



CONTACT

APRIL, 1980





Looking back at Yallourn

Many of the 46 paintings entered in the 1980 SEC Latrobe Valley Festival art exhibition had captured the "unique spirit of Yallourn", according to Assistant General Manager (Operations), Clem Joyce.

Mr. Joyce said choice of the theme, Yallourn — Past and Present, stemmed from the Commission's desire to retain in art-form part of the history and tradition of the Yallourn township.

He said that by organising and promoting an art exhibition, the Commission was achieving the twin objectives of supporting the Latrobe Valley Festival and creating a meaningful addition to the cultural life of the Valley community.

Works acquired by the SEC as a result of the exhibition were by Melbourne artists Otto Boron, Elizabeth Colombo and Joseph Di Iorio.

The two awards made during the exhibition went to Gippsland artists — Dennis Butcher of Morwell (best painting on the theme) and Don Vidler of Kongwak (best work by a Gippsland artist).

TOP: Morwell Briquette and Power Technical Services Officer Les Johnston (third from left) with his entry Mining Town Mine. With him are (from left) Rocco Logiodice, Les' daughter Linda, son Kevin, wife Gloria, Mario Talerico and Les' other daughter Mary.

LEFT: AGM (Ops) Clem Joyce pictured with (from left) art exhibition judge Kees Hos, Don Vidler (best work by a Gippsland artist) and Dennis Butcher (best painting on the theme).



Contact



Prepared by
the L.V. Public
Relations Group
for Operations Group
employees.

Cover

You see, it works like this . . . apprentice electrical fitter/armature winder Charlie Mathe explains the work he is doing on a motor stator to Chairman Charles Trethowan during the Chairman and Commissioners' visit to the Latrobe Valley. More pictures pages 8 and 9.

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WHOLLY SET UP AND PRINTED BY
GIPPSLAND PRINTERS PTY. LTD. — MORWELL

Country life with all the trimmings

Growth is the key word in the Latrobe Valley at present — and it isn't just the central Valley centres which are experiencing the benefits.

The smaller communities in and around the Valley are beginning to make their mark as residential centres for people working in the larger towns.

Mirboo North is one centre which is attracting more and more residents — including a number of Commission employees.

Hazelwood power station operator Peter Sanderson, his wife Mary and children Melissa, Nathan and Yolande made the move to Mirboo North four years ago.

"The family is extremely happy living at Mirboo North, a peaceful town with a rural-type setting, but at the same time providing all the amenities and residential appeal of an ideal urban centre," Peter said.

Campaign

Mirboo Shire Council has undertaken an extensive publicity and advertising campaign, involving the Sanderson family and others, to attract residents to the town.

Heading up the campaign is Shire secretary Rod Grigg, who says Mirboo North is a picturesque township nestled in the Strzelecki ranges with a population of about 1000 people. It is commonly described as the agricultural garden of Gippsland.

"This town is close to the Latrobe Valley and boasts excellent community facilities including a Bush Nursing Hospital, ample shops and services, and outstanding educational facilities.

Sportsmen are also well catered for with a golf course, motor cycle circuit, football, tennis, swimming pool, netball, basketball, cricket, bushwalking, bowls, and table tennis.

In addition, the choice of home sites is comprehensive, from the cleared suburban type block to the larger timbered block where the residents wish to retain a bushland setting.

Mirboo North is distinguished by the fact that water restrictions are unknown (an underground spring supplies the town with fresh water) and the forest is within a few hundred yards of the Post Office.

According to Rod, Mirboo North has an atmosphere that can only be described as inviting.

Howzat! ? Hat-trick - Haines style

Churchill Cricket Club treasurer Tony Haines achieved a hat-trick this season — off the field. And he's still stumped for a reaction!

The Area Administration executive assistant became a father of three in the space of just one minute when his wife Susan gave birth to triplets in Melbourne's Mercy Hospital on March 20.

The proud parents are pictured above with the babies Allison Lee, Kathryn Marie and Emily Kate, who arrived back in the Latrobe Valley on April 9.

They will be going home just as soon as they adjust to four-hourly feeds. And hopefully a Council home help will be there to lend a hand.

"At the moment the feeding routine is three hourly. It takes the two of us an hour and a half to feed them all and change the nappies — which doesn't leave too much time for resting in between," said Tony.

The babies' grandfather is Alec Scott, a turbine driver at Yallourn power station until his retirement in February.



Peter Sanderson and family at their home at Mirboo North.

