



ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC BULLETIN

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REPORT ON APRIL MEETING (10.4.2013)

Forty members and guests attended the meeting in the Meeting Room at the Albury LibraryMuseum to hear Noel Jackling speak on new objects he has been instrumental in acquiring for the AlburyCity *Uiver* Collection. The gathering included guests who have a particular interest in the *Uiver* and the DC 2 aircraft currently the subject of continuing negotiation with AlburyCity.

Chris McQuellin chaired the meeting and expressed the condolence of the Society to Howard & Hazel Jones on the untimely death of their son Brendan. Members of the Society had attended the funeral at St Matthews Church earlier in the day.

Chris welcomed the mayor, Councillor Alice Glachan to the meeting and invited her to read a statement acknowledging the 175th anniversary of the Faithfull Massacre and the role of that clash of cultures in the foundation of Albury.

STATEMENT BY ALBURYCITY

AlburyCity recognises the impact the event known as the Faithfull Massacre had on the region. It was a watershed moment in the formation of many towns in regional New South Wales and Victoria. The events of the massacre and the repercussions were truly tragic. The event can be used as a symbol of the progress that's been made between indigenous and non-indigenous communities since 1838, and a prompt for all of us to be grateful for the peaceful and harmonious times we now live in.

The incident occurred on 11 April 1838 when a party of eighteen men employed by George and William Faithfull, camping at

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY

8 MAY 2013

7.30pm at Commercial

Club Albury

Speakers: Victoria Cooper
"Albury's Floral Festivals,"

and

Joe Wooding "Thomas
Scott Townsend, NSW As-
sistant Surveyor."

Members' 15 Minutes.

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ROBBINS & PORTER PROJECT

Timber for wing and fuselage framing obtained;
Metal components being made by blacksmith;
Construction space has been obtained

Patron: Patricia Gould OAM

Honorary Life Members:

Howard Jones, Helen Livsey

June Shanahan

Public Officer: Helen Livsey

President: Christopher McQuellin
02 6021 3697

Vice-Presidents: Joe Wooding, June Shanahan

Secretary: Helen Livsey 02 6021 3671

Treasurer: Michael Browne

Minute Secretary: Catherine Browne

Committee: Jill Wooding, Doug Hunter, Ray Gear, Bridget Guthrie, and Marion Taylor.

Bulletin Editor: Doug Hunter 02 6021 2835
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Publicity Officer: Jill Wooding

Journals, Stock: June Shanahan

Meeting Greeter: Catherine Browne

ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

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Membership list & Bulletin dispatch: Ray Gear

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Subscriptions are due 31 May

Bulletins will not be sent to members who have subs outstanding as at 31 August.

Single: \$25

Family: \$33

Corporate: \$50

Research undertaken \$25 first hour.

Enquiries in writing with \$25

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm at Commercial Club Albury.

Committee meets 3rd Wednesday of the month 5.15pm at Albury LibraryMuseum.

A&DHS website:

www.alburyhistory.org.au

the Broken River near present day Benalla, were attacked and their drays plundered by Aborigines. Eight of Faithfull's men and one Aborigine died. Local reprisals followed which resulted in more Aboriginal deaths. Benalla and District Historical Society has erected a memorial at Lake Benalla commemorating the event.

In an effort to prevent further attacks and reprisals, Governor Gipps established Police Camps at the crossings of the major rivers including the Murray. Assistant Surveyor Thomas Scott Townsend followed, laying out towns of which Albury was one.

Bridget Guthrie and Chris McQuellin spoke about the collection of photographs in the AlburyCity Collection relating to the construction of the Hume Dam. These have been scanned and for security the digital images are stored in a different location from the actual photographs. Chris showed a small selection of the images which are stunning in clarity.

Vicki Luke and Vernon Bartlett, two of the artists participating in the OneRiver presentation at Lake Hume on the evening of Sunday 14 April spoke on how the project came about. This year, 2013, is the centenary of the foundation of Canberra and the organisers of the celebration thought it would be appropriate to expand it to include the rivers which flow from the area of Canberra. Local artists here in Albury put forward a proposal to be part of the event. Their proposal is an ambitious one involving the creation of a series of short films which will be projected onto the Hume Dam wall after sunset on Sunday.

This coincides with the bus tour arranged by AlburyCity and the Historical Society. At the end of the meeting Bridget announced that bookings were good with only a few seats still available on the 50 seater coach.

The meeting closed with supper provided by the LibraryMuseum, for which we thank them, and an opportunity to view more closely objects about which Noel spoke.

