the Dry Stone Walls association of Australia inc.

The Flag Stone

Issue No. 8, September 2006

Patron: Sir James Gobbo ABN 31 721 856 687 Newsletter Editor: Charmian Brent

August field trip to Daylesford and surrounds

by Louise Manifold

Lawrence Righetti

Maurie Dynon

Clare Gervasoni

Dry stone walls and structures have a beauty and form that can stand alone. However, they can also bear witness to the geology, the history and to the stories of the area where they have been built. In this way, they can carry far more than the original attraction of their shape and construction.

With this in mind members and friends of the DSWAA met by Lake Daylesford on the morning of 12 August, for the bimonthly field trip. The itinerary looked inviting; a visit in the morning to two farms still owned by the descendants of the original settlers, lunch at the Guildford pub, ending up in the Castlemaine Diggings national park to look at a 'Miner's Right'. Interspersed amongst this would be talks on the local history, geology and culture of the area.

Lawrence Righetti mending a dry stone wall on his farm at Yandoit

Our first stop was the farm settled by the Righetti family in 1854. In the shadow of some of the stone walls built by his forebears Lawrence Righetti told us of his family's journey out here from the canton of Ticino in Switzerland, driven by the lure of gold and the political instability on the Swiss/Italian border. They settled in the Daylesford area near Yandoit, clearing the land, and using the cleared stone and timber to construct the buildings and walls that were still there today. He spoke of their battle against drought, the rabbit problem, the light soil, how they ran cattle and sheep, made butter and cheese, and looked after the land, as Lawrence still does, demonstrated by his close association with the local Landcare group run by Maurie Dynon.

We then visited Maurice Gervasoni, close by, a descendant of the Gervasoni brothers who came from Lombardy in northern Italy and settled in the area in the 1860s. Here, again,

Maurice Gervasoni playing his button accordion and singing Italian folk songs

DSWAA members on the Gervasoni farm; remnant walls from vineyards on hillside

Some more websites you may like to visit

www.rbgsyd.gov.au; www.pierreseche.net
www.stonefoundation.org
www.dswac.ca

amongst the stone walls topped with flat coping stones covered in lichen , stone dwellings and out buildings built with mud pizet and stone, Maurice told us about his forebears, how they planted grape vines and orchards with peach, pear, plum, chestnut and walnut trees. The outline of the original vineyards could still be seen on the hillside, outlined by stone walls and hawthorn in blossom. They also planted olive trees, and made their own cheese in underground cellars, along with their own wine and sausages.

In the midst of these memories, Maurice played his button accordion; Italian waltzes and tunes that had been handed down through his family for generations, haunting tunes that drifted through the gum trees and the stones, the buildings and walls that resonated with his Lombardy heritage.

Lunch followed at the Guildford pub, a splendid never ending feast of wood fired pizzas. As we ate and drank, geologist Clive Willman expanded our sense of time by explaining how the area round Daylesford had developed geologically from Gondwanaland to the present, through volcanic eruptions, erosion, and the movements of continents, thus providing the raw materials, the stone, for the human settlements that would follow. Claire Gervasoni, a descendant of the Gervasoni family and local historian, followed on from this with an overview of the Swiss Italian settlers and the culture, the food, the music, the stories, the flavour they brought from their homeland.

Digesting this, along with our pizzas and wine, we entered another layer of the district's history, that of the goldfields. We met up with David Bannear from Parks Victoria at the site of the stone and brick 1869 Duke of Cornwall engine house in the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park and then travelled on to the Herons Reef 'Miners Right' further into the forest.

He spoke to us about the goldrush, the miners and the contribution they made to the development of Victoria before we explored the 'miners right'. a quarter acre block given by right to gold miners after 1861. This was a single room stone cottage set in its quarter-acre, bounded by dry stone walls. Fallen trees and the collapsed walls of a building outside the 'miners right' bore testament to how long it had been since someone had lived here, although a man called Foxy and his horse, Maud, were apparently still in residence during the 1950s. As we finished up with tea and damper Mandy Jean from Heritage Victoria rounded out the day with a discussion on the role of women in the goldfields.

