and set it moving? No one owned up. The trailer is now parked elsewhere and the bricks have been moved (thus also avoiding hurt ankles).



Image Alan Gosling

### Love junk shops?

There are a couple of old school desks in the school-house but they lack inkwells. If you frequent junk shops and spot the sort of ceramic inkwells that sat in school desks (possibly in your school days), please could you buy them for Gulf Station?



### William to the Gold Fields

Andrew Ross (Kangaroo Ground school teacher and diarist) records:

**1851 December 5, 'Wm Bell Jr gets my pony & takes to Diggings!'**

[*The Diary of Andrew Ross 1828-1895*, Mick Woiwod (editor), Andrew Ross Museum, 2011, p68]

Unfortunately, Ross doesn't document exactly where 20 year-old William and the pony went, nor when they came back, the purpose of the trip, or the outcome. The goldfield just discovered was at Mount Alexander, which might have been William's destination. Rather than seeking his fortune, could William have been taking goods for sale to the diggers? The current journey by road is 150 km (93 miles) so a pony journey would have taken a few days, ruling out *fresh* foodstuffs. Or did William set off, then change his mind?

## An addition to the school room

A charming little Sunday School bookcase has been added to the School Room but it looked sad, being empty. Always glad of an excuse to visit second-hand bookshops, **Irene** has installed these books because their bindings looked right and their topics might have appealed to adults or visiting children at Gulf Station:

- *Digger Smith*, C J Dennis (1918). Poems of WWI. Once belonged to J C L McBratney [thanks to the www, this seems to be him (right) from NZ newspaper *Press*, 18.2.1935 p12, but how did his book come to be in a shop in Daylesford?]
- *Victorian Readers - Fourth Book* (1940)
- *Outline of Scottish History from Roman times to the Disruption*, W M MacKenzie (1907). It covers Scottish history up to the 1840s. Once belonged to Flora McJ [or McT] Parker, 32 Monash Drive Mulgrave
- *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens (no date for this edition)
- *A Book of Heroes: great victories in the fight for freedom*, Henry Johnson (The Religious Tract Company, 1910). A birthday present for 'Dear Horald, from Bruce T' in 1926
- *The Fourth Form at Beverley*, Jessie Leckie Herbertson (~1928). Longford Baptist Sunday School prize to Kietha Long in 1931
- *Just the girl for St Jude's*, Ethel Talbot (1927)
- *The Bannister Twins*, Bessie Marchant (~1932). Methodist Sabbath School prize to Margaret Griffiths in 1933



After these books had been shelved, **Stan** generously donated some of his personal treasures:

- *The White House Boys* by R A H Goodyear (1933). St Mary's, Ringwood, prize for highest marks Grade V to Stan in 1948
- *Wings beyond Rio* by J G Robinson (nd). St Mary's, Ringwood, special prize for Social Service to Stan in 1948
- *Perilous Seas* by C G Holland (1951), Sister of Mercy prize for 2nd place Grade VIII to Stan in 1951
- *Arithmetic for Grade VI* [full of challenges for *anyone* these days]
- *Reach for the Sky: the story of Douglas Bader* by Paul Brickhill (this edition 1955)
- *The Cruel Sea* by Nicholas Monsarrat (this edition 1953)

## Report - Bullying incident at Gulf Station

27 December 2018: **Marion, Digby** [Marion's grandson] and **Irene** were feeding carrots to the boys. Digby was stationed at one end to keep Trigger occupied (there's a rule now that carrot distribution to the boys should be done by at least two people - one person to be dedicated to Trigger).. Marion and Irene were further along the fence with Cobber, Gil and Chance. When Trigger had exhausted Digby's supply, he noticed carrot distribution was continuing further along the fence and made a sudden dash at Cobber who, in fright, seemed to decide to jump the fence. Instead, he broke the top rail (which was in very poor condition and didn't take much breaking), landing with his front legs on the humans' side, luckily just missing Marion. Cobber quickly got all legs back on the horses' side and seemed not fussed or hurt.