MORE *UIVER* MEMORABILIA, AND THE WAUGHS IN EUROPE BETWEEN THE WARS IN EUROPE

Report of a talk by Noel Jackling

Noel Jackling described seven items which have been added to the AlburyCity Collection comple-

menting the Domenie collection currently on display as part of the Crossing Place exhibition. They were:

- A 1934 commemorative cloth with an orange border, showing the race route and the *Uiver*, donated by Aviodrome, a large aerospace museum located at Lelystad Airport in the Netherlands;
- A book by Geldhof and Kok, in Dutch about the DC 2 aircraft: donated by the Stichting Historish Museum, Amsterdam;
- A jigsaw puzzle showing the four most famous planes in Dutch aviation history, the race route, the *Uiver* crew and Albert Plesman, founder and Director of KLM, purchased from a private collection in Holland;
- A KLM SHELL hydraulic fluid can with an image of a DC-2, donated by Mrs Vivienne Colley of Albury.
- Photographs and original telegrams from Parmentier and Rasche donated by Mr John Turner, son of Reginald Turner, who was the telegrapher who actually flashed the message A L B U R Y to the circling *Uiver* in 1934, including a group photograph taken on 20 March 1935 of the Albury persons who had helped save the plane, together with the gifts given to them on 13 December 1934 by a delegation from the Dutch East Indies. Several of the gifts in the photo are in the AlburyCity Collection;
- A photograph taken at the opening of the *Uiver* Memorial at Albury Airport by Governor General Sir Zelman Cowan and Mayor John Roach on 2 March 1980 and donated by Howard Jones. The 14 plaques which were attached to the commemorative wall are now in the LibraryMuseum store.

Noel read an extract from his forthcoming book about the *Uiver* in which he detailed the visit to



Jigsaw puzzle purchased by Noel Jackling on behalf of AlburyCity during a trip to the Netherlands. The puzzle has been restored and framed and now hangs in the Crossing Place Exhibition at the Albury LibraryMuseum



Lubricant can souvenired from items unloaded and discarded at Albury Racecourse 24 October 1934. Donated to Albury-City collection by Mrs V Colley

Europe of Alfred and Ellen Waugh in 1935. The Waughs were part of a NSW Local Government delegation to the United Kingdom. Following meetings in Britain, the Waughs visited Brussels then Berlin. In Berlin they met with Fraulein Thea Rasche, the 'Flying Fraulein,' who had

been a passenger on the *Uiver* when it landed at Albury in 1934. They dined with her and officials of KLM. Alderman Waugh said it was such a pleasant change to meet people he knew after meeting so many strangers in the UK. Rasche wrote of her surprise at receiving a telegram which said, 'LIKE TO DINE WITH YOU TONIGHT. PICK YOU UP AT 7.' She commented how 'flying contributes to linking people across and between continents.'

The Waughs continued their continental tour visiting the fascist countries of Austria and Italy, and returning via Switzerland and France and back to England. From there they went by ferry to Holland for what was to be the highlight of the trip. They were received by crowds everywhere they went. At the Amsterdam Town Hall they presented the mayor with a cast bronze memento of the fraternal affection which existed between the citizens of Albury and Amsterdam. The Waughs also met the Albury Committee of Amsterdam, who presented Alf Waugh with a solid silver aeroplane which is in the LibraryMuseum. The same committee had already sent to Albury a large bronze plaque which also hangs in the LibraryMuseum.

The couple went on to visit cities and towns in all 12 provinces of Holland and were feted, some said, 'like royalty'. About 10,000 people greeted them in the cheese market at Alkmaar. During the 17 days that they spent in Holland they were able to meet all members of the crew and with passenger Gilissen. They dined with pilot Koene Parmentier, his wife and two girls in their home in Amstelveen. So they met everyone who was on board the *Uiver* in Albury with the exception of passenger Domenie, who had returned to Rio de Janeiro in his work with Hollandsche Bank voor Zuid Amerika. Nevertheless on 19 August 1935,

the last day of their stay in Holland, they did meet Domenie's invalid mother in a remote village. They also met the Prime Minister, Dr Hendrik Colijn and the founder and Director of KLM, Dr Albert Plesman.

The Waughs returned to England and immediately proceeded to Perth in Scotland where they were invited to call upon Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands at her Scottish holiday home. This they did with Alfred Waugh wearing a top hat and his Order of Orange Nassau.

The Queen asked the Waughs, on their return to Albury, to convey her sincere thanks to the people who had assisted the *Uiver*. This they did from the balcony of the Town Hall on 17 October 1935.

