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Treasurer Liz Chambers: 03 52314572 Annual Membership fee: \$20.00 per person – due in May

Historical Society Meetings are held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7.30pm, except in January, and during winter on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 1.30pm.

**Open Hours for the public at COPACC History Centre: Thursday, Friday and Sunday 2.00pm to 4.00pm**

*Working Bees at the History Centre are on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.00 noon*

### **Forthcoming Events.**

**Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 12.30- Soup and Sandwiches.** Combined gathering with Family History Group.

**1.30pm- Guest: Doug Kirkman** sharing his Murray Street photographs.

**Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7.30pm- Speaker Frank Lawrence- Local Halls and music.**

**Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm- Speaker Norm Houghton- Churches of the Colac Otway Region.**

**Wednesday November 25<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm- Suggestion- Bring along an item with a story to it, like an Antique Road Show but probably without an expert to value them.**

**Saturday November 14<sup>th</sup>- Geelong and District Historical Association 10am- noon, hosted by the Winchelsea and District Historical Society.**

Have you paid your subs? \$20 to the Treasurer please. Bulletins are sent to Email addresses where possible. However it is appreciated if members put stamps on 4 self- addressed envelopes and give or send to the newsletter editor as above. Thank you to those who did this last year, it was a real time saver.

### **President's Note-**

Our Society has been successful in receiving \$1,400 from the *Colac-Otway Shire Community Support fund*. This money will greatly assist in the cost of digitisation of our valuable collection of maps and sale posters. This has been deemed necessary to preserve the collection from deterioration through age and handling. We thank the Shire for their continued support of the Society and its volunteers.

Robert Missen

### **What has been in the News?**

#### **Colac Herald.**

Flash back to April

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Trees remind families of servicemen's fight.** Twelve oak trees at Warrion Recreation Reserve act as a lasting memory of servicemen killed during Australia's wars. The first tree was a memorial to *Ernest Ilett* who died in action at the Dardanelles in North West Turkey in 1915, then others followed.

**War history feature at Belgium display.** A former Colac district school's honour board is helping educate people in Belgium. *Les Riches* is a former pupil of Ondit school and is custodian of that school's WW1 board which is now on display at an exhibition in Belgium. Ondit school closed in 1951.

**April 24<sup>th</sup>. Flags flying for fallen soldiers.** Australian flags flew over the graves of more than 600 returned servicemen and women buried at Colac's cemetery to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anzac Day anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. This tribute was *unique to Colac* and was spectacular to observe. The flags not only recognised people who had died during the war but also those who *served and returned*.

**Colac soldier's letter returned to relatives.** A 99 year old letter was uncovered by members of the Colac and District History Group. It was written by *Lt Turner* who served at Gallipoli but died from wounds on May 5<sup>th</sup> 1917 in France at 25 years of age. His letter was written to *Larpen's Eunice Vaughn* in December 1916 detailing the muddy, wet and cold conditions he endured in France.

**Legend's winning cup on permanent display.** Cliff Young, potato farmer from Beech Forest, won the cup when he won the Inaugural Westfield Sydney to Melbourne ultra-marathon in 1983. The cup has returned to Colac from Queensland where he had been living in later life. The cup has come home and is on display at the Colac History

Centre in COPACC. Cliffy inspired people to do more of what they might be able to achieve through sheer determination.

August 5<sup>th</sup>. Lone Pine poem marks centenary. Colac's Brenda Carew has captured the significance of the First World War's Battle of Lone Pine in a poem to mark that battle. It was read at a ceremony commemorating the battle in Turkey where 2,000 Australian and 7,000 Turkish servicemen died 100 years ago. There was a march from the Colac cemetery gates to the *Lone Pine memorial* where school children joined those laying wreaths while a piper played. The pine tree, *pinus halepensis*, was grown from a seed from a pine cone sent home to his mother by Lance Corporal Smith whose brother died in Turkey. She grew the 2 original pine trees in 1928.

