

# ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC BULLETIN

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OCTOBER 2009

495

## REPORT ON THE SEPTEMBER MEETING (9/9/09) & NSW HISTORY WEEK

Thirty members and guests met at the Commercial Club for a thoroughly enjoyable evening of historical interest set around the theme of the beginning of WWII, it being 70 years almost to the day since the announcement of the outbreak of war with Germany.

Joe Wooding launched proceedings with a review of the *Border Morning Mail* of the first weeks of the war. Large black headlines on the front page of the edition of 4 September stated "War is declared on Germany." It went on to report that the Railway Bridge over the Murray River was to be guarded by the militia, taking over from the police. An additional 20 men were needed to fulfill the necessary guard duties that included the Hume Dam and the Wirlinga Ammunition Dump. Volunteers were asked to report to the Drill Hall if they were available for a 16 day camp.

Subsequent issues of the paper contained some war news, but in less than a week the war had slipped to page 26.

The *BMM* of 9 September was a special Albury Show Edition and the focus was very clearly on that event.

Joe then invited two of our members, Patricia Strachan (nee Angel) and Geoff Hamilton, to tell a little of what they remembered of wartime in Albury.

Patricia Strachan recalled how she came to be scanning the skies over Albury for aircraft from the top floor of the CML

## NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY

14 OCTOBER 2009

7.30pm at Commercial Club  
Albury

**Speaker: Stuart Richardson,  
Manager Dams—Goulburn  
Murray Water: "Goulburn  
Murray Dams and infrastruc-  
ture."**

## QUESTION OF THE MONTH

When and where were  
the first residential es-  
tates constructed by the  
Albury-Wodonga Devel-  
opment Corporation?

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## ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

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### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Single: \$22

Family: \$30

Corporate: \$50

Research undertaken \$25 first hour

Enquiries in writing with \$25

**History 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](http://www.alburyhistory.org.au)

Building and later an observation deck at Billsons Park.

Her older sister was 'aeroplane mad' so jumped at the opportunity to join the Volunteer Air Observers Corps (VAOC). Her sister, however, was also a good tennis player and was vital to the chances of her team in the Saturday afternoon pennant. Patricia was 'volunteered' as a replacement observer on Saturday afternoons, so had to learn the trade, even though Latin homework was pressing.

The observation post was equipped with a telephone to report sightings to HQ at Wangaratta and the walls were papered with aircraft recognition posters.

Aircraft were few and far between, however on one occasion when Patricia was on duty with her sister a plane did appear. It was duly reported to Wangaratta who said: "Good, that is the Anson we have been expecting."

Patricia remembered another snippet: in 1942 the new Albury Public Infants' School was being built. At the time the infants were housed in an open-sided shed. It was rumoured that General Macarthur wanted the brand new building for his Headquarters. But he reckoned without Infants' headmistress, Miss Pope, who wrote a blistering letter to the General setting out the needs of her charges. The Headquarters went elsewhere.

Geoff Hamilton was working at the Albury Railway Station. He remembered troop trains arriving from Sydney just after daybreak. First the soldiers transferred their gear to the train standing on the Victorian side of the platform then lined up at the refreshment rooms for a breakfast of sausages and eggs. With breakfast finished they rushed the railway telegraph office to send telegrams to their families. The cost was 14 words for one shilling and one penny for each extra word. Private soldiers received 3 or 4 shillings a day so telegrams were not cheap.

Telegrams were sent by Morse Code from the railway telegraph office after the troop train had departed.

Geoff taught himself Morse Code and was able to receive the information about numbers of passengers, quantity of freight on the next train that was sent from the point of departure without having to wait on the regular telegraph staff to turn up. This enabled Geoff to get a head start on preparations for the arrival of trains into Albury.

Geoff also remembered the 4th Employment Company (made up of friendly aliens) who camped at the Showgrounds and marched to work at the railway yards each day. One he remembered was John Steinbeck, a Swiss national who shared Geoff's interest in Boy Scouts.