### Actions at the time

- 1 The rail was immediately replaced by **Ian** and **Alan** (moved rail from another fence as a temporary measure) but several rails look as if they could do with replacing.
- 2 A sit-down in the shade for Marion, who was fine.
- 3 A scolding for Trigger about being a bully, but he didn't take any notice.
- 4 Some extra petting for Cobber, who enjoyed that.

### Recommended future actions

- 1 When Trigger's supply of carrots is finished, all other carrot distribution to cease immediately.
- 2 Trigger's pocket money to be stopped for a month.

## MR J. C. L. MCBRATNEY

The death occurred at the Christchurch Hospital recently of Mr John Cuthbert Leat McBratney, of Winchester. Mr McBratney was born at Temuka in 1895, and was educated at the Temuka primary and District High School. After leaving school he worked at Mr G. Nottingham's boot shop. He left to take part in the war in 1915. After two years' service at the front he was invalided home, and spent the next five years for treatment in the Christchurch and Timaru Hospitals before he was discharged. He afterwards worked for some time on a threshing mill.

When the Waihi woolscouring works commenced operations he was appointed second engineer, and eventually was appointed first, a position he held at the time of his death.

Mr McBratney was at one time a member of the Library and Victoria Hall Committee, and he was interested in the women's basketball and hockey clubs. His chief interest was in his work as secretary of the local school committee, a position he held for eight years. He largely assisted in making the Winchester school ground a beauty spot on the main highway. He was also secretary of the Country Schools' Association.

In 1922 he was married to Miss Bessie Hughes, and a widow with one daughter survive him. The funeral was conducted by the Rev. A. C. K. Harper, of Temuka.

## Work around the farm

**Ian G** made sure we recorded a great achievement of **Harvey's** - about a year's work to complete the post-and-rail fencing around a stock area near the slaughter-house. In more recent years, it was used as a pen for the Berkshire boar of the day but, Harvey considers, the original height of the fence would indicate the Bells used the area for horses or cattle. The 'before' and 'after' images tell the story.



Images above and right: Ian Graf

In-between his work on the above project, **Harvey** has been restoring the sheep race behind the shearing shed. In January the race had a work-out when the agisted sheep were put through it to be drenched - nearly 400 of them. (This photograph shows the race as it was two months ago.)

Image L: Harvey Clark



The making of post-and-rail fencing is never-ending. Here, **Ian** is the hard at work.

Image: Alan Gosling

## The Indian Hawker

**Marion** found this old envelope among her late Uncle Bill Cameron's papers, and copied the text below exactly (in his later years, Bill Cameron would write on any paper that was handy - he enjoyed writing and often his letters to the editor were published in the daily papers).

Bill Cameron was writings about Jimmy Betrich (?spelling).

*He was an Indian Hawker and he travelled in a canvas covered wagon pulled by a pair of horses.*

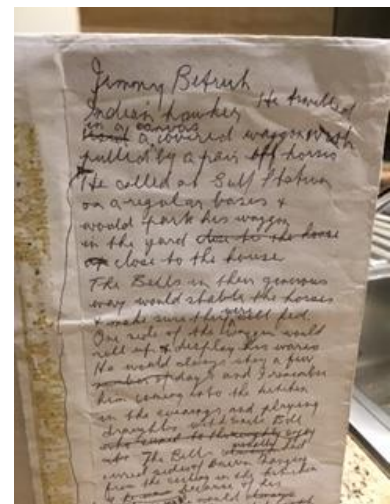
*Jimmy was a well known identity around Yarra Glen and surrounding districts.*

*He called at Gulf Station on a regular basis and would park his wagon in the yard close to the house. The Bells in their generous way would stable the horses and make sure they were well fed.*

*One side of the wagon would roll up to display his wares.*

*He would always stay a few days and I remember him coming into the kitchen in the evenings and playing draughts with Uncle Bill Bell.*

*The Bells usually had cured sides of bacon hanging from the ceiling in the kitchen and because of his religious beliefs he would be careful not to sit underneath the bacon.*



Sadly, a search of newspapers in Trove finds nothing about Jimmy Betrich, although a 'Miss Betrich' won the skipping contest when Yarra Glen celebrated the Prince of Wales' birthday with 'a gathering in honor of the jubilee of the Port Phillip District Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows' [*Healesville Guardian* 15.11.1895, p3]. At the same event, Charles Smedley was second in the wood-chop.

