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Established 6th February 1950 - Incorporation No. - A00245414U

Annual Membership fee: \$20.00 per person- **Renewals Due In May.**

Historical Society Meetings held monthly- 4th Wednesday at 7.30pm, except in January, also during *winter* on the 4th **Saturday at 1.30pm.**

News/Updates/Information - Website: colachistoricalsociety.org.au

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

Working Bees at the History Centre - dates & times advised.

Please note that articles printed in this Society Newsletter are subject to Copyright.

We Thank Contributors for This Issue: Ellise Angel, Rosemary + Gary Richardson and Graeme Robb.

Forthcoming Events -

Thursday 24th February – 6.00pm BBQ & Meeting. Venue 'Airdrie' 25 McDonald St. Colac.

Please note change of date. Bring your own BBQ requirements & chair - shelter & shade available.

Wednesday 23rd March – Colac History Centre. 7.30pm Speaker Dr Brian Timms –

Topic 'Our Salt Lake Heritage'

Wednesday 27th April - Colac History Centre. 7.30pm Speaker Alan Doyle –

Topic 'Lewis Lasseter and the Colac Connection'

A Note from the President-

I look forward to 2022 with optimism that the Historical Society can maintain its normal activities, while ensuring that all Covid safe precautions are observed.

Our January bus trip to Cressy was enjoyed by 30 members and friends. We were met by members of the Cressy Historical Society and shown their collection of local history which is beautifully displayed in the original bluestone Presbyterian Church built in 1862. The Centre is open to the public on the first Sunday of each month.

We then travelled to the site of the Cressy aerodrome which was a training base for RAAF in World War 2. After purchasing a bare paddock, Paul Lamont has reclaimed the runways and built a large hanger. This is now home to two Tiger Moth aeroplanes and a growing collection of relics from its heyday as a busy aerodrome.

Members were told the history of the base, the planes that were based there and the future plans. It is now an active airfield, particularly catering for privately owned historic planes, with plans to build hangers to house them.

This is a wonderful example of one man's initiative in restoring an almost forgotten historic site to become a living working airfield again. Not only does it celebrate an important part of Cressy's history but is proving an attraction bringing visitors to the town.

This month we visit 'Airdrie', the former home of J G Johnstone, graciously hosted by current owners Fred and Mary Slade. This is a fitting conclusion to the winding-up of the PROV funded preservation, digitization and indexing of our Johnstone archival collection; together with the publication of the booklet 'J G Johnstone of Colac' by Dawn Peel.



CDHS members Robert Missen & Noel Ryan inspecting a Tiger Moth plane at the Cressy Aerodrome. Photo by Jane Davis

In March we will have a presentation by Dr Brian Timms entitled 'Our Salt Lake Heritage'. This is a rare opportunity to hear of the ancient and recent history of our saline lakes. Dr Timms, a limnologist, wrote his PhD while stationed at Monash field station, built by Monash university at 'Coragulac House' in the 1970s. Together with his daughter who is Professor of Environmental Engineering at Deakin University, he has maintained a continuing scientific interest in the changes that are occurring in our local lake systems.

In April, member Alan Doyle will speak about the research leading to the impending release of his book 'Lasseter, A Gold legend begins in Colac'. Alan has been a regular contributor to our newsletter, with well researched articles. This is Alan's first venture into book writing and publication and I am certain it will be a must read.

Orders can be left with the Historical Society.

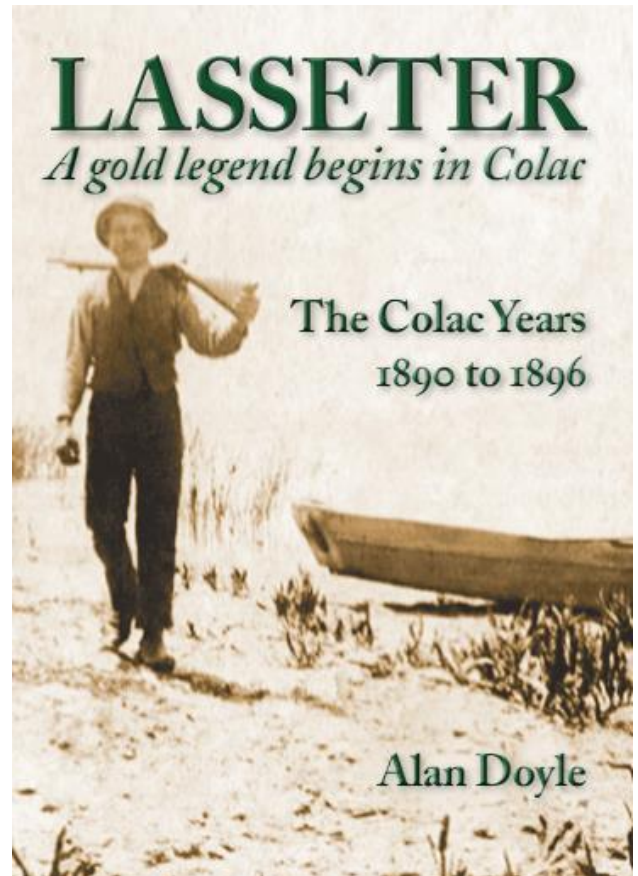
The Colac story of Lasseter's gold reef fame is almost here.

