



*Contact Christmas 1981*

# Is a bird in the hand worth two in an engine?

**Ken Wilkinson, a driver with Plant and Transport, Yallourn Civil Services got a bit of a surprise recently when he lifted the bonnet of his truck, number 407, to find the beginnings of a Blackbird's nest.**

"I came in after a weekend, and there were the beginnings of it," he said. "About a week later I came back and it was finished."

"A few days later, I was under the bonnet and there were the two eggs, and a while after that the bird

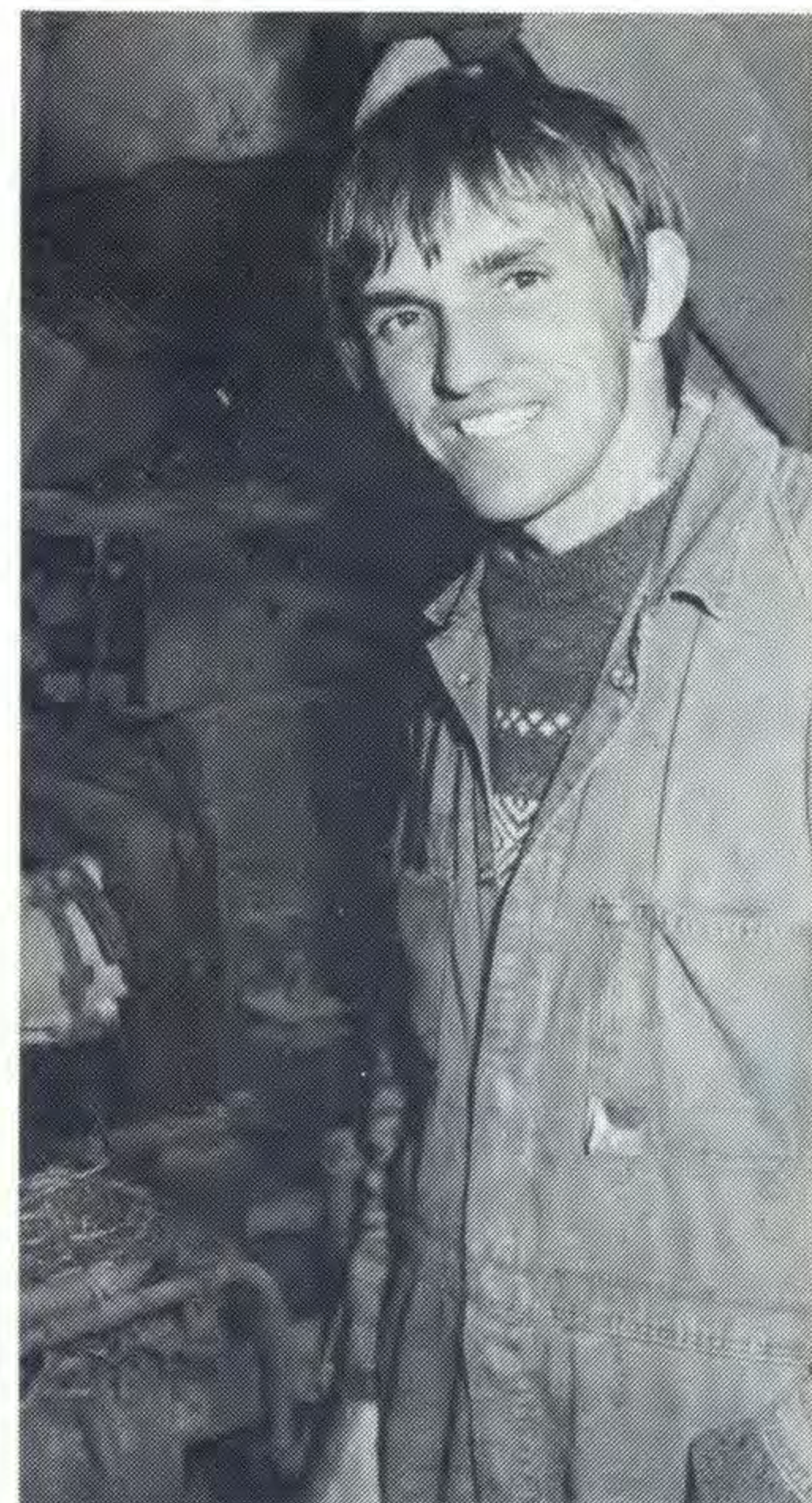
was also there. I started the truck and it wouldn't move. I don't like disturbing animals so I left it there."

Ken said it was still there when he came back with the photographers for this photo but as he reached down to move the oil dip-stick, it flew away.

"I moved the eggs then, because when they hatched they would have fallen out anyway.

The bird hasn't been back.

"It probably won't chance it a second time," Ken said.



## Who said they're biting?

**They really are biting at Jindabyne in New South Wales, and that's official.**

John Laszczyk (foreman, CWS Yallourn), Russell McRae (fitter HPS), Neil Hunt (plumber) and Peter Whykes (rigger CWS Yallourn) recently took a week-long trip up there and when the counting was finished, they had bagged 109 trout.

Fishing from the banks of Lake Jindabyne, the boys used four pounds maximum line on Abu Carnival reels attached to Silverwater rods.

The Trout consisted of rainbow, brown and salmon, with the majority being rainbow.

The largest caught weighed 2.7 kg.

John said the water in the lake is presently falling but with increased insect activity in the warmer summer months the fishing should pick up.

"However, it's still pretty good," John said. "The best fishing was in the early morning and late evening — they were really biting then."

It looks like another trip could be on the cards.



*Above: John Laszczyk, Neil Hunt, Russell McRae and Peter Whykes proudly show a few of the 109 fish they caught on a recent fishing excursion to New South Wales.*

## CONTACT



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### Cover

*Once more Christmas is just around the corner and the familiar old man with the white beard in the red suit is delighting children everywhere.*

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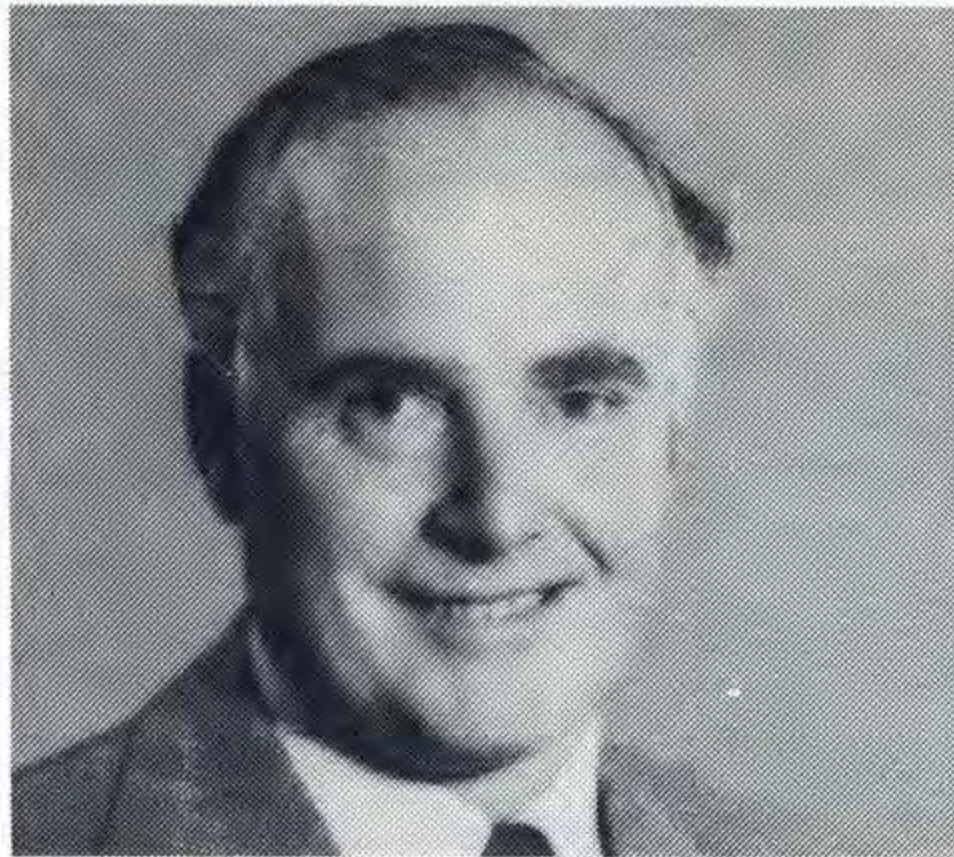
**When I came to write this annual Christmas message I reflected on the many significant events which have occurred in the past 12 months. For many reasons, 1981 will be a year to remember.**

It has been a year that has presented many challenges and I'm pleased to be able to say that in the vast majority of cases those challenges have been met.

