

Marjorie Dickson (Ebsworth) YHS 1934 sent some photos of the stylish old Yallourn Buses in our last newsletter - now Marjorie has let us in to 'life as a bus driver' in those days in Yallourn. Marjorie's husband, Peter, drove the Yallourn buses in late 1930s to early 1940s. The owner was Andy Maxfield and he had several buses at that time. A usual day was rise at 6am, pick up the bus, take the men to work, then the children from Moe or Morwell to school, then home to Stzelecki Road for breakfast; then back to the town square to take people (mostly housewives) to Morwell or Traralgon for shopping. That went on until lunch time when he came home for lunch, back for more shopping trips until 3pm, pick the children up from school and take them home, then the workmen, then home for tea. Could be a ball/dance to take people to anywhere as far as Warragul or the other way - Traralgon or Sale. Peter could get home any time up till 3am - up again at 6am - not much sleep those nights. Peter had a 2- stroke motor bike in those days and a number of people didn't need to set an alarm in Stzelecki Road - they got up when they heard him leave for work. Saturday nights, many buses including a semitrailer, picked up the young ones (and not so young) to go to the dance at Yinnar Hall. They would be hanging out the doors. They were great nights. February 1944 was a very frightening time. The bush fires surrounded the town. The bus depot was on the other side of the briquette factory bridge so the drivers had to get the buses over the town side in case the bridge caught on fire. A lot of school children and workers couldn't get home until late as the fires cut them off from the surrounding towns. Marjorie loved Yallourn and has many happy memories of the town and people. They moved to Morwell in 1949 and Marjorie still sees girls she went to school with