A small photo in the CDHS photo collection has now been adorned as the front cover of a new book, soon to be published by society member Alan Doyle.

The small humble image that sits quietly in the files of the History Centre is known as image 130 and is the earliest known photo to exist of Lewis Hubert Lasseter of Lasseter's gold reef fame, measuring only approx. 4" (100mm) x 3" (75mm). Who donated the photo is today unclear, but if it wasn't for the Society's efforts in preserving the smallest items of our local history the photo may have never been known of?

The photo has been dusted off and is just one of many finds of this allusive character, Lewis Lasseter, who spent six years in Colac, before his dramatic departure.

Alan has uncovered more Lasseter information that has not been revealed before, until now. He believes Colac is also very central to the tale of the fabled gold reef in Central Australia and has put up new theories to ponder over.



What has been news in the Colac Herald?

November 29, 2021- Major project meets milestone. *Otway Districts Historical Society* has produced 30 panels chronicling the history of the Otway Ranges and these are on display at the Beech Forest Hall, which itself is marking its 100th anniversary. The panels record the histories of Chapple Vale, Olangolah, Wyelangta, Carlisle River, Gellibrand and Lavers Hill as well as Aboriginal history.

December 6- School upgrade going smoothly. Internal and external renovations at *Colac West Primary School* in Ligar Street are progressing well and these include refurbishment, drainage, repainting, reroofing, reflooring, new toilets, new windows and new staff facilities.

December 8- Timely upgrade for fire station. Construction has started at Colac Fire Brigade's headquarters to improve turnout facilities and expand work areas including a new workshop and separate male and female turnout rooms.

Sailing Forward. Increased lake levels good news for titles. *Lake Colac* to host national sailing championships on January 10-14. Colac Yacht Club members will compete against crews from across Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Their commodore is Adam Chambers.

December 10- Sale of city servo could turn heads. A long-disused service station at Colac East is up for sale. Any potential redevelopment would help beautify the city's entrance. As a *Golden Fleece roadhouse* and service station it buzzed in the 1970s then changed to a *Mobil* before closing in the 1980s. Construction work on Colac's 8th fuel fill up, a BP service station is currently underway on the property right next door.

December 13- Decades of work honoured. Elliminyt Public Hall members surprised *Gwen Huggins*, almost 99, with a celebration of her commitment to the hall for more than 56 years.

December 15- Festive Concert milestone. The *Colac City Band* will return to the Memorial Square for the 75th Colac Carols by Candlelight. Due to COVID in 2020 the concert was performed without an audience, livestreaming it on Facebook from their Lake Colac band room.

December 17- Ringing in a huge milestone. If there's one thing you can count on in Colac, it's that the Anglican Church Bell will ring at 10.57 am each Sunday. On Christmas morning the bell marked its 120th anniversary. It cost £119 and was called the Queen Victoria memorial Bell after the queen died in 1901. The official bellringer today is *Gary Hanson* who took on the role in 1992 assisted by *Laurence Towers*. A poem inscribed on the bell is - "Set here in honour of the King of Kings. In memory of Victoria's noble reign, afar o'er town, and lake, and hill and plain, this tune, its tuneful call to worship flings."

Air bomber on call in city. A big, beefed-up water bombing helicopter, the bell 214B, with a belly tank of 2650 litres has landed in Colac ready to help forest fire crews and volunteer firefighters protect communities over summer.