## Christmas cards from the Trust

The Trust wanted to send a season's greeting card to *all* volunteers, handed out at each venue. If you're a Gulf volunteer and *didn't* receive a card, ask Irene to make sure you're on the Trust's list. The Trust also emailed (below, reformatted to fit the space). [Mike took his rope-making machine to La Trobe's Cottage.]

Season's  
thanks



In 1985, The United Nations declared December 5th **International Volunteer Day**, to celebrate and power and potential of volunteerism. Today and every day, the National Trust is grateful for our generous, passionate and inspiring volunteers who help us support and protect our heritage.

In the last year, **National Trust volunteers have selflessly contributed to over 42,000 hours of time to our events, projects, advocacy, properties and education programs.** Our enthusiastic team of

volunteers grew considerably. This flourishing collective of ongoing, property, project, event, digital, corporate, branch committee, and expert committee volunteers, increased by 8%.

Whether you're helping in the great outdoors, connecting with the public or up close and personal with our places and collections, we cannot do what we do without you! We feel so lucky to have such great volunteers throughout Victoria looking after our heritage and places. On behalf of everyone at the Trust we look forward to working with you again in 2019.

Your volunteer support is truly valued. We wish you a joyful, safe and healthy festive season to you and your family and friends.

Regards,

**Simon Ambrose**  
Chief Executive Officer, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)



*Family Fun Day at La Trobe's Cottage*

## Update for the Clydies - February 2019 – Bri Anderson

The summer heat has its challenges when caring for livestock – no matter how hot it is, daily checks must still occur to check water troughs are full and horses are in good condition. A wide brim hat is a must!

Dinah and Kelly continue to seek the shade of the shelter and trees in the front paddock on hot days. Gil seems happy on the flats with the other geldings.

Yesterday (31.1.2019) the Gulf Station clydies had their annual vet check from The Equine Practice. This involves a full medical health check, filing of sharp edges of teeth, and vaccination. The horses are sedated by the vet to allow their teeth to be filed flat to ensure horses are comfortable and able to chew and eat properly. This is important to maintain optimal health and wellbeing. The horses also receive an annual vaccine for tetanus and strangles, a contagious bacterial respiratory tract infection. All horses passed with flying colours and the vet was very pleased with their condition.

I have fly masks for the horses, which I will endeavour to keep on the horses; these will not only prevent annoying flies but also stop harmful UV rays on their little pink noses. [Dinah looks very seductive in her veil, but Bri is still trying with Kelly and Gil.]

If you have any queries about the horses please feel free to get in touch.

Kind regards, Bri

### After their check-ups, Mesdames Dinah and Kelly said

'You think that's toothcare? *This is toothcare!*



**Dr Lizzie McCready** with  
Dinah

**Dr Adele de Krester**  
with Kelly

Images L-R Irene, Bri, Mike



# From the Archives

## DAISY BELL 1888-1911

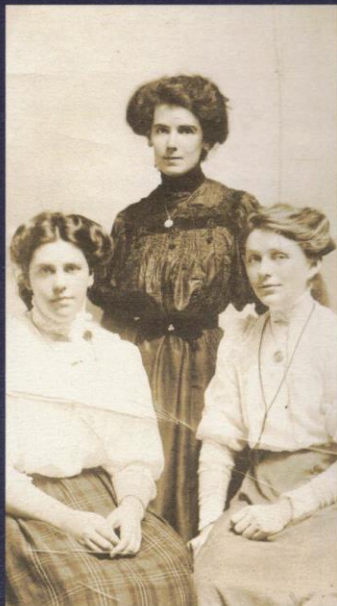
Daisy Bell was born in 1888 and grew up at the family home, the Bell Homestead, at Gulf Station in Yarra Glen. Daisy attended Mount Lilydale College as a boarder, she was a talented musician and very involved in the school orchestra. On completion of her studies, Daisy returned to the College to teach violin, playing her own Jacob Steiner violin.

