



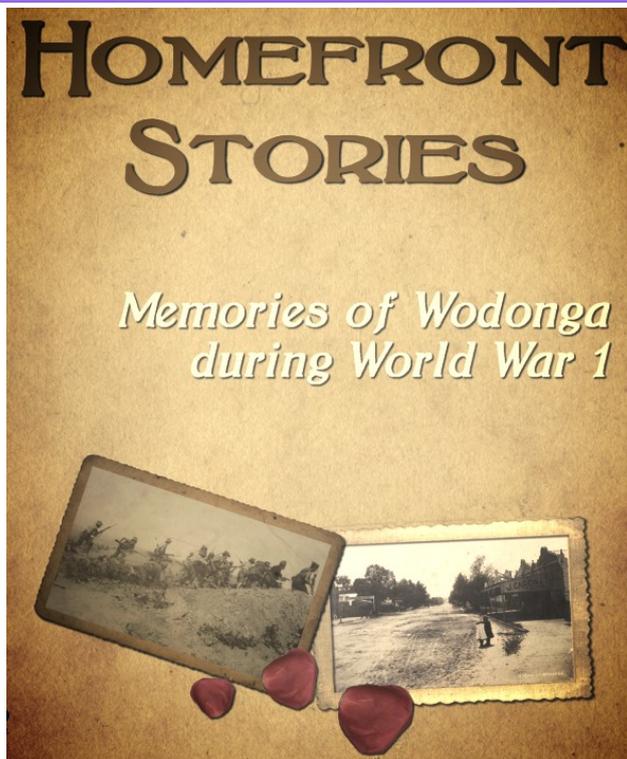
PO Box 822 ALBURY 2640

www.alburyhistory.org.au

For Your Reference A&DHS account details are:

BSB 640 000 Acc No 111097776

Registered by Australia Post PP 225170/0019 ISSN 2207-1237



Next Meeting

**Wednesday, December 12
7.30 pm, Commercial Club
Sutherland family Albury &
Thologolong Station
Speaker: John Henwood
Members Show & Tell**

**ALBURY CITY
COUNCIL FOYER
ARMISTICE : ALBURY
5 Nov18 - 5 APR 19**

Page 2 Helen Newman
Page 4 Public Art in Albury
Page 6 Spanish Flu
Page 7 Armistice Day

REPORT ON NOVEMBER MEETING (10.11.2018)

Shirley Collins and Cheryl Blomley were welcomed by the President as new members to the Society. Intrepid members trekked through the bush in October on a bus trip to Lake Urana where Chris de Vreeze, our tour leader revealed hidden features of the landscape and the lunettes. There is a report on the website and in the Bulletin.

A three hour workshop was held at the Albury LibraryMuseum about the Spanish Flu pandemic by Dr Peter Hobbins who is a medical historian at the University of Sydney and a Councillor of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Helen Newman, who is an award winning Australian film maker spoke on her diverse film work in many countries around the world. Her documentaries tell the stories of conflict, poverty, oppression, celebration and survival in war zones, refugee camps and remote indigenous communities. She showed two of her short feature films on the World Wars: Homefront Stories and Then He Came Home.

Danielle McMaster is the Urban & Public Art Officer for Albury and the mastermind behind the fabulous wrapping of the otherwise drab NBN boxes around town. She spoke about many exciting projects in the works including a totem pole/river gauge at Noreuil Park and a wind sculpture in AMP lane. Richard Lee shared a poem written 50 years ago about the Hovell Tree by Mrs W.McGrath. Greg Ryan previewed his latest book, Xavier High School – A History of Catholic Education in Albury which he was commissioned to write for the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy arriving in Albury. He thanked Helen Livsey and Cerena Meredith for their invaluable research assistance. Howard Jones reported on a well attended and moving Armistice Day service held at the Pioneer Cemetery.