December 20- Council calling for a redesign. Colac Otway Shire Council will formally oppose the landscaping design at Colac East's "eyesore" roundabout entrance. The council had discussed with officials' safety changes following a string of accidents which could have been caused by the black gravel and lack of vegetation.

Trolleys of food in lieu of fines. Three large trolley loads of food have been donated to charity by Colac Otway Shire library members. The Geelong Regional Library Corporation waived overdue fines in exchange for donations of food which included *Colac and Apollo Bay* library branches.

December 22- A sign of the times. A road authority has removed a *Colac Welcome sign* from the East end of Colac which had been secretly erected, without approval in June. The Colac Otway Shire Council has unveiled another sign of their own, with a painting of Lake Colac on it and mention of Gulidjan Country of Maar Nation.

January 5, 2022- Surging demand for virus tests. COVID-19 cases continue to rise, and the state experiences a shortage of Rapid Antigen testing kits. Colac Area Health extended its Conner Street testing clinic hours in response to demand as it has been testing 115 people on average each opening day since Christmas.

January 10- Mayhem in flash flooding. A freak 5-minute storm in Colac has flooded streets, inundated houses, and shops. While some areas received 30mm of rain, Colac East received nothing! Damage at Quinn Funeral's Wesley Place chapel included a plaster ceiling falling in and wet carpet.

January 12- Bakehouse calls time on family tradition. Thwaites and Sons Bakers closed its doors after 113 years when owners Mark and Adriana Thwaites retired from the award-winning business on January 14th. The bakery began in Murray Street more than a century ago by James Thwaites. It passed on to his son Alf and then to his sons Stewart and Mark. Stewart retired 7 years ago.

Site works begin at old school site. Site works have started for a construction of a new Colac Specialist School at the former Colac High School site, and tests have cleared the site of asbestos. The High School closed in 2009 and was demolished in 2016.

January 19- Airfield revival takes flight. Big things are starting to take off at a Colac district airfield, with Paul Lamont's plans that could boost local tourism and showcase the region's military history. He hopes to build 10 hangars at *Cressy air field* and has permission to do joy flights and later charter flights. He has 2 Tiger Moth planes on site and soon a PAC CT/4 Air trainer that was used by the RAAF.

January 24- Whiskey Shock. Continuing COVID-19 complications have forced a Western Australian Whipper Snapper distillery company to abandon plans for a whiskey distillery in Murray Street's former Mitre 10 building.

Campus almost ready to roll. Ballarat's Clarendon College is set to open its new *Yuulong campus near Lavers Hill* in February. The college bought a 40-hectare site off Old Illuka Access in 2019. Programs for the year 9s would include hiking and surfing and would provide young people with opportunities to test themselves in an unfamiliar environment.

January 26- Regatta proves need for water. Pam Cuthbertson, a sailor and Lake Colac campaigner says the success of a national regatta on the lake demonstrates why it is vital to put more water into the waterway or Colac Yacht Club would likely have to move to Lake Purrumbete if water levels drop. Barwon Water and Southern Rural Water need to divert more water into the lake.

January 28- Pacific worker boost. 51 Vanuatu employees fill labour shortages at Colac's Australian Lamb Company. Last year there were 40 Samoan employees working at CALC.

February 2- Nursing revamp for pub. Japara healthcare, a Colac aged-care facility is planning a \$5 million expansion that would include moving into the city's oldest surviving hotel building named Prince of Wales at 2-6 Murray Street which was licensed in 1875 and operated as a hotel until 1921 before becoming a boarding house for migrants. These expansion plans have to protect the former hotel's heritage significance and require close cultural heritage management including Aboriginal remains and artifacts.

February 4- Lifejackets to be mandatory for rock platforms. Colac and district anglers will soon don lifejackets to prevent drownings when rock fishing at select high-risk sites. The Victorian Fisheries Authority have started a 2 year trial at 10 locations across Victoria starting from March 1st.

'Blackbold the Horse' - Vote No

As told by Alvie residents Peter Delahunty and John Miller in an interview conducted by Rosemary and Gary Richardson:

'It was an old ramshackle horse that went wherever it wanted, going into peoples' places and eating their gardens - called 'Blackbold'. In WW1 the English background people wanted conscription but the Irish descendants didn't – partly because they couldn't afford to lose their sons working on the farms.