**New store offers new jobs.** Colac's new Bunnings store is hiring 15 new casual staff adding to the 30 existing staff. Bunnings has bought the former **Civic Home Hardware**, Bromfield site.

August 17<sup>th</sup>- Services mourn father and son. Dr Keith Torode was one of the founding doctors and a senior partner of the *Otway Medical Clinic* in Colac. He died aged 92 just 3 days before the unexpected death of his son Ian, 62. Ian was the director of orthopaedics at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne.

### **Meeting Report- July 25<sup>th</sup> at The History Centre.**

Guest speaker Jan was born in Cornwall, UK and gained basic interest in lace making from there. She took lace making lessons in *Llangollen, Wales* which entailed a trip to Wales from Cheshire each week for six weeks with homework in between. Lessons were given by a Welshman in his tiny front parlour which also doubled as a shop. Using a basic stitch she had to produce a metre of Crimean Bandage before being a qualified lace maker.

Lace has been discovered in an Egyptian Pharaoh's tomb. Lace making appears to have started in Venice. They started their own patterns (prickings), later this spread to France (15C) as some lace makers defected to Southern France even though the Venice lace makers threatened to kill defectors and families. From there it spread to the Low Countries – Bruges, Brussels, and Flanders. Huguenots brought lace making to England – Honiton lace developed from this time. *Each area has its own variations of the patterns, pillows and bobbins.* Maltese lace always has a Maltese cross in their lace.

Huguenots were extremely poor, they could not afford metal pins therefore used fish bones from the fish their menfolk caught. In the country they used thorns from hedgerows. This was a cottage industry. In winter men helped the womenfolk. Children started lace making at age three with a simple pattern. Lace makers were often paid with tokens and were paid very little for their hard work. Hierarchy and class within the lace makers determined what they were paid. They worked by the light of candles magnified by bottles of water. Often people went blind due to poor light. The Industrial Revolution harmed the cottage industry but the wealthy still wanted the home made lace as it was of a better quality.

Patterns were made on skin by pricking with a sharp implement. To make lace only two stitches are used – whole stitch and half stitch – the combinations of these plus twists makes the pattern. Many of the lace making skills are being lost over time. Pillows were made from straw or horse hair packed very tight. They had to be very firm to hold pins in place. Horse hair pillows were very heavy and were left in there stands.

The Historical Society's lace machine has a name on the pillow – **Dolores Barbeta**. Dolores was married at 16 and migrated to Australia. After having several children her husband died and she set up a lace making school in Melbourne to fund the family. It is a Singer lace machine and not the preferred means of making lace. Bobbins – each country has own style which depends on the style of lace to be made – Honiton has fine bobbins, Midlands has weighted end with a spangle. Bobbins are collectable items today.

### **Questions**

What is the main difference between crotchet and lace? Lace making is a form of weaving – crotchet is a form of lace but is woven using only one needle.

What type of thread is used? – In the early days – flax, cotton or silk were used. Flax linen was spun by ladies - an art in itself – not as fine as cotton which was also spun by ladies. Some fine cottons were produced by a supplier.

Jan also provided a display of lace making materials, bobbins and books. *Barry McDonald* displayed some of his mother's lace. Jan also demonstrated lace making; a very interesting speaker

## From the wartime letters of Richard Bassett

*During the months of June, July and August one hundred years ago, the fighting continued on the Gallipoli peninsula in the heat of the northern summer. Richard Bassett wrote to his fiancé in Colac when it was possible. Sometimes all that was allowed was to send a field postcard, (see copy on next page) meant to assure the recipient that the sender was at least still alive. In some letters, however he was able to give graphic details, while still not telling all he saw.*

8 July 1915

The place here is simply alive with flies. There are millions of them and one has to manoeuvre for position when eating a piece of bread and jam or one may catch a fly in addition to the rest. They simply decorate jam tins and, in fact, everything has a top layer of flies on it.

26 July

Hot weather, poor water (and very little of it) and a lack of variety in our food. We rarely get fresh meat and only occasionally vegetables (potatoes only at that).