At the same time, never before has so much of the Commission's activity come under such close scrutiny and been subjected to such vehement and largely unjustified criticism.

As we all know, on two occasions in the middle of the year we were forced to introduce power restrictions when we were unable to meet demand, largely due to the interference with the planned installation of new plant.

The fact that we were able to



scrape through a number of other occasions over the winter when we had inadequate reserves of plant reflects great credit on all those involved.

From an operating point of view, there is cause for quiet optimism about the coming year. The addition of a significant amount of new plant

to our generating system will give us a little breathing space, but I stress there is no room for complacency. We must do everything possible to maximise generation from brown coal plant and save using higher cost alternatives.

Christmas, however, is a very special time for us all, providing an opportunity to put aside our problems for a time and to enjoy ourselves with family and friends.

On behalf of all Operations Group management, may I extend to you and your families best wishes for a safe and happy festive season and for a very prosperous and satisfying New Year.

**Clem Joyce**  
**Assistant General Manager**  
**(Operations)**

## Driffield more economic—AGM

**Power from the proposed Driffield power complex would probably cost about 15 per cent less than power from any comparable alternative development in the Latrobe Valley.**

Assistant General Manager, Jack Johnson, told the Parliamentary Public Works Committee this at the opening of the second stage of its inquiry into the proposed project.

In its report on the first stage of the inquiry, the Committee recommended that Victoria's next base load power generation development be fuelled by brown coal.

The second stage of the inquiry, due to be completed by June 30 next year, covers the timing of the development, whether Driffield should be the preferred and most economic brown coal development, a proposed diversion of the Morwell River and the environmental effects of the development.

In presenting the Commission's opening submission, Jack Johnson asked that the SEC be allowed to defer further submissions on the timing of the proposed development until about April next year. This would allow time to assess further the effect of the recent tariff increase on load growth and the implications in planning for expansion of the State's generating system.

On the economics of the proposal, he told the inquiry that the proposed Driffield project, including the associated Morwell River diversion, had been assessed as being the most economic development, considering such factors as the cost of winning coal, the siting of power stations and the effects of coal quality on boiler design and power station operation.

He said that the development of the Driffield project at the western end of the coalfields would follow Loy Yang at the eastern end. Therefore, it should maintain a more balanced distribution of the workforce and growth of towns in the Latrobe Valley.

The inquiry is expected to resume in Morwell early in February.

**COMMISSION  
FIRST WITH  
W4 LINK  
TO SYSTEM**

**The new 375 MW Yallourn W4 generating unit was connected to the State system early this month.**

First steam was released into the unit's turbine on November 28 and it was synchronised on December 3.

It was the first time in the Commission's history that the milestone date of first steam to turbine had been achieved for two units within six months. Yallourn W3 was first run to speed in May this year.

W4 has been contributing some power intermittently to the State grid following synchronisation and is expected to be run up to its maximum output of 375 MW by the end of the year.

After synchronising, all plant associated with the new unit — boiler, turbine, generator and associated auxiliary plant, plus brown coal conveying plant — has undergone load testing for the first time.

The commissioning schedule then requires the unit to be run for up to eight weeks before being taken off the system again for initial inspections.

Following these, which should take about a month, the unit should be ready to go into normal commercial service.

## Estate named

**The housing estate next to the Yallourn Golf Club, developed as part of the Yallourn Resettlement Program, has been officially named.**

The 56-lot estate, which houses many former Yallourn residents, is to be known as Yallourn Heights.

The name has been approved by the State Place Names Committee.

The estate is ideally situated adjacent to the golf club's 10th fairway and the relocated Yallourn Tennis Club.

The close-knit Yallourn Heights community has formed its own progress association, headed by Commission Accident Control Officer, Ric Crookes.

# Beware the "harmless" chemical

The Commission's dangerous materials register, which has been operating for almost a year, now has a listing of almost 900 products.

The register was originally drawn up to highlight potential hazards which may exist in products in use throughout Latrobe Valley works areas.

Richard Rawling, an occupational hygienist with the Occupational Health Division said that while some materials were obviously dangerous, there were others that appeared harmless but were potentially hazardous.

He said that warning labels on some of these materials failed to sufficiently identify their chemical make-up.

"In some cases, what appears to be a relatively harmless chemical can exhibit remarkable properties in abnormal circumstances," he said.

One example Richard cited was a widely used lubricant.

"It is basically an oil which contains a solvent," Richard said. "However, when the solvent comes in contact with extreme heat, such as a car's exhaust manifold, the solvent breaks down and becomes Phosgene,

originally developed as a nerve warfare gas."

Richard stressed the gas was only given off in extremely small quantities, but in larger doses and in confined spaces it was potentially dangerous.

The same problem arises with the rubber cement used in vulcanising. It contains Isocyanate which can cause respiratory problems if inhaled constantly in small doses.

Richard said legislation was at present before Parliament which opened the way for regulations governing the compulsory supply of detailed chemical data on certain classes of materials.

"Most manufacturers respond well to our inquiries for detailed chemical data, but we also have access to the Hermann Research Laboratories which provide analyses when requested," he said.

Richard said the compilation of the register was only one aspect of the much broader role of occupational health.

"We look at the total relationship of people's work on their health," he said. "This includes such things as noise and the manual handling of equipment, and it's our function

to educate people in how they should regard their health in a work situation."

"If confronted with a new material an employee should feel quite free to ask if it has a dangerous material rating and is logged in the register. Only then is he considering his health in relation to his work environment," Richard said.

As part of the dangerous materials register program, a register sheet has been proposed for distribution throughout Latrobe Valley works areas.

The sheet would provide an abbreviated guide to the full register and contain a list of materials pertinent to a particular section, division, or group.

Each material listed would be given a rating for health hazard, flammability and reactivity, along with recommended personal protection.

Further details on a particular material would be available in the main register, copies of which are located in Latrobe Valley departments.

Queries related to unlisted materials which may prove hazardous can be directed to either Latrobe Valley extension 5249 or Monash House 1142.

## 700 conveyor ready to roll

Commissioning of the first of Loy Yang's five coal and overburden conveyors has begun.

Commission engineer, Greg Mitchell said that commissioning of number 700 conveyor was expected to be completed by Christmas.

"All the electric motors have been tested and run satisfactorily, and the no load run for the motors has been completed. We're now running it intermittently at low speed to enable the belt turnovers to be set," he explained.

"The no load run for the belt is expected to take place soon."

Once the commissioning on number 700 is finished, the remaining four conveyors will be commissioned progressively and then run in sequence.

Greg said the contractor, Eglo PWH, expects to have all the commissioning work completed by April next year.

There are two coal and three overburden conveyors at Loy Yang and one recovery conveyor which removes coal spilt by the other conveyors.

The spillage will be washed down

to the recovery area by high pressure hoses, left to dry, and then loaded on to the overburden system by the recovery conveyor.

The main conveyors at Loy Yang are the largest in the Latrobe Valley with a width of two metres, compared with the usual 1.4 metres. They are capable of carrying 8000 tonnes of coal or overburden per hour.



Above: The two metre wide 700 conveyor is almost ready for commissioning with the completion of the no-load run for the belt.

### FOR SALE

Leyland Mini Sedan. 1978/79. This car is in showroom condition throughout. Travelled only 13 000 km. Price: \$3 900. Telephone: 27 1478 or inspect at 14 Cross Street, Newborough.



## AREA ADMINISTRATION

### 50 receive awards at presentation

**Victorian Brown Coal Council Chairman Eugene Falk and Assistant General Manager (Operations) Clem Joyce presented awards at the annual Commission first year apprentice presentation day at Yallourn Technical School.**

Fifty apprentices received awards of distinction or merit.

Those to receive awards of distinction were —

Greg Lonsdale, motor mechanic; Richard Lancaster, fitter and turner; Gregory Farthing, boilermaking and structural steel fabrication; Evan Skeeles, boilermaking and structural steel fabrication; Andrew Templeton, electrical fitting and armature winding; Allan McAuliffe, electrical mechanic; Bernie Petterson, electrical mechanic; Brett Williams, electrical mechanic; Jamie McIntosh, electrical fitter.