While teaching at the College, Daisy met and fell in love with a blind piano tuner and they went on to have a child together out of wedlock. Daisy was sent away and gave birth to her daughter, Cecilia Noel Bell in Wagga Wagga in 1910, but she became ill shortly after childbirth and tragically died of pneumonia at only 22 years of age. Cecilia was raised by Daisy's sister Janet.

The College was recently contacted by Daisy's great grandson Malcolm Chandler who was very close to his grandmother and spent a lot of time listening to her stories. Daisy was not only a skilled musician but also a talented painter. When Cecilia passed away in June this year and Malcolm inherited three of Daisy's paintings, he decided to donate the paintings to the College and share Daisy's story with us.

The three paintings are now on display in the former parlour in the Mount Saint Joseph building - they were produced when she was a student at the College and are dated 1903.

*By Patricia Olson (Archivist)*



34 Connections

From the 2018 Mount Lilydale Mercy College magazine

Lee (a descendant of Thomas and Mary Bell) will ask other family members for more of this story which can be put into one of the binders at Gulf Station. Information from Lee now:

- Daisy's family home, 'Belmont' in Dixon's Creek, existed until the 2009 bush fires.
- Daisy's brother Jack married Flo Chandler and they had the farm next door in Dixon's Creek.
- Cecily used to ride to C. J. Dennis' house with his grocery order from the store every single night - rain, hail or shine.



## Daisy Bell

The article opposite about Daisy Bell (1888-1911) says she 'grew up in the family home, the Bell Homestead at Gulf Station,' which sent Irene researching. Daisy's parents were Thomas, son of John Bell (brother of Gulf Station's William) and wife Mary (nee Weller). They lived nearby, at Dixon's Creek, and were surely regular visitors of their cousins at Gulf Station.

Daisy attended the Yarra Glen Presbyterian Sunday School with the Smedley children, one being Jack (who grew up to buy the Station after the death of the last Bell) and sister Ivy (with her husband Jack Jewson, caretakers at Gulf). Daisy was a keen poultry keeper, winning prizes at the Yarra Glen shows 1903-1910. Newspapers also list her success in various music exams (violin and theory); she also performed in local concerts. [Tagged in Trove as 'Daisy Bell of Belmont at Dixons Creek'] From the photographs, she was a beautiful young woman.

In the custom of the time, there's no mention of a baby in the report [below left] of Daisy's death, nor the death and funeral notices, nor the various In Memoriam [which each have the same first paragraph and ending as the first one shown]. The time's social mores caused much family heartache.

*Healesville and Yarra Glen Guardian*  
14.7.1911  
p2

The many friends in Healesville of Miss Daisy Bell, who used to attend the Convent to teach music, will be sorry to learn of her death, which occurred on Wednesday morning. Deceased was 22 years of age, and lived with her parents at "Belmont," Dixon's Creek. Twelve days ago she caught a chill, which quickly turned to pneumonia. Dr. Vogler was called in, and did all he could to save her life. To make still further efforts he called in Dr. Adam, of Lilydale, but their efforts were unavailing, and on Wednesday morning she passed away. She was buried in the Yarra Glen cemetery on Thursday afternoon. We deeply sympathise with the bereaved parents in their deep trouble.

*The Age*  
13.7.1911  
p8

**DEATH.**  
BELL.—On the 12th July, at "Belmont," Dixon's Creek, of bronchial pneumonia, Daisy, beloved second daughter of Thomas and Mary, and sister of Jenny and Jack, aged 22 years and 9 months.