HELEN NEWMAN

NOMAD FILMS

'Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage'- *Anais Nin*

"Over the years I've been filming I've had plenty of moments to ponder the truthfulness of this simple quote by Anais Nin, a woman who lived passionately and with courage. Regularly I film people of courage but not always do I see their lives expanding, at least in a physical sense. However, I think this is where the courage lives, in the lives of people who, facing incredible odds, continue to create community, share resources, laugh at stupidity, and love with honesty. It is always humbling to be welcomed in the lives of courageous people." (Nomad Films Website.)



My filming career began by documenting refugee stories, one being the Kosovars in Bandiana. The video camera becomes a device to give people a voice who don't normally have a voice. Humbled and honoured to be invited into the world of vulnerable people to tell their stories I became addicted I guess. My earlier work included Anthem, a feature doco about the SIEV X refugee boat that sank, commissioned by what is now Screen Australia. This film went on to win best Australian documentary in 2006. My next project "Apna Ghar" was in India working with a very inspiring individual, Ravi Rai Manas and his organisation CoME, creating life changes for children who have been abandoned and now live on or beside the railways. "Living on Landfill" is the story of Burmese refugees on Thailand who live on a rubbish dump on the Thai/Burma border.

"Cambodia's Daughters" investigates the brutal sex trade in women and girls who have been trafficked into brothels in Phnom Penh. It also gives some hope showing those who have escaped this slavery and the people who are helping them.

My Australian work includes lots of human interest films both locally and nationally.

"Creating a new Normal" was commissioned by the Victorian Women's Trust to record how communities are rebuilding after the devastating Black Saturday bushfires.

"Ripple Effect" was a locally produced story funded by a Border Trust grant looking at domestic violence and the myths about why women do or don't leave abusive situations.

"A Spiral Mind" tells the story of Kurt Saggars, a local jewellery artist living with mental illness. It has been on iView and ABC TV.

Currently I am working on "Solstice", a documentary following the story of the Baker family after the suicide death of their daughter Mary. Featuring the Winter Solstice event founded by the family that evolved out of that tragedy and is held each year in QE2 square.

I also film various circus, theatre and dance projects including all the Fruit Fly Circus productions. My latest technical learning curve has been with 360 Virtual Reality and projection mapping. I am developing a VR 360 project around local Indigenous Elder, Aunty Nancy's memories of growing up in two worlds. Learning about her culture and traditional lifestyle from her grandmother while being expected to live in the white world of missionaries. I also work with large and small scale projection and projection mapping. Where images are mapped to fit onto different shaped surfaces. I created a digital science and arts animation underwater world to tell the story of the endangered fish the Pygmy Perch. The audience walked into a large circular space that replicated them being underwater in the fishes environment.

The local history projects I have been involved in include "Then He Came Home" and "Homefront Stories" a World War I film I created for the City of Wodonga. In 2016 I was commissioned to create a short documentary about the experience of people living in Wodonga at that time. This was funded as part of the Victorian government ANZAC community grants.



Filming Aunty Nancy by the Murray
Photo Courtesy Nomad Films

Six interviewees were asked about what it was like to be left behind when people went to war and what happened when they returned. The challenge was to 'bring the stories alive' with a limited budget so I used archival images sourced from the Wodonga Historical Society, the Australian War Memorial and the National Library which I animated slightly to make them a bit more dynamic. I created a soundscape using music from the era and audio from old World War I documentaries. To bring the film to life and not rely just on still images I shot footage at Jindera Pioneer Museum to underpin some of the stories. The film has become a resource for individuals, schools and community groups to use in a way that helps to give a more local relevance to the stories of the Great War.

The making of "Then He Came Home" was brought about by research local playwright Leisa White was doing into the stories of returned indigenous soldiers.

From there it became a collaboration with the local indigenous community as we uncovered more and more stories about the role indigenous people played in the war, the experiences of the families left behind and the experiences of the men when they returned from war.