And so, by the end of the day we had come to see how landscape both shapes and is shaped by the people who live there. First, the geological landscape provides the building materials, the stone for the walls, the soil, and, in this case, the gold that fashioned the lives of the people who came here. However, it was these people, from the original inhabitants, the Djadjawurrung people, through to the European settlers and the miners in search of their fortune who gave human form to this same landscape with the culture and history, the skills, knowledge and hope they brought with them. The stonewalls that we saw, including the ones that Lawrence Righetti still builds and maintains are testament to this endeavour.

Thanks must be given to the following: Lawrence Righetti; Maurice Gervasoni; Claire Gervasoni; Maurie Dynon; Clive Willman; Mandy Jean and David Bannear.

David Bannear describes the Castlemaine Diggings and Herons Reef

Above: the miner's cottage at Heron's Reef, occupied until the 1950s
Below: a culvert in the miner's right quarter-acre block's surrounding dry stone wall

Mandy Jean talks about the role of women on the goldfields as DSWAA members enjoy fresh-baked damper and billy tea courtesy of the Parks Victoria rangers

President's Message

DSWAA President Jim Holdsworth.

Greetings!

Those of you who attended our Inaugural Dinner on Saturday 27 May at Werribee Park Mansion will agree that it was a most enjoyable evening. More than 100 people were treated to fine food in a magnificent setting, an inspirational speech by our guest speaker Simon Molesworth, and the lively conversations that occur when groups of people with a common interest come together. The attendance of the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser and Mrs de Kretser gave the evening a special flavour, and the hard work of many members of the DSWAA in organising the Dinner ensured that it was a success.

In the following weeks I received expressions of appreciation from many of our invited guests from government and business whose commitment to the future of dry stone walls we were keen to establish. These contacts must now be capitalised upon.

The Committee which was elected at the Annual General Meeting in June is now working to reinforce the success of the Dinner and to chart the course for the DSWAA over the coming two years.

At the Inaugural Dinner, the Governor, Professor David De Kretser (centre) poses with the DSWAA Committee; Mrs De Kretser is at the back in the centre.

If the term of the previous Committee could be summed up as one of establishment of the DSWAA and the setting of its Strategic & Business Plan, the theme for the coming two years is one of securing the retention and protection of dry stone walls and structures. To do this, we need to turn the often high level of ignorance about the value of walls that exists among many property owners, governments and the wider community into recognition of these values and a commitment to the maintenance and preservation of walls.

To achieve a wider level of appreciation and maintenance, it is clear to me that we need more qualified and experienced wallers who can work with property owners, and we need government support, both statutory and financial.

On Saturday 2 September I attended the Management Meeting of the Dry Stone Walling Association (DSWA) of Great Britain, at their national headquarters in Cumbria in England's Lake District. As is explicit in their name, the DSWA concentrates on walling; that is, the training of wallers, the maintenance of existing walls and the construction of new ones. DSWA's focus is not on survey or statutory protection of existing walls (of which it is estimated there are about 200,000 km in the UK) but on ensuring that there are enough skilled practitioners and a high level of community awareness to ensure those walls are maintained.

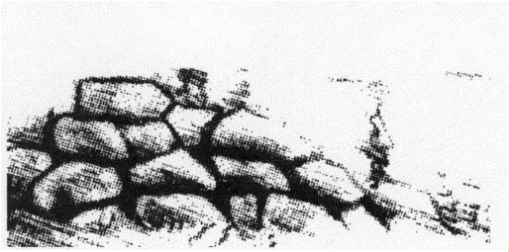
Walls in the Lake District, UK

Listening to the discussions of the DSWA Committee reinforced in my mind that the craft of walling and the elementary training of wall owners are areas where our DSWAA needs to be more active, and these are two of several topics that your Committee will be pursuing vigorously over coming months.

Another priority is for the DSWAA to have a formal presence outside Victoria. I am excited that our October General Meeting will be held in Oatlands, in the southern midlands of Tasmania, an area rich in dry stone walls and the home of a number of enthusiastic wall owners and builders.

Our meeting will be a feature of Oatlands' Spring Festival and tours of local walls are planned for DSWAA members who attend that meeting as part of the weekend's activities. A special meeting is scheduled, at which we will meet with representatives of local and State governments to discuss and, hopefully, agree on setting up a Tasmanian branch of DSWAA.