*He then spent 4 days in a field hospital being treated with 'quinine, arrowroot, bread and milk'. He was sent back to the trenches feeling only a little better.*

19 Aug

One gets used to death – we have eaten our meals ten yards from where there were four dead men lying covered with blankets, one of whom (horrible fact) had his head blown off by a shell and you could see the blood draining out on the sand ... I don't want to shock you but sometimes a little truth is necessary to expose the idiotic things which are written. I err on the side of repression if anything but it is all truthful as far as I can tell.

12 Sept

I am feeling well now although none of us feel as well as we did four months ago. We have had a stiff time of it and are getting weary. We have had so little spell you see and there is a continual strain here as you might imagine and it eventually wears down the strongest constitution and the coolest brain.

*Later in September he was sent to the nearby island of Lemnos for leave, and there he recalled the time he was ill, apparently modifying the details to save those at home distress.*

I had a temperature of 101 and sometimes 102 but there were others as bad ... I used to go on duty 4 hours on and 4 hours off, back to lie down beneath a blanket which was all the shelter we had. It was stretched on 4 sticks and we used to sit under it with the perspiration pouring off us. One just dragged oneself about and had no energy at all. I was very much afraid I would go under once or twice when I felt very bad and I used to hate the thought of dying of disease instead of being shot decently like a soldier should die. It is very now nice [on Lemnos] to be free and unrestricted in one's movements. I can tell you it is quite a novel feeling also. I am feeling well but dreadfully tired.



**AT LEFT** – A light diet being served to the walking sick patients, at a field hospital on Gallipoli. Their clothing, including their hats, indicate that this was during the hot summer weather when Richard Bassett was unwell.

Image – Australian War Memorial

(See next page for a copy of an original *Field Postcard* - which was sent to Colac by Richard Bassett ↘)



NOTHING is to be written on this side except the date and signature of the sender. Sentences not required may be erased. If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.

*I am quite well.*

*I have been admitted into hospital*

*{ sick } and am going on well.*

*{ wounded } and hope to be discharged soon.*

*I am being sent down to the base.*

*I have received your { letter dated \_\_\_\_\_*  
*telegram „ \_\_\_\_\_*  
*parcel „ \_\_\_\_\_*

*Letter follows at first opportunity.*

*I have received no letter from you*

*{ lately.*

*{ for a long time.*

Signature)  
only.

*R. A. Bassett*

Date *23-7-15*

[Postage must be prepaid on any letter or post card addressed to the sender of this card.]

(14618) Wt. W 1568-931. 600m. 5/15. W. & Co., Ltd.

**ABOVE** – Field Postcard - this particular one was sent by Richard Bassett on 23/7/1915.

The limited or complete lack of any information able to be sent is very clear.

(Extracts contributed by Dawn Peel from selected letters and postcards scanned by Andrew McIntosh, copied with permission of Richard Bassett's daughters)


## The Troc

By Norman Houghton

Perhaps the most enduring of the cafes and meeting places in Murray Street is *The Trocadero*, a seemingly timeless institution. *The Troc* has been around for quite a while, in fact since 1927. The business opened on 13 June, 1927 as the brain child of Roy Raggatt, an industrious go-getter. Roy ran the Enterprise Bakery at 126 Murray St and on the erection of the new arcade building after the original had burnt down secured the east side shop at the market entrance.

*The Troc* was created as a stylish café and rendezvous with two floors of fine and convenient eating. The ground floor was for grills and the first floor for full course dinners. The immediate entrance to the premises had a confectionary and pastry counter plus a soda fountain and a range of glass topped tables. The grill room was beyond this section. The dining room had 15 tables plus lounge chairs and the latest gadgetry in the form of a radio. The room was large enough to be converted into a ball room by removing the furniture.

ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE TOWN AND DISTRICT.



**HAPPY THE BRIDE**  
Whose Wedding Breakfast has for a central feature one of our Wedding Cakes


WE'LL QUOTE YOU FOR ANY KIND. SEE US TO-DAY!

**ROY RAGGATT**  
BAKER COLAC  
Phone 149

For ....