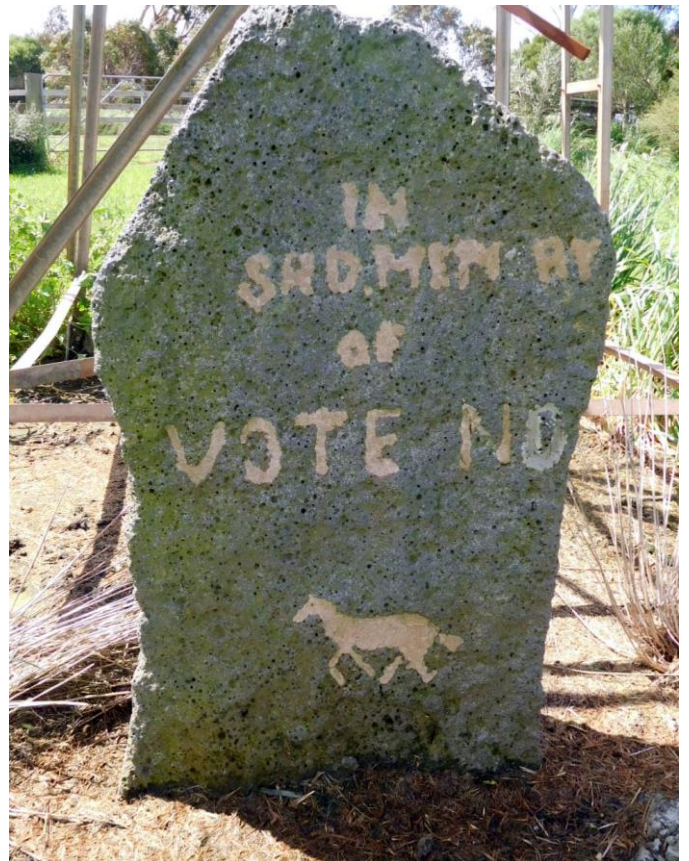
One night there was a meeting promoting conscription at the Alvie Hall. The local lads got some rotten egg gas and fed it in through the ventilators, then went up on the hill to watch people coming out. Somebody got some paint and wrote '**vote no**' on the horse, leaving it to go on wandering the district. It ended up dying at the corner of O'Shea's Road and South Dreeite Road.

They got a rock and had Frank Loubey's poem engraved on it. When the road was changed, Mick O'Connor took the rock to his dairy. Then it moved to my hedge.'

Peter Delahunty has mounted the rock beside a windmill at the front of his house.

The Poem:

Here lie the bones of a noble steed
Who died for want of a damned good feed.
In former days he used to shine
And carry the anti-conscription sign.
If ever the lads were stuck for a hack
You'd soon see them on Blackbold's back.
And, if you rode without saddle or sack
You'd need Rexona to put on your jack.
But now he's gone. His day is done.
Let him sleep beneath the setting sun.
And when he wakes to see the dawn,
Let him find, to his joy, a bag of corn.
For if ever there was a horse who needed a feed,
It was Blackbold of Alvie, who was fed on burr seed.



'In Sad Memory of Vote No'

WHERE WE GOT PETROL Part two of a Series -

By Graeme Robb and Craig Pink

Continuing on from last issue, we travel westward on the Princes Highway, starting at the Corangamite St corner of Murray St, and going west as far as Armstrong St - this issue was to go as far as the old Koala Motel, but the content found has proved a little difficult to compress, so next issue will continue west from Armstrong St and finish at the former Koala Motel site in the Stoney Rises at Pirron Yallock.

HALLORAN MOTORS - 191 Murray St. - North West corner of Corangamite/Murray St. Most would remember this as Halloran's, who originally sold British Rootes Group vehicles, and later on Toyota. Halloran's started on this site soon after WW2. The fuel was originally sold on the Murray St frontage, later changed to Corangamite St frontage adjacent Bryan Bros & Borch main showroom entrance. After a number of owners, and very much modernised, the bones of this building remain today with Colac Toyota still operating on the Murray St corner premises today.



AT LEFT - Halloran Motors in late 1960s when they had the RACV, sold Rambler, Triumph and Toyota vehicles. By this time the fuel outlet had changed to the Corangamite St frontage- Esso is the fuel brand at this time, but earlier times they sold Atlantic. Bryan Bros & Borch main showroom entrance can also be just seen at far right.

Image - Society files - Photocard 236

AT RIGHT - Parkers Holden at 224 Murray St, early 1960s. The Shell fuel bowsters on the footpath so close to the road are very typical of the era. By 1970 they had been replaced by more suitable fuel bowsters amongst the adjacent used car sales area.

Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection



PARKERS – 224 Murray St. This business was started in 1919 by 18-year-old Arthur Parker, along with his brother Percy aged just 17. They first sold and repaired bicycles, then took on franchises to sell Indian, BSA, Triumph and Douglas motorcycles. Over its years of ownership, three generations of the Parker family ran this, and it became one of the strongest Holden dealerships in Victoria. The Parkers celebrated their 75th anniversary of the business in 1994.

Parkers closed the 244 Murray St site when they sold to Colac West based McKean Auto Group in July 2007 - this ended the last family run car dealership in Colac.

PARR & SPENCER – 238 Murray St. This business started around 1923 in Gellibrand St on the site later occupied by the croquet green. Parr & Spencer later moved to premises at 216 Murray St. In 1956 their new purpose-built premises opened for business at 238 Murray St. They also occupied several sites such as in 1960s between Scott St and Armstrong St on the north side, where they sold second hand vehicles, also for a time the Massey Ferguson dealership. Amongst the sites is where the large glass frontage to Murray St where Rhys Evans showroom was built in the early 1970s. The Parr & Spencer name changed to Spencer Taylor around 1979. The Chrysler brand which they sold from 1958 later became Mitsubishi, which they concentrated on through the 1980s. After closing suddenly due to failed finances in the early 1990s, Norm Tann took on the Mitsubishi dealership, where he set up complete new Mitsubishi premises at Colac West – he had already sold several new Mitsubishi cars and trucks in the months prior to opening in late 1992. Over the years of trading It has had several owners, with trading names including McKean Auto Group and still trades today as Colac Motor Group.

AT RIGHT – Parr & Spencer 216 Murray St premises, some years prior to their shift to new purpose-built premises at 238 Murray St in 1956. Note the fuel brands of Caltex and Plume, and again, right close to the road frontage on the footpath. This building at 216 Murray St remains today, and until recently was occupied by Keith Walsh Electrical.

Image - Society files - Photocard 236.





ABOVE - Over 30 staff are gathered in front of Parr & Spencer at 238 Murray St in mid-1960s. Again, a fuel bowser right on the road frontage, this selling the Mobilgas brand - advertising and brand names could be quite prestigious. Shortly after this time Parr & Spencer shifted the Massey Ferguson dealership to 317 Murray St.

Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



ABOVE – Parr & Spencer's Murray St frontage as it looked in early 1970 - the fuel outlet now well back off the street frontage. The new Chrysler VF Valiant cars on sale at this time competed very well with rivals Ford and Holden. Parker's fuel bowsters can also be seen at far left, at the front of the used cars. Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



AT RIGHT – Spencer Taylor at 238 Murray St as it looked in mid-1980s - the fuel bowsters are long gone, which has made room for much needed outside showroom space. A Suzuki dealership taken on, even a fence now up on street frontage. After Spencer Taylor vacated the premises, it was demolished, and a KFC outlet built, which still trades on the site today. Image - Doug Kirkman collection.

AT RIGHT - Coles Motors at 249 Murray St about 1936. From Left - A. Champlin, Keith Cole, Arthur Ethyl, Tom and Bill Halloran. Coles Motors shifted to their new premises on the Hart St corner in 1940, where they also went on to have a fuel outlet which traded for many years. Gainger's operated from 249 Murray St after Coles, Sackville's Clothing Co. took over the 249 Murray street site during WW2. From the early 1950s Gaingers got their lease back and traded here through to the early 1960s before shifting their bus service out to new Colac West premises. Motor Spares and later Repco occupied the site. Today it is occupied by the Murray Street Market.

The two-storey building at far left is occupied today by Sing Bo Chinese restaurant. The old laneway used by Gainger's buses became Laneway Panels, and was later filled in - today it is also part of Sing Bo.

Image - Doug Kirkman collection



AT RIGHT – The same 249 Murray St premises in mid-1964, now with fuel bowsters completely gone, and Motor Spares in the premises. Laneway Panel Beating and Spray Painting Works now occupy the laneway and part of rear premises and is how their name came about. This laneway is where Gainger's buses previously came out onto the street and departed. Nowadays this laneway is completely filled in and forms east end of the Sing Bo Chinese restaurant. Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



GAINGERS - (formerly Coles Motors) With the establishment of Gainger's new modern premises and Roadhouse at Colac West (leased from Shell) this frontage to Murray St lost its fuel bowers and became premises such as Motor Spares who dealt in parts, not fuel in the trend away from fuel bowers on the street frontage so close to the roads, which were becoming increasingly busier.