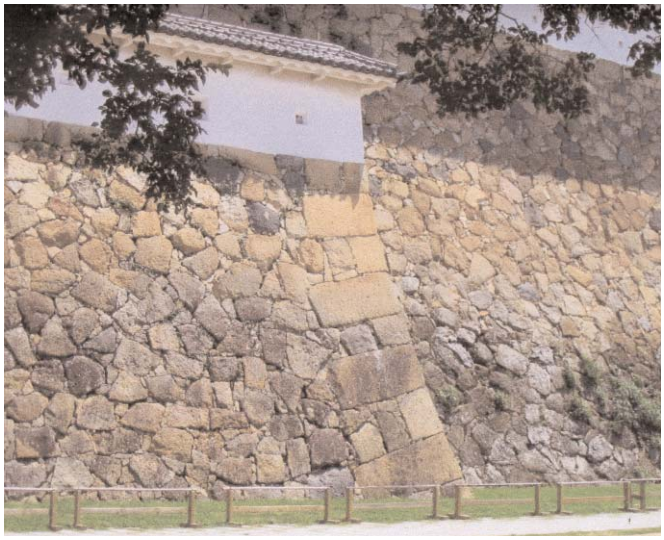
In my report to the Annual General Meeting in June I said that, while our Statement of Purposes contains many objectives, we cannot hope to achieve them all overnight. We are, quite reasonably, limited in what we do and how quickly we achieve it by the capacity and willingness of the membership. This is the way it is with voluntary organisations. I also said that our main goal for the life of the new Committee, for the period to June 2008, should be to put in place the means whereby those dry stone walls and other structures that are shown to be an intrinsic part of our nation's heritage, culture, landscape and artistic expression, can be preserved and revered. If we can achieve this goal, our efforts in establishing the DSWAA will be worthwhile.



Gathering Stones...

Sixteenth century walls in Japan

Bill Birch, the Guest Speaker from our AGM, has just returned from Japan and sent this photo taken at Himeji Castle. Dating from the sixteenth century, the Japanese built dry stone walls to face natural slopes or tamped earth platforms and they were laid at great cost to labour, time and often lives. Stones were moved huge distances, often hauled by water from other islands and around the Inland Sea. The stones are large unshaped boulders with smaller stones fitted between, boulders chipped to size and shape, or so-called cut stones. The latter are rectangular ashlars, which were laid in alternate lengths at the corners and shaped to make a convex but flattened curve towards the moat.



Himeji Castle, Japan

Does anybody know the answer?

'I bumped into this woman (Susan Hodson) while shopping and she overheard me mention the DSWAA. She said she had some walls in her backyard in Canterbury, but that they had no copestones. It would be interesting to see if they are Edna Walling's – Raelene Marshall. Note from the ADB: 'The gardens Edna Walling (1896-1973) created typically exhibited a strong architectural character. For wealthy clients, her designs included grand architectural features –walls, pergolas, stairs, parterres, pools and colonnades – woven into a formal geometry; but she always found a space for a 'wild' (unstructured) section. For clients with more modest means, Walling's approach was more relaxed, relying on curving lawns and garden beds to give the illusion of greater space. But rarely were there no stone walls or other structural features. Whether the garden was big or small, she created a succession of 'pictures'. Her handling of space, contour, level and vista was brilliant. Equally impressive was her mastery of plants and their visual and ecological relationships. Her gardens, no matter how formal, were clothed by a soft and consistent palette of plants.

Could this be an Edna Walling wall in a garden in Canterbury?

Keeping the Swiss Italian connection alive

Donatella Murtas, from the Ecomuseo in Cortemilia Italy, whom DSWAA's Raelene Marshall met at the 9th International Dry Stone Walling Congress in Greece, has been in touch with a view to pursuing joint funding proposals to enable the travelling exhibition *A Stone Upon A Stone* to be exhibited in Italy in 2007. The Ecomuseo is in the process of building an International Dry Stone Centre and is collecting different materials from all over the world. Raelene is currently organising to send Australian publications to be included in its collection. www.ecomuseodeiterrazzamenti.it

Stop Press

At the Committee meeting on 9 September, it was agreed to alter the current timetable of general meetings, field trips and Committee meetings. The Committee has a large number of tasks, and the aim is to provide more time for subcommittees to do their work, while focusing on two field trips each year, plus a major event such as a dinner, a forum or some other annual gathering. The AGM will continue to be held in June. Committee meetings, open to the general membership, will occur in conjunction with these quarterly events. This should streamline our administrative activity and enhance the quality of our public events.