Awards of merit, fitting and turning: Rodney O'Donnell, Andrew Quenault, John Oliver, Rodney Hoghton, Lindsay Sealy, Geoff Luckins. Boilermaking and steel fabrication:



*Above: Pictured are training and development officer Les Hunt, guest speaker Mr. E. Falk and assistant general manager (Operations) Clem Joyce with the apprentice distinction winners: Gary Lonsdale, Richard Lancaster, Gregory Farthing, Evan Skeels, Andrew Templeton, Allan McAuliffe, Bernie Petterson, Brett Williams, Jamie McIntosh.*

Graham Morgan, Philip Stipani, Philip Xuereb, Rene Bongers, Andrew Pike. Electrical mechanics: Darren Bellingham, Andrew Van Stekelenburg, Paul Holmes, Anthony Dyer, Vincent Heaton-Harris, Terrence Jongerius, Eric Terpstra, Peter Wilson. Metal machinists: Paul Chubb, Kent Klaxton. Painting and decorating: Wendy Margetts, Clyde Langan, Micheal Wardell. Plumbing and gas fitting: Andrew Roberts,

Glen Williams. Carpenter and joiner: Kevin Whelan. Coppersmith: Mark Coleman. Linesman: Russell Johnson. Radio tradesman: Jim Lang. Instrument maker and repairers: Richard Lamin, Ian Cook, William Spriggs. Refrigeration mechanics: John Linton, Rick Norder. Motor mechanic: Paul Medd.

Electrical mechanic Patricia Daly was awarded the H. C. Bennett Encouragement Award (Electrical).

## Supervisors' efforts rewarded

**Thirteen Commission supervisors have been presented with employers' certificates covering a total of seven trades.**

The thirteen representatives accepted the certificates from Acting Manager, Area Administration, Jack

Huxtable on behalf of all supervisors and award winning apprentices in the trades of fitting and turning, boilermaking, motor mechanics, painting and decorating, carpentry and joinery, instrument making and repairs, and cooking.

The presentation of the certificates marked the supervisors' contributions to the scholastic achievement of commission apprentices in 1980.

All were awarded by the Yallourn College of Technical and Further Education with the exception of cooking, which was awarded by the Geelong Regional Committee for Apprenticeship.

*Left: Pictured are back: Hank Wegh (Civil Works, Yallourn), Bert Forbes (Engineering Services, Morwell), Alan Jenkins (Engineering Services, Yallourn), Bob Howell (Civil Works, Yallourn), Jim Pym (Engineering Services, Yallourn), Ray Linton (Engineering Services, Yallourn).*

*Front: Jim Peerless (Engineering Services, Yallourn), Muray Walker (Civil Works, Yallourn), Ron De Carli (Civil Works, Yallourn), Ken Passey (Power Generation, Yallourn), Charlie Carlton (Catering, Yallourn), Alan Kelly (Training Annex, Yallourn), Alan Walker (Engineering Services, Yallourn).*





## COAL PRODUCTION

### LOADING STATION OPERATING

**The new coal out-loading station at Yallourn has begun operation.**

The new station, which used to be part of the number 12 conveyor system takes coal from the raw coal bunker and loads it onto trains for freighting to Morwell.

Assistant Coal Production Superintendent, Yallourn, Bruce King said that the change from trains to conveyors at Yallourn open cut had made the old number three loading station redundant so the opportunity was taken to convert it to an out-loading station.

Now that the station is operating, an average of three trains per hour use the rail crossings on the eastern levee road.

All motor vehicles must stop at these crossings.



*Above: The new Yallourn coal loading station showing the new bridge section. The station used to be part of the number 12 conveyor system.*

## Morwell Bunker extended

**The number 11 ditch bunker on the upper level of the Morwell Open Cut is being extended as part of the Yallourn seam coal project.**

The bunker at present stores coal from the Yallourn Open Cut for briquetting. A bunker loader retrieves the coal which is conveyed to the Morwell raw coal bunker for use at the briquetting factory.

When the new project is completed, Yallourn seam coal will be transported by road from the north-west corner of the Morwell Open Cut to the number 11 ditch bunker. It will then be conveyed to the Morwell raw coal bunker, mixed with Morwell seam coal, and fired in the power station.

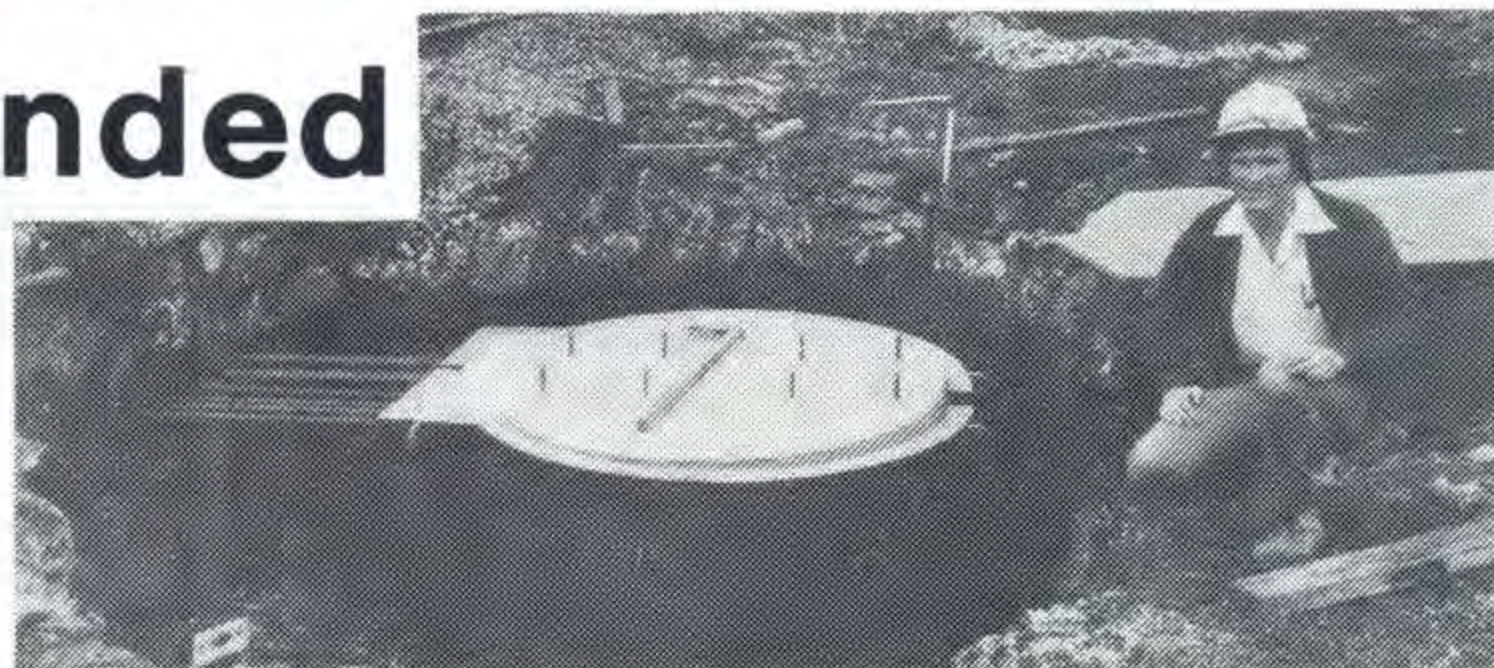
The mix is necessary because Yallourn seam coal from the Morwell Open Cut is not suitable for briquetting and on its own is inferior as a generating plant fuel.

The extension of the ditch bunker utilises the existing bunker loader and conveying system to the Morwell raw coal bunker.

The extension includes the construction of an unloading slab to enable the simple and efficient unloading of coal from large road transport vehicles. The extended bunker will hold 600 tonnes of Yallourn seam coal.

Engineer in charge of the extension, Ron Potter, said the work was progressing to program and was expected to be completed in March 1982.

Ron said the job involved some modification work. "There has been an extension of the beams which have been strengthened, and the mounting bolts have needed a lot of setting up on the bunker loader support rail beams," he said. "A lot of inter-departmental co-ordination was needed on the job, and this was very



*Above: Engineer Ron Potter next to his "personalised" beam cap.*



*Above: The extended slab of number 11 ditch bunker.*

evident by the way outages were kept to a minimum and work was done on extremely tight schedules. I feel this was a big part of the job." Beams will be placed on the pier caps during the January outage, which will coincide with the annual briquette shut-down resulting in minimal work disruption.

Ron said the beams are the biggest standard sections which BHP roll.