Maggih Coates worked with Leisa and I to connect with indigenous people she knew who had stories of family members going off to the war and we conducted a series of interviews with them. Like all history there were many layers to the stories and war time events were also wrapped in various other stories, such as being stolen, mission life, escaping government homes, so often the interviews became rather complex and took some unravelling to make sure the focus stayed mostly on the war time experiences whilst not diminishing the significance of the other relevant stories. We asked a local young indigenous man, Ezekial Wighton, to be the narrator throughout the film, our reason for this was to bring a fresh voice and engage younger people with the stories that maybe are being lost, or just told less over time.

In terms of creating visual interest I again used archival photos from Australian War Memorial, and National Library as well as private collections and slightly animated them.

There was a lot of federal legislation relating to the rights and freedoms of indigenous people at the time which was relevant to the film and I felt it was important to include that not just in Zek's voiceover but also in text so I created a series of stylised graphics for the film.

For the soundtrack I decided not to use soundtracks from the era but a composition that was more ambient and evocative of the emotive elements of the film. I also recorded local artist Darren Wighton playing the didgeridoo to create some of the soundtrack.

Lake Urana trip, October 2018

Tour Leader Chris de Vreeze

Our first point of interest was Billabong Creek at Walbundrie which enters a zone of very low gradient and so follows its meandering course to Deniliquin. Not far beyond Walbundrie, we stopped at Bulgandry, on its right bank. Once a declared gold field, as was Walbundrie, and both are Wiradjuri place names. Doug Hunter's family has a long connection with the village and Doug writes "Bulgandry was a thriving hamlet around the turn of the nineteenth century with churches, school, hotels, post office, and football and cricket teams. The township faced the Urana Road and extended back across what is now a bare paddock. Only two pise (rammed earth) ruins remain. The decline began with the positioning of the railway five kilometres to the north where the town of Rand grew up." Rand was named after a prominent early grazier Robert Rand. From there we proceeded further before climbing to the hillock known as Mahonga Travelling Stock Reserve, from which can be seen 360 degrees of flat country, punctuated by the flat hill, Goombargana ("The Turtle") – a memorial marker to the Cuddeford family was located before we moved on past Uranagong on the northern side of the back Urana Road, and, given the dry conditions, was filled to near capacity. Thence to Urana (or 'Aireena', the sound of quail rising), once a great rural centre but still home to the Lake and the wondrous eastern lunette. Calostemma lillies still flourish here. We moved on to the southern lunette burial site which dates back many thousands of years. It was barred to entry but antiquity of habitation has been well established. The bus was expertly piloted over the western shoulder of Goombargana, through the hamlet of Balldale, the State Forest of Kentucky, past both Howlong's hotels, Jingerra lagoon and so home to Albury. No pensioners were harmed in the production of this tour.



PUBLIC ART IN ALBURY

Danielle McMaster
Urban & Public Art Officer

Public art is cropping up on the streets of Albury. Sculpture, murals and vinyl wraps on utility boxes are some of the things that AlburyCity is doing to consciously create a sense of place and contribute to arts growth in our region. Public art is vital to community and cultural development. It can play a key role in the vibrancy of a place, it makes people feel good about the environment they live in and it

stimulates debate. By identifying key themes and locations of relevance to the community we can use art to bring a sense of place into the fabric of our daily life, to teach people about their history and highlight key events, or places of importance to our community.

Art is a wonderful way to stimulate urban renewal, ongoing growth and vibrancy in our city. This year Ken Raff's *The River* was installed at the end of Dean St on the Corner of Creek St. *The Fern* by Michael Laubli was installed on the corner of Smollett St and Wodonga Place in the Botanic Gardens. We have rolled out the wrapping of thirty NBN boxes with beautiful and creative designs from a diverse range of members of the community, including a walking trail of eight of the boxes in dual language, English and Wiradjuri. There is a tour map on the Albury City website of these boxes.

<https://www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au/leisure-and-culture/public-art/creative-nbn-boxes>

We officially opened The Browns Lagoon Reflection Area in conjunction with West Albury Rotary, installed bomb proof seating down Kerr Rd, Thurgoona and continued the growth and development of the Yindymarra Sculpture Walk. The Walk currently has 11 sculptures and funding has been approved for 5 more.

