



**BEULAH HISTORICAL,  
LEARNING & PROGRESS  
ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Beulah Visual  
Heritage  
Project**

**Officially unveiled by  
Mr. John Forrest, MHR  
Member for Mallee  
26th January, 2001**

**Funded by the Federation Grant Scheme, Victoria  
The Beulah Historical, Learning &  
Progress Association &  
The Beulah Community Fundraising Committee**

# **History of Beulah Visual Heritage Project**

The Beulah Historical, Learning & Progress Association applied for and received funding through the Federation Grants Scheme, Victoria, to bring to the area a visual and appealing look at Beulah's history from its inception, since the first land was applied for in 1881, until the present time.

It was thought that our future generations would gain the greatest benefit from this project, by seeing and living with some of the wonderful heritage, that we as a district, can be so proud of.

A threefold plan emerged to have a set of murals painted and placed around the town, a notice board of significant events, and to reproduce some of our many historic photographs.

This project has been ongoing since March, 2000 and the final Mural was erected on the Henty Highway in 2003.

## **Mural Painting Group**

***Artists in residence:*** Eileen (EG) and John Glover (JG)

***Artists:*** Lorraine Gibson (LG), Net Kumnick (LK), Von Lehmann (VL), Lorna Williams (LW), Val Mann (VM), Mark Baker (MB), Kevin Hose (KH), & Betty Shannon (BS). (T) Team Effort.

## **Notice Board of Significant Events:**

***Researchers:*** Lynette Williams, Betty Turnbull & Pat Shannon.

## **Historic Photographs:**

Brian Murray and Staff of Horsham Colour have donated their time and expertise in reproducing a magnificent set of photos of Beulah's early history. The framed photos hang in the Beulah Business & Information Centre, Rural Northwest Health, the Memorial Hall and the Railway Station.

# **BEULAH HISTORY OF FARMING**

## **1882-2002**

- 1... BORING THE DROPPERS .... EG Walsgott Collection  
To construct the fences needed to define the farmers' holding, it was necessary to have droppers between each post. These were made and bored with holes for the wire to go through. Note the stack of mallee stumps in the back ground.
  
- 2... SURVEYING THE AREA .... JG  
One of the first blocks of land surveyed in the Beulah District. Situated over the railway line on the north side of the road to Birchip. Now owned by Shannon Bros and Hallams.
  
- 3... "PINE FARM", BEULAH EAST .... LW Riseborough Collection  
Frank, Ethel, May and Albert Riseborough preparing to milk the cows in the home paddock. This was a common practice.
  
- 4... CONSTRUCTING THE MAIN CHANNEL SYSTEM .... EG  
Teams of horses and a scoop were used to dig these channels that brought water to the Mallee from the Grampians.
  
- 5... RISEBOROUGH HOME .... JG Riseborough Collection  
This home was constructed in 1890 of pine logs collected from the farm and sealed with mud. It was demolished in 1990's.
  
- 6... TOM SHAW WITH HIS TEAM OF HORSES & STUMP JUMP  
PLOUGH 1898 Addinsall Collection  
The stump jump plough played a major part in clearing the Mallee stumps from the farmers holdings. The plough would jump over anything too large .
  
- 7... STORAGE DAMS .... VM Sanford Collection  
Channels brought water to the farm dams which are necessary for water for stock and household purposes. The windmill pumped water up to a storage tank, where it was gravity fed into the homes.
  
- 8... HISTORY OF FARMING 1882-2002 .... JG
  
- 9... TRANSPORTING STOCK TO MARKET 1930 ....VL Riseborough Collection  
Fat lambs grown on the farm were loaded ready to be transported to the Beulah Market.

