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WEEKLY BULLETIN 27, January 30th, 2017

MEETING 3860	MEETING 3861
MONDAY 6 th February 2017	MONDAY 13 th February 2017
Chair: Bob Penny	Chair: Kevin Safe
Program: TBA	Program: TBA
Cashier: Glenn Howell	Cashier: Ian Black
Bulletin: Leo Cummins	Bulletin Tony Wark
Bar: John Addinsall	Bar: Rose Howard
Fines: Damien Meagher	Fines: Richard Beks
Set up: Murray Menzel	Set up: Willis Duncan
Coming Dates	
March 6 th Strathdownie. More information as	
we get it!	

REPORT OF MEETING NO. 3859, January 30th 2017

BIRTHDAY: 24TH January....Les Seiffert

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 22nd February is the Rotary Bowls night. More Information as we get it from Hamilton Nth.
- We hope to have a Vocational visit, in March, with partners, to the Bunyip Hotel in Cavendish, to see their boutique brewery, and taste some of its offerings. Dinner afterwards at the hotel.
 Date to be finalized soon.
- Strathdownie is on March 6th. As far as we know, the bus will run again. The cost of the meal is now \$25.
- SGAE is having an RSA course on March 6th, the same night as Strathdownie. It goes from 6pm to 10pm, at a cost of \$90.

- Anyone who isn't going to Strathdownie, perhaps you would consider this! We are short of RSA recipients.
- WDSC has informed us that Casterton will drive the students to Hamilton and return for the 1st 2 weeks and HN has been asked to do the Friday run.
- Rotarian Ron Rauert from Warrnambool RC will celebrate 60 years as a Rotarian, and they are giving him a special dinner.
 Please contact Warrnambool RC if you wish to go to this.
- Re apologies.... apologies must be registered with Trello. If you haven't put it on your phone/iPad/computer, then please do so immediately, as this procedure will start from Monday. You have until 12 noon!

I sent the directions in the last Bulletin, so you all will know how easy it is to operate. Please remember that if your apology isn't registered, you will have to pay for your meal.

VOCATIONAL VISIT TO THE ORIGINAL SITE OF HAMILTON.

We had a lovely visit to the "Dohle Paddock" in Wedge Street. This was the original site for the town of Hamilton. Ian Black was our host for the evening, and with his great Historical knowledge of the town, and everything in it, he was able to give us a very good picture of the first settlement of Hamilton.

The first settlers were a Police Magistrate, Acheson French, and his troopers in 1841/42. Several buildings were erected, including some police buildings and slab huts. The police lock-up was situated next to the Grange Inn! It was a small log hut, but the prisoners were chained to a heavy log in the centre! Hamilton was originally known as "The Grange", and it started on the south side of the Grangeburn, when in 1843 ex trooper George Green advertised that he was going to supply superior accommodation for travellers, and suitable provender for their horses. The Grange Inn was going to be called "The La Trobe Arms", but he didn't keep this name when he obtained the license. He only stayed there for a year before selling it. It was situated on flat land, where there is now a small 1acre paddock visible. After several changes of ownership and 2 deaths of proprietors, it stayed as an Inn until it was washed away in floodwaters in 1863.

From 1844 to about 1850, several shanties and businesses were erected. An old track can be seen on the South side of the Digby Rd bridge. This was where the bullock drays and carts travelled by. The first land sales map was produced in 1850, and the first sale of the Hamilton Town allotments was held in Portland on October 6th 1851. In 1853, the first map plan of the Township of Hamilton was produced.

We walked all around the area, as Ian explained and pointed out where the houses and businesses were. It was interesting to note that some of the relics and stones were still there. There is still a couple of the "quarries" where stones were taken to build houses and sheds with. Most of the trees are still there. One of them, a huge bay tree, would certainly spice up thousands of meals with its leaves!!

It was lovely to sit under the peppercorn tree and appreciate the view from the top of the hill.

Thank you, Ian, for the interesting and informative evening. We all thoroughly enjoyed learning about the origins of our town.



In the middle of the paddock for dinner!



Ian Black, with a "relic." An old knife.





The view of the area where the Grange Inn was., and the massive bay tree which is on the top of the hill, where the houses were built.