Other activities associated with the project are the widening and strengthening of the narrow bridge over the M51, M61, and M71 conveyors. The bridge is due for reconstruction in January and February 1982.



## ENGINEERING SERVICES

# Program restores industrial land

Rehabilitation of land affected by industrial activity is an on-going process, according to Commission Forestry Officer in the Latrobe Valley, Ian McDonald.

He's involved in the rehabilitation of large tracts of land, especially that which is no longer required for overburden dumps.

Ian says rehabilitation is not only designed to renew the landscape and environment after extensive industrial activity — it also plays an important role in stabilising the land.

Works closely associated with rehabilitation in the Valley involve the screening of industrial activity from public view and large scale planting of trees around Commission works areas has been successful in making certain areas environmentally more pleasing.

A good example can be seen on the Midland Highway, near the turn-off to Jeeralang gas turbine stations. Work is also in progress to screen the Morwell overburden dump.

Levelling, terracing and drainage



*Above: The Morwell River diversion with Ian McDonald in the foreground. The tunnel the river is entering continues for three kilometres.*

controls are all carried out, and specific areas are then planted with trees and grass to stabilise the surface.

All in all, an area of about 90 square kilometres has been converted into useful land.

Approximately 20 000 trees per year — mainly mixed native species and pines — have been hand planted since 1956 on shelterbelts, sight screens, steep batter slopes and other sites.

The first rehabilitation works of any significance began at Yallourn North Open Cut in 1934, but most of the work has been carried out since 1956.

The land is used for various activities — local farmers graze sheep, cattle and horses on it, and recreation areas have been leased to organisations including the Latrobe Valley Pistol Club, the Yallourn North Motor Bike Club and Yallourn North Pony Club.

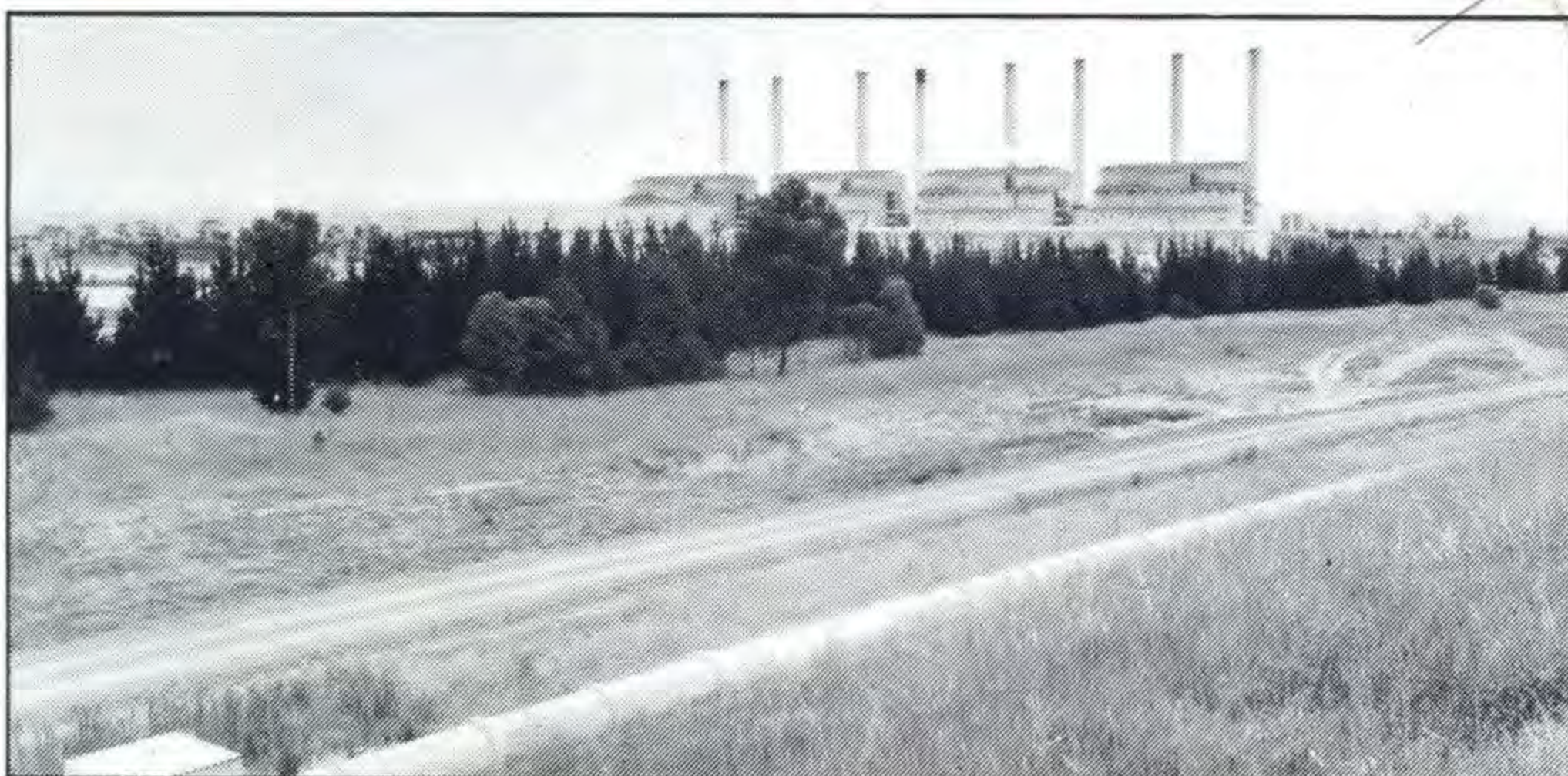
Other major rehabilitation activities have been carried out at Yallourn Open Cut on the batters and overburden dump, Morwell Open Cut batters and along the Yallourn/Morwell interconnecting railway, Hazelwood Pondage, Morwell River levees east of Yallourn Open Cut and Yallourn North Extension Open Cut batters and dumps.

Rehabilitation has been in progress at Yallourn Open Cut internal overburden dump for many years. Dumping in the central overburden dump was completed in 1978/79, but will be resumed for the East Field developments between 1983 and 1985.

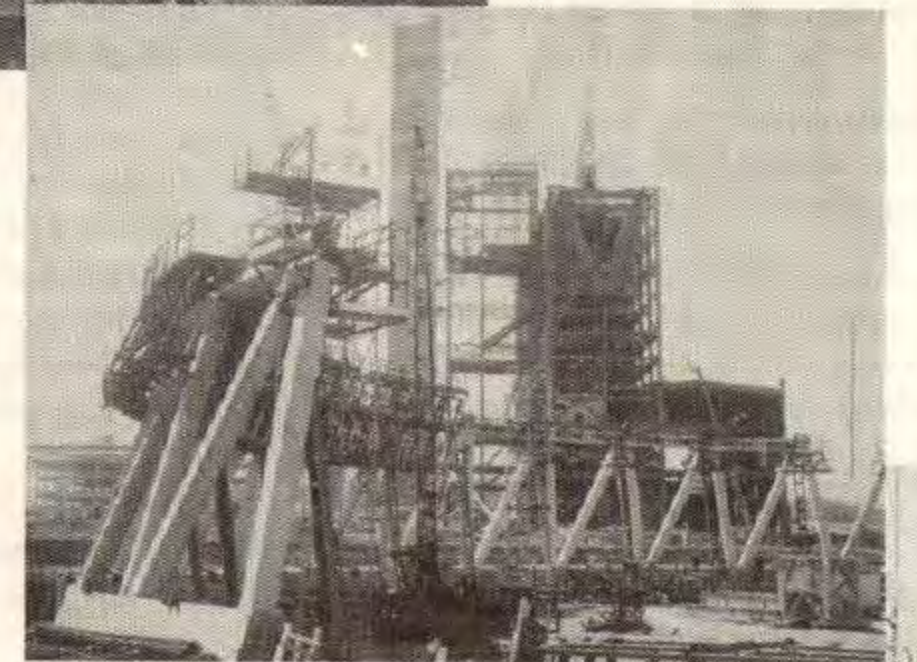
*Left: An example of a sight screening shelte belt — this section along the Midland Highway comprises seven rows of trees and helps screen off Hazelwood Power Station.*



*Above: Eel Hole Creek containing Hazelwood Pondage overflow. The creek comprises part of the Morwell River Diversion scheme.*



# LOOKING BACK 1981 with Contact







## POWER GENERATION

# Hazelwood refit set for April

The half life reconstruction of three older Hazelwood power station units will begin in April next year.