Whetting our appetites for the next field trip to Oatlands, Tasmania in October

Picture taken near Ross, showing a small remnant wall with interesting timber inserts

2006 Field Trips and Meetings

Calendar of Dates for your Diary

Month	Date	Location
October	14	Oatlands, Tasmania.

Stones

by Gael Shannon

In southern Switzerland the mountains are gigantic lumps of granite, and in the quarries they take out immense blocks and saw or slice them down for everything – granite fence posts, granite vine poles, granite verandah posts, gravestones, fences, walls and roofs.

The houses are built from stone; the villas might be rendered and often embellished with decorative plasterwork or a simple wall painting. The walls go up in stone, the window ledge and the lintels are granite blocks, and when the wall height is reached, the timbering goes on for the roof, big poles to support the weight of the split stone roof, beautifully shingled into slates.

This is the tradition from which Italian-speakers came to our goldfields, the northern Italians and the Ticinese from southern Switzerland. First they travelled to England from where they caught the boat to take them to opportunities that Australia offered. Before gold was widely discovered in Australia, the first two Ticinese to migrate directly to Melbourne 1851 were both stonemasons, Giovanni Battista Giovannini and Giovanni Palla. Traditionally able to quarry and work with stone, many Italian speakers were successful as miners or stonemasons in Australia.

Carlo Sartori and his eldest son Pietro travelled here with his cousin, telling his wife and nine children: 'Need forces me to make these efforts. Please be brave and don't grieve, for I'm going with high hopes.' By 1856, some had been successful enough on the diggings that they repaid considerable loans to the commune in Ticino. The first work they did was mining, digging vertical shafts and horizontal drives to locate the environment where gold might be found.

The Pozzis and Sartoris had a hole at Deep Creek. Albino Paganetti perated the district's longest tunnel, the Long Tunnel mine, which earned him a fine house and 10 hectare vineyard: 'In 1857 they sank a shaft through rock in the big hill (above Daylesford) and drove a tunnel in. From then on it was known as Italian Hill. …All the Signori lived on Italian Hill. They had solid houses made of stone, big gardens and fields of potatoes, vines and vegetables.'

Within a few years, goldseekers could get land on their Miners Right. In the 1860s the government encouraged the settlement of small properties exploring the growing of food crops. There were smallholders, winemakers, dairymen and bakers, pasta- and sausage-makers; these Italians and Swiss were from the mountains and knew how to grow their food in difficult soil and in a cold climate.

In the local stone they built rustica, clusters of farm buildings (homestead, barn, dairy or buttery, cellar and cobbled floors, walls or fences). They collected stones that littered the fields and with them built walls.

There's no granite in the Daylesford area– except in the ill-fated intrusion at the Iron Spring in the Springs reserve (there granite dolmans were brought in by some modern day Obelix and dumped so carelessly on the spring that the source has moved)! Here we have volcanic basalt, and sandstone, some slate…The basalt is of two types: first the round heavy stone up to 30 cm in diameter found on grey clayey country, forcing up through the soil, moving in the soil. It is associated with the deep lead from the bridge at Yandoit to the Mt Franklin cemetery (same Lower Pleistocene gravels found at Sailors Falls)

Round heavy basalt stone was used to build this wall on the Righetti farm at Yandoit

Then there is the light airy stone, good building stone with a square face, nice to handle. It originated in the last volcanic flow from Mt Franklin 300,000–400,000 years ago and is found on the basalt ground from Franklinford and Yandoit bridge to Clydesdale. In association with grey slate and shale, you see these stones in farm walls to the north and in buildings out that way.

In Hepburn you're more likely to see sandstone from the reefs. What is now Lavandula sits on a prehistoric island once surrounded by swamp. Sands became sandstone, and you can now see there a protruding north-south sandstone reef.

Isidoro Rodoni, a stonemason from Biasca and builder (built Breakneck Gorge bridge), also mined and cut wood and had a dairy farm at Shepherds Flat. The barn he built is now part of Lavandula, and his name is carved at the foot of the north wall.

Andy Williams who's done the building at Lavandula says, 'Laying bricks is monotonous. But you have to think about where each stone goes. At first it's just like a jigsaw and you pick stones up seven times, then it clicks and you can see them and place a stone just right. You develop the eye, but you need patience…and for the old Italian look you use bits of other stuff – old concrete, a bit of bluestone…'

My passion for stone is fanned regularly by field trips taken with the DSWAA.