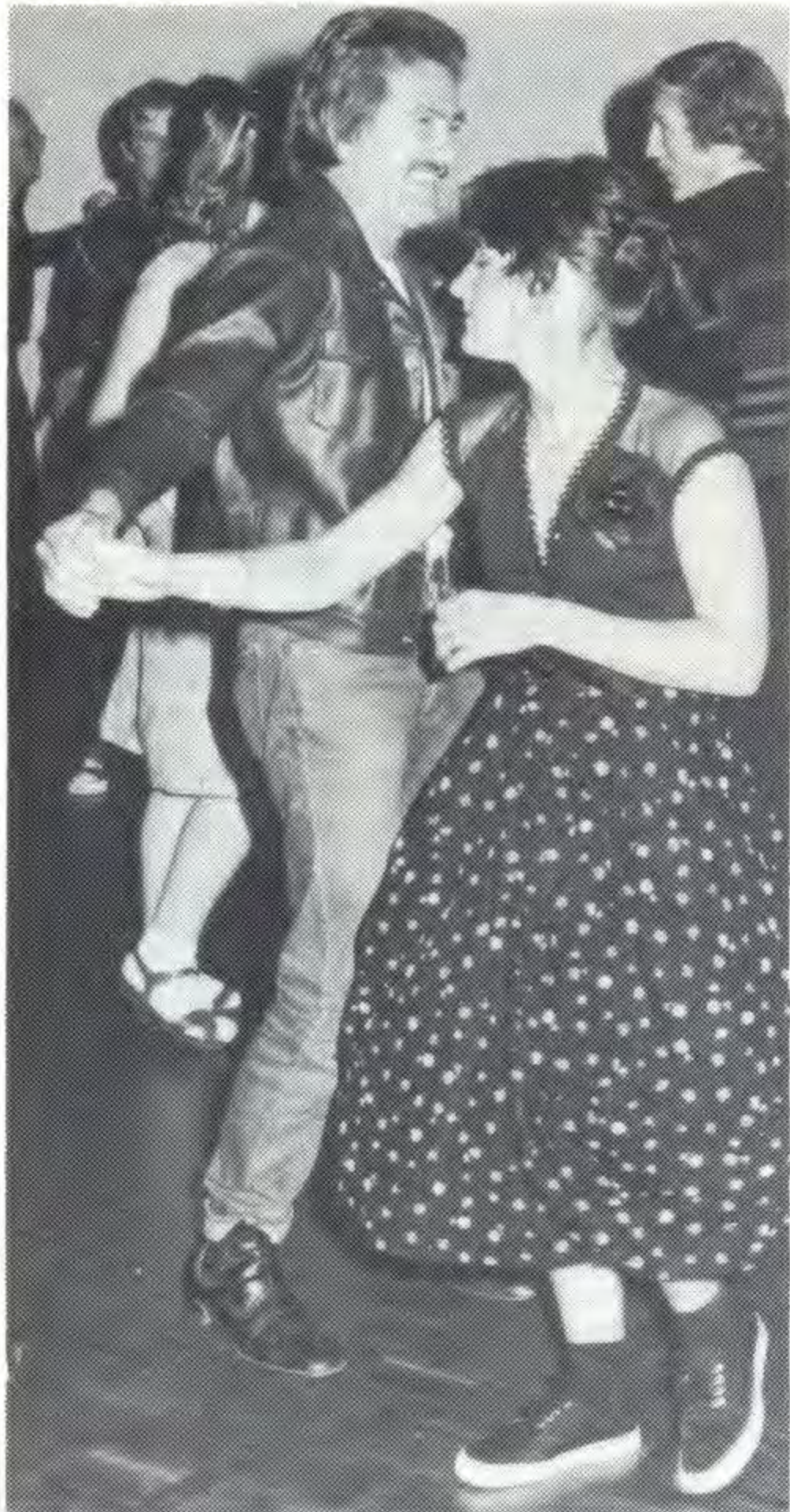
Loy Yang tours

Regular bus tours of Loy Yang have been organised for SEC and contracting personnel with a special interest and involvement with the project.

Guided tours will leave the Latrobe Valley Visitors' Centre in Morwell at 10 am and 1.30 pm every Tuesday and Thursday. The trip is expected to last about one and a half hours.

Bookings should be made before 1.30 pm on the day BEFORE the intended tour with senior guide Bill Hopkins on 34 2244 ext. 3415.

Commented Bill: "The service has proved very popular and much in demand since it started in March. To avoid disappointment, people should book as far ahead as possible."



New look Morwell power station

It's a different looking Morwell power station these days.

The station's number eight boiler has been withdrawn from service for its annual overhaul. By the time it comes back into operation in June it will be fitted with an electrostatic precipitator and the program to reduce dust and ash emissions will be complete — a year ahead of schedule.

Work on the \$11 million program to install precipitators to each of the station's eight boilers began in 1977 and was scheduled for completion in 1981.

The precipitators extract dust and ash particles from boiler gases before they are discharged into the atmosphere.

Precipitators have been installed progressively, with the first coming

into service in May 1978. The sixth unit came into operation on February 29 and work on the seventh unit is now well advanced.

Power Generation Manager Don Clark said: "The Morwell power station program was part of a continuing program aimed at reducing emission levels from the older power stations in the Latrobe Valley."

In addition, a \$4.5 million program to install new mechanical emission control equipment to each of Yallourn C and D stations' boilers is progressing well.

The C station program is due for completion by the end of July and D station by early 1981.

Contractor for both projects is Lurgi (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

Rock 'n' roll revival

Hazelwood Power Station Social Club members turned back the clock more than 20 years when they conducted a rock 'n' roll night at the Morwell Bowling Club and Recreation Centre.

More than 140 'rockers' — many dressed in the 50s style of leather jackets, jeans and greasy brushed back hair joined in the fun.

Morwell band the Esquires supplied the music.

Dot Prokop won the prize for the best dressed female and best dressed male was, appropriately, — Ron Presley.

ABOVE: Showing their style on the dance floor were Les and Diane Lobb.

BELOW: Taking a breather between dances were (from left) Beryl and Allan Casey and Neryl and Barry Hunt.



New road open

The new Callignee South Road near the Loy Yang project is now open.

The new three-kilometre stretch of road diverts to the east of Traralgon Creek Road just south of the project boundary. The old route is required for the construction of the overburden conveyors which run from the open cut to the overburden dump.

Work started on the new road in May 1979.

Earthworks are also under way for the Traralgon Creek Road diversion.

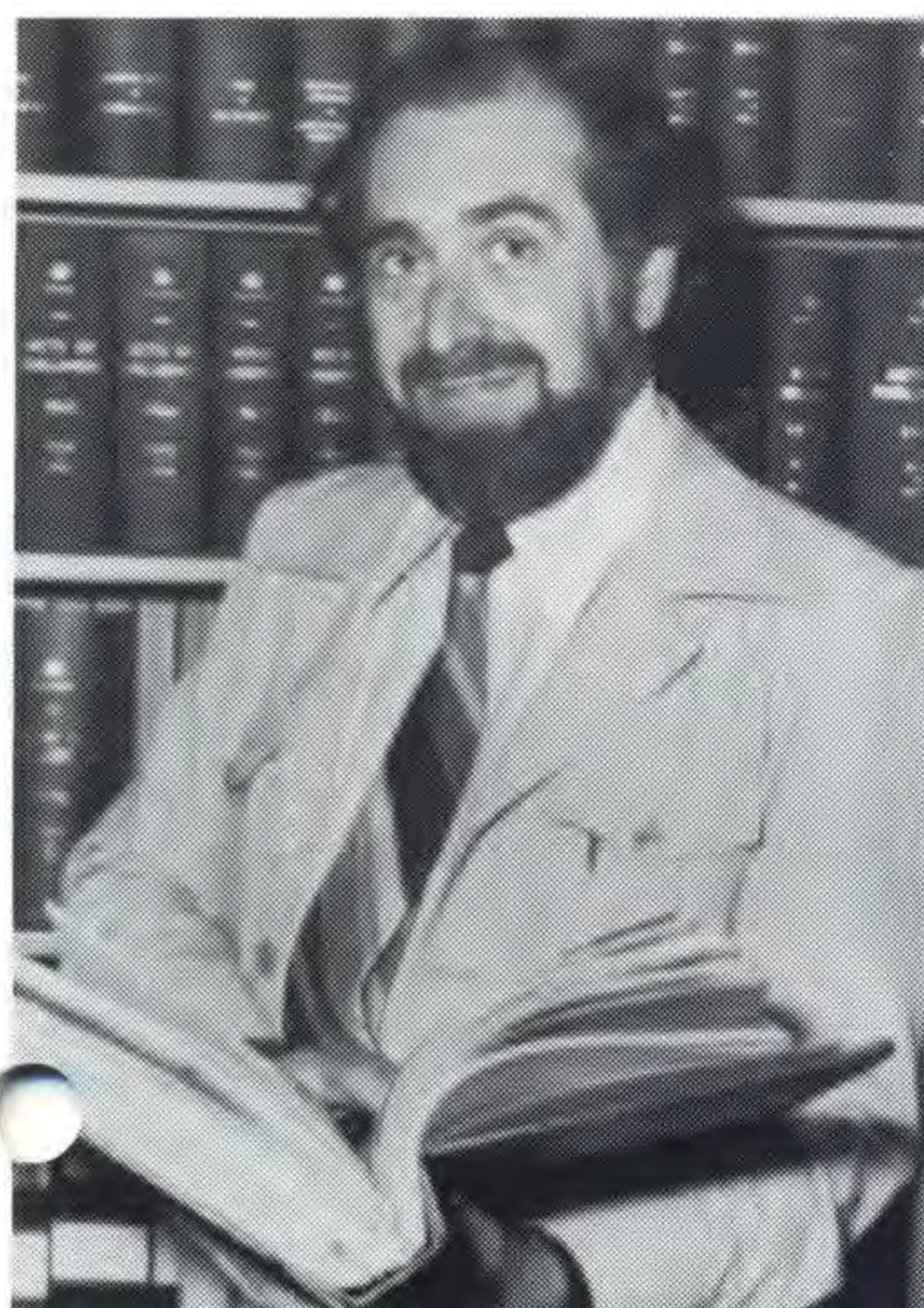
The new road is due to open in the spring, with sealing scheduled for late summer.