Several other members contributed. June

Shanahan remembered men on bicycles who rode round the streets to see everyone was obeying the rules when the air-raid siren sounded. Jan Hunter's book includes North Albury during the war years. One resident remembered a policeman arriving at the Al-

**Border Morning Mail**  
Created Exclusively from Benalla to Wagga, and in the Rich Upper Murray District  
WEDNESDAY IS INCORPORATED THE ALBURY DAILY NEWS (Established 1885)  
VOL. XXXV. NO. 10,666 ALBURY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1939 PRICE 1P

# War is Declared on Germany

## Mr. Chamberlain Makes Grave Decision

**GERMANY IGNORES BRITISH ULTIMATUM**  
**HIGH COMMAND HIDES GRIM NEWS FROM THE PEOPLE**  
**RUSSIA WARNS BRITAIN AND FRANCE TO KEEP OUT OF CONFLICT**  
**ITALY MAY REMAIN NEUTRAL; AIR RAID SIRENS SOUND IN LONDON**  
**France Delays Her Declaration of War—For a Few Hours**

LONDON, September 3.  
Great Britain has declared war on Germany. The momentous decision breaking a period of 21 years of peace between the two nations was made at 11 a.m. to-day by the Prime Minister (Mr. Neville Chamberlain).

Britain's grim decision followed the silence of Germany to the British ultimatum that the invasion of Poland should cease. The British Broadcasting Corporation earlier broadcast a Downing Street communique that Sir Neville Henderson had informed the German Government at 9 a.m. that unless by 11 a.m. the Government was given satisfactory assurances that German troops would be withdrawn from Poland a state of war

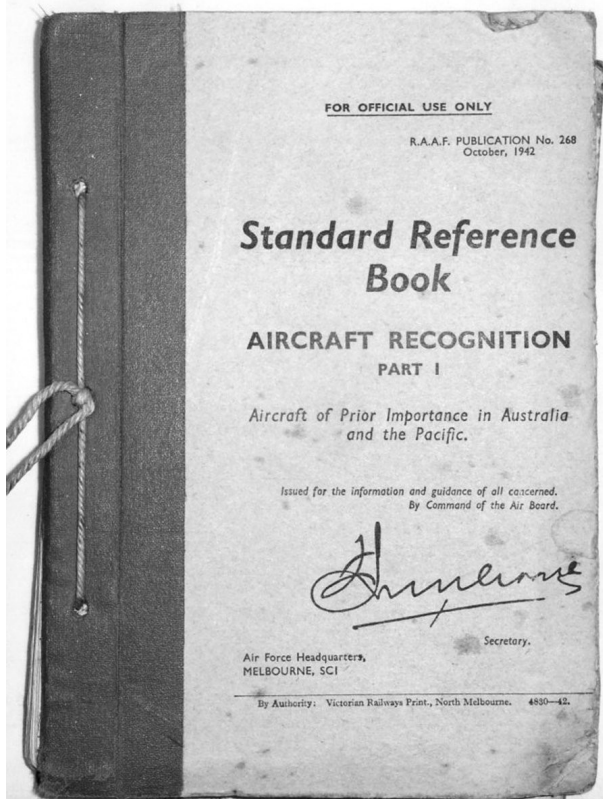
**BATTERSBY LONDON HATS**  
MATE'S  
HATS  
30/-

bury Golf Club on his motorcycle to say "War has been declared", while at All Saints Church, Canon Statham interrupted his sermon to announce that the war had begun. During a mock air-raid a flour bomb landed in the backyard of a North Albury house.

Jan Marsden remembered the chaos of queuing to be among the first 10 into the butcher shop to have some choice of meat. This situation was rectified by the introduction of rationing.

Ron Haberfield remembered butter coupons being glued to sheets of cardboard to preserve their otherwise fragile nature. The shortage of petrol meant Haberfield's Dairy had to revert to horse-drawn delivery carts. These were made out of cut-down car and utility bodies. Horses remained in use till the 1960s.

Eric Cosser remembered Italian Prisoners-of-War working on farms in the district. John



**Aircraft Recognition Book issued in 1942 for use by Volunteer Air Observer Corps and other branches of the service including Air Training Corps RAAF.**

Craig was a child living in Sydney at the outbreak of war. He was evacuated with many others to 'safer' areas in the country. He went to his grandmother at Inverell for a time.