About 430 contractor employees and 70 Commission employees will be involved in the project, estimated to cost between \$50 million and \$60 million.

Unions affiliated with the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council have agreed that contract labour be used in this instance for the reconstruction of units one, two and four boilers, while Commission day labour will undertake reconstruction work on the turbines and generators.

Assistant General Manager

(Operations), Cle Joyce said that all parties involved in the reconstruction program negotiations had adopted a commonsense approach to the need to get the work at Hazelwood completed.

"The major reconstruction program has been designed to improve the performance and generating capacity of the older Hazelwood units," he said.

"These units first came into operation in the early 1960s and in recent years we have been forced to work them very hard due to delays in the introduction of other base load plant.

"Fortunately, we are now getting substantial new plant on line —

Newport and Yallourn W3 are going through advanced stages of commissioning and Yallourn W4 was synchronised with the state system earlier this month — giving a little breathing space to perform essential maintenance programs, including the half life reconstruction of these three Hazelwood units."

"Reconstruction of the electrostatic precipitators will significantly improve the control of emissions from individual Hazelwood stacks," he said.

Work on the first unit to be reconstructed, unit two, will begin in April next year. Each unit will be out of service for 18 weeks, with all units to be reconstructed and back in service for the winter of 1983.

## First of four "cribs" off the ground

A new amenities block will soon be available at Morwell Briquetting and Power Installation.

Located next to the switchyard, the new amenities block is one of four planned for MBPI.

Mechanical Maintenance Engineer, Ken Castell, said the new building would cater for about 100 employees, including boilerhouse mechanical fitters, turbine room and workshops mechanical fitters and power station electrical maintenance crews.

Up to now, employees have used the workshop areas, which were temporarily set up with lockers and benches. However, with expanding work schedules, continued use of

these areas was becoming increasingly limited.

Half of the new building will form a crib room and will contain a wash basin and bench with hot water facilities, a drinking fountain, fridge and tables and chairs.

The remaining half of the building will comprise offices and partitioned sections for supervisors and foremen.

Engineer-in-charge of the building, Ron Potter, said the job had a number of interesting aspects.

The existing slab, 60 centimetres thick in places, had to be demolished. A degreasing shed was also demolished and an industrial roller door had to be relocated. A new slab was completed in three

pours and the brickwork had to be relocated.

Ron said laminated beams were used with a Stramit ceiling in the installation of the roof. The beams are made from radiata pine and as well as providing the main support for the roof they are exposed internally, giving the interior of the building a very pleasing appearance.

Another interesting feature of the building is the inclusion of a "clear storey" sky-lite in the roof, measuring one metre by three metres.

The three buildings yet to be built will cater for the factory mechanical fitters and factory electricians, instrument tradesmen and riggers.

Meanwhile, at Yallourn power station, a new amenities building for riggers is now operational.

A combined annexe for Yallourn power station and Engineering Services employees is also under construction at the power station.

Extensive modifications are underway at 'D' station to improve amenities for females, including the provision of showers. Work is expected to be completed early next year.

Yallourn Power Station Amenities Committee Secretary, John Wilkins, said a number of buildings were being purchased to cater for instrument tradesmen, electrical maintenance fitters, 'A' station turbine room employees and mechanical maintenance fitters.



Above: Morwell Briquette and Power Installation's first new amenities block catering for 100 employees. Note the "clear-view" skylite on the roof.



## TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS

# Taking a dip into the unknown

The Latrobe Valley SCUBA Club really takes the plunge when it comes to trips away. Their final trip of the year coming up shortly will see them venturing to the Kent group of islands in Bass Strait, a desolate little spot on which is located the Straits' last manned lighthouse.

Of the 70 club members, many are Commission employees, and new members are joining all the time.

But, before entering this fascinating world of "altered states", a rigorous initiation is in store for those who dare.

John Hill, operations engineer with Transmission Operations, Latrobe Valley, and a club committee member said people must have a high standard of fitness before being admitted to the club.

"The first eight laps of the Morwell pool usually sort the men out from the boys," John said.

"The theory side of the training covers physics — things like volume and pressure at depths, identifying nitrogen poisoning, diving tables

and emergencies."

Once through, it opens up a fascinating world for the diver. As a club we go to many different places. We dive a lot at the Prom and we have an annual trip to Cape Conran."

The club's rooms are situated at the north end of the Morwell pool and meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month.

Any inquiries should be addressed to the secretary, Gary Dunlop on 34 5606 after hours.

## Commissioning on exchange completed

The Commission's new Dimension 2000 computer based telephone exchange in Morwell has passed its commissioning tests.

Acting Transmission Services Engineer, Geoff Hall said the exchange had come through the stringent operational and functional tests very well.

"At present, it's virtually commissioned and capable of operating, but there's a lot of other work to be completed before it comes into use in February. For example, we still have to lay new cables for it," he said.

The commissioning tests were carried out by the contractor, AWA, and the SEC.

The new system will reduce the switchboard's manual workload and provide several facilities that are not available on a conventional exchange.

One of its advantages is that incoming callers will be able to dial direct without having to go through the Commission switchboard, and there will also be some facility for Commission users to dial direct into the Telecom system.

Both Morwell and Yallourn switchboard operators will move into the new exchange at the Latrobe Valley Control Centre, Morwell, but the Yallourn switchboard will continue to operate automatically until it is replaced next July.

## FIT TO BUILD A MEAL ON



**Building a house is a piece of cake, according to Rudolf Beilharz, Transmission Operations administrative officer. He should know, his wife Gisela built 20 of them last year,**

Made out of gingerbread and completely edible, the two kilogram "structures" are fashioned after the traditional European gingerbread houses.

Each one takes three days to make. They are baked, and allowed to cool and are cemented together with royal icing sugar.

On the third day, the "cosmetics" are added in the form of smarties,

hundreds and thousands and other sweets.

The house stands on a base of solid gingerbread and is "landscaped" with a fence and a Christmas tree. The windows are made from translucent red gelatine, which is also edible.

The base of the house is hollow and allows a candle or a globe to be inserted inside the house giving a red glow to the interior.

Gingerbread houses are as customary in Europe as barbecues in Australia.

A great house to have, but beware the cookie monster!

# Club Notes

## Main Office Social Club

The weather didn't put a damper on the Yallourn Main Office Social Club picnic. Despite the clouds, spirits were high according to the organiser, Geoff Marland, of the Drawing Office.

The picnic was held recently at Darkie Wilson's property at Boolarra, with about 150 people turning out for the occasion.

Geoff said a barbecue lunch was provided and Father Christmas arrived in a fire truck.

"The kids had a great time, there were plenty of ice creams, lollies and presents and as many merry-go-round rides as they could handle," Geoff said.

Several novelty events were held, among which were a men's and women's gumboot throwing competition, and a balloon shaving contest.

Geoff McKay won the men's section, while Ron Bennett's wife, Brenda, won the women's.

The balloon shaving contest was won by Rex Hibbert's wife Ann.

## Yallourn W Social Club

Where are all the wine connoisseurs in the Latrobe Valley? Bookings are a little slow for Yallourn W Social Club's "Rutherglen Red" weekend tour of Victoria's best wine producing region.

The tour is scheduled for March 27-28 next year, but all tickets must be booked before January 6.

A mere \$147 provides all the necessities for a vintage weekend. Inquiries can be directed to Helen Procak on 2960.

## Workshops Area Social Club

Seven thousand donuts, 4000 ice creams and 3500 soft drinks all went down the hatch at the Area Workshops Social Club Christmas party at Glengarry Reserve.

So did countless numbers of lollies handed out by clowns and also dropped from an aeroplane.

"It was a great success for the kids, and more than 400 families attended," club secretary John Hoffard said. "We had the carnival from Traralgon Show and they were kept flat out all day.

"Father Christmas handed out free presents all over the place and we couldn't really have hoped for a better day."

## L.V. Stores Social Club

Latrobe Valley Stores Group Social Club held their end of

year dinner dance at Shaws in Moe.

Committee member Tom McDermott said about 50 people turned out for the occasion which featured a seafood smorgasbord, plus all the normal trimmings.

A mobile disco provided the music which kept many people up on the floor.

Tom said credit for the evening's success must go to Jan Redford who organised the function.

"We had three door prizes of bottles of champagne," Tom said. "It was a bit ironic that one was drawn by one of the donors, Margaret Laszczyk. Naturally there was a re-draw. Jan Redford also won a bottle which was very appropriate considering the hard work she put in."