The new four kilometre stretch of road diverts to the west just south of the proposed route of the Princes Freeway and travels behind the dredger erection site to enter Matingley Hill Road just east of the new bridge.

It will provide improved access between Traralgon and the Loy Yang site.

The present road is required before the end of this year for construction of the dredger access route and later for the development of the open cut.

The Commission is financing the diversion, which is being built for Traralgon Shire Council by CAT contractors of Traralgon.



Historical appointment

Public Relations Group Public Liaison Officer Alec Wood (left) has been elected president of the Traralgon Historical Society.

He succeeds Jean Court, who is moving to Bairnsdale. Alec is only the fourth person to take the presidential chair in the society's 17-year life.

The Society, with membership of more than 200, seeks to research and preserve local history through collection of authenticated records.

"We have concentrated our efforts on specific districts like Loy Yang and Tyers, and on subjects such as gold and local medical practices. We hope now to research street names, historic buildings and

local identities associated with the City of Traralgon.

"We desperately need to find a permanent home to accommodate records and archives, to mount permanent displays, and in which to hold our meetings," he said.

Alec's long standing interest in history in researching the past began with his own family tree — and he even brought out a book on six generations of the Wood family, which settled in Yarram district in 1855.

"The original property is still owned by the family," he said.

Alec also had a significant part to play in the collection of material for the Yallourn Historical Committee.

Alec, who has worked as a Public Liaison Officer in Area Administration for four years, is well known to ESR personnel — he worked in field sales for nine years at Yarram and seven at Traralgon.

He's also well known to many as a lay preacher for Traralgon Uniting Church.

Working parties gain acceptance

Employee participation, industrial democracy, worker involvement ... whichever term you choose, the concept is alive and well and gaining increased acceptance throughout the Commission.

Senior Industrial Relations Officer Evan Bain said the Commission's first step toward employee participation in the Latrobe Valley came four years ago when a working party was set up at Yallourn power station.

Today, there are a dozen working parties, operating in nearly all departments.

The Commission's employee participation program has a three-tiered structure—

- a management group;
- a joint employee-management steering group to set objectives; and
- a joint employee-management working party to carry out set tasks.

Activities

Each working party has 10 to 12 members (equal employee-management representation) and has the power to co-opt expert assistance when required.

Manning, organisation, work distribution and work environment are some of the areas in which working parties have become involved. Salaries and conditions of employment are outside their influence.

Evan said working parties had operated with outstanding success throughout the Latrobe Valley.

"One of the most recent and successful working party exercises has been in the Materials and Services Division.

"Set up in July 1978, the stores staff working party was asked to examine the organisation structure in stores, but had the scope to cover a much wider area.

"The working party has resulted in a reorganisation of the stores clerical section.

"It has provided a forum for sorting out problems which otherwise may never have been resolved and developed a very healthy working atmosphere."

Experiment

Municipal Officers' Association Industrial Officer Bill Pym said:

"Naturally, the Association is in favor of any system which benefits the membership, without the need for industrial action.

Cont. P. 15.

SCREENING PROGRAM

A voluntary medical screening program for Operations Group employees who may have been exposed to asbestos will begin in the Latrobe Valley in June.