**DAINTY CAKES**  
**HIGH CLASS**  
**CATERING**  
and ...

**The Best Bread**  
**GO TO**



**MADE with BIG PLUMP FRUIT**

—REAL BUTTER and EGGS, then baked by EXPERT BAKERS—  
No wonder our Pound Cake wins hundreds of friends. TRY SOME TO-DAY.

**ROY RAGGATT**  
BAKER COLAC  
Phone 149


# The "TROCADERO"

[ Inglis Buildings ]

**MURRAY STREET — COLAC**

**PIES & PASTIES**

—ALL HOT!  
SO DELICIOUS TO TASTE



that you have no need to make Pies at Home. For Meat Pies and Fruit Pies come to

**ROY RAGGATT**  
BAKER COLAC  
Phone 149

Where Everything is ---  
New and Up-to date.

**ROY RAGGATT**  
Proprietor  
Phone 149

**Keep the KIDDIES ABLOOM!**

LESS SWEETS and MORE of the DAINTY "COOKIES" from our Bakery is the BEST of ECONOMY.

**ROY RAGGATT**  
BAKER COLAC  
Phone 149

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**AT LEFT** – Trocadero full page advert from the booklet - "HOME TO COLAC CELEBRATIONS 1928"

(Advert from Historical Society files)

Raggatt offered suppers until midnight, hot dinners every day and hot grills at all hours. On Thursday market days during the luncheon interval from noon until 2 pm entertainment was provided in the dining room by personalities such as Mr Emil and Miss Phyllis Jacquelin who rendered popular songs and excerpts.

Clubs and groups used the Dining room for meetings and socials, which included groups like *Les Beaux Esprits* which held its monthly dance there also. For big events on the dance floor the post festive supper was served in the arcade. The Colac Apex

Club was formed there in 1935 and met on the premises for many years. Ditto for the Housewives Association in 1937. A mini golf craze hit Colac in the early 1930s so the dining room was converted into a nine holes course for public entertainment.

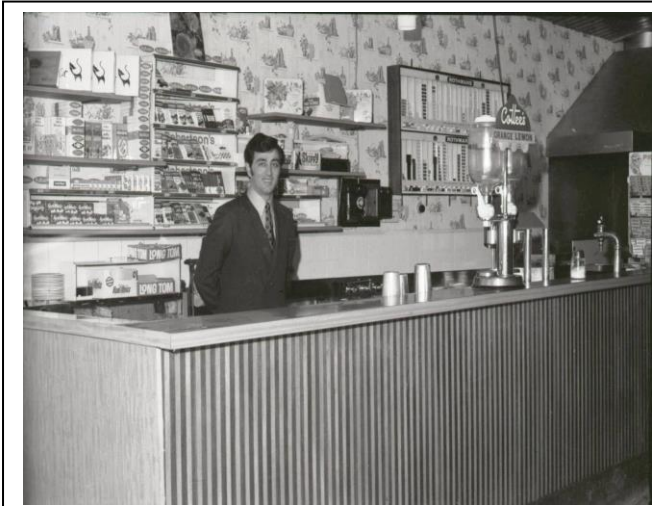
Service cars on the Colac to Ballarat passenger run in the 1930s departed from *The Troc* and Raggatt used cars to deliver breads, pastries and confectionary from the café to local customers.

*The Troc* has surfed the ups and downs in the Colac economy and stayed relevant through it all. It introduced the juke box in the 1950s. That was its downfall according to the Sisters of Mercy at St Mary's and St Joseph's schools.



The juke box played Elvis records and that encouraged the bodgies and widgies to hang out there. Young Catholics were warned off *The Troc* by the Sisters as the place being an occasion of sin.

Anton Moussi owned the place in the early 1960s and he had the same flair as Raggatt. He renovated the place in 1962, installing a marble floor and other features plus revamping the upstairs room for meetings and functions. In 1970 after Anton had moved on Lee, Henry and Sonia Moussi completely remodelled the place. They wanted customers to eat in comfort and watch the food being prepared so they moved the kitchen from the rear to the front and installed heating and better lighting plus revamping the dining area with a stripped wooden ceiling. They placed a billiard room at the rear with an entrance from the Arcade and also did another renovation and remodelling of the upstairs room for functions, meetings and weddings.