**FUNERAL NOTICE.**  
BELL.—The Friends of Mr. T. BELL are respectfully invited to follow the remains of his beloved second daughter, Daisy, to the place of interment, the Yarra Glen Cemetery. The funeral will leave her residence at 1.30 p.m., arriving at cemetery 3 p.m.

*The Argus*  
12.7.1913  
p13

BELL.—In sad but loving remembrance of our dear Daisy, who departed this life at "Belmont," Dixon's Creek, July 12, 1911.

We mourn the loss of one we loved,  
We did our best to save;  
Beloved in life, regretted, gone,  
Remembered in the grave.

Dear is the grave where our darling is laid,  
Sweet is the memory that never shall fade;  
Quickly forgotten by some you may be,  
If others forget you, never will we.

—(Inserted by her loving parents, brother, and sister.)

*The Argus*  
11.7.1914  
p1

We are deprived, oh! Lord, of one  
Who was to us most dear,  
Teach us to say, Thy will be done,  
While we for death prepare.

*The Argus*  
12.7.1915  
p1

For many years our family chain  
Was closely linked together;  
But, ah, alas, 'tis broken now,  
One link has gone for ever.

No space of time or lapse of years  
Can dim our loved one's past;  
A loving memory holds it dear,  
Affection holds it fast.

*The Argus*  
12.7.1916  
p1

Silently, peacefully, angels have borne her  
Into their beautiful mansions above,  
There she will rest from all sorrows for ever,  
Safe in the arms of God's infinite love,  
Peace, perfect peace.

*The Argus*  
12.7.1917  
p1

We who sadly miss her,  
As it dawns another year;  
In the lonely hours of thinking,  
Thoughts of her are ever near.

*The Argus*  
12.7.1918  
p1

Released from sorrow, sin, and pain,  
And freed from every care,  
By angels' hands to heaven conveyed,  
To rest for ever there.

On a happier note, young Daisy's letter [below] to the Children's page in the *Yarra Glen Weekly Times* [9.12.1899 p13] gives an interesting picture of Yarra Glen in 1899 (the collection was for a cot in the Children's Hospital).

**An Excellent Collection.** — Belmont, Yarra Glen, November 20, 1899. — Dear Aunt Connie, — I am returning my collecting card, with the amount I collected, £2 12s 6d. Nearly every-one I asked gave me something. I will try and tell you a little about Yarra Glen. There are 2 stores, 2 halls, 2 blacksmiths' shops, 3 hotels, 3 churches, 1 saddler's shop, 1 fruit hop, 1 boot-maker's shop, 1 bank, 1 barber, 2 butchers' shops, 1 baker, 1 butter factory, 1 police station, and a public library. There are trees planted along the main street. Yarra Glen is noted for its beauty. While going up the big hill you can look down on the Glen, and it looks very pretty. Since I wrote I have got 2 canaries. Our poor old magpie died, but we have got another now. I think the discussion about town and country life is very good. I like country life better because it is healthier, and you can get a better view from the hills in the country; and you do not see so many birds and flowers in the town. I think the children get on better at school in the country, because they do not have so much to look at. You have more room to run about in the country. The fruit is getting ripe now, and the flowers are looking very pretty. We have a lot of chickens and ducks. We are milking thirty-five cows, and they give a lot of milk. The crop is looking well now, but I suppose this rain will beat some of it down. I must now conclude with fond love to cousins Connie and Florrie, Uncle Ben, and yourself. I remain your loving niece — Daisy Bell.

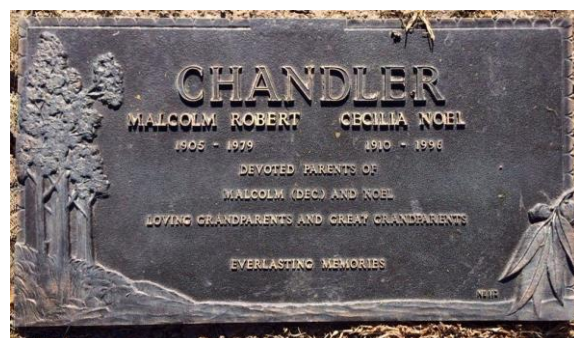
(You have done very well, Daisy, and a Cot Legion of Honor Certificate, as well as a Cot Certificate will be sent to you.—Aunt Connie.)