#### **12 SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS RAAF**

Chris McQuellin completed the evening with a power point presentation on the Air Training Corps in Albury 1940-46 that trained young men aged 16 to 18 for entry into the RAAF. Of particular interest were the Albury & district personalities who made up the officers of the unit: Lester (Harley) Davidson, Edgar Passant, Herbert Turnbull, John Proust, Lyle Ferris, Arthur Dennison, John Roach (Corowa), and Arthur Murphy (Culcairn)

Chris's excellent book on the history of 12 Squadron is in Albury Library. Copies are available from the author at a cost of \$25, proceeds going to the current RAAF Cadet unit.

#### **ANSWER TO QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

*When did the Albury Post Office clock first strike, and what hour did it strike?*

This question proved to be a difficult one and it was left to Joe Wooding to provide an answer:

Dr Andrews in his history of Albury, informs us "The Town Clock, for the first time, marked the

passing of the old year and many who gathered to listen welcomed the new with a firm hope of better times to come."

He doesn't actually say the old year was 1879 and the new 1880 or this was the first time the clock had struck. The clock tower had been completed several months earlier. Newspaper reports in the *Albury Banner and Wodonga Express* kept the public informed of events leading up to New Year.

**October 18 1879:** The long looked for Post Office clock had at length come to hand. It arrived at Wodonga on Thursday. (Obviously by rail.)

**November 1 1879:** During the past week, Mr Tornaghi, who contracted with the government to supply and place in position, the Post Office clock, had been busily engaged in getting the said timepiece in order. The bell was rung in the early part of the week, and to judge from experiments made so far, the striking of the clock should be heard distinctly for a long distance from town.

**November 8 1879:** The clock at the Post Office has not yet settled down into regular habits. For the first few days, there was a trifling irregularity which might of course have been anticipated, and which was rectified on the return of Mr Tornaghi from Melbourne. On Thursday however, it went wrong again and has not been going since a quarter to eleven on that day. The clock is constructed to go for fourteen days but the striking portion of the machinery will have to be wound up every ten days. Mr Huguenin has been entrusted with this task and is to receive 10 guineas for his trouble.

#### **HISTORY WEEK 5-13 SEPTEMBER CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALBURY LIBRARY-MUSEUM**

History week began with an Antiques & Collectables Valuation Day at the Library Museum on Saturday 5 September. Elizabeth Stevens, Antique Dealer, Diamond Valuer & Gemologist assessed 350 items on the day. Ms Stevens is the proprietor of Chilton's Antiques with branches in Miranda and Bondi. One person who brought in an heirloom bracelet received a pleasant surprise when it was valued in the tens of thousands.

June Shanahan organized the event and Catherine & James Browne and Jan Marsden gave valuable support.

Albury Library staff obligingly opened the Library half an hour earlier than usual. Our thanks for that assistance.

## CITY WALK

### THEME: *CRIME, SCANDAL & CORRUPTION*

Eighty people attended a walk on Sunday afternoon, 13 September, to hear presentations by Society members. The walk began and finished at the Albury Library Museum, visiting the old Court House and the old Town Hall.

### DANIEL MORGAN BUSHRANGER

Presentation by Rupert Paech

The Dan Morgan story would take hours to cover, starting with a small time thief and ending with a vicious killer. I will mention only a few places along the Billabong or not far off: Wallendule, Mahonga, Bulgandra, Walbundrie, Urangeline, Walla Walla, Doodle Cooma Swamp, Coppabella and Round Hill. All were held up on one or more occasions.

#### Urangeline (21 August 1863)

This was the time when Henry Baylis with three other men attempted to corner Morgan in thick wooded country, only to have the tables turned and to be shot himself. Morgan's mate was also shot and his body found some years later.

#### Mahonga. (18 March 1865)

This was the place where Morgan had a man dance on a table. Robert Rand, the owner was forced to dance a jig while Dan applauded. When Robert got tired he was told to continue on at his peril. When he left next morning Morgan took his usual clothes, gun and other articles from the station store. I have been in the room where this event was supposed to have happened many years ago; not a lot of change in the room, no table there though.