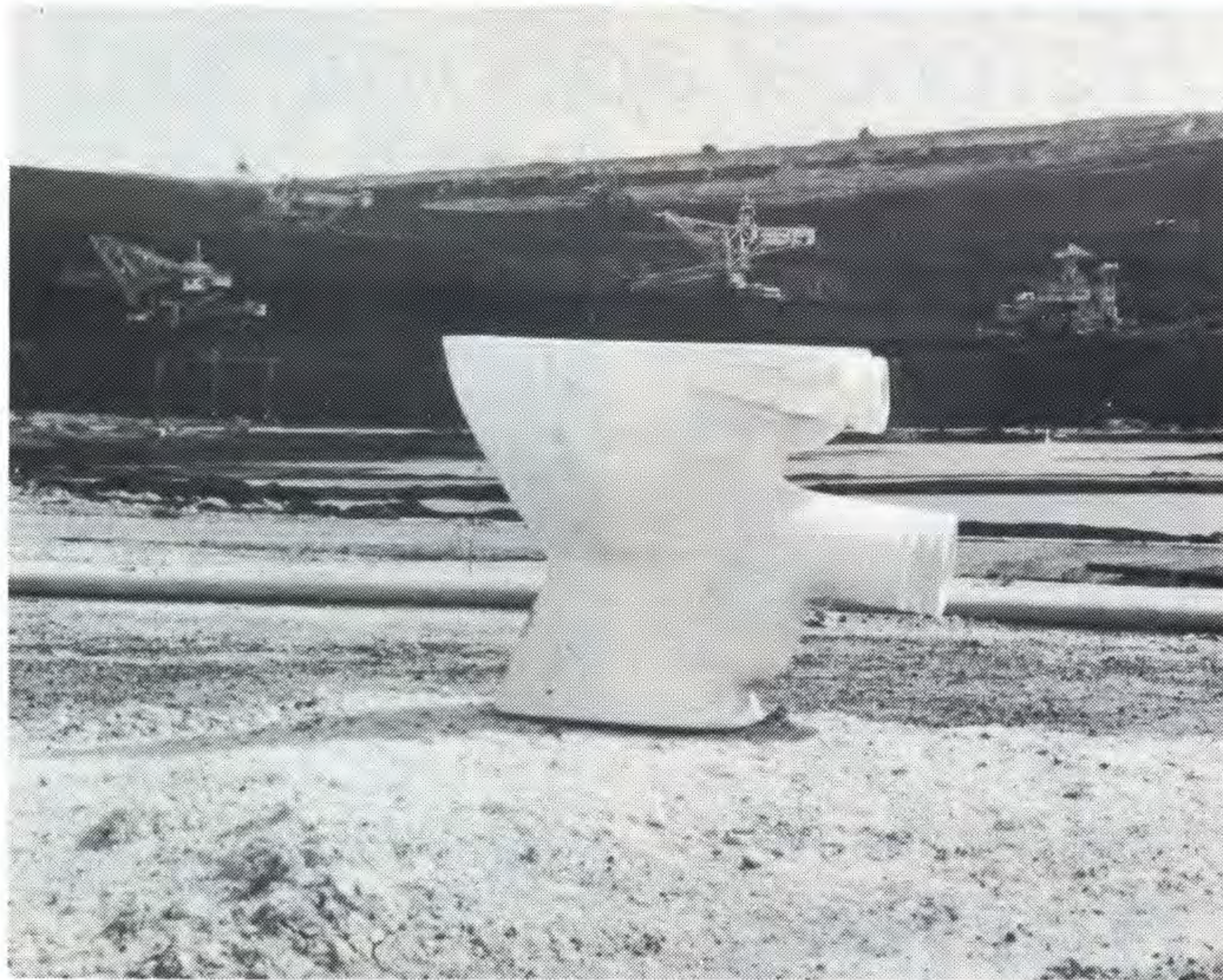
The screening program was one of a number of recommendations made by a joint management union task force set up last year to examine the asbestos situation in the Operations Group.

The task force's recommendations have become Operations Group policy.

The screening program will be offered to all employees who may have been exposed to asbestos.

The program, which is voluntary and free, includes chest x-ray, completion of history forms, clinical examination, a series of tests, and discussion and explanation.

Notices outlining the program and a questionnaire to be completed by people wishing to take part will be sent to all employees.

COAL
PRODUCTION

Getting to the bottom of things

People all over Australia could find themselves sitting on the bottom of the Morwell open cut — in the privacy of their smallest room!

Toilets, baths and washbasins are now being made from high quality white kaolinite clay which underlies the coal seam at the base of the open cut.

Three companies are using the clay, which is removed periodically as required.

As well as the firm that is using it in the manufacture of toilets, baths and washbasins, another is using it in a blend of clay to replace an element previously imported from England.

Coal Production Manager Jack Vines said: "This is a valuable natural resource and we are willing to make it available to industry while it is accessible and providing it does not interfere with operational requirements."

This is not the first time that open cut materials have been put to industrial use:

- peat from the top of the open cut is being used for agricultural purposes, including mushroom cultivation;
- overburden from Morwell open cut has been used in the manufacture of bricks;
- clay from the open cuts has been used in the past by local potters, and
- gravel from the overburden is used extensively for road building within the open cut.

Korea-bound

Morwell briquettes could be used in Korean schools for heating.

A consignment of 100 tonnes of briquettes is on its way to the Sam Hwa Company in the South Korean capital Seoul.

Briquette Distribution Superintendent Ian McArthur says the briquettes will be tested for heating school classrooms.

Open cut changes



Yallourn and Morwell open cuts have new superintendents.

Ian Runge, formerly CPS at Morwell has been appointed Yallourn Open Cut Superintendent, replacing recently retired Col Ferguson, while Bob Lethlean has taken over from Ian at Morwell open cut.

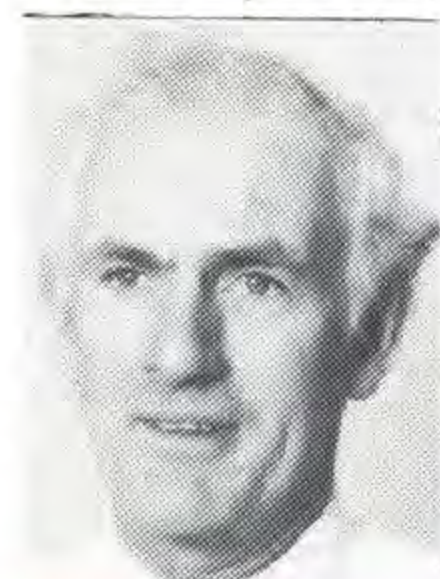
The senior appointments were among a number announced recently in Coal Production Department.

Bruce King is now Yallourn

Open Cut Assistant Superintendent and Ian Newnham is Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent.

At Morwell, Brian Ryan has been appointed Open Cut Assistant Superintendent and David Wilbraham, Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent.

Greg Stuart is the new Assistant Coal Production Superintendent, Loy Yang while Jim Knowles has been appointed Co-Ordination Engineer, Headquarters.




**ENGINEERING
SERVICES**


'Spooks' - the home of native plants

Anything you want to know about Australian plants — Brian Simpson's the man to ask.

A painter and decorator from the Yallourn paintshop, he and his wife Lynn (left) have built up 13 years experience with native plants. And their nursery at 'Spooks' in the Haunted Hills Road is fast acquiring a reputation for cheap, quality plants.

"We started way before the boom," said Brian. "In those days only the common varieties were available. The plants are now far superior, and there's a much wider variety of flowers and plants."

"As far as a garden is concerned, one of the advantages of growing native plants is that if you pick them right, you can get a rotation of blooms throughout the year, whereas introduced varieties only bloom in the spring."

"And natives also encourage a rich bird life. The grevilleas are among the best for attracting the native birds, especially the honey eaters."

"Apart from anything else, native gardens are low on maintenance — you don't get many weeds," said Brian.

Brian and Lynn do all their own propagating from cuttings and seeds.

It's a lot to pack into half an acre. But as well as the outdoors area, Brian and Lynn use a glass house, a shadehouse and a fernery.

So if you've got any questions ask Brian.

\$200 000 road project complete

The \$200 000 upgrading of the Morwell-Hazelwood power station road was completed early this month.

The project, carried out by Morwell Civil Works day labor, began in December last year and involved the widening, strengthening, sealing of the existing road and improvements to 12 intersections.

The 2.8 kilometre road is the main access route from Morwell to the Hazelwood power station.