Sandstone from the reefs was used to build this wall on the Gervasoni farm at Yandoit

Dry stone walls of the western volcanic plains

by Josie Black OAM

Wall with flat copestones at Noorat

The most numerous and impressive networks of dry stone walls in Australia are found on the western volcanic plains of Victoria. The walls, most of which are on private property, are beautifully crafted and have functional, aesthetic and heritage value. They provide a blend of the natural and cultural history of the region and contribute to its special look and atmosphere.

Few could pass through the region without realizing their impact on the landscape. In some places, in the Stony Rises at Pomborneit and at Kolora north west of Mount Noorat, they dominate it. In fact some of the walls look as though they have always been there; looking so natural and in harmony with the environment. The walls in the Stony Rises are of national significance in terms of quantity, style, heritage, skill and empathy with the landscape.

The western plains of Victoria comprise one of the world's great basalt plains. The volcanic activity which has shaped the landscape, that is generally flat except for the volcanic cones, occurred in the relatively recent past, between 20,000 and 4,000 years ago. These volcanic cones as well as crater lakes were the result of volcanic activity which provided the natural materials for the walls.

The eruption sites most visible are Mount Elephant, Mount Noorat, Mt Leura and Mt Porndon. Hollows in the basalt surface have resulted in the formation of numerous crater lakes including two particularly scenic lakes, Bullen Merri and Gnotuk near Camperdown. Other lakes found in the district were formed when lava flows blocked the valleys of streams and Lake Corangamite, the largest in Victoria, is one of these.

The natural landscape was given new form and function by the immigrants who began arriving in the region in the middle of the nineteenth century. Realising the fertility of the volcanic plains, they set about clearing the land first of natural vegetation and then of surface stone in order that they could introduce stock and grow crops. In the process of clearing the land and preparing for stock, first sheep and then cattle, fences had to be built. The stone cleared from the ground provided the earliest building material for fences. Building stone fences was an economic and practical way to utilise the stone cleared from the land.

Today the dry stone walls of the Plains are still performing the same functions for which they were built over 100 years ago. They create enclosures, provide boundaries between public and private land, subdivide properties, protect cultivated paddocks, livestock, homesteads, crops and act as barriers against fires as well offering protection from the elements. They also provide an ideal habitat for small fauna and flora.

Although there is evidence of dry stone walling in the 1840s, most of the enduring stone fences in the region were built after the gold rush, in 1870s and 1880s when many labourers returned from the diggings without a fortune. This coincided with the Land Acts of 1862, resulting in large holdings being divided up for closer settlement which needed to be fenced in a more permanent way. Around volcanic cones, dry stone walls were carefully constructed, so that paddocks could be enclosed and cleared of stone in one operation. Up until this time the squatters employed shepherds and stockmen to watch their flocks and herds, or used timber to build post-and-rail fences or simple brush fences. Stone fences were a sign of tenure, security and investment in the future.

From the 1870s, many pastoralists began to rebuild earlier walls in an attempt to make their properties rabbit-proof. Several construction techniques were used: overhanging copestones, wooden slats projecting under the copestones, wire stretching out from the top of the wall, trenches about a metre deep, plugging of holes in the wall to prevent the rabbits colonising the walls, and even asymmetrical walls with stepping stones up one side and a sheer wall on the other.

The Rabbit Wall built by the Manifold brothers at Purrumbete in the 1880s is perhaps the most significant wall in the region standing up to two metres high and which originally ran continuously from Lake Corangamite to Lake Purrumbete.

Dry stone walling, although back-breaking work, is a skillful craft and in earlier times was handed down from one generation to the next, creating stone walling families. Each wall is in fact two walls because the craftsman or cowan would lay two rows of stone about a metre apart, filling in the centre with smaller stones. In fact, a well-built enduring wall is a work of art adding interest and character to the agricultural landscape.

Today, the dry stone walls of the region are threatened by changes in the operation of commercial farms since they were built in the second half of the nineteenth century. Gradual changes in land use, from grazing to cropping, have occurred, and particularly is the increased importance of dairying in the south of the region and more intensive agricultural enterprises. More recently, concerns have been raised about incursion of forest plantation into valuable agricultural land. Technological advances and the greater mechanisation of agriculture, has made many tasks easier and quicker but has also necessitated large investment and changes to the internal layout of the farm thus putting walls at risk.

