

The Journey to Buchan

Early visitors to Buchan usually travelled by train to Sale or Bairnsdale, then by steamer through the lakes to Cunninghame (now Lakes Entrance). They then stayed overnight before taking a coach on to Lake Tyers and a further launch journey to Nowa Nowa. Finally, a coach conveyed them to Buchan.

So, we will start with the cards depicting the boats which provided for this epic journey as being relevant. Examples from Sale include :

by Harding & Billings for J. Cullinan & Sons, Stationers of Sale:
Latrobe River, Sale H [depicts steamer moving down stream]

by Osboldstone & Co. colour : La Trobe River, S.S. Omeo & Swing Bridge, Sale H

by Howard Bulmer real photo: Sale Tourist Steamer, Latrobe River H K-F

by Hammond & Co., Sale Real photo: Steamer bound for Lakes Entrance from Sale H RP1

by Osboldstone & Co. colour for Hammond & Co. Studios, Sale: Steamer leaving Sale for the Gippsland Lakes

Another route involved rail travel to Bairnsdale, and then either steamer to Cunninghame and then to Buchan as above or coach from Bairnsdale via Bruthen. Some cards include:

by A.W. Burman: Railway Station, Bairnsdale [pm.1 May 1910]

by 'The Age' newspaper and 'Age' agent, W.R. Lidstone of Bairnsdale: Steamer "J.C.D." leaving for Cunninghame H

by Semco: Mitchell River, Bairnsdale H

by Crown Studios, Bairnsdale: Mitchell River, Bairnsdale H

unknown origin: Greetings from Bairnsdale, with 13 small views V on K-A

by F.W. Niven, Melbourne & Ballarat: Full-frame coloured picture with superimposed advertising : Fregon's Star Hotel/Bruthen/Booking Office for/Omeo, Bairnsdale, Buchan and Orbost Coaches

on collotype printed in Germany: Cunninghame via Sale. Terminus of Steamers "Omeo" and "Dargo". H [One copy has extended advertising for the steamers printed on the back]

For the coach Journey, see Dr Sheldon below

Then there were the various accommodation houses. Examples are :

by G.D. Best of Yarra Glen Real Photo: Broome's Federal Hotel H
[Broome was a long-standing hotelier of the district and under the nom-de-plume of 'Tanjil', wrote the first tourist guide to East Gippsland, which included a description of a visit to the Buchan Caves.]

By H.D. Bulmer Real Photo: Nowa Nowa Hotel, on K-A back

From unidentified photographer and publisher:

Riverview House, Buchan with Welcome banner, cars and many people

Dr. SHELDON'S ADVERTISING SERIES. [n.l. 1909]

Pu Sheldon Drug Co. Ltd., Sydney NSW, Capetown SA, Boston USA.

F Vertical card with white margin all round ; title is superimposed on view, which shows coach with three men on box approaching a small bridge situated in the middle of ash forest (actually at Boggy Creek); advertising slogans are superimposed on the side panels of the bridge, reading
"Dr. Sheldon's/New Discovery/for coughs & colds 3/-" and "Dr. Sheldon's /Digestive Tabules/cure indigestion 2/6"

1a The Road to Buchan / Victoria V [pm. 10 Jun.1909]

(Another card appears to be dated 1908, but this is not sufficiently clear to be reliable)

1b The Road to Buchan / Victoria V

(We have one card which appears to be a distinctive printing ; it is in a pale, dull brown, as contrasted to the normal rich reddish-brown, and is trimmed so that no margins appear.)

The photograph used is from Sears and Harvey, appearing on p. 35 of their *'Souvenir of Victoria: The Garden State of Australia: 42 Splendid Views of City and Country'* published by Osboldstone & Co. in about 1908.

McLEOD SERIES

Ph Mona McLeod: worked in partnership with Howard Bulmer

Pu & Pr Many at least by Lakes Studio

F Real Photograph with title & imprint in lower margin.

Riverview House, Buchan H

K-D