#### Wallendule or Wallendool

On Wednesday 5 August 1863 Morgan rode into Mr Gilbanks' station. He tied up Mr McDonald and Mr Baldock near the edge of the station, then proceeded to the head station house where he bailed up Mr. Gilbanks. He took two horses, two guns, two saddles and other property value of £60. On leaving he released the other two men.

#### Bulgandra

Morgan turned up at Bulgandra woolshed on 3 November 1863, an outstation of Mr. Gibson. All the men as well as Mr. Gibson were lined up next to the woolshed. Mr. Gibson was robbed of his watch and forced to write a £30 cheque for each of his employees. Nothing came of this as all cheques were stopped the next day. He was there the next day before moving on.

#### Walbundrie

Only a few days later, Morgan held up Thomas Kidson and his brother at Walbundrie station. He destroyed some arms and again took



**Morgan's Lookout giving 360° view of the surrounding countryside at Walla Walla. The rocky outcrop surmounts a hill on the Paech property.**

two valuable horses saying he would not bother them again. Only a few weeks later he was back at Walbundrie, but when reminded of his promises he dropped everything and left in a foul mood.

#### Walla Walla

Richmond Henty claimed he was not bothered by Morgan because he looked after the traveller and treated his men well. But, when the Stitt's took over the run, Morgan declared they were not treating their workers well and threatened to put things right. Another story that circulated in the Stitt family was that Morgan waited for the men to leave, then went to the homestead and took what he liked. Ellen Stitt, wife of the owner, kicked Dan on the leg, so he put her and the servants in the dairy block and locked the door. This story came from members of the family who had never been to the station and wanted to know if there was a dairy block. As there is one, this piece of oral history may have a ring of truth to it. The time of this visit was about 5 November 1863.

#### Round Hill.

One of the most infamous of Morgan's bad deeds occurred at Round Hill station. On 19 June 1863, Samuel Watson, John McLean, Mr McNeil, a cattle dealer, and John Heriot were sitting around a table when Dan arrived and wanted to know where the grog was. He then ordered dinner and ate it with his pistols beside him. A few glasses of gin then they all went outside where another seven men were held. Morgan was about to ride away when Watson commented, "those are stirrup-irons you stole". He turned around and shot Watson in the hand and began shooting in all directions. One shot hit Heriot in the leg, breaking it. Dan then came to him and looked like killing him when Watson pleaded for his life.

Heriot was carried into the house and McLean offered to get Dr Stitt from Walla Walla station. He had not gone long when Dan decided to follow him and caught him soon after. He accused him of

going for the police and shot him. Morgan took the badly wounded man back to the station. He stayed around for two hours with the two men he had shot, then left. Dr. Stitt attended McLean, but he died some days later.

#### **Coppabella.**

I won't go into this one except to say that Sergeant Maginnity was shot dead by Dan on the Tumbarumba - Coppabella road on 24 July 1863.

#### **Doodle Cooma Swamp.**

On 14 September 1864, the police were in a type of tent when shots rang out with bullets going through the tent. Not being injured they left the tent and returned the fire, but Sergeant Smyth was hit. He was taken to Albury but after three weeks he died.

#### **Peechelba**

Dan Morgan met his end at Peechelba station on 9 April 1865. When he was shot, he claimed they did not give him a chance. Some of the men he had shot did not get a chance either; different rules for him it appeared.

There are so many more stories on Dan Morgan, one could spend a half hour on any one hold up, but time is limited, thank you for your attention.

### **SEDITION TRIALS**

#### **THE ALBURY COURT HOUSE IN THE HEAD- LINES IN 1909**

Presentation by Ann Brennan

In 1909, this Court House was the scene of court cases which created news, here and internationally, when striking miners from Broken Hill were tried here. There was some testing of the judicial system, which we colonials had inherited from the Mother Country. The English legal system was designed to protect the King/Queen and later, the Parliament as well as the property and businesses of the upper classes. There was lack of opportunity for the miners to negotiate without using strike action. During the 1890's the Australian laws of Sedition and Treason were updated and the Broken Hill trials have been considered to be notable cases.

The Industrial Revolution had taken its toll and by the end of the 1800's there was a global movement towards the rights and need for more respect, towards workers. During the 1890's the workers were starting to unite and make demands. In 1907 all Australian States had Labor Governments.