**ABOVE** - Photo from the Colac Herald – 31<sup>st</sup> July 1970, the caption read - “Be one of the hundreds of contented customers at the **Trocadero Café** - where proprietor LEE MOUSSI (pictured) invites you to call and enjoy a superbly cooked meal at very reasonable prices. Workers’ luncheons, a la carte meals, snacks, take-away foods, soups, steaks etc., are only a few of the popular items offering at the TROCADERO CAFÉ in Murray Street, Colac.

**The newly installed Bistro Bar ensures quick service**

(Photo from Bela Bard Brucker collection, July 1970)



**ABOVE** - Lee Moussi at left, with his cousin Henry at right of photo. This photo didn’t make the Colac Herald from those taken for the feature article printed in the Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 1970 edition, which advertised the newly opened Trocadero Café renovations, including the “kitchen” moved to the front area amongst the “Modernisation” costing several thousand dollars.

(Photo from Bela Bard Brucker collection, July 1970)

**OPEN MORE THAN SHUT** – (from The Colac Herald 31<sup>st</sup> July 1970 ) – The Trocadero Café is open more than it’s shut. It opens at 9 am every day of the week, and doesn’t shut till after mid **night**. Five days a week it is open until 1am, but on Friday nights it remains open until 2 am, and on Saturday nights until 3 am.

The Troc was afterwards sold to Joe Bouery who had previously operated Joe’s Cafe further along Murray Street. The same fine service carried on with Joe and then Tony and Ahmed Eldib took over. In 1985 the Troc was under Evan and Allan Trotter at a time when the Colac economy was struggling. Some of the Trotter innovations included Colac’s first coffee machine at a time when instant coffee was all the go and the introduction of pizzas. The Troc survived the slump and in the 1990s was the only business to continue operating in the arcade of the Central Mart. In recent times the Troc has expanded next door with the opening of a coffee lounge, thus continuing its entrepreneurial spirit of old.

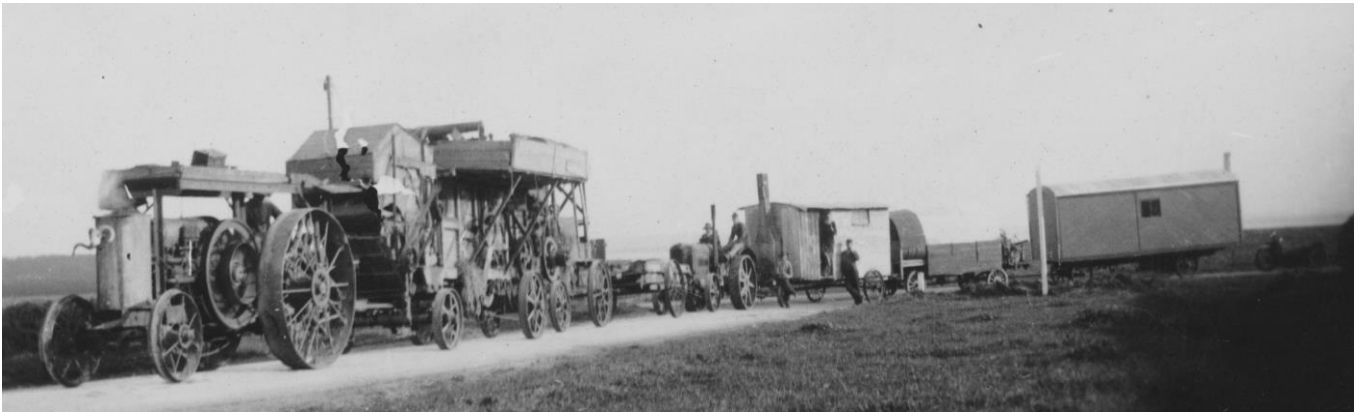
In 2015 *The Troc* has been in business for 88 years.