Still to come this year will be a fantastic Totem Pole/River Gauge in Noreuil Park, a wind sculpture in AMP Lane and many more murals all around the city. We will also continue to wrap more utility boxes and hope to spread these further out from the CBD to Lavington and Thurgoona. Boxes with an historical theme include the Pemberton St billy cart races and the Girl Guides in Kiewa St. In East Albury there has been a request for a wrap featuring the seven "sister" houses in Wilson St. The Floral Festival and "old" industry in the town will also be included on 5 more boxes.



Welcome and thank you to our new corporate sponsor: Baker Motors.
490 Young St, Albury.

The importance of public art in our community spaces will continue to grow and develop into 2019 with some very exciting projects to be unveiled throughout the year. Focusing on the things that make Albury the way that it is; its unique history, its natural features and the diverse group that call this place home will continue to shape the way we commission and install public art in this city.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH ANSWER

In the dark days of 1942, the picture theatres became involved in helping the war effort. What was required to get matinee admission ?

The Regent Theatre would give cinema goers a free ticket for an aluminium object thus assisting the war effort.



Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Albury City has asked contractors to submit quotations for a city-wide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study.

Albury City Council Minutes

CSU Regional Archives in Wagga Wagga hold Albury City Council minutes 1859-1970 at RW 3046. There are gaps in the holding 1875-1896, 1901-1906 and Jan-June 1966.

Our Pyjama Girl Mystery

The ABC has an iView cartoon explanation of the pyjama girl mystery.

<https://ios.tviview.abc.net.au/programs/twist/DO1713H010S00>

History Advocacy at a State Level

Ahead of the Victorian State Election, the RHSV asked all parties to respond to several questions including:

Will you provide greater support to the volunteer community history movement?

How will your party enable communities to protect their heritage at a local level?

Do your party policies including funding local government to enable it to identify and protect heritage?

Will your party commit to ongoing and increased funding for Heritage Victoria's Living Heritage Fund?

Access to land records

RAHS has been in contact with NSW Land Registry Services (NSW LRS), which purchased the Concession, commencing on 1 July 2017, to operate the land registries on behalf of the NSW State Government for 35 years. RAHS wanted to reinstate the print and save function for the non-regulated HLRV products. This does not seem possible, but members wanting to print and save "free" (non-regulated) HLRV record sets. NSW LRS has an interim copying arrangement in place. Customers can [email](#) to request a free copy from the non-regulated record sets. They will receive a copy of this via return email.

Changes to marriage forms

Family historians in both states are complaining about proposed Commonwealth changes to the approved forms made under the Marriage Act 1961 and Marriage Regulations 2017. The proposed changes will remove several items from the notice of intended marriage (NOIM) form, and consequently they will no longer appear on official marriage certificates. Usual occupation Usual place of residence (full address) of the "Parties (i.e. Bride and Groom) Father's name in full (If not known, write "unknown". If deceased, add deceased") Mother's maiden name in full (If not known, write "unknown". If deceased, add "deceased") Children by previous marriage or out of wedlock.

Community History Awards

Winners of the Victorian Community History awards are available at

<https://prov.vic.gov.au/community/grants-and-awards/community-history-awards>

North Albury or Albury North – Wagga Wagga or Wagga

The December issue of *Placenames* blames Department of Education place naming policy for putting the direction behind the place name. It also alleges that only locals are allowed to call Wagga Wagga, 'Wagga'.

MAMA Exhibition -Sentient

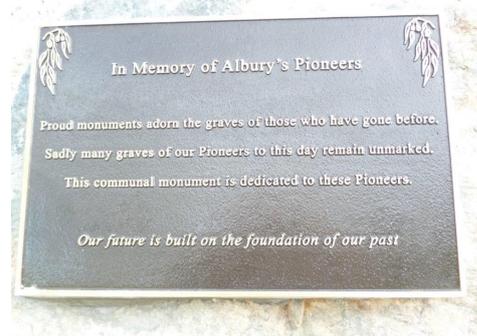
Two resident visiting artists developed an exhibition on the river border shown in November. It included suspended fabric paintings and video works that drew from conversations with local communities around the life of the River Murray in the border cities of Albury Wodonga, splicing together interviews with short performances by the artist. These and the artists' pictures propose accounts of origins, migration and the complexities of river usage over time.

