



AROUND THE GRAVES

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Recollections of William Bruton

Just before his death on 19 February 1930, **William Henry Bruton** (CofC "35" 41) published a delightful book titled "Local History. Carrum to Cheltenham." Many of the names mentioned are buried in the Pioneer Cemetery.

"The first I remember of Mordialloc was as a small boy being taken into the residence of the Chinese and being supplied with a bowl of rice and honey, with chop-sticks. My father, **Thomas Bruton** (CofC "A" 90) was paid £1 a ton for cartage to Melbourne, from whence most of the Chinese, I think went to the diggings. **Robert Owens** (CofE "E" 84) and Harry Evans also hauled in a great many of these fish, which they sold at £2 per ton for land fertilization. The oldest resident of Mordialloc, otherwise than the blacks, was a **Mr. (Alexander) McDonald** (Pres "A" 44), of the village settlement, part of whose business it was to supply the blacks with blankets and other things. (Later) a general store was opened by **Owens** (q.v.) and **Mr. (Peter) Saunders** (Meth "A" 3) kept the Post Office. **Mr. (John) Hitchen** (CofE "E" 156) opened a butcher's shop and supplied meat to the district, which **Mr. (Alfred) Lambert** (Meth "31" 37) started a baker's business.

From Mentone to Mundy's estate was just scrub and forest—ti-tree was unknown at that time. There we find a number of old pioneers: Messrs. **Mundy** (Meth "E" 136-137), **Ross** (CofE "E" 145-146), **Hillier**, **Beaton**, **Caton** (CofE "E" 82), **Teagle** (CofE "E" 140), three **Gomm's** [sic] (CofE "E" 101, CofE "E" 140 & 142) and **Woff** (Meth "E" 138-139).

Opposite the smithy in Cheltenham lived **Mr. Frank Spears** (CofE "8" 45), who was cheered so much for his humorous songs in times past: 'He's got 'em on, He's got 'em on, Don't he do it nobby.

He's got 'em on, Oh! Hasn't he got them on.' About this locality were orchards and gardens, maintained by those great old pioneers: Messrs. **Dockery**, **Davey Cochrane** (Pres "A" 11-12), **McCallum**, **Barnes**, **Barber** (CofE "E" 170-171), **Tilley** (CofE "E" 196-197 & 222-223), **Wedd** (CofE "E" 104-105), **Kelley** [sic-Kelly] (RC "F" 1-2), **Macky** [sic-Mackey] (RC "F" 3-4) and **Brooks** (CofE "E" 190). The place, bounded by Chesterville, Main Centre Dandenong, Moorabbin roads and Keys Lane was purchased about the early fifties by Mr. Holloway...and was called 'Two Acre Village.' The settlers here must have been the first pick from somewhere such a fine lot, the men and women all were. The place was soon turned into orchards, gardens, potato patches, horticultural sections and vineyards. The first public men I know of were: Messrs. **Robert Keys** (CofE "D" 6-8), **Potts**, **Jamieson** [sic-Jamison] (Meth "A" 7-9), **McCarthy**, **Attenborough** (CofE "E" 258-259), **Mundy** (q.v.), **Rouse**, **Comport** (CofE "E" 246-247), **John Keys** and **Bodley** (CofC "A" 24-26), all long ago passed away.

In the early fifties a number of business places were established, a general store being opened by **Mr. (Robert) Trail** (Pres "A" 9-10), for men's and boys' clothing; fashions for ladies; Holloway's pills and ointment, Saxby's almanac, cutlery, iron ware, pots and pans, crockeryware, horse feed, general groceries, brown sugar, green kerosene and a barrel of very salt fish at the door. About 10 p.m. the shutters were put up, barred and locked. Mr. Trail kept this business going for many years, until his decease (sic). A wheelwright and blacksmith business was started by Mr. Dwight, **Mr. (Frank) Collie** [sic-Colley] (RC "C" 13) being the smith. **Mr. (William) Griffiths** (Pres "B" 33) supplied all with bread at a lower rate than has since been charged."