A. K. McKENZIE MOTORS FORD – Long established Ford business which started as the Crystal Garage on the Murray/Grant Street corner frontage in the 1920s, becoming a Ford dealership in 1930. They also sold Fordson tractors. In the 1950s Ford Motor Co's policy was that the cars and tractors could not be sold and serviced on the same premises. It was decided to let the Fordson tractor dealership go - it was taken on by Heaths, with Heaths taking up premises just across the road close to McKenzie's Murray St frontage.

There were still fuel bowers on the Murray St and also Grant St frontage of McKenzie Motors in the early to mid-1960s, again the fuel bowers right on the footpath, but were on their way out by the later 1960s.

Daryl Frost purchased the McKenzie Motors dealership in 1994 and shifted the business out to Colac West beside the enlarged area of what started as Norm Tann's Mitsubishi in 1992. Warren McKean purchased the Ford dealership in 1999 and continued on the same site. The Ford dealership still forms part of the Colac Motor Group on the same site at Colac West on the Princes Highway.

AT RIGHT – Early image of A. K. McKenzie Motors Crystal Garage on the Grant St corner. No Ford signage can be seen in image, so must be pre-1930, before the Ford dealership was taken on. A tall fuel bowser can be seen on Murray St frontage. NOTE – by this time Manners Sutton St started from this corner and went west of Armstrong St. Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



COLES MOTORS – Originating at Alvie, then shifting to Colac, traded in 1930s from 249 Murray St, shifted to new brick premises built on Hart St corner of today's Murray St frontage where they also sold fuel for many years.

BEAUREPAIRE TYRE SERVICE – 283 Murray St. Built in 1961, it had a small fuel outlet which was the trend of the era, which ceased operation some years after. The premises has only recently ceased trading as a Beaurepaire outlet.

KANYANA SERVICE STATION - This brick premises originally opened in 1959, and was a very popular Shell outlet which traded as the Kanyana Service Station through the 1960s and 1970s.

Run down, vacant, and in need of refurbishment, Bryan and Pam Cuthbertson ran it through Syd Worts (Mobil) ownership from the mid-1980s where it traded as ENSTOP - also having mechanical repairs, wheel alignments, tyre sales etc. Owners in 2001 Balgee Oil ran into financial trouble, with liquidators promptly closing the more affected smaller service stations. With a healthy turnover of over \$3.5 million per year, Bryan and Pam had tried negotiating with Mobil to remain open, but oil companies were closing smaller service stations in favor of only its largest turnover outlets. The premises closed in late November 2002 - Red Rooster now occupies the corner site.



AT LEFT – The old Kanyana Shell Service Station with a mid-1980s refurbishment under Syd Worts ownership as a Mobil outlet. Super petrol sells for 59.9 cents per litre (Super petrol ceased in 1986 when unleaded petrol became mandatory). This traded very successfully for many years as Enstop Tyre Brake and Exhaust, which was a very popular fuel outlet under the management of Bryan and Pam Cuthbertson.

Image - Doug Kirkman collection

AT RIGHT – Most would remember this 317 Murray St premises as occupied by Graham Woods Agencies. Millard Motors were here before moving to their new purpose-built premises at 329 Murray St in 1960. This mid-1960s view shows Parr & Spencer's Massey Ferguson dealership on the site, still having a fuel bowser right on the street, which was later shifted inside the yard. Rhys Evans took over the Massey Ferguson dealership on this site in mid-1966. Some years later Parr & Spencer had a used car lot on the right of image, which is where Rhys Evans built the large glass frontage showroom in early 1970s. To left of image is Provan trucks. This 317 Murray St premises survives today next to the new 7-Eleven outlet – “Massey Ferguson” can be still seen on the east wall. Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



BP SERVICE STATION - Murray St (north side). A long-established business, this still operated for some years after the new BP at 5 Murray St opened in later 1960s. Today the main building still survives and forms part of Shalimar Nursery at 321 Murray St.

SCHROETERS - 386 Murray St (south side) Started by McGeary family, taken over by Russ Schroeter around the mid-1960s. It sold Neptune branded fuels and oils, also delivered fuel to country farms for some years. It became O'Dwyers Tyrepower around 1982, who still sold fuel for many years - O'Dwyers closed the fuel outlet in their later years of ownership. The building remains and still trades as a tyre outlet.