In 1997, Corangamite Arts installed the Corangamite Dry Stone Walls Heritage Trail which has become a popular tourist destination adding greater economic value to the walls' primary utilitarian function. The walls attract eco, geo and cultural tourists who want to learn about our past as they enjoy both the natural and built landscape. More recently, the Dry Stone Walls Association of Australia was formed in order to ensure a future for dry stone walls and the craft of walling in this country.

At the same time, more and more people want to learn the craft of dry stone walling not only so that they can mend and build walls but also so that they can experience working with a natural material and create something of their own. For this reason popular dry stone walling workshops are regularly conducted in the region at Glenormiston College near Terang.

Castlemaine-Fryer's Creek-Hepburn gold diggings

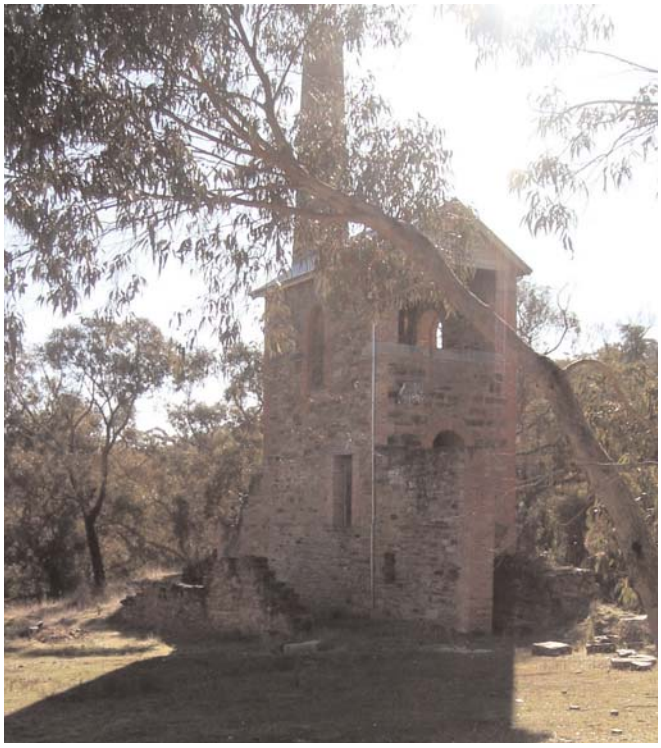
This is the third in a series on Australian mines by John Collier

There were several mineral districts in Victoria in 1868. These were Ballaarat, Beechworth, Sandhurst, Maryborough, Castlemaine, Ararat and Gippsland, and each mineral district had several divisons. In the case of Castlemaine these were Castlemaine (confusing isn't it), Fryer's Creek, Hepburn, Taradale, Maldon, St Andrews East, St Andrews Central, St Andrews West and South, Kyneton and Blue Mountain North. In turn, each division had a number of subdivisions or locations.

Famous gold diggings (locations) in the Castlemaine, Hepburn and Fryer's Creek divisions included Guildford, Fryer's Town, Vaughan, Green Gully, Jim Crow Creek, Dry Diggings, Yandoit, etc.

None of these were particularly large gold producers, but many of them have remnant dry stone walls, some still in good condition which adds further evidence to the strong nexus that the mining industry seems to have had with dry stone walling in the mid to late 1800s.

It seems that the mining industry in Victoria in 1868 was over regulated with bylaws, red tape and statistical bureaucracy. In hindsight, none of this prevented the demise of the gold mining industry and one must ask whether the collection of all this data was really that important.



The stone and brick 1869 Duke of Cornwall engine house in the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, Fryerstown

1868 Snapshot

1. Number of miners on the goldfields 64,658
2. Number of miners, Castlemaine district 9,458
3. Number of machines employed in quartz and alluvial mining, Castlemaine district 15,554(includes steam engines, puddling machines, whims, sluices, water wheels, etc.)
4. Area held as claims ,Castlemaine 5,400 acres
5. Number of distinct quartz reefs: Castlemaine divison 93, Fryer's Creek subdivison30, Hepburn subdivison 85
6. Yield of gold from quartz crushing, Castlemaine district 8 dwt 23.11 g
7. Yield of gold from quartz tailings, Castlemaine district 2 dwt 18.31 g
8. Wages paid per week: a. General Manager$11; b. Mining Manager $9; c. Blacksmith$7; d. Miners $4.2; e. Boys $2.75

Alluvial gold nuggets will form the subject matter of a separate paper in the Mining Series. Suffice to say, the Castlemaine district had its fair share of nuggets.