- 10... WOOL BALES.... EG  
Wool is packed tightly into hessian bales ready to send to the wool stores for sale.
- 11... COFFEY`S TRANSPORT ...1990`s. LG Shannon Collection  
Typical of the size of trucks used to transport stock
- 12...SHEARING SHED .... VL E Lehmann Collection  
Every farm had their own shearing shed with 2 or 3 stands. Flocks of ewes & lambs or wethers are brought into the shed the night before for shearing.
- 13...SHEARING SHED .... LG Williams Collection  
Two stand shearing shed with wool table and bales. The fleece is picked up from the floor and thrown onto the wool table for classing.
- 14...McPHERSON`S ROAD 1990 ....VL Williams Collection  
Typical of the sandy minor and back roads that are common to the mallee.
- 15...DIPPING THE SHEEP .... LK P. Brain Collection  
A crook was used to plunge the sheep completely under the solution to stop the lice spreading. This was done after shearing.
- 16...MILKING THE COWS 1940`S .... JG Williams Collection  
Typical of the early cow sheds where all members of the family could milk cows.
- 17...BEULAH SHOWGROUNDS 1934 .... EG M. Lyons Collection  
Agricultural shows were conducted at Beulah and in most towns. The Beulah band played for the grand parade. Animals, birds, cooking and craft were all displayed for judging.
- 18...STEAM TRACTOR .... JG & EG R. Brain Collection  
Stan Walton at the controls on a foggy morning.
- 19...HARROWING THE FALLOW 1928 Morley Collection  
Team of horses harrowing fallow with the Truscott Morley seated on the "Lazy Susan" jinker.
- 20...TRACTOR AND COMBINE .... LK Hart Collection  
Take notice of the power steering which enabled Don Hart to steer the tractor from the combine. The combine was used to sow the wheat and barley.
- 21...SOWING TIME IN THE MALLEE 1988 .... LW Williams Collection  
Bulk handling of grain and superphosphate was introduced to farming, thus speeding up the sowing operation.

- 22...ADVANCES IN THE SOWING SEASON 1998 .... Team  
Williams Collection  
Tractors are larger and air seeders blow the seeds from the storage bin into the pipes and into the ground.
- 23...WINNOWING THE HARVEST.... EG  
Fisher Collection  
Note the horse driven winnower. Horses were changed every 2 hours. When the horse walked, the winnower turned and produced the chaff. The reaper was one of the first machines that stripped the grain from the stalks.
- 24...CUTTING THE HAY .... EG  
Glover Collection  
Three horses were used to pull the binder which cut and tied the hay. This was later put into stacks of 7 or 8 bundles of hay. When it had dried sufficiently, it was carted to the farmyard and made into haystacks.
- 25...SPRAYING THE CROPS .... VL  
Williams Collection  
Light aeroplanes are used to spray large areas of crops when they are 6 to 8 weeks old.
- 26...SPRAYING THE CROPS WITH THE BOOM SPRAY .... BS  
Sanford Collection  
Spraying crops to eradicate weeds is necessary. Note the foam marker on the end to show the farmer where he has previously sprayed.
- 27...CUTTING CHAFF .... BS  
Shannon Collection  
Oaten hay was fed into the chaff cutter to feed the horses.
- 28...CUTTING THE CLOVER HAY .... LW  
Williams Collection  
Fiat tractor with rotating hay cutter leaves the crop in windrows ready for baling.
- 29...CANOLA AND WHEAT CROPS .... LG  
Sanford Collection  
Canola growing was introduced into the Mallee in 1990's Wheat has been grown since the first settlement in early 1888`s.
- 30...MOUSE PLAGUES .... EG  
Glover Collection  
Mice have played an enormous part in the destruction of crops, hay, homes and food. These occurred very regularly, but modern storage methods have reduced the number and size of the plagues.
- 31...HAYSTACKS .... EG  
Williams Collection  
Haystacks were constructed up to 35 meters long x 9 meters wide and walls 6 to 8 metres high. Hay was stored for the following year and cut for chaff or fed to the horses in its dried state.

- 32...LOAD OF CHAFF 1930 .... LG Riseborough Collection  
“A” Model truck was used to cart the bags of chaff to the shed for storage.
- 33... BRINGING IN THE HARVEST 1935 .... LW Morley Collection  
Case Model “D” tractor & Big E Harvester. Note the bag on the side ready to put the grain into.
- 34...“GLEANER” HEADER STRIPPING THE WHEAT– 1998 .... LW Williams Collection  
Machines are now 9—10 metres wide & can carry several tonnes in large hoppers.
- 35...BAGGED WHEAT STORED IN HEAPS .... LK Turnbull Collection  
Bags of wheat were sown by hand before carting to the silos or stored in the barn for the next seasons cropping.
- 36...HAY ROLLER—1999 .... VL Williams Collection  
Hay is picked up from the windrower and is either rolled or packed into large square bales.
- 37...SUNSHINE HARVESTER AND TRACTOR .... LK Hart Collection  
1936 A.L. Harvester, cost 275 pounds. McCormick Tractor, cost 475 pounds
- 38...“GLEANER” BULK STORAGE TRUCK .... LW Williams Collection  
Modern farming operations harvest the grain which is augered into bulk storage, and then into trucks for delivery to the rail head.
- 39...MAP OF BEULAH & DISTRICT .... JG
- 40...AUGERING THE GRAIN-1963 Williams Collection  
The grain is augered into the field bin from the header. Soon after bulk handling was introduced.
- 41...BEULAH RAILWAY YARDS - LOADING THE BAGS INTO THE RAIL TRUCKS-1947 .... BS Byron Collection  
Bags of grain were lumped from the tray trucks, put on the elevator and caught on the shoulder of the lumpers and stacked into rail trucks.
- 42...BEULAH RAILWAY YARDS-1928 .... LK Lyons Collection  
Note the wool bales on the platform ready for loading into rail trucks to deliver to the wool stores.