Civil Works Engineer Ian McBain says the extensive works are a part

of an on-going roadworks program being undertaken by the division.

"Similar works in and around the Morwell works area are on the drawing board for the next 12 months."

"Over the past two years, the plant group from Morwell and Yallourn have combined to carry out the additional road works programmed for the Morwell works area."

"This group, under Foreman Eric Povall, did an excellent job on the large Morwell-Hazelwood Road project."

DARBY OFF TO WORLD CHAMP'SHIPS

Fire Services Supervisor Alec 'Darby' Bremner (right) has been selected in the Australian Clay Target Shooting team to compete in the World Championships in America next year.

This is the fourth time 'Darby' has represented Australia.

One of the country's top shooters, he will be a leading member of the six man team. He will also compete in the world famous Grand American Tournament.

Darby, who has more than 60 national titles to his credit won his place in the National team after competing successfully in the New Zealand Clay Target National Championships earlier this month.





1

Chairman, Commissioners visit Valley



4

Chairman Charles Trethowan and Commissioners Sir Bernard Callinan, Robert Millar and Campbell Johnston made their annual two-day tour of Latrobe Valley works areas late last month.

The tour included inspections of

1. Yallourn power station transmission control room electrical operator Alan Murray (right) explains the control panel to the touring party.

2. Yallourn power station chemical laboratory scientific assistant Peter Davidson (right) with Commissioners Sir Bernard Callinan and Robert Millar.

3. Chairman Charles Trethowan at the controls of number 12 dredger. Keeping an eye on his performance are Commissioner Johnston, the dredger's regular driver Norm Harwood, Yallourn open cut Coal Production Superintendent Ian Runge and AGM (Operations) Clem Joyce.

4. Get with the strength — Chairman Charles Trethowan was quick to don the

Yallourn resettlement estates at Newborough, Yallourn and Yallourn W power stations, No. 12 dredger in Yallourn open cut, the Latrobe Valley Electrical Workshops, Special Housing Project homes at Churchill and, of course, the Loy Yang construction site.

Loy Yang tee shirt he was presented with when the party arrived on site.

5. Safety glasses and all — the Chairman gets the good oil from Yallourn power station chemical laboratory scientific officer Ray Burgess.

6. How it all began — the Chairman, Yallourn power station Superintendent John Hutchinson and Commissioner Johnston in front of a photograph of the first sod being turned at Yallourn.

7. Apprentice electrical fitter/armature winder Michael Clay, apprentice electrical mechanic Peter Quigley and Electrical Workshops Engineer Geoff Hall with the Chairman in the new electrical workshops.



5



6



7



\$1.2m. simulator sets scene

A power station control room simulator is now being used for training operatives at Hazelwood—and that's an Australian first.

The \$1.2 million simulator, which represents a typical power station control room, will be used to train

Hazelwood, Yallourn, 'W' Stage 1 and 2 and Newport operatives.

It was designed and manufactured by Britain's Central Electricity Generating Board and sea-freighted to Australia, accompanied by seven CEGB engineers who assisted with its installation.

A mill simulator has also been installed.

"We know of no other control room simulator in Australia," said simulator instructor John Hirs, who attended the six month CEGB training course in Leeds last year. Assistant instructor is Eddy Wienand.

The training program was launched in the last week of March—with a two-week course for four assistant unit controllers.

From now on the simulators will be in continuous use. They will be used for operational training of assistant unit controllers, plant controllers from Newport and unit attendants to supplement the theoretical training they already receive. The simulator will also be made available to established unit controllers, assistant unit controllers and engineers.

"There are now so few run ups on the bigger units—and consequently few opportunities to get any training experience. Now, with the simulator, operatives for the first time have the opportunity for on-panel training before tackling the controls for real," said John.

An American-built simulator for Loy Yang is scheduled for installation in the new power station's control room in 1982. *Cont. P. 15.*
LEFT: Instructor John Hirs explains the lay-out of the control panel to trainee assistant unit controller Geoff Richards.



Hazelwood power station Operations Section Group 19 has joined the half million hours club.

The 46-man group has notched up 500 000 manhours without a lost time injury and is still going strong. To the end of March the group tally was 517 000 manhours. Its last LTI was in May 1976.

The group is made up of unit controllers, assistant unit controllers, unit attendants, clerical staff and charge engineers.

RIGHT: Proudly displaying the NSCA pennant, certificate and plaque are (from left): Stations Operations Engineer George Loughborough, Harry Pappas, HPS Superintendent Arthur Ewen, and HPS Safety Officer Dave Combie.





TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS

Modelling a hobby out of clay

For the past six years, Morwell special class electrician Ken Downs has been pottering around in his spare time.

Ken, who has been with the Commission for 25 years, has his own earthenware pottery kiln and workshop in a garage at his Yallourn North home.

His hobby has kept him busy not only at home but also at the Yallourn North Primary School where he's been conducting night classes for more than five years.

The classes, attended by a number of SEC employees, are held weekly with up to 16 students taking part in each 10-week course.

"I have successfully encouraged a number of former Yallourn North students along with their parents, to return for the classes," Ken said.

Functional earthenware pottery — casseroles, vases and goblets — is produced at the classes.

All articles are made from the world renowned Bendigo Pottery — "a clay of very high quality," according to Ken.

Anybody interested in finding out more about the pottery courses should contact Ken on extension 3220.

Bat tennis battle begins

The 1980 'Rudolf Beilharz perpetual luncheon' bat tennis championships will be conducted early next month.

The championships will be conducted on the centre court between wings one and two, of the Morwell Administration buildings.

More than 20 players are expected to take part.

Defending champions are Mike 'Gangrene' Gregson and Eddy 'Trout' Traughton



Instructor Ken Downs pictured with four of his class members — all wives of SEC employees — (from left) Doris McAlister, Gloria Draper, Beryl Casey and Tina Boskma.

Europe here we come

A six month European holiday with his wife 'Topsy' is among the early retirement plans of Transmission Engineer, Services, Bill Smith.

Following the holiday Bill, who retired from the Commission this month after 34 years' service, will return to live at San Remo where he is building a new home.

It will be the ideal place to enjoy his hobby of sailing. Bill is also a keen woodworker.

Bill began his Commission service in May 1946 as an electrical operator in electrical branch, Power Production Department at Richmond Terminal Station.

He was appointed an electrical draftsman at Yallourn in November 1946 and assistant engineer in November 1947. Bill progressed through various engineering levels

until he was appointed Electrical Construction Supervisor (Power Station) at Yallourn in January 1952.

His next appointment was as Electrical Superintendent, Kiewa in May 1956. Returning from Kiewa in November 1960 he took up the position of Electrical Superintendent, Morwell.