Broken Hill was one of the toughest places in Australia for a town to get established. It was a hot, dusty and alien landscape, with little water and by the turn of the century had a population of about 27,000. The administrative centre of the State was Sydney, several days away by steam train. The people of Broken Hill needed a water supply and felt that the State Government wasn't listening!

### **INDUSTRIAL UNREST IN BROKEN HILL**

In 1902, the British unionist, Tom Mann, made his first visit to Broken Hill and introduced the international slogan of "Workers of the World Unite". There was a major strike and thousands of picketing miners marched behind a band along the main street, headed towards the mine. The police moved in with batons and revolvers. The workers lost on this occasion, but Tom Mann inspired the workers, union membership flourished and unrest continued.

My grandfather, Micky Flynn, was one of the striking miners and my grandmother, May (nee Ellertson), told me that living conditions in the Silver City, during those times, was intolerable, with families having no money for food or necessities and about half of all babies having died before they turned five. Many of the workers be-



**Chris McQuellin introducing presenter, Ann Brennan, outside the old Albury Court House during the History Week Walk**

come very ill and died young from Miners' Lung Disease.

BHP claimed that prices were falling and was planning to cut wages (to below the Federal minimum wage). During the summer of 1909 Broken Hill was in the grip of strike action with radical, Henry Holland, advocating violent revolution. The Premier had to send an extra 200 police to Broken Hill. Mann and 27 protesters were charged with riotous behaviour, unlawful assembly and assault. Mann was allowed out on bail on condition that he refrain from any public speaking, so the unions arranged for him to speak outside the State border and about 4,000 supporters travelled to hear him.

#### **ALBURY TRIALS**

The NSW Government arranged for the trials to be held in Albury, (probably believing that Albury juries would be more likely to convict the

unionists), where Mann and Harry Holland faced charges of sedition, while Walter Stokes and John May, William Rosser and Joseph Lyons also faced charges of riot etc. Those participating in the trials had to travel from Broken Hill, through Murray Bridge to Melbourne and then on to Albury – on steam trains – a trip taking several days. According to the report of the event by Howard Jones, (*Border Mail* 28 July 1990) - Extra police were sent to Albury from Sydney and journalists were in great numbers, with news of the trial being relayed by telegraph, around the world. The night before the trials, Tom Mann was met at the Albury Station by about 200 sympathisers and they marched in procession to the George Hotel in Dean Street. Glasses were raised to “Human Freedom”, and the “Working Class of Albury”, and they sang the “Marseilles”, which is the French National Anthem, espousing Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Others involved in the trial gathered at the Royal Hotel in Hume Street.

Several juries were sworn in, with some local men being on more than one. The members of the juries were mostly local farmers and tradespeople, and perhaps they understood a hard day’s work. Mr. Justice Pringle had to release Tom Mann, but was loud in his opinion that Stokes and May had been misled by Mann who was bent on stirring up unrest. Mr. Pringle referred to the unionists as a “mob of ruffians” and praised the work of the police. He also said that he felt that Harry Holland had gone to Broken Hill in order to make trouble. Tom Mann said that there may have been no violence if the procession of unionists had been allowed to take place without the police charging in with batons.

Tom Mann used the trial to enhance the cause of the workers and upon his release, was carried on the shoulders of supporters to the balcony of the George Hotel from where he addressed the crowd in Dean Street.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Tom Mann was acquitted and returned to England where he helped to start the Communist Party there and was well-known for his socialist views until he died in 1941. In the case of William Rosser and Joseph Lyons the jury couldn’t agree so they were acquitted of damaging a railway line, but Lyons was later jailed for assault.

Henry Holland was jailed for two years for Sedition and his Albury trial is mentioned in reports and papers concerning discussion on the legal issues of Sedition and Treason. He served only five months of his sentence. He started the Labor Party in New Zealand. He was elected to Parliament in 1918 and became leader of the Opposition. Holland died in 1933.

Miners, Walter Stokes and John May were



**Howard Jones makes his presentation from the stairs in the foyer of the Albury Art Gallery. This building was the Albury Town Hall built in 1907-8 and used till 1974 when the new City Offices were opened in Kiewa Street.**

jailed for three and two years respectively. In the case of Sidney Robinson and Harry Gray, the jury could not agree so they were let off. Robinson died of Miners’ Lung Disease in February 1924.