- 43...GRADING AND PICKLING WHEAT-1952 .... VM Turnbull Collection  
Grain needed to be cleaned and pickled so that it would be disease free for the following sowing season.
- 44...LINE UP AT MILLION BUSHELL STORAGE COMPLEX .... VM  
Williams Collection  
Note the bunkers of grain in the background and the testing stand where every load of grain is tested for moisture and content of foreign matter.
- 45...WAITING PATIENTLY TO UNLOAD THE BAGS OF GRAIN .... EG  
State Library of Victoria Collection  
Bags of grain were loaded onto the wagon at the farm and conveyed to the railhead siding for delivery to the ports
- 46...CONSTRUCTING THE ROSEBERY SILOS .... LK  
Chivell Collection  
Note the workers on top of the silos and the standard of scaffolding used.
- 47...LINE UP AT THE SILOS-1952 .... MB Turnbull Collection  
Trucks carrying grain lined up to have their load weighed before delivering their load to the cement silos.
- 48...WHEAT OR BARLEY STACKS IN BEULAH RAILWAY YARDS  
.... LG  
Bags of grain were stored in long stacks which were a haven for mice. Each bag was then loaded onto the elevator and stacked into railway trucks.
- 49...MILLION BUSHELLS GRAIN STORAGE .... KH  
Williams Collection  
These bulk storage bins were constructed at various centres in the grain growing areas., the one at Beulah being a boon for the area.
- 50...SUNSET IN THE MALLEE .... JG Sanford Collection  
“The end of the farming day.”
- 51...DELIVERING GRAIN TO THE BUNKER SYSTEM .... VM  
Williams Collection  
Grain feeds from the back of trucks and is sent by elevator to form the massive bunkers, which is then covered by tarpaulins to protect the grain until delivery to Portland or Geelong ports.

# Murals

## Beulah State and Primary School

**Situated - Corner of School Rd and Phillips St.**



In 1890 a site was selected at “12 Mile Reserve” for a school at Beulah. In July 1891, Head Teacher, Mr. Daniel Taylor, commenced teaching with 52 pupils from Grades 1 to 8 in a building 22 x 14 ft. (7 x 4 m), located on a 2 1/2 acre block between Gladstone, Phillips & Bell Sts. and Corrong Rd ( Henty Highway). In 1892 the name was changed from Galaquil to Beulah

because the school was erected within the boundaries of the Beulah township.

Due to over crowding, a closed school from Heatherlie near Stawell was removed and attached to the Beulah school in 1893.

Between 1901 and 1906, the flagpole was erected and the school was enclosed with a picket fence across the front, and a post and rail fence on the other three sides. Major renovations were carried out in 1910 and 1915, windows added, a new lavatory, painting and electric lighting installed.

For sometime, local parents were lobbying to move the school from the central business area to a residential site and on March 28, 1930 a new brick school with a tiled roof was opened on the Henty Highway with 200 pupils attending.

**This mural was designed by the Grade 5 & 6 children in consultation with John and Eileen Glover who painted the former State School complete with flag pole. After a competition, 7 of the children were chosen to paint their ideas of school life over the century. Each of the children and staff from 2000 placed their handprint on the mural as a reminder of the present day pupils attending the Beulah Primary School in 2000.**

## Saleyards

**- Situated corner of Phillips and Taverner Sts.**



Built by the publican of the Victoria Hotel and occupying an area from Taverner St. to 42 Phillips St. (formerly J.Molony's).

This mural depicts a sheep, horse and chook sale in 1905. These yards were used until 1920's.

Before that time, saleyards were also situated in Bodey's paddock (Fish's) north of the town. New saleyards were erected on

Birchip Rd. in 1952 and there were stockyards in the railway yards.

**This mural is taken from two photos and painted by Eileen and John Glover.**





## **Road Construction, Bell Street, 1910**

### **Situated in Phillips St. on the former State Savings Bank Wall**

Bell St. was named in honour of J. Bell M.L.C., a Parliamentary Representative for North Western Province, 1882 - 1904.

In 1910, the Shire of Karkaroc contracted Watkins & Griffin, Road contractors, to form Beulah streets with limestone and install brick guttering and red gum kerbing.