June 1975 saw Bill promoted to Transmission Services Engineer, Transmission Operations Department, then following a re-organisation of that department he was appointed Transmission Engineer, Services (Latrobe Valley) the position from which he retired.

Assistant Chief Engineer Transmission Operations Ian McDonald presented Bill with an electric saw, router and planer, on behalf of his workmates.



SERVICE REGISTER

APRIL

Commission staff and wages personnel who reached significant service milestones during April are included in this month's register.

25 YEARS

Ron Greenan
Bruce Hocking
Ron Jackson
Roy Stayches
Edward England
Bob Ulph

Allan Holt
Ray Pisani
Ferme Martin
Demetro Cyrkirakis
Pat Boyle
Stephen Camilleri
Andrew Pace
Con Efandis
Tadeusz Bogan
Antonio Massaro

Frank Kernstock
Fred Jobson

Bob Turner
Phillip Savige
Andreas Kypriotis
Tom Walton
Stefan Pawluck
Geralamo Mifsud
Carmelo Magaldi

Innocenzo Dicorleto

Jack Lewis

Patrol Yallourn
Hazelwood Power Station
Hazelwood Power Station
Yallourn Open Cut
Yallourn Power Station
Transport Workshops
Morwell
Civil Works Morwell
Hazelwood Power Station
Morwell Open Cut
Yallourn W Power Station
Morwell Power Station
Civil Works Yallourn
Yallourn Power Station
Yallourn Power Station
Morwell Open Cut
Central Workshops
Morwell
Stores Morwell
Electrical Workshops
Morwell
Hazelwood Power Station
Yallourn Open cut
Morwell Open Cut
Transportation Morwell
Hazelwood Power Station
Yallourn Power Station
Morwell Briquette
Factory
Morwell Briquette
Factory
Yallourn Open Cut

30 YEARS

Roy Kilmartin
Joe Grima
Sam Hawthorne
Pranas Kazakauskas

Joe Farrugia
Jim Clark
Norm Bayley
Jakob Tosin
Bill Beckman

Roy Heath

Yallourn Power Station
Yallourn Power Station
Yallourn Power Station
Central Workshops
Yallourn
Yallourn W Power Station
Yallourn W Power Station
Materials Morwell
Yallourn W Power Station
Transmission Services
Yallourn
Yallourn Power Station

Bill McAuliffe
Jim Webb
Norm Wilson
Jim Frost
Bob Pollock
Bill Kibble
Walter Joyce
Lindsay Ryan
John Slattery
Roy Thompson
John Abbott
Sandy Lestrangle

Herbert Holden

Len Sidebotham
Ray Nestor
Dennis Harris
Kevin Cox
Ron Grant
Ray Draper

Col Grix
Frank Potter
Roland Paul

Tom Thompson

Bob Gardner
Ray Cousins

Fred Stott

Allan Hawken

31 YEARS

Morwell Open Cut
Civil Services Yallourn
Materials Yallourn
Finance Morwell
Hazelwood Power Station
Materials Yallourn
Yallourn Open Cut
Yallourn Open Cut
Yallourn Open Cut
Area Services Morwell
Hazelwood Power Station
Transport Workshops
Yallourn
Yallourn Open Cut

32 YEARS

Yallourn W Power Station
Yallourn Open Cut
Hazelwood Power Station
Yallourn Power Station
Yallourn Open Cut
Coal Production Morwell

33 YEARS

Area Services Morwell
Yallourn Open Cut
Yallourn Power Station

34 YEARS

Patrol Yallourn

39 YEARS

Yallourn Power Station
Yallourn Open Cut

42 YEARS

Morwell Briquette and
Power

44 YEARS

Yallourn Power Station

Soil grater idea works just great

A giant 'cheese grater' has transformed a heavy, time consuming chore in the soil laboratories at Loy Yang into a job of minutes. And the inventors are \$500 better off.

The invention was a team effort between six members of the SEC's Loy Yang soil laboratory staff — Klaus Luetjens, David Sealey, Mark McGill, Brian Mountney, Gavan Hodgson (now lab manager with Golder Associates on the Loy Yang high level reservoir) and Daryl Eaton (now with the CRB in Seymour). It was manufactured in the SEC's Morwell workshops.

Manhour savings to the Commission are calculated at \$2000 a year — and under the SEC's suggestion award scheme that's worth a total of \$500 to be divided between the brains behind the idea.

Klaus explains: "We have to break the soil down into fine particles to test it. The traditional method involved cutting up the clods with

a heavy chopper and sieving the pieces until it was sufficiently fine. This was a terrible job if you were working on large quantities of heavy damp clay.

"The 'cheese grater' is a convex serrated plate mounted on an angle to the stand. A rubbing motion across the serrations grates the soil into small pieces. The serrations are regularly sharpened to aid efficiency.

"One bulk sample of soil — about 15-18 kilos — used to take eight hours work using the traditional method. Now a man can get a kilo in a matter of minutes," he said.

Golder Associates have refined the idea one step further with the follow up invention of a rotary grater.

Said Gavan Hodgson: "Every test we do we need 10 kilos, and we might do 15 tests a day. That's a lot of hard, tedious work.

"What would have taken an entire shift with the old method takes an hour on the grater — and just five minutes on the rotary grater."



Klaus Luetjens (right) and Gavan Hodgson demonstrate their invention.

KID'S KAPERS
MONASH HOUSE SOCIAL CLUB ARTS FESTIVAL 1980



Do your children paint pictures, murals — or the floor? Do they make models, pottery — or a mess?

Well, whatever they do, the Monash Social Club will have just the thing for them later in the year.

The social club's 1980 arts festival in August includes a children's show group.

The logo above is being used in all the art show promotional material. More information will be available soon.



What a whopper!

What a beauty, you've never seen one as big as that before!

This huge butter pumpkin weighing 22.7 kilograms (50lb) was grown by retired Commission employee Steve Harris of Butters St., Morwell. (above).

Steve, a keen gardener, planted the pumpkin seeds in September last year and picked the whopper late last month. It measured 40cm in diameter and 25cm deep.

According to Steve the secret to growing huge pumpkins (and he should know — he's been growing them for more than 30 years) is to use plenty of fertiliser (foul manure and fire ash) and water.

Steve, who grows all his own vegetables, worked for 39 years at the Yallourn Briquette Factory — he retired in 1975.

**"TINY" SIMIC**

Tony 'Tiny' Simic's hobbies of playing dominos and cards with his friends will take up much of his new found leisure time in retirement.

'Tiny' who retired after 26 years service on January 14 began as a laborer with building construction, Yallourn. He retired from the position of operator in Yallourn open cut.