Above: Geoff McKay, a draftsman with main office hurls the winning effort in the gumbboot throwing competition at the main office social club picnic. Club president, Harold Bridge (left) thoughtfully ponders the eventual outcome.



Above: These happy faces might be "on the wagon", but ice cream always was pretty addictive for the younger generation.

# First plant installed in L.Y. A station

Loy Yang's unit two in A station is really on the boil with the recent installation of four low pressure feedwater heaters.

Commission contract engineer, John Travis, said the installation was a milestone.

"These four heaters are the first plant to be installed in the turbine

building and this represents a significant stage in the development of A station," he said.

The heaters, each measuring 12 metres long, 1.5 metres wide and weighing 15 tonnes are part of the feedwater heating system.

The system comprises a number of heaters and pumps, and the

heaters pre-heat the condensate from the condensers before it passes to the boilers.

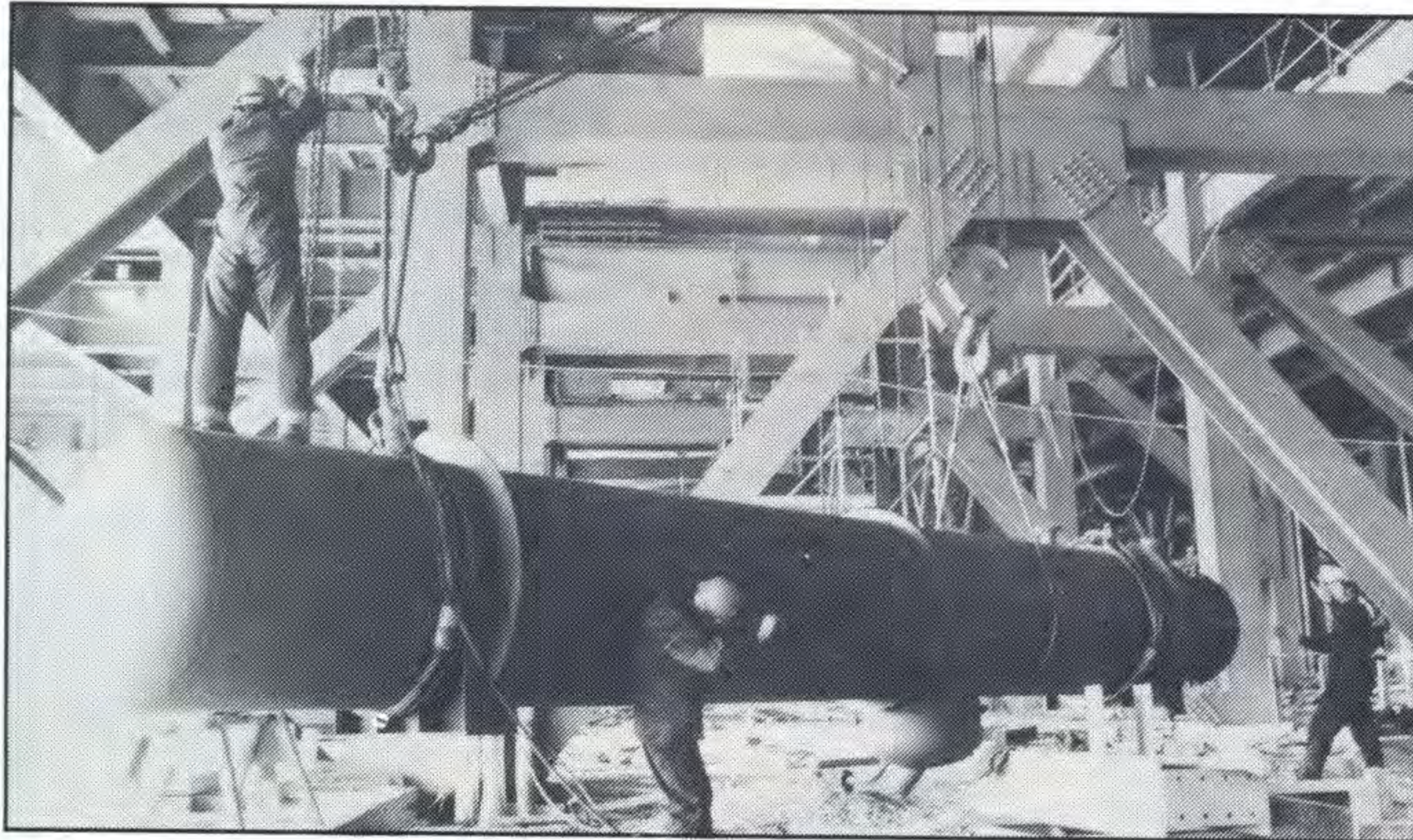
The heaters are located on either side of the condensers and are installed before the condensers, which block access once they are in place. All told there are 12 heaters — eight low pressure and four high pressure in unit two.

John said principle contractors, Brown Boveri were doing the work ahead of schedule.

"This gives the turbo generator plant a head start on the scheduled program," he said.

Brown Boveri are also placing the main lubricating oil tank, with a capacity of 20 000 litres, which acts as an enormous oil reservoir for the turbine. The tank is three metres in diameter, seven metres long and weighs 13 tonnes.

"This advanced work clears the path for the installation of unit two condenser and is assisting the Commission in reaching the scheduled first steam to turbine date in October 1983," John said.



## Pies, poetry and particular personalities

C.W. (Joe) Metcalf is a mechanical engineer by trade, but for the past six years he has been in charge of Yallourn main workshops canteen.

So he wasn't surprised when he returned from leave recently to find this sign suspended outside his "snack bar."

To him the sign was just the latest amusing incident in a series stretching back 44 years to the start of his Commission career.

"I think it's intriguing, and very professional. It's good to have a sense of humor because without it the world can be a very sad old place," he said.

During his service with the Commission Joe has gathered a large store of funny stories and chronicled them under the title, "The Characters I Was Privileged To Know."

It's crammed full of tales about Commission workers with colorful nicknames like Barney the Bull Tosser, Billy the Bull, Dasher Dann, the Whispering Baritone and Kanga Green.

One story concerns Bernard Bonnett (Barney the Bull Tosser) who apparently had a habit of cooking breakfast at work. One day the Workshops Superintendent of the time, Bill Hebb, came across him cooking a great fillet steak over a fire pot.

Asked what the hell he was doing Barney replied, "Well Mr. Hebb, as you know I am the best worker the Commission has ever had — in fact I should get two pays as I do the work of two men. If I don't keep my strength up how can I give the Commission my best?" This answer floored "Hebbie" who walked away shaking his head.



Above: John Cropley, Mick Donahue and Joe Metcalf with Joe's sign at the Yallourn main workshops canteen.

Another story, in the form of a poem, tells how Tommy (Kanga) Green came by his nickname.

It was in the late 1940's and Tommy came across an old man kangaroo giving some local dogs a real hiding near the Yallourn pump house. Being a dog lover he couldn't let the action continue so he grabbed a big stick and proceeded to teach the roo a lesson. Unfortunately for Tommy the roo had other ideas and he found himself on the receiving end.

Tom had his nose rubbed in the Latrobe River mud and by the time he staggered back to the workshops he was a sorry sight indeed.

"A sorry sight was Tommy  
the day he fought the roo  
for the cause of his condition  
no one had a clue  
and when they questioned  
Tommy  
in his sad and sorry state  
the only answer they received  
"he tried to drown me mate."

Eventually his workmates discovered that the culprit was the old man roo, and from that time on Tom was known as Kanga.

Joe has a lot of other tales to tell about his 44 years with the Commission. No doubt they will pass on into its folklore.