The McKenzie family from the Wimmera and originally from Scotland, were the first to select land in the area in 1881. Their holding comprised land surveyed north and north east of the present town. They had a portion of their land between the Yarriambiack Creek and the Henty Highway and from Bell to Lascelles Streets divided into 70 town allotments. These were sold by public auction in 1890. This area was known as north of the "Twelve Mile Reserve". By March 1891, four new buildings were erected, one being Jeffrey's Temperance Hotel, later to become the Farmers Union Hotel.

Shops, generally with dwellings attached, were quickly built along the north side of Bell St. Pharez Phillips erected the first general store on the corner of Bell St and Henty Highway. A fruit shop, chemist, then Mrs. C.A. Lawrie's general store was established in 1891 on the corner of Bell and Phillips St. W.H. Coats Snr. bought the business in 1911 and operated until the 1930's.

George Lang and P.J. O'Donnell first set up a "smithy" under a large box tree in 1891, then moved to new premises at 19 Bell St. ( P. Gibson's) opening their foundry in 1894. A hay and corn store, wine saloon, cordial manufacturer, butcher shop and jeweller were also in business along Bell St. The first edition of the "Beulah Record and Mallee Advocate" was published on 17th March, 1894 by Mr. A.G. Lester.

Mr. C. Webb conducted his saddlery business next door to the newspaper office which was destroyed by fire in 1914. The local fire brigade purchased the site for a fire station from C. Upton.

A building known as the "Cottage" was attached to the Farmers Union Hotel (Western Aerial to F Mulrooney's). The original hotel was destroyed by fire in 1893 and rebuilt in brick, opening in June 1894. Beulah's first bank opened in temporary premises at the hotel in 1896. The Farmers Union Hotel was again destroyed by fire in 1940 and a "temporary bar" operated for a few years to be finally closed in 1949.

In 1911, Cranage Bros started a builders and contractors business in Bell St. opposite Lamplough's Hotel.

In the distance of the mural, looking east on the Birchip Rd, was a flour mill. Opened in 1896 by Gillespie & Co. and later owned by W.C. Thomas. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1911. Although the large tin shed containing wheat stacks was saved, the mill was never rebuilt. In April 1891, Beulah was proclaimed a township in the Parish of Galaquil, County of Karkaroc. When the railway line reached Beulah in 1893, the railway station opened. The government reserve had been surveyed, allotments sold and a State School built. The town businesses then gravitated towards the station with Phillips and Taverner Streets becoming the centre of town.

**This mural is painted from an original by the Mural Painting Group.**

## Cust & Son c. 1920's

Situated on Mick & Michelle's IGA  
Supermarket Wall, Corner of Phillips & Gladstone Sts.



1983 - Robert Bray built a small general store on the corner of Phillips and Gladstone Streets.  
1897 - Cust and Hutchinson buy Bray's store in May. The partnership dissolved to become Cust and Son in August, 1897.

William J Cust erected a store in Rupanyup and set one of his four sons up as

manager of the store at Beulah. James Cust was only 20 years old and five years later he married Emily Allen from Brighton. Their five children were born in Beulah and his daughter, the late Sylvia Cust writes in her book, "Mallee Roots to New Horizons", about the terrible drought at the turn of the century, when the banks began to write off the farmers as worthless and refused them credit and in desperation many of them began to walk off their holdings.

"To see so many of his friends unable to maintain the properties they had toiled so hard to establish grieved my father, who had always believed that Mallee land would come good as a wheat growing area." So with his father's full backing, he strongly urged them not to leave. "God won't fail you," he would tell them, "and by His grace we won't fail you either," further assuring them that Cust & Son would stand by them to their last penny. The drought broke in 1903 and brought in a bumper harvest, thus establishing the Mallee as a prime wheat growing area.

1908 - Extensive renovations carried out at the store

1911 - Cust's replace iron side and back walls with brick and renovate the interior

1918 - James Cust leaves and H. Schlichting becomes Manager

1922 - A.G. Cust succeeds Schlichting as Manager

1927 - Cust & Son sell to Beulah & District Stores Ltd  
(a company of local shareholders)

1952 - Leo Howard, former manager of Beulah & District Stores, becomes owner.