(Source: Bruton, W., "Local History. Carrum to Cheltenham" (1930))



above:
Grave of David Cochrane—
Pres "A" 11-12



above:
Gravesite of William Bruton—
CofC "35" 41 at the Cheltenham
Pioneer Cemetery



above:

The original councillors of the Carrum Borough Shire who were elected on 10 July 1920.

(back, left to right) J. James, H. Rigby, W. Stephens, F. Guy
(front) H. Richardson, H. Hunter, F. Groves, E. Williams, W. Oliver.

(Photo courtesy Chelsea and District Historical Society Inc.)

The Original Councillors...

Between 1917 and 1920, separation was all the rage with the formation of the Sandringham, Carrum and Mentone & Mordialloc Borough Shires. Local men of standing sought election and a number are buried in the Cheltenham cemeteries.

Sandringham—12 April 1917

Sandringham Ward: B Champion (469 votes), H B Grace (367), **Edgar BELYEA** (304) (CofE “347” 8, Memorial Park). Others: **Ernest SOFFA** (257) (RC “139” 4, Memorial Park), J E Jewell (195), **Alfred SMALL** (152) (CofE “45” 37, Pioneer Cemetery).

Hampton Ward: **Benjamin FERDINANDO** (380 votes) (CofE “50” 2, Pioneer Cemetery), T G Farrant (365), C A Hartsman (248). Other: **Henry ANSTEE** (168) (Meth “39” 16, Memorial Park).

Black Rock Ward: **William KELLY** (345 votes) (CofE “47” 22, Pioneer Cemetery), F W Hearnden (340), G W Knott (251). Other: C T D Beck (242).

Carrum—10 July 1920

North Ward: H J Richardson (263 votes), **Frank GROVES** (188) (CofE “B” 48, Pioneer Cemetery), H A Hunter (188). Other: F J Funston (135).

Central Ward: J James (212 votes), W G Oliver (177), E P Williams (150). Others: (**George**) **Roy BEARDSWORTH** (144) (CofE “54” 2, Pioneer Cemetery), W McGarry (143), A C Hanland (119), J Smith (104), **William ROWE** (91) (CofE “98” 6, Memorial Park).

South Ward: **William STEPHENS** (138 votes) (poss Meth “55” 46, Memorial Park), **Hugh RIGBY** (117) (CofC “93” 14, Pioneer Cemetery), F Guy (103). Others: G Jones (87), R A Colenso (86), A Priestly (69).

Mentone and Mordialloc—10 July 1920

Mentone Ward: **John SIBTHORPE** (214 votes) (CofE “77” 17, Memorial Park), J J Rogers (199), H C Edwards (195). Others H Smart (174), **George DOWNE** (168) (CofE “5” 25, Pioneer Cemetery), J T Denyer (119).

Parkdale Ward: **Charles IMES** (124 votes) (CofE “102” 23, Memorial Park), J Blanche (111), F Kroger (107). Others: **George PEPPER** (80) (Pres “156” 18, Memorial Park), J Wild (78), **Robert MARRIOTT** (75) (CofC “42” 20, Pioneer Cemetery), **Thomas PARKES** (64) (CofC “38” 1, Pioneer Cemetery).

Mordialloc Ward: R G Cornall (151 votes), **James GILMOUR** (148) (CofC “20” 13, Memorial Park), W H Bradshaw (126). Others: **Frank NICHOLSON** (99) (poss Meth “16” 40, Pioneer Cemetery), **Thomas CONNARD** (99) (CofE “94” 12, Pioneer Cemetery), **Hiriam PHILLIPS** (79) (Meth “28” 33, Pioneer Cemetery). (Source: *The Argus* 13 Apr 1917 p11, 12 Jul 1920 p8)



above:

This rare sandstone monument by “Marsh, Grout & Simmonds” of King Street, Melbourne goes back to 1866 when in the space of three months, Sarah Francis and her husband William both died. William Francis was an early Cheltenham storekeeper. Their death notices published in *The Argus* are believed to be the first for the Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery.

The headstone, located at CofE “E” 229 reads:

“Sacred / to / the memory of / Sarah / the beloved wife of / William Francis / of Cheltenham / who entered into her rest / April 15. 1866 / aged 39 years. / blessed are the dead that die in the Lord / also the above / William Francis / died July 25. 1866 / aged 43 years. / emigravit”