

## JAMES, GEORGE & WILLIAM DAY

The Day brothers, James, George and William, all played their role in the early development of Albury. They were three of the children of John Day, a farmer at Cornwallis, NSW, and his wife Jane, née Connolly. Both James and George were alderman on the Albury Municipal Council and both served terms as Mayor of Albury.

### George Day

A biography of George can be accessed at the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*:

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/day-george-3383>

An obituary in the *Border Morning Mail* in June 1906 recorded that George Day was “connected with the State Parliament for a period of 32 years during which he was responsible for the introduction of a large number of useful measures, amongst those standing in his name being the Albury Water Supply, Albury Gas Co, and Albury cattle saleyards Bills.” The obituary went on to say that “Mr Day was possessed of considerable property in Albury, and at one time is reputed to have owned the whole of the south side of Dean-street from the Albury Hotel to Townsend street. At the time of his death he owned in that block the premises occupied by Messrs K McLennan and Co, Messrs Hunter and Stelling, the Commercial Club, Mr S Hughes, as well as Day’s Buildings. He also owned several valuable properties in Swift, Olive, George and Guinea streets.”



GEORGE DAY

### James Day

James Day was born in the Hawksbury district in 1824, the elder brother of George. According to his obituary in the *Border Post* he left the Hawkesbury district for *Michalago*, the property of his godfather Richard Keefe in the Monaro region in 1838. In 1842 he lost his stock in very cold conditions and shortly afterwards he was engaged to manage *Hinno Mungy Station* at Omeo for Edward Cooke.

In 1856 James joined his brother George as partner in stations in the Albury district, which they worked for several years. Their first venture was on *Tabletop Station* north of Albury, rented from James Mitchell on which they put 2000 store bullocks. Then in 1859 the brothers sold their stock to James Mitchell and purchased *Quat Quatta Station* between Howlong and Corowa, and later bought half of the *Yarra Yarra Station* near Holbrook.

In 1861 George bought Fanny Ceres flour mill in Albury from James McLaurin who bought the brothers’ share of the *Yarra Yarra Station*. James purchased the *Daysdale* property at Thurgoona where he was a grazier and orchardist.

James became actively involved with the public life of Albury and district. He was mayor of Albury in 1876 and 1877 and was an alderman until about six months before his death, when he resigned due to ill health. He was also judge of the Albury Racing Club and a committeeman of the Albury Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Society and of the Vine & Fruit Growers' Association.

James Day died on October 3, 1891, aged sixty seven, leaving a family of four sons and three daughters. His obituary in the *Border Post* commented that "he was a remarkably well liked man. Known to almost everyone ... Mr Day had a legion of friends."

### **William Day**

William had a lower profile locally than his two elder brothers. He moved to Albury in about 1870 purchasing *Waterview* on the Howlong road. After moving into Albury, he died aged 69 on September 7, 1909, leaving a family of seven daughters and four sons.