Following the trials, a group of supporters was formed to fight for the release of those jailed and, as reported by Howard Jones, the newspaper headlines then became centred on the impending visit to Albury by Nellie Melba.

Some years later it became necessary to hold an inquiry into the working conditions of miners because of the rising number of miners struck down by illness and premature deaths due to Miners’ Lung Disease.

This report comes from several sources including microfilm (held in LibraryMuseum, Albury) of the *Border Morning Mail* 1909 and the report by Howard Jones in the *Border Mail* in 1990.

### **SCANDAL & CORRUPTION IN COUNCIL**

**Presentation by Howard Jones**

This building was the Town Hall built in 1907-8. The next year the council appointed a new town clerk, Albert Dore.

Dore was town clerk for 25 years, from 1910 to 1935 when he was forced to resign. He was born in Victoria in 1875, educated at Melbourne Grammar and Melbourne University. He became a schoolmaster at Geelong Grammar but moved to Albury for health reasons, when he was 35.

Dore arranged the finance for council’s largest projects at the time: installing electricity (1916) and the first sewerage system (1919). By all accounts he was a very good town clerk.

However, by December 1934, the council was in serious financial crisis. Dore had allowed rate-payers and business people to run up arrears of £41,275, equivalent perhaps to \$8-10 million today. Much of this was in unpaid electricity bills. (Albury Council was the electricity authority at

the time).

During 1935 this figure was reduced to £25,780 but was still a very serious debt.

The council auditor was aware of the long-running arrears but did not report them to the mayor, Alf Waugh, or aldermen because of his friendship with Dore. By late 1935 the situation became so bad that Dore's staff told the council and the works committee decided to sack Dore.

Dore had an alcohol problem and was by now in hospital. He resigned before he was dismissed, and had to pay back £480 he owed personally in unpaid rates by forfeiting his entitlements such as outstanding pay and retirement money.

Dore was judged to have been guilty of a gross neglect of duty, though wasn't charged with a criminal offence. He died in December 1937, aged 62. The auditor was accused of conduct "not worthy of a man in a position of trust".

Who was actually accountable to the public? The *Border Morning Mail* castigated the aldermen, who it said couldn't grasp figures from a balance sheet. Cleaver Bunton, an accountant and auditor, was on the council for six years until 1931, but was not on the council in 1935. He was re-elected in 1937.

The financial mess was cleared up in a year or two by Dore's deputy, Roy Collings, who became town clerk and served 24 years until he retired after a very distinguished record of service. Jack Carter followed and was town clerk until the council relocated its offices to Kiewa Street in 1976.

### **THE PYJAMA GIRL MYSTERY**

Presentation by Bridget Guthrie

On 1 September 1934, the body of a young woman clad in silk pyjamas was discovered in a culvert on the Howlong Road several kilometers west of Albury. A ten year investigation ensued firstly to discover the identity of the victim and secondly to apprehend her killer. The mystery had all the hallmarks of a crime thriller and attracted media attention worldwide.

When police failed to identify the body it was placed in a formalin bath at Sydney University and there it remained until 1944.

In an incredible coincidence, an Italian immigrant, Tony Agostini confessed to killing his wife Linda and dumping her body near Albury. The confession was obtained in person by NSW Police Commissioner William McKay.

The body was re-examined and this time the dental records were found to match those of Linda Agostini and several witnesses who had previously failed to identify the body now said it was Linda Agostini.

A copy of the Pyjama Girl's death mask is on display in the Crossing Place exhibition at the Albury Library Museum. Bridget Guthrie used as her main reference a book by Richard Evans, *The Pyjama Girl Mystery*, Scribe Publications 2004. A copy is available at Wodonga Library.

A transcript of the ABC Rewind program hosted by Michael Cathcart and broadcast on 1 August 2004 contains a lengthy interview with Richard Evans. [www.abc.net.au/tv/rewind/txt/s1161693.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/tv/rewind/txt/s1161693.htm)

### **MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES**

#### **Albury Base Hospital display**

There is now a two-case display of heritage items in the Staff Canteen of the hospital. Photographs of fifty items in the collection have been added to the catalogue database. Work continues.