A collection of about 500 items collected by the Waughs during their overseas trip was put on display in the Wool Exchange, Dean Street. Many Albury residents viewed the objects, paying sixpence admission in aid of the Albury Ambulance Committee. The whereabouts of these objects is now, sadly, unknown. One object from the period which has survived is a scrapbook of their journey compiled by Ellen Waugh. It has been donated to the AlburyCity Collection by a grand niece, Mrs Patricia Young.

HUME DAM EXCURSION

Report by Jan Hunter

On Sunday 14 April, an excellent crowd heard Doug Hunter (A&DHS) launch the excursion with a talk outlining aspects of the Hume Dam story and viewed a new set of Hume Dam images and artifacts which have been added to The Crossing Place Exhibition at the Albury LibraryMuseum.

Fifty people then boarded a bus for the Weir. Other participants followed in their cars. First stop was on the road near *Hawksview*. Marion Taylor gave a brief history of the property which was part of Mrs Elizabeth Mitchell's



Marion Taylor speaking at Bethanga Bridge



Above: Crowd listening to Joe Wooding speaking at the Dam wall

Below: Crowd on the Dam wall where Welcome to Country, entertainment and speeches were delivered, and refreshments were served



large land holding and given to one of her sons in the 1860s. Chris McQuellin pointed out the site of the former Italian POW camp on *Hawksview*.

Next stop was the Victorian side of the Bethanga Bridge. Some photos were circulated showing construction of the bridge while Marion told us the details of the purpose and construction of the project. Chris directed our viewing to the quarry across the water and impressed the group with the amount of rock taken from *Hawksview Hill* for the construction of the dam.

Arriving at the public picnic grounds on the wall, Joe Wooding outlined the various choices facing the planners when the Weir was first mooted and why the confluence of the Mitta and Murray was chosen. Joe continued with mind boggling facts and figures about size, quantity and quality of the construction. The Society then handed over to the organisers of the *RiverRun* project, part of the Centenary of Canberra One River Project. The bus group joined an ever growing crowd walking onto the roadway over the dam and through the normally locked gates. Refreshments were provided, a musician entertained and Elder Aunty Nancy Rooke gave a Welcome to Country before Albury's mayor,

Councillor Alice Glachan, and representatives of the Weir management, spoke.

As darkness fell we boarded our coach and drove with the crowd to the old caravan park site on the Victorian side at the base of the Weir wall. There we heard more music and some poetry, followed by images of Noreuil, the Murray River and early photos of people at the dam wall which were projected onto the spillway. Other images were shown on the riverine environment amongst the seated audience. The crowds were greater than expected at each part of the event showing that community interest in the mammoth project of the Hume Dam is as high as it ever was.

ANNE DAVIES' BEQUEST

The Society has received a generous bequest from the estate of the late Mrs Anne Davies. Anne was a tireless worker for the A&DHS until poor health made it no longer possible for her to contribute. She and husband Roddy moved to The Grange, Wodonga. Anne was made an honorary life member of A&DHS in 1988.

A&DHS BOOKLETS

Two new booklets are nearing completion. They are:
No 20 *Leslie F Chick, Master Builder* by Jan Hunter; and

No 21 *The Albury Gaol* by Howard Jones.

These titles extend the diverse range of Albury history published in the earlier papers. They are published under an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) which places them in the public domain with copies being lodged at the National Library of Australia (NLA) and the State Library of NSW. Copies are placed in the Local History section of the Albury Library, and depending on the relevance, in other libraries in the district.

Further, it is planned to produce a booklet about the Hume Weir display and the talks given on the excursion, together with some of the fine photographs of the project.

The Society extends sympathy to Michael & Catherine Browne on the unexpected death of Michael's mother.

ALBURY TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

By Doug Hunter

We sometimes hear people say there is nothing for the tourist to see in Albury-Wodonga. Recently we had a visitor and decided on a day to see the sights. Here's what we did. The Hume Weir was in my thoughts so first up it was out to the Dam followed by a visit to the Bonegilla Migrant Experience, Block 19. Back to Albury through Bandiana, but didn't have time for the Army Museum. Had lunch in the sunshine at Noreuil Park and a walk to the Hovell Tree.

Then to Wonga Wetlands and a 2 km walk around a circuit. Back to Monument Hill with the War Memorial and the fine views of the city before finishing at the LibraryMuseum where the possum skin cloaks completely stole the show.

Time had run out by then, so the Botanic Gardens and the Regional Art Gallery will have to wait for another day. There is plenty to see and every venue was clean and in pristine condition.