An example is the Heron Nugget. It was found near Old Golden Point, Fryer's Creek 29 March 1855. It weighed (troy) 1,008 oz.

Reference: *Mineral Districts of Victoria*, R. Brough Smyth, 1860.

Annual General Meeting 17 June

The DSWAA is up and running! Following several very successful, interesting and well-attended excursions during the previous 12 months (and, of course, our spectacular Inaugural Dinner at Werribee Park Mansion in May), our 3rd AGM was held at Science-works Museum in Newport on 17 June with 17 members in attendance.

Formal business, including the election of office-bearers, was conducted with dispatch by our able President, Jim Holdsworth, who agreed to serve for a further term of office (along with most of the committee).

The main event for the day, immediately following the meeting, was a fascinating talk given by our Guest Speaker, Dr Bill Birch, Senior Curator of Geosciences, Museum of Victoria, who spoke on: 'The Western Victorian Volcanic Province: a geological overview'. Not only is Bill's knowledge of his subject both vast and detailed, but he exudes an infectious enthusiasm about it and has the ability to share his knowledge in a clear and interesting way. His talk, accompanied by slides of areas familiar to all of us who know western Victoria through its walls, kept his audience totally engaged and led to some equally interesting questions and discussion.

Those of us who were able then adjourned to the Williamstown RSL for a pleasant lunch and continuing and lively discussion about that endlessly fascinating topic – STONES!

All in all, a very satisfactory and satisfying day and a promising start to another exciting year for the DSWAA.

Contributions for Newsletter invited

Pictures of unusual walls/damaged walls
Dry stone wall-related literature
Any item of interest to members of DSWAA
News from overseas

Deadline for the February issue is 12 January 2006

All material to:chabrent@bigpond.net.au

Gretna, Tasmania

by Eleanor Bjorksten

Nothing is known about the old remnant walls on 'Wensleydale' at Gretna, Tasmania. Who built them? How old are they and how extensive were they? Are all the stones still there or have they been recycled elsewhere? Was there a house to go with the remaining damson plum trees?

The new wall was built in 1996 from freshly gathered up field stones. It is 65 metres long and is a full-depth dry stone wall with an 800 mm thick base. The bottom stones are sitting on clay. The new house behind has 52 piers going into this clay to counter the seasonal heave – clay swells when wet and shrinks when dry. The extent of this shows up as wide cracks in the surface of the ground.

The slope running above and below the wall is about one in three at its steepest and the back or uphill side is filled in with soil to the level of the top stones. To retain moisture in the ground at the top of the wall bagloads of sphagnum moss were buried under a 100 mm layer of topsoil. The front or downhill side is the only one now visible so the construction is really a ha-ha, designed to allow the magnificent view from the house windows to be enjoyed in full, without a fence in the way.

The stones are 'cannon balls', round rather than flat. Through stones were created by filling special voids in the interior with concrete every three metres on the main curve, about six altogether. Actual building time took three weeks. I know these details – I helped my husband build it!

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Please complete (or photocopy) and **either** email to OR post to DSWAA Membership c/o Rob Wuchatsch,
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Payment: monies can be deposited in the Association's bank account 013 274 4997 47356 at any ANZ Bank **or** send a cheque payable to: The Dry Stone Walls Association of Australia Inc. at the above address.
(*Please indicate payment method below.)

The Dry Stone Walls Association of Australia Inc.
No. A0044735. ABN 31 721 856 687
Application for Membership

Professional (voting rights)	$40.00
Individual (voting rights)	$25.00
Corporate (voting rights)	$80.00
Family (voting rights)	$40.00

* Paying by: Cheque enc.• Bank deposit •

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Telephone Mobile
Email
Area of interest, for example, farmer, heritage, etc.

Contributors: photographs and illustrations

page 1	Jim Holdsworth, Charmian Brent
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page 3	Governor's aide, Jim Holdsworth
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