#### **Light Horse Museum Bandiana**

The 8/13th Victorian Mounted Rifles Light Horse Museum has been closed since April owing to serious concerns about the structural stability of the roof trusses. Doug Hunter and Kevin Monte are volunteers at the museum and Chris McQuellin a frequent visitor.

Work was able to continue on repainting the Centurion tank located in the car park. This tank has a long history including service in Vietnam with 1st Armoured Regiment then as a training vehicle with Victorian Mounted Rifles. When this type of tank was withdrawn from service with the Army this vehicle was allotted to VMR as a museum piece.

Re-painting has involved hundreds of hours of chipping, wire-brushing and sanding to remove

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## **ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS BUFFET**

Saturday 12 December at the Albury Commercial Club

6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

Cost \$33 per person

Names with money to June Shanahan by 30 November please.



the old paint and apply a coat of rust inhibitor. Then a coat of undercoat was applied and a finish coat in bronze olive enamel. The seventy-year-old ex-crewmen found they had lost some of their youthful vigour and agility as they climbed over and into the tank.

**Sewing & other support to LibraryMuseum**

Jan Marsden and Jan Hunter are sewing padded cushions and sausages for the LibraryMuseum. These are used to pack around fragile items before they are placed into storage boxes. The ladies are also making padded covers for work tables. All the items are made of archive quality calico and filled with polystyrene beads or batting.

Helen Livsey and Chris McQuellin continue to identify photographs in the Paper Collection store at the Kiewa Street building.

Margaret Royle, fresh from her work entering the Hospital archive onto the database, has now put the Savickis papers into order. They are housed on new shelves at the Thurgoona store.

**Soldiers**

Two members responded to the enquiry in Bulletin 494 seeking information about soldiers from Albury in the 56th Battalion. Leighton Passant and Jan Hunter advised of descendants of three men. This has been passed on to Craig Tibbitts at the Australian War Memorial.

The September 2009 issue of Descent gives details of the Fromelles Project and a list of missing soldiers and seeking family members to provide DNA samples. It is hoped that DNA might enable some soldiers to be identified and thus able to be buried with a named headstone. Helen Livsey or Doug Hunter are happy to provide a copy of the list to anyone who thinks they might have had a missing relative at Fromelles.

**ALBURY MARCHING GIRLS 1961**

*Border Morning Mail* 3 October 1961

Albury Marching Girls joined the procession to the North Albury-Lavington Olympic Pool Committee sports at the Albury Sportsground yesterday—and ended up with 30 new members.

About 20 girls formed into two groups—one dressed in red and white uniforms, the other in blue and

white—marched to the sportsground and then gave a display.

Until recently, Albury Marching Girls had been dormant because of lack of leadership and training. But following efforts by the girls themselves, yesterday marked their return to city displays.

Last week the girls held the first business meeting, accepted an invitation to take part in the procession and began training.

**UNIFORMS**

On Thursday night they found there were not enough uniforms but this problem was solved yesterday by borrowing uniforms from older members who had retired from the group.

After the marching demonstration yesterday the girls appealed over the public address system for new members.

Thirty names were received from girls wishing to join.

During the past week another 12 girls joined the 20 original members and membership now stands at about 60—large enough to form two big squads and two smaller squads.

This article occurred alongside the *BMM* Editorial of the day commenting on a decision of the Albury & District Historical Society to write “The Story of Albury”. The editorial noted:

In a work of this nature there is room for good writing; and extracts from the works of such writers as “Tom Collins” and “Rolf Boldrewood,” and reproductions of the work of local artists such as Jack Bennett, could be included.

In the nearly fifty years since the decision, no monumental work of literature has appeared, but the ‘Story of Albury’ has been recorded in a multitude of ways and continues to be written, collected, conserved, displayed, researched and talked about. In all of this the A&DHS and its members have been prominent.

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**Dartmouth Dam**

Do you have any memorabilia of  
the construction or opening of  
this gigantic water storage?  
If so bring it along to the October  
Meeting.

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Yes I/We will be attending the Christmas function.

NAME/S .....

Cash / Cheque for \$..... Attached/enclosed.

Phone contact: .....