## ***REMEMBERING SOME EARLY TIMES OF SEASONAL HARVESTING***

By – Craig Pink

*With warmer weather and the year's annual harvest season also fast approaching, we take an historic look into some of the earlier and more labour intensive days of baling hay in the years before the introduction of the modern style round, and also the popular large square hay bales which have become such common-place today.*

Local well remembered Beeac identity T. W. (Jack) Simpkin, spent many hard working years doing contract seasonal harvesting around the Beeac area and beyond. Harvesting ways of the 1920's and 1930's era was amongst the most labour intensive work of the era, but over these years, Jack came up with many solutions. Some were even significant inventions to ease the heavy manual labour, and also decrease the amount of workers required to do the previously intensively heavy laborious tasks.



**ABOVE** - This c. early-1930's scene shows Jack Simpkin's early Ballarat made Jelbart tractor - towing the thresher and hay baler + associated accessories etc., and his mid-1920's McCormick Deering 15/30 tractor - towing the cooks hut, tool-van/workshop, and last in line, the sleeping hut. A motorbike is parked at far right, 6 people are visible in this photo.

Around 1932, Jack followed the harvesting season all the way northwest to Willaura with this Jelbart tractor, he said some years after it was a long, long way home again driving that Jelbart tractor (at less than 3mph on steel wheels), and he never went anywhere near that far again. (photo courtesy Valda Moore)



**ABOVE** – Typical work scene of Simpkin harvesting outfit in c. early to mid-1930's era. Just to the right of haystack, Jack's mid-1920's McCormick Deering 15/30 tractor is driving the thresher via a belt off its belt pulley, while his Jelbart tractor drives the stationary hay baler at right of photo also via its belt pulley. Both tractors ran on petrol/kerosene, the Jelbart tractors could be converted to run on the cheaper, and heavier graded crude oil fuel. The McCormick Deering 15/30 tractor was very conservatively rated at 30hp on the belt, and 15hp on the drawbar, and was up with the highest hp available at the time. The 15/30 became a very well-liked tractor due to their simplicity and reliability of the era, compared to the much more labour intensive portable and steam traction engine's which these early era tractors replaced.

(photo courtesy Valda Moore)

(continued on next page ↘)



**AT LEFT** – Mid 1920's Fordson tractor owned by Jack Simpkin, towing his stationary hay baler. This particular Fordson tractor initially lacked the power to run this baler, but Jack partly overcome this by fitting an extra flywheel to the hay baler, which improved its output. Many long hours were spent by workers at the machinery of the era. The lower cover shelters the workers tying the completed wire hay bales, while the top cover shelters the workers feeding the hay into the stationary baler. (photo courtesy Valda Moore)



**AT LEFT** - C. mid 1930's scene showing Jack Simpkin's McCormick Deering 15/30 tractor in a bit of a predicament, manoeuvring beside the cook's hut, with the hut's front axle broken off !! (photo courtesy Valda Moore)

### **A LOCALLY MADE SELF - PROPELLED HAY BALER IN 1937 -**

Jack Simpkin made 2 very unique self-propelled pick-up hay balers, the first in 1937, the second in 1948. Jack's first self-propelled pick-up hay baler was made by mounting a Cliff & Bunting stationary hay baler on a chassis made from parts, mainly of 2 old trucks, (*the 2 trucks being a Vulcan and International Harvester*). The truck engine which propelled the machine along also drove the Cliff & Bunting stationary hay baler mounted on the chassis. An ingenious drive system designed by Jack used a modified truck diff which was mounted lengthwise in between the chassis rails. Engine power drove thru the forward mounted axle shaft end of diff, a large pulley driven off pinion shaft (*the diff's original intended input shaft*) came out the left side, which drove the stationary hay baler via a long flat belt (*this allowed "live drive" to the hay baler*). The rear end of axle shaft drove to a clutch/gearbox arrangement, which was mounted immediately forward of the front diff of the original truck - dual rear driven set up. The hay pick-up initially consisted of numerous available/adapted parts, including a converted horse drawn style hay sweep.

