

## **Malones Hill Lookout Tower**

### **1933 - 1949**

Source – Elphinstone Fire Brigade annual meeting minutes.

**12th Feb 1933** – Moved that the secretary write to the shire council (Metcalf) re: the lookout on a 'high mountain'.

**11th Jan 1934** – A special meeting was held re erecting a lookout tower. The members met at Jennings Hill and later at Malones Hill opposite Eilan Donan. It was moved that the lookout be erected on Malones Hill. Myrtle Creek and Barfold Fire Brigades to be notified of the lookout.

**24th Jan 1934** – Special meeting moved that the Brigade proceed with the Malones Hill lookout. A committee was formed to deal with all matters to do with the lookout, the secretary to write to the Postal Org re phone.

**20th Feb 1934** – The lookout is to be manned fortnightly. Mr Barber to see Miss Bateman re phone on Saturdays and Sundays. The lookout to be manned between 9am and 6am. Twenty volunteers placed their names with the Secretary to man the lookout. It was decided to start manning the lookout on Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> (March 1934).

**6th Oct 1934** – Mr J Barber's scheme for manning the lookout was adopted.

**13 Jan 1936** – Moved that the lookout be manned on a voluntary basis. Sutton Grange and Myrtle Creek brigade to donate to manning the lookout. 14 members volunteered their services this meant that the lookout would be manned for 22 days per month. This was considered satisfactory.

**14th Oct 1936** – It was moved that a shed be erected at the lookout.

**12th Dec 1936** – Mr Barber to supply a pane of glass, Mr MacRae paint, Mr Owen to paint woodwork for lookout.

**17th Nov 1943** – Moved that the lookout be put in order and the telephone rent to be paid out of the lookout funds.

**15th Jan 1947** - The secretary be asked to contact the Regional Officer to make arrangements with neighbouring brigades to help man the lookout.

**27th Feb 1947** – Special Meeting. Lookout committee recommends that repairs to the present lookout be suspended pending investigations re a more suitable site. The site is a hill known as The Ridge and is the first hill on the GFC Road\* leading in the Calder Hwy at Tunnel Hill. Lookout committee empowered to act.

(\* may be known now as Fryers Ridge Rd – site of the current tower)

**3rd Oct 1947** – The lookout committee investigate advisability of moving and arrange for removal if necessary of bush fire lookout to new site.

**15th Sept 1949** – The lookout be dismantled and tenders called for sale and removal of same. Committee be formed to consider tenders.