# Service Register

Commission staff and wages personnel who reached significant service milestones during December are included in this register

## 25 YEARS

John Hutchinson	Area Administration
Henry Heller	Yallourn W Power Station
Ian Slade	Stores, Morwell

## 30 YEARS

Henry Reid	Coal, Yallourn
Mervyn Aitken	Yallourn Power Station

## 31 YEARS

Robert Martin	Stations Section, Transmission Operations (LV) Coal, Yallourn Yallourn Power Station Hazelwood Power Station Yallourn W Power Station Civil Services, Yallourn Central Workshops, Yallourn Civil Services, Yallourn Coal, Morwell Hazelwood Power Station Yallourn Power Station Catering, Yallourn
Raymond Love	
Arthur Hill	
William Ducrow	
Eric Grant	
Frederick Meikle	
Joseph McEleney	
Donald Grant	
Jacob Van Boven	
Lewis Cilia	
Mariano Chetcuti	
Carmel Borg	

## 32 YEARS

Frederick Lloyd	Yallourn W Power Station
Carmel Cassar	Central Workshops, Yallourn
Angelo Cassar	Coal, Yallourn
Jack Wilson	Coal, Morwell
Alexander Leitch	Yallourn Power Station

## 33 YEARS

Athol Minster	Coal, Morwell
George Sherman	Coal, Yallourn
John McIntosh	Materials & Services Division
Vlades Kozeniauskas	Coal, Morwell
Bill Wood	Area Security, Secretarial
John Passey	Central Workshops, Yallourn
Maxwell Strong	Coal, Yallourn
Tady Nosowski	Coal, Morwell
Mychajlo Andryjczak	Yallourn W Power Station
Norm Foley	Area Security, Secretarial

## 34 YEARS

Bruce Coghlan	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
Donald Casey	Yallourn Power Station
Kevin Randall	Coal, Yallourn
Alfred Clarke	Operations Section, Transmission Operations (LV)
Thomas Grubb	Stations Section, Transmission Operations (LV)

## 35 YEARS

Lyall Horton	Coal, Yallourn
Gilbert McPhee	Tests and Communications, Transmission Services (LV)
Tom Oswald	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
Ronald Jessup	Distribution Lines, Yallourn

## 36 YEARS

John Morris	Operations Section, Transmission Operations (LV)
Ray Tate	Operations Section, Transmission Operations (LV)

## 37 YEARS

Keith Fletcher	Morwell Briquetting & Power
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## 39 YEARS

Aubrey Douglas	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
Robert Stevenson	Mechanical Services

## 40 YEARS

James Knowles	Coal, Headquarters
Les Barton	Secretarial
Robert Crookston	Coal, Yallourn
Douglas Amos	Yallourn Power Station
John Stevens	Coal, Yallourn

## 41 YEARS

Ronald Douglas	Yallourn Power Station
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## 43 YEARS

Charles Bowler	Electrical Workshops, Morwell
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## 44 YEARS

John Walker	Coal, Yallourn
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## 47 YEARS

Kenneth Crane	Stores, Yallourn
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## Historical cars, odds and ends display

Hazelwood Power Station lubrication attendant, Lloyd Savage's fascination with old cars had led him to a third term as president of the Gippsland Historical Automobile Club.

The club, with about 30 Commission employed members, recently held a two-day exhibition in conjunction with the Sale Rotary Club at the army drill hall in Sale. More than 1000 people attended the two day display which featured many items of historical interest as well as cars.

Lloyd said the weekend was a huge success. "We had 12 cars at the exhibition," Lloyd said. "The oldest vehicle exhibited was an 1898 three-wheeled De Dion tricycle powered by a 3.5 horsepower air-cooled

engine. It belongs to the Dennis family in Sale."

Lloyd said the club didn't concentrate on cars alone. "Among the numerous displays were examples of very old padlocks and rabbit traps. One girl was also demonstrating the age old craft of wool spinning," Lloyd said.

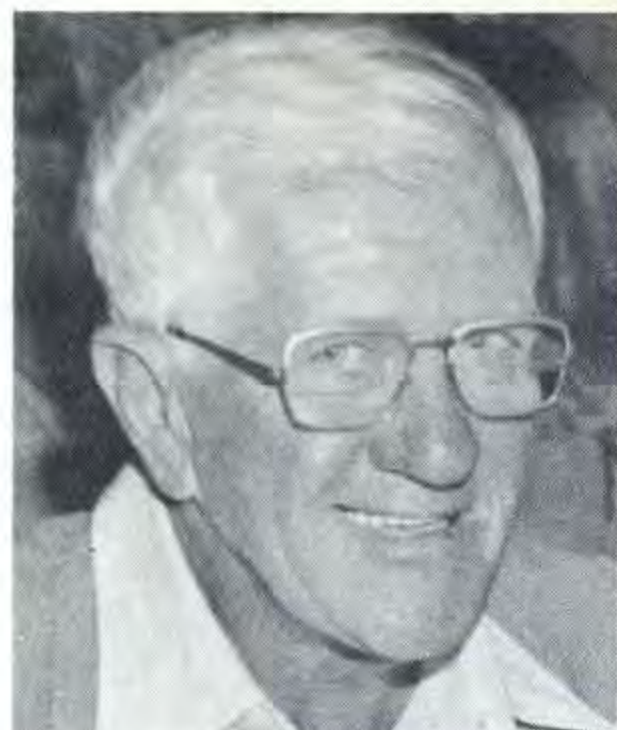
"Motorcycles are also quite popular. One chap had a 1924 belt driven Douglas."

Lloyd said the Commission had made available guard rails to protect the displays.

The club meets every second Tuesday of each month at its premises in Turners Lane, Morwell. Lloyd said anyone interested in joining or contributing equipment should contact him on 5427 or contact the club secretary, Jan Parniak, on 3200.



# retirements



**TOM KENNEDY**

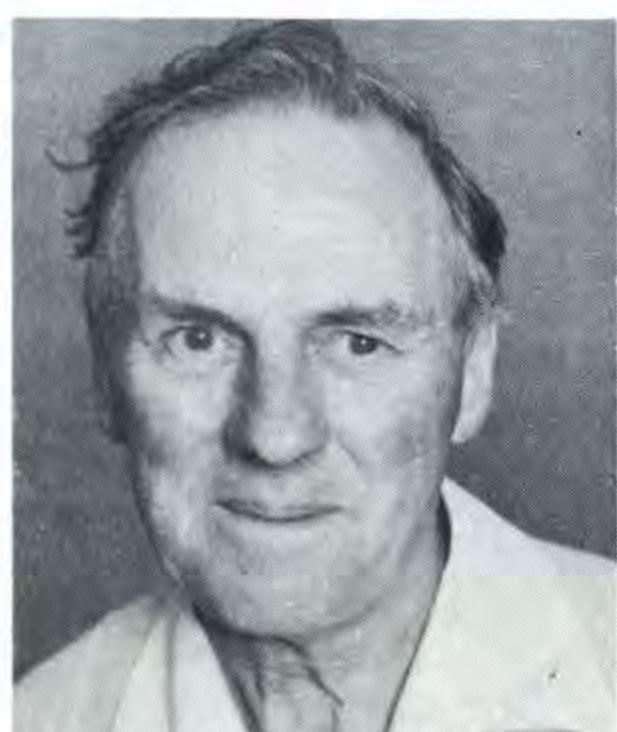
Tom Kennedy recently retired from the Commission after 34 years of service. Tom joined the Commission in 1947 as a clerk with Morwell Administration and retired from the Commission as Supplies Officer with Area Administration. Tom was presented with a fishing reel and a work bench by his workmates at a farewell function. His wife was also presented with a bouquet of flowers. Tom will spend much of his time concentrating on his fishing and photography.



**WALTER NUNN**

Walter Nunn recently retired from the Commission after more than 20 years service. He joined in 1961 as a cleaner at Yallourn Power Station, and retired from the position of rigger at Hazelwood Power Station.

Walter was presented with a fishing rod, reel and tackle at a farewell held at the Morwell Golf Club. He will now be able to devote considerably more time to his hobby of breeding and showing Pomeranian dogs.



**JIMMY ANDERSON**

Indoor and outdoor bowling and fishing are interests that will keep Jimmy Anderson busy in his retirement. He joined in 1961 as a Trades Assistant and retires from the position of Mobile Crane Driver, Central Workshops, Morwell, Mechanical Services Division, Engineering Services. Colleagues wish him well in his retirement.



**RAY CLEMPSON**

Gardening, coin collecting and fishing are interests Ray Clempson plans to continue in his retirement. Ray also plans to spend more time at his Lake Tyers holiday home and is planning a world trip. Ray joined the Commission in 1957 as a Boilermaker, Workshops, Morwell and retires from the position of Welder, Coal Production, Morwell. A gathering of workmates was held to farewell Ray.