1983 - Bill and John Howard take over from their father Leo

1988 - Bill and Marj Howard become sole owners of the business

1999 - Mick and Michelle Blackwood take over the store from Michelle's father and mother, Bill and Marj Howard and it becomes an IGA Supermarket

**This mural was painted by the Mural Painting Group**

## **Phillips Street**

**1954**

**Situated on top  
of  
Beulah Café,  
Phillips Street**

**Business Houses  
in Phillips St.  
1954**

Left side -

**Hose's Café;**

**CBC Bank;**

**Poynton's Beulah  
Newsagency;**

**NZ Loan Agents, Ralph and Ron Brain; R.C. Buckley, Stock and Station Agent; D. Coates, Beulah Pharmacy; State Savings Bank of Victoria; Dalgety's Stock Agents; Stanhope Bullen, Solicitor.**

Right side - **Howard's Beulah Stores; R. J. McKinnon, Menswear; B. Jacka, Baker; Mrs. Cozens' frock shop; Mrs Pop Harris' residence; A.R.K. McFarlane, General Grocers; Col Natt and Ralph Brain, Butchers; Archie Sotos' Café; CBA Bank.**

Middle - **Victoria Hotel, Proprietor, W. R. Morris.**

Background - **Wheat Silos erected in 1939**

**This mural was painted by the Mural Painting Group**



## **Arthur King**

**- Situated on the IGA Supermarket wall,  
corner of Phillips & Gladstone Streets.**

Born at Warracknabeal in 1892. His parents, Thomas and Ann King were market gardeners. He enlisted in the Army during the First World War, spoke several foreign languages and hated the children if they called him 'Kruger King'.

He lived the life of a recluse, met all the trains, playing hymns on his cornet or singing and had a terrific memory for past history. Arthur found many items of lost property, returning them to their owners. He took his old cart to the tip every day, bringing home many useless items.

He died in 1971 and is buried at the Beulah Cemetery.

**This mural was painted by Eileen Glover and presented to Beulah at the official opening.**

## 2006 Commonwealth Games Commemorative Walking Track and Sporting Bollards

The Beulah 2006 Commonwealth Games Commemorative Walking Track and Sporting Bollards at the Beulah Recreational Reserve were opened on Sunday 26th of March in front of approximately 80 people.

The idea of the specially formed committee “the Beulah Getting Involved Committee” was funded by a Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Grant, which was the inspiration behind the bollards being a sporting theme.

Working bees and over 300 hours of volunteer work was put into the project by entities such as the Beulah Lions Club, Beulah Primary School parents, staff and students, Beulah sporting groups, art group as well as other individuals including artist in residence, Glenn Critchley of Horsham.

The seven sporting bollards around our section of the Yarriambiack Creek, depict our local sporting organizations.

The first bollard to be officially unveiled by current Yarriambiack Shire Council Mayor, Jean Wise, was the cyclist, located on the Henty Highway truck stop, where the History of Farming mural is located, which celebrates cycling in the region over the years but particularly honours the recent success of the Beulah Blue Flames.

The Mayor then moved to the Beulah Recreation Reserve to open the second part of the project. The approximate 1.2km “All Weather” Walking Track which surrounds the picturesque Yarriambiack Creek and was a much needed upgrade of the well worn track.



*Pictured above: Beulah 'Blue Flames' Cyclist  
located at the Henty Highway Truck Stop*



*View of the Walking Track*



*Above: Beulah Footballer, Netballer and Cricketer*

The other bollards which are situated on the track depict the other popular sporting organizations in Beulah: a footballer, tennis player, croquet player, lawn bowler, netballer and cricketer.

Each of the sporting bollard designs were chosen by the respective clubs (Tennis, Croquet, Football, Cricket and Netball) with each club being asked to choose designs from the past in the theme of "As they were". The Bowling Club opted for their current day uniform which displayed more colour and vibrance than the ones in the years gone by.

After much hard work from locals and input from the funding bodies, the Beulah Community has a lasting reminder of this great sporting event. Each of the bollards were unveiled by the current President or delegated representative of each sporting club.



*Above: Croquet Player*

*Right: Bowler*

*Far Right: Tennis Player*



# Federation Quilt



As Federation approached, the Beulah Patchwork Group decided to make a pictorial quilt to commemorate 100 years of the history and buildings of Beulah.

Many photos were taken, photocopied and enlarged for placement.

The station is the central building as this is where the group meet. Other main town buildings are included as well as cropping and harvest blocks.

Much discussion and 'fact and fabric' finding trips had to be taken to complete the project. Many techniques were used including hand and machine piecing, embroidery, appliqué, fabric painting and also printing on fabric.

The top border depicts a sunset and the bottom border has the Yarriambiack Creek and mallee trees. The side borders feature birds and flowers common to the area.

**This magnificent quilt may be viewed in the meeting room of the Beulah Business and Information Centre, 77 Phillips St, Beulah, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm**

## **Beulah Historical, Learning & Progress Association Inc.**

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