At a farewell function at the Yallourn Open Cut's Southern Pivot the then Assistant Open Cut Superintendent Laurie Baker presented 'Tiny' with a wallet and notes on behalf of his workmates.

**TOBY MICALLEF**

Toby Micallef, a trades assistant with Coal Production, Morwell, retired on February 1 after 10 years service.

In retirement Toby intends to enjoy his hobbies of gardening and fishing.

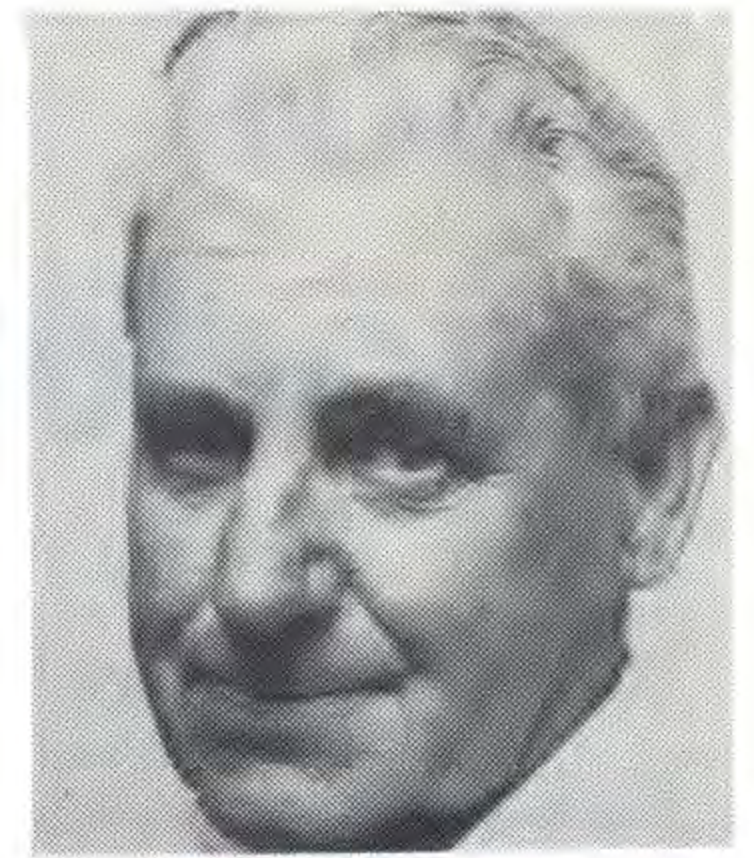
At a farewell function in the Morwell Coal Production Office canteen Acting Mechanical Maintenance Engineer, Ian Moon presented Toby with a barometer on behalf of his workmates, while Peter Simpson presented him with a wall clock on behalf of the Workshops Area Social Club.

**JOE SILAINIS**

North Melbourne will be the future home of Joe Silainis following his retirement on March 17.

Joe began with the Commission in January 1948 as a laborer in Yallourn open cut and retired as an operator in the open cut.

In retirement Joe plans to concentrate on his hobby of writing. At an informal farewell function in the Yallourn Hotel dining room, Yallourn Open Cut Superintendent Col Ferguson presented Joe with a wallet and notes on behalf of his workmates.

**MIKE BOOTH**

Mike Booth and his wife Rose will make their home at Rosebud following Mike's retirement on February 20.

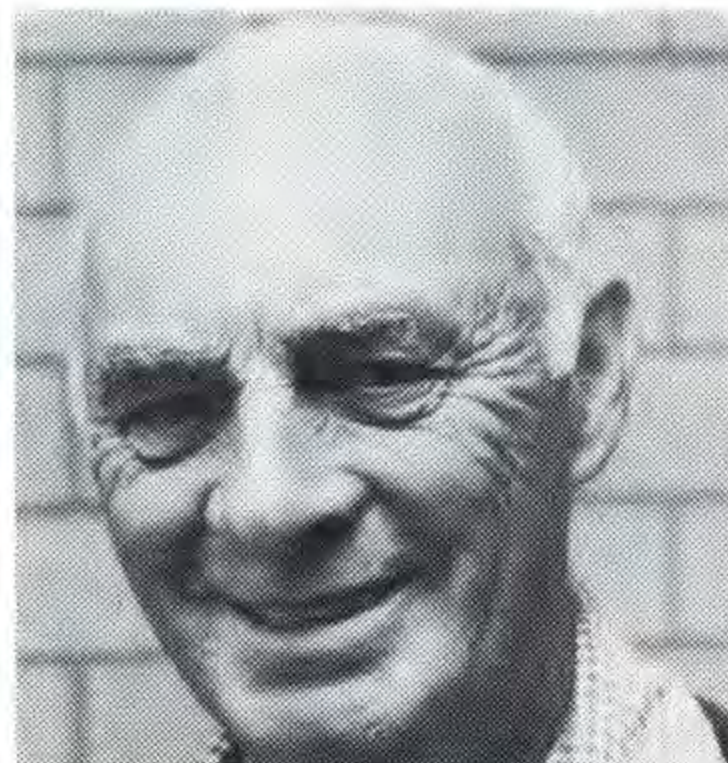
Mike's 30 year service with the Commission began in May 1950 as a carpenter with Civil Construction, Yallourn. He was promoted to leading hand carpenter in October 1950 and transferred to General Services, Morwell in 1952. He progressed through the ranks to foreman with Civil Works Morwell in 1974. Services Engineer (Civil) Max Williamson presented Mike with an electric sander on behalf of his workmates.

**FRED CAINES**

Enjoying his hobby of bowls will take up much of Fred Caines' spare time in retirement.

Fred retired on March 14 after 14 years service. He began in August 1965 as a cleaner and when he retired held a position as patrolman with Area Administration.

At a farewell function in the Yallourn patrol office, Latrobe Valley Patrol Supervisor Ray Houghton presented Fred with an electric sandwich maker.

**JERRY HEELEY**

Jerry Heeley's workmates have made sure he'll be able to get the most out of his hobby of lawn bowls in retirement.

At Jerry's farewell they presented him with a bowling bag and voucher to buy a new set of bowls. In addition, the Morwell Workshops Social Club presented him with an electric wall clock.

When he retired on March 30 he held the position of leading hand patrolman, Coal Production, Morwell.

**JACK EVES**

A cruise through the South Pacific ranks high among the early retirement plans of Jack Eves.

Jack, who retired after 22 years service on January 24, began his Commis-

He began his Commission career as an assistant operator with Electrical Operations, Yallourn and retired as Supervisor Electrical Maintenance, Yallourn open cut.