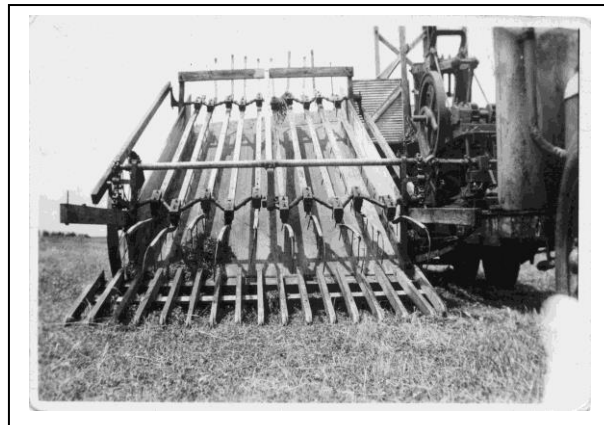
Although the hay was now mechanically lifted from ground level, manual labour was still required to feed the hay horizontally into the pressing chamber of the stationary hay baler mounted on the chassis. This first self-propelled pick-up hay baler made by Jack Simpkin required only 4 people to operate it, which at the time, was a big leap forward in regard to the amount of reliable workers required on a daily basis. Jack Simpkin's self-propelled pick-up hay baler was first successfully tested in the 1937 harvest, a very good year for hay in the Western District area of Victoria. This was also a time when "self-propelled" pick-up hay balers were quite some years off being readily available on the market.



**AT LEFT** - Jack Simpkin's first self-propelled pick-up hay baler, which used two driven rear axles (worm drive). The large drive belt had to be removed for travelling between jobs as the hay baler used "LIVE DRIVE" in the true sense. With improvements trialled and added over the years, this self-propelled hay baler worked successive seasons over the ensuing years until retirement in the early 1950's, when it was replaced firstly by an Oliver automatic wire tie baler - which proved very unsuccessful, and was soon replaced by a McCormick IH 55 series automatic wire tie baler (both being towed by a tractor). (Photo courtesy – Valda Moore)

(continued on next page ↘)





**ABOVE – LEFT + RIGHT** - Showing the first pick-up design by Jack Simpkin on his first self-propelled hay baler, which was first used in the 1937 harvest. Jack's concept of now mechanically lifting the hay from ground level saved labour immensely. Although the hay was now lifted by mechanical means from ground level, manual labour was still required to feed the hay horizontally into the pressing chamber, but Jack worked on this also, and a later design fitted to this chassis by Jack did include a successful mechanical side feed, which mechanically fed the hay straight into the stationary hay baler mounted up on the chassis. (Photo courtesy – Valda Moore)

Early improvements carried out by Jack included fitting an extra gearbox to reduce ground speed, also an extra radiator to help cooling at the necessary slow speeds which the self-propelled hay baler worked at. Jack would work on improvements, and as each harvest season approached he would be trialling new ideas.

A later improvement to Jack's first self-propelled pick-up hay baler did include the fitment of a slightly more modern stationary hay baler (mostly due to a fire which burnt the original hay baler). This now had wire self-feeding, which did away with the wooden spacer boards which were a characteristic of the early style stationary hay balers. (the wooden boards had special grooves cut for the tie wire to be manually fed through).

At the same time the updated hay baler was fitted, a new pick-up which was made to Jack's design by Cliff & Bunting was purchased and fitted. An open sided auger arrangement was initially trialled also at this time as a mechanical side feed for the hay going horizontally into pressing chamber, but the auger idea proved unsuccessful. Jack continued on with the development of the side feed, and the concept evolved to the crank style (became Patent No. 131192), with the initial cranks etc. all made locally. Jack fitted this to his (now much updated) first self-propelled pick-up hay baler, this side feed proved very successful and also incorporated a forward/neutral/reverse arrangement. Jack's reverse arrangement on side feed enabled any excess hay to be mechanically swept over the open right hand side, which then became dumped in the next row for later pick-up.