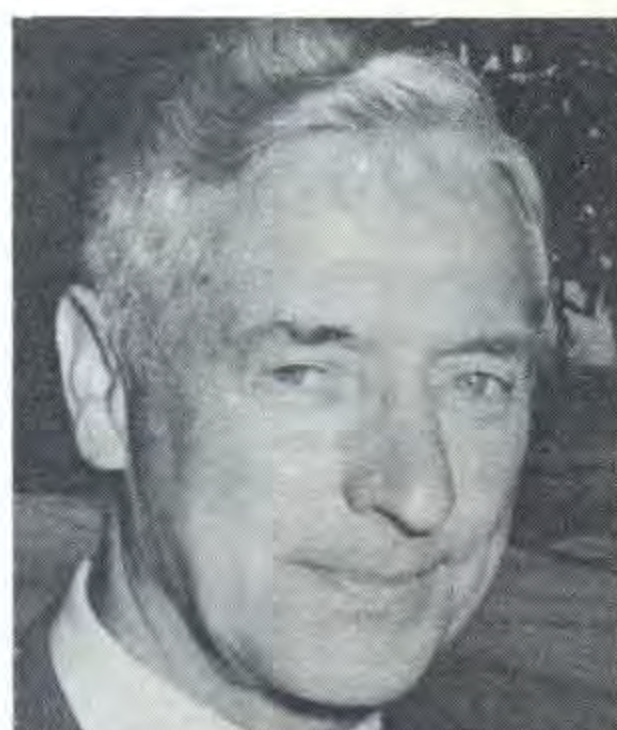
**MATT DALEY**

At an afternoon tea presentation Matt Daley was presented with an electric barbecue and planer. Matt is planning to do some caravanning and to spend more time on his bowls. He joined the Commission in 1945 as a Fitter at the Workshops, Yallourn. He retired on October 16 from the position of Machinist, Central Workshops, Yallourn, Engineering Services.



**DICK SHANAHAN**

Dick Shanahan retired from the Commission on October 7 after more than 28 years of service. He joined in 1952 at Newport and retires from the position of Operator, Hazelwood Power Station. He has also worked as a Trades Assistant, Trimmer and Electrical Plant Attendant. Colleagues presented him with a wallet of notes and wish him well in his retirement.



**FRED ROLLINGS**

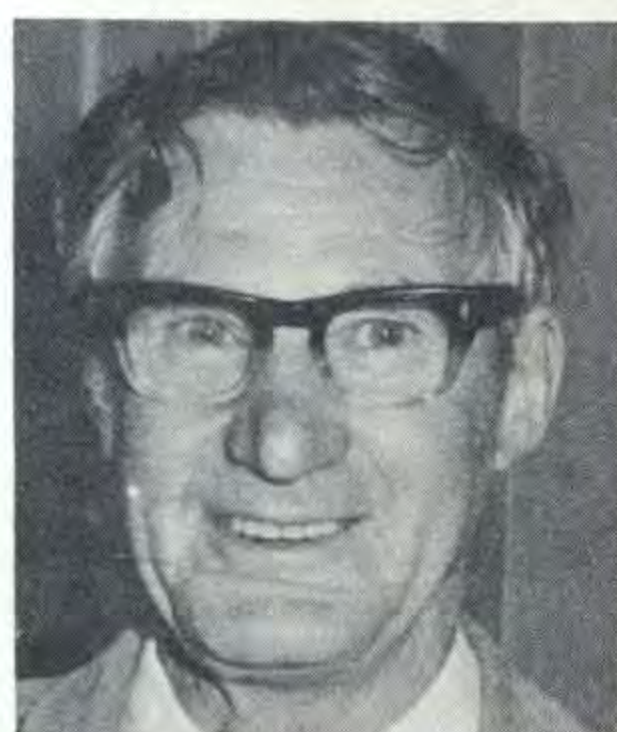
After 32 years of service with the Commission, Fred Rollings retired from the position of Consigning Officer, Briquette Distribution Section, Morwell Briquetting and Power Division, Power Generation. Fred joined in 1949 as a Laboratory Assistant at Yallourn power station. Colleagues farewelled Fred with a lunch-time presentation and later a counter tea. He was presented with a cassette/radio and a wallet and a cheque. Fred plans to spend more time on his golf.



**STAN ELLIS**

At a farewell lunch Stan Ellis was presented with a barometer and wallet and a pendant for his wife. Stan plans some touring trips and some work at home.

He joined in 1940 as a Laborer with Coal Transport and has worked as a Greaser, Loco Driver and Traffic Control Operator. He retired on November 29 from the position of Foreman, Yallourn Open Cut, Coal Production.



**GEOFF LANCASTER**

After more than 20 years of service Geoff Lancaster retired from the position of Control Centre Attendant, Morwell open cut, Coal Production. Geoff joined the Commission in 1960 as a Laborer at Morwell open cut. He plans to spend more time fishing and at his Lake Tyers block of land. Colleagues wish him well in his retirement.



**LES GRAHAM**

At an afternoon farewell Les Graham was presented with fishing gear. Les is planning a trip to New Zealand and is also a keen fisherman, golfer and gardener. He joined the Commission in 1949 as a Camp Orderly at Accommodation Services, Yallourn. He retired on November 6 from the position of Storeman, Yallourn, Engineering Services.

## Social club golf day a big hit

The Transmission Social Club team took out the Clem Joyce Shield teams event at the Annual Latrobe Valley Association of SEC Social Clubs golf tournament played at Yallourn Golf Club.

Team members were Ivan Harris, Dave Westie, Jock Morris and Bob Scorse.

About 140 players competed in what was considered a most successful event.

Results —

Men's Scratch 27 holes, Terry Jones, 74+38+112; men's 'A' grade handicap 27 holes, Col Dixon, 72+31½+103½; men's 'B' grade handicap 27 holes, Tony Azzopardi, 70+33½=103½; men's 'C' grade handicap 27 holes, Bosco Magazinovic, 69+31=100; men's 'D' grade handicap 18 holes, Gil McPhee, 94-29=65; men's 'A' grade handicap 18 holes A.M., Ken Flanigan 81-13=68; men's 'B' grade handicap 18 holes A.M., Dave Westie 81-16=65; men's 'C' grade handicap 18 holes A.M., Jack Embry, 95-25=70.

Men's 'D' grade handicap A.M., best 9 in or out, B. Reid, 45-13½=31½; men's 'A' grade handicap 9 holes



Above: Sponsor W. D. & H. O. Wills representative Geoff McKean presents Terry Jones, an engineer with the Field Works Group, Civil Works, with the men's scratch 27 holes trophy.

P.M., Graham Seabourne, 40-5½=34; men's 'B' grade handicap 9 holes P.M., Eddy Whelan, 39-72½=31½; men's 'C' grade handicap 9 holes P.M., Ernie Seabourne, 46-12=34; men's 'D' grade handicap 9 holes P.M., Phil Brown, 50-14½=35½.

Womens scratch 18 holes, Joan Goldie, 83; women's 'A' grade handicap 18 holes, Gwen Gretton, 93-20=73; women's 'B' grade handicap 18 holes, Norma Hutchinson, 85-30=55; women's 'A' best 9 holes handicap out, Carol Boyce, 46-10½=35½; women's 'B' best 9

holes handicap out, Joan Belt, 48-15=33; women's 'A' best 9 holes handicap in, Ann Poelsma, 44-10½=35; women's 'B' best 9 holes handicap in, Bev McPhee, 47-13½=33½.

Bradman Trophy — D. Brew, 123+63=186.

Long drive, men — Phil Watts.

Long drive, women — Dot Witchell.

Nearest the pin — Men: 5th Phil Jones, 7th Hugh McGreevy, 12th T. Darling, 17th Gus Whelan.

Women: 5th Joan Goldie, 7th June Blackwood, 12th Barbra Davis.

## New reserve sees first match

Cricketing confrontations have been very much in vogue recently so it was inevitable that sooner or later we would witness one in the Latrobe Valley.

It took place shortly after noon on Saturday, November 28 as a prelude to the first sports event to be played on the George Bates Reserve in Howletts Road, Yallourn North.

The new oval which replaces Yallourn No. 1 oval, has been provided as part of the program of relocation of major Yallourn community facilities throughout the Latrobe Valley. George Bates, former Area Administration Manager, was chairman of the Yallourn Resettlement Committee.

George, now the Loy Yang Project

Manager, bowled the first ball on the new oval and facing him with the bat was Narracan Shire President, Cr. George Hammond who took a lusty swing, missed and was struck on the legs just outside the line of the stumps.

The inaugural match at the ground was between Yallourn/Yallourn North and Willow Grove.

Willow Grove won, scoring 7-169 to Yallourn/Yallourn North's 9-140.

Graham Freshwater, Coal Operations Superintendent, Morwell, and Yallourn/Yallourn North vice-captain said the new oval already had the best surface of any ground in the local competition.

"I think it's an excellent replacement for No. 1 oval, and it can only improve," he said.