Yallourn Open Cut Superintendent Col Ferguson presented Jack with two travelling cases.

**GEORGE McFARLANE**

George McFarlane plans to spend his retirement relaxing at his Lakes Entrance holiday home, enjoying his hobbies of golf, bowls and gardening. George, a leading hand carpenter with Yallourn Civil Workshops, retired on February 11.

He began as a carpenter with Construction, Yallourn in November 1950.

Civil Works Engineer Tom Stillman presented George and his wife with a silver tea service and tray and a wallet and notes.

retirements

Working parties



COL FERGUSON

Holidaying around Europe, England and Scotland will take up the first 18 months of Col Ferguson's retirement.

Col and his wife will then return to Traralgon to live where he plans to enjoy his hobbies of golf and gardening.

After 24 years service Col retired on March 13. He began his career in March 1956 as an engineer with Coal Production Yallourn. In April 1958 he was appointed Operations Superintendent Coal Production Yallourn and for several years carried out this role in charge of overburden and coal operations at Yallourn and also as Superintendent at Yallourn North and Yallourn North Extension open cuts.

His appointment to Assistant Operations and Plant Engineer came in July 1965 and to Operations Planning Engineer in April 1970.

Col was transferred to Morwell open cut in October 1973 as assistant Coal Production Superintendent and then to acting Coal Production Superintendent Yallourn in May 1974. In February 1975 he was appointed Yallourn open cut Superintendent, the position from which he retired.

At a farewell function at the Yallourn Golf Club Coal Production Manager Jack Vines presented Col with a golf bag, movie camera and a photo album as a memento of his Commission career.

Cont. from P. 5.

"When the initial working party was set up it was very much an experimental proposition. It was set up following a series of industrial problems in Yallourn power station.

"Both the MOA and the SEC were unsure of success but agreed that it was worth a try in an attempt to bring a better environment to a troubled area.

"The experiment proved successful and since that time numerous working parties have operated.

"Some of the groups have taken considerable time to clear away entrenched attitudes which have developed over a long period. Others have quickly settled into a frank exchange of ideas and adapted to the working party process. Virtually all have reached a mutually satisfactory conclusion.

"The environment created by the process has ensured an improved working situation with staff appreciating the opportunity to make an input of their "work face" experience, and management benefiting from that input.

"The whole idea adds up to a much improved work environment, with benefits for the SEC and its staff.

"This improvement is vividly illustrated by the changed atmosphere in much of the Materials and Services Division."



—What a beauty! Power Generation Department's Senior Clerk Administration Leo McCarthy and Commercial Administrative Officer Marilyn Witham studying the mounted fossilised snake.

A petrified brown coal snake found on No. 9 level Loy Yang open cut has been mounted and placed in a prominent position in wing four of Morwell administration building.

It measures 95 centimetres long and is estimated to be more than 30 million years old.

The mounted snake has attracted the attention of many employees — in particular Power Generation Department — on their way to work.

No. 9 level Loy Yang open cut?

You guessed it — the "snake" was put on display on Monday, April 1 — April Fools Day.

Many people were tricked by the model, placed in position by an anonymous prankster.

A couple of employees were even seen whispering in the corridor "Is that really a fossilised snake?"

Incidentally Loy Yang open cut operations don't begin until the middle of next year.



All smiles before their match against Aegis earlier this month, are the Alcy Calcs. Back row: (from left) Pam Widdowson, Kay Bunn, Cheryl Bright, Diane Boehm; Front row: Robyn Collings, Sharon Kemsley and Debbie Hill.

ALCY CALCS - THE COMPUTERISED TEAM

Eight Commission girls have successfully teamed up to compete in the Latrobe Valley Volleyball Association.

The team — 'Alcy Calcs' — is made up of girls who work, or have worked, in Computer Services section in Morwell.

Team members are: Diane Boehm (captain), Debbie Hill, Robyn Collings, Cheryl Bright, Pam Widdowson, Sharon Kemsley, Julie O'Brien and Kaye Bunn.

The girls are now playing their second season in the association, which includes teams from Moe, Morwell and Traralgon.

Transmission Engineer, Services, Alan Scott (who is also an active volleyball player) is team coach.

Alan says the girls have improved tremendously since they began last year when they finished fourth in their section. With more experience they should be a team to be reckoned with next season, he said.

A number of other Commission employees — men and women — compete in the association but 'Alcy Calcs' is the only all SEC women's side.



ABOVE: Some of the action from the Alcy Calcs-Aegis clash early this month.

Briquette 'ace' scoops pool

The 1979-80 Latrobe Valley Mid-Week cricket season is one that Morwell Briquette Factory operator George Card won't forget in a hurry.

George had an excellent year with the bat and ball, winning the association's batting aggregate (784 runs), bowling aggregate (43 wickets), and he finished third in the batting average with 43.6.

Other Commission employees to perform well were Jeremy Foenander (Central Workshops) who won the fielding award by one point from Norm Warren (Morwell Briquette) and Lloyd Lewis (Yallourn 'W') who was runner-up in the batting aggregate and batting average.

Police 4/181 (declared) defeated APM 175 in the association grand final.

Trophy winners were:

Batting Aggregate: George Card (Morwell Briquette) 784 runs, Lloyd Lewis (Yallourn W) 694 runs, Brian Higgins (Civil Workshops) 580 runs, Keith Roberts (Morwell Power Station) 480 runs.

Batting Average: Peter Whelan (A.P.M.) 54.7, Lloyd Lewis (Yallourn W) 49.6, George Card (Morwell Briquette) 43.6, Keith Roberts (Morwell Power Station) 40, Brian Higgins (Civil Workshops) 36.25, Ian Miles (Police) 34.9.

Bowling Aggregate: George Card (Morwell Briquette) 43 wickets, Harry Simpson (Morwell Power Station) 39 wickets, Peter Mason (Morwell Briquette) 37 wickets, Jeremy Foenander (Civil Workshops) 31 wickets, Peter Whelan (A.P.M.) 25 wickets.

Bowling Average:

C. Wells (A.P.M.) 8.52 (21 wickets for 179 runs), Peter Whelan (A.P.M.) 9.52 (25 wickets for 238 runs), Jeremy Foenander (Civil Workshops) 10.48 (31 wickets for 325 runs), H. Simpson (Morwell Power Station) 10.9 (39 wickets for 424 runs).

S.E.C. Awards for Best Team Man; Central Workshops: J. Flynn, R. Rowe; Hazelwood Power Station: Joe De Guara; Morwell Power Station: D. Bramstedt; Morwell Briquette: G. Whitney, R. Kackowski; Yallourn W Power Station: J. Hurford, T. Heyes.