In the Yarra Glen cemetery, Daisy is surrounded by her parents and other Bell relations.

Cecilia Noel was raised by her aunt Janet Bell [Jen to her family and Jenny in Vera Jackson's family tree and newspaper references to her as a child].

Cecilia married Malcolm Robert Chandler (1905-1979) and died in 1996.

*Lilydale Lawn Cemetery:*



## Garden news

As the old grape vine along the kitchen wing has died, gardeners are attempting to grow cuttings from a vine found in the middle of a garden bed. **Carina** reports her cuttings did not survive recent heat but **Marion** says hers are still going.




A member of The Rose Society of Victoria had come on the December 'first Sunday' and was very interested in Gulf Station's old roses; he took samples of ones unknown to him for research. He returned on the January opening and spoke to **Luella** who was duty gardener. The Society plan to visit us in the future.

Visiting gardeners enjoyed our open days though none felt able to volunteer (and we do need more help in the garden).

We have had glorious Spring and Summer flowering and at present are trying to water everything weekly - a task that covers more than the garden. **Kevin B** did a fantastic job extending the watering system to reach the trees in the paddock beyond the toilets: these trees will definitely survive now. **Alan** also did a great job adding mulch to them all. Another good job was done covering the hose so the lemon tree could be watered from the standpipe the other side of the driveway.

## Orchard news

**Alan** has recorded the heritage fruit trees given by the Trust to Gulf Station and which he planted:

		
Crab apple	Rokewood apple	Roundway apple
<p>Also known as 'wild apples' and are ancestors of the domestic apple varieties growing today. Originally native to North America and Asia, the Latin meaning of '<i>Malus</i>' translates to 'bad' or 'evil' ...originally associated with mankind's fall from grace when Adam ate the forbidden apple in the Garden of Eden.</p> <p><a href="http://gardenandhappy.com/crab-apples/">gardenandhappy.com/crab-apples/</a></p>	<p>Originated in the Rokewood District ... near Ballarat in the 1870s. Popular in 19th century England because, as it ripens towards the start of the Australian winter and keeps well, it could be shipped to London and be on sale well before the first English apples appeared.</p> <p><a href="http://heritagefruittrees.com.au/rokewood-apple-dwarf/">heritagefruittrees.com.au/rokewood-apple-dwarf/</a></p>	<p>A good dessert apple from Roundway in Wiltshire [UK], and first recorded in 1864. Raised by Mr Joy, a gardener at Roundway Park, near Devizes.</p> <p><a href="http://bernwodeplants.co.uk/descriptions/apple43.htm">bernwodeplants.co.uk/descriptions/apple43.htm</a></p>

The February 2013 newsletter reported that the orchard had been robbed 'again', so we're not sure when it started. It's happened every year since, including *this* January. Please can we all concentrate hard on sending 'bellyache vibes' towards those responsible? Last year, the thief/thieves returned later for the medlars, now becoming a fashionable fruit.

## Perhaps the first wool sale from Gulf Station...

SHIPPERS OF WOOL FROM PORT PHILLIP DURING THE SEASON ENDING JUNE 30, 1818.— Dalgety, Gore and Co., 4,412 hales; William Timms, 2,727 do.; Strachan and Co., 1,772 do.; Jamieson and Co., 1,772 do.; R. W. Stegman, 52 do.; J. Dickson, 51 do.; H. and T. Brock, 50 do

*Geelong Advertiser* 21.12.1848 p2

Could this 'J. Dickson' be John Dickson of Gulf Station? It's the first mention in newspapers that could be the sale of wool from Gulf Station. [The jumbled bit in the cutting is where Irene has squashed up the long list of sellers to show the heading *and 'J Dickson.'* Do = ditto.]