Several of Cliff & Bunting's prototype/development pick-up hay balers were also tested over the years in the Beeac area by Jack Simpkin. Beeac was not that close to Melbourne, but the heavier crops of the Western District area were considered amongst worst case scenario testing of such equipment at the time. Jack also spent time over the years in co-operation with personnel at the Cliff & Bunting Works in North Melbourne.



**AT LEFT** – Mid-1930's Ballarat made Ronaldson Tippet tractor owned by Jack Simpkin, towing a typical harvesting convoy of the era, which by now consisted of more and more rubber tyres. Jack got rid of this Ronaldson Tippet tractor after a few seasons, and replaced it with a second-hand late 1930's German built Lanz 45hp model "P" tractor, which proved much more economical, reliable and successful. (photo courtesy - the late Ron Simpkin)

### **SIMPKIN PATENT AT MELBOURNE SHOW -**

Jack Simpkin's design and improvements to the cross feed mechanism for the hay going horizontally into pressing chamber of the hay baler required one less person to operate the machine, and even saw Jack exhibit his improvements at the Melbourne Show. (part two of this story concludes next issue - with the 2<sup>nd</sup> self-propelled hay baler made by Jack Simpkin, and also more of his involvement with Cliff & Bunting, the manufacturing company in Melbourne).



## CRAIG'S CONUNDRUM

### LAST ISSUE ANSWER

*"THE NEW COLAC SALE-YARDS" – while under construction on the Colac/Ballarat Road, east of Colac. At immediate left shows a May 1978 view, pouring one of the many, many, many loads of concrete for the new municipal saleyards !!! The premises was officially opened by the then Victorian Premier Mr R. J. Hamer, on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 1979. The first cattle auction was also held at the new premises on that day.*

**AT LEFT - WHERE IS THIS COW ?**

**CLUES** – Date is January 1973, and was a very common sight at that time in the "CENTRAL CITY" part of Colac.

**ANSWER –  
NEXT ISSUE**



**COLAC and DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ROSTER 2015 2.00 to 4.00 pm. Thankyou.**

Month	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
<b>Sept</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> D. Missen 10 <sup>th</sup> I. Barlow 17 <sup>th</sup> G. Splatt 24 <sup>th</sup> J. Knight	4 <sup>th</sup> C. Pink 11 <sup>th</sup> G. Bray 18 <sup>th</sup> E. Chambers 25 <sup>th</sup> M. Saddlier	6 <sup>th</sup> A. McIntosh 13 <sup>th</sup> D. Cowan & M. Facey 20 <sup>th</sup> B McDonald 27 <sup>th</sup> M. Facey & D. Cowan
<b>Oct</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> D. Missen 8 <sup>th</sup> I. Barlow 15 <sup>th</sup> G. Splatt 22 <sup>nd</sup> J. Knight 29 <sup>th</sup> <b>Committee</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> C. Pink 9 <sup>th</sup> G. Bray 16 <sup>th</sup> E. Chambers 23 <sup>rd</sup> M. Saddlier 30 <sup>th</sup> G. Bray	4 <sup>th</sup> A. McIntosh 11 <sup>th</sup> D. Cowan & M. Facey 18 <sup>th</sup> B McDonald 25 <sup>th</sup> M. Facey & D. Cowan
<b>Nov</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> D. Missen 12 <sup>th</sup> I. Barlow 19 <sup>th</sup> G. Splatt 26 <sup>th</sup> J. Knight	6 <sup>th</sup> C. Pink 13 <sup>th</sup> G. Bray 20 <sup>th</sup> E. Chambers 27 <sup>th</sup> M. Saddlier	1 <sup>st</sup> A. McIntosh 8 <sup>th</sup> D. Cowan & M. Facey 15 <sup>th</sup> B. McDonald. 22 <sup>nd</sup> M. Facey & D. Cowan 29 <sup>th</sup> <b>Committee</b>