MILLARD MOTORS – 329 Murray St (north side) Long established business which originated at 317 Murray St, to which they also sold fuel from. Millard's shifted from their 317 Murray St site to the new purpose built premises at 329 Murray St in 1960. The business at 329 Murray St was a very popular Mobil outlet, which included a Land Rover and also a VW dealership in the 1960s.



AT LEFT – Mid-1960s view of Millard Motors at 329 Murray St. The Mobil fuel came as Regular and Special - the flying horse logo made Mobil quite prestigious. A new VW sedan was £799 - the Land Rovers and VW's kept them busy repair wise, and was a popular Mobil fuel outlet. By early 1970 it had been taken over by Hillman & Tonkin, with Mazda added to the dealerships. By the early 1980s Gamble Tiles occupied the Armstrong St end part of the premises - it was later Holts Mowers and Gun Shop.

Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.

AT RIGHT – Kanyana 1964 parade entrant from Millard Motors – Note their used cars to the right, Parr & Spencer also had a used car lot next at right for some years in 1960s, next at right was the BP service station at 321 Murray St.

A sign on the bonnet of this VW states – “Catch Percy the Perch on March 8th and win this Deluxe Volkswagen Sedan”.

Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



Next issue continues on the Princes Highway from the west of Armstrong St, finishing out at the old former Koala Motel in the Stoney Rises at Pirron Yallock.

*Copy
Shire Secretary*
STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION OF VICTORIA.

DEPARTMENTAL MEMO.

Date 22nd. October, 1923.

From DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, WESTERN DISTRICT.

To ENGINEER IN CHARGE, COLAC.

Subject: PUBLIC LIGHTING → COLAC.

Please note that until further notice all Public Lighting is to be patrolled and inspected weekly.

With regard to the exempt nights :-

In summer months there will be six(6) i.e. four before and one after the full moon. In the winter months four (4) exempt nights two before and one after full moon.

The summer months for the present take as from October to March inclusive . Remainder as winter months.

Times of lighting one half hour after sunset until 11.30 p.m. Current to be metered at the substation. The eight (8) pilot lamps in Murray Street to be lighted from 11.30 p.m. until one half hour before sunrise except on exempt nights, when they will be lighted from one half hour after sunset until one half hour before sunrise.

You will work to the times as shown on the Blue print of Public Lighting Chart and adjust once a week.

These instructions to take effect as from today.

H.M.H.
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT.



CRAIG'S CONUNDRUM

LAST ISSUE ANSWER – Colac City Councils' new street sweeper in November 1968 outside the Rae St offices. This new sweeper had the first hydraulic pick-up, and was totally designed and built in Australia. Although appearing to look quite strange, it did give many years of service to the City of Colac, and also rapidly expanded the streets able to be swept each week.

Image - Bela Bard Brucker collection.



AT LEFT – Can you recognise this building being built in early 1990s – if you need a clue, it is Murray St, and you should recognise the fence still there.

If you really need a clue it just might be finger lickin good, or you might recognise the old Ambulance Station at rear thru to Connor St.

ANSWER NEXT ISSUE

COLAC AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ROSTER 2022 2.00 PM – 4.00 PM – Thankyou

Month	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
March	3 rd G. Splatt 10 th L. Spence 17 th D. Missen 24 th J. Knight 31 st R. Missen	4 th C. Pink 11 th G. Bray 18 th E. Angel 25 th M. Saddlier	6 th R. Osborne/N. Ryan 13 th G. Knox 20 th N. Ryan/R. Osborne 27 th H. Paatsch
April	7 th D. Missen 14 th L. Spence 21 st G. Splatt 28 th J. Knight	1 st C. Pink 8 th G. Bray 15 th Closed Easter 22 nd M. Saddlier 29 th R. Missen	3 rd R. Osborne/N. Ryan 10 th G. Knox 17 th Closed Easter 24 th N. Ryan/R. Osborne
May	5 th D. Missen 12 th L. Spence 19 th G. Splatt 26 th J. Knight	6 th C. Pink 13 th G. Bray 20 th E. Angel 27 th M. Saddlier	1 st R. Osborne/N. Ryan 8 th G. Knox 15 th N. Ryan/R. Osborne 22 nd H. Paatsch 29 th R. Missen