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

Peter Hobbins, Sydney University historian and Royal Australian Historical Society councillor, with help from Mary Sheehan, a Melbourne based historian, conducted a 3 hour workshop in Albury on the impact of the 1918/19 influenza pandemic known as 'Spanish Flu.' Peter started with an overview of the pandemic, explaining the etymology of the word influenza – it came from the Italian word 'influentia,' as in superstitious medieval times the illness was thought to be due to unfavourable astronomical influences. Worldwide there were between 50-100 million deaths and up to 15000 in Australia – the figures are quite 'rubbery' as records were not well kept especially in countries like India. Why it was called "Spanish" flu? – in April 1918 King Alphonso XIII of Spain was gravely ill with the flu and as his illness was reported worldwide, there was a false perception that it started in Spain. The illness peaked in Europe in October 1918. Every ship to Australia was quarantined for 4-6 weeks but the virus eventually breached Australian quarantine in Melbourne in January 1919. It then spread from Victoria, in spite of closed borders. Patient zero for NSW passed through Albury by train. Most deaths occurred in fit, young and healthy people which has never been adequately explained. Tragically there were many deaths in many returned servicemen who had survived the ravages of World War I. We heard of a Wodonga man, William Toohey, who returned from war after being gassed in France, married his sweetheart in Albury in January, travelled to Melbourne with his bride for their honeymoon, contracted the virus there and on return was admitted to a quarantine hospital at Wodonga Racecourse and died in early February. The virus reached Albury in February 1919.

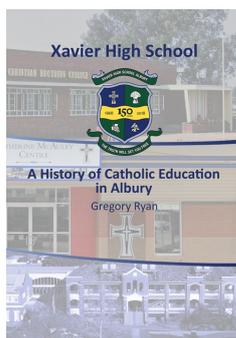
There is a blog referring to the community workshops, including that at Albury at <http://www.phansw.org.au/public-history-exploring-productive-relationships-with-partner-practitioners/>

Long-time Albury resident Mrs Dawn Craig has been instrumental in causing a plaque to be placed at the north end of the Albury Pioneer Cemetery in remembrance of all who have no memorial to remind us of them. Dawn's great grandmother, Isabella Petts, and her stillborn baby, were buried in the original burial area at the Sandhills in 1854 and Dawn wanted to ensure that their existence was recorded. Mrs Craig is grateful to the Council and cemetery staff for placing the plaque in memory of all who have no memorial, and she has also arranged for two plaques, on a rock provided by Council in the same area, to record her Petts relatives. Some years ago a rock was made available for grieving parents to record babies buried in the Pioneer Cemetery. Small plaques can be added to it as well as to the new one slightly further north.



Xavier High School – A History of Catholic Education in Albury.

The book by Greg Ryan begins with the first Catholic school in Albury in 1855, about 90 boys and girls under one teacher in South Albury. In 1868 the first Sisters of Mercy arrived in Albury. In 1917 Albury's Christian Brothers' College for boys was established – the school became Aquinas College in 1959. CBC/Aquinas and St Joseph's Ladies' College evolved independently until 1983, when co-education was reinstated with the amalgamation of the two schools to form Xavier High School. Alumni include Australian Attorney General, an Australian Ambassador to the US, three a Wimbledon Champion and many achievements. The book features past students. Also considered are the removal of Government assistance to World Wars and the Great Depression. Xavier High School Office, Albury



Armistice Day Centenary, November 11, 2018

Albury & District Historical Society member Chris McQuellin played a significant role in organising the commemoration service for the centenary of the end of World War I hostilities. Society members placed flags on the graves of 115 World War I servicemen buried and/or memorialised at Albury's Waugh Rd and Pioneer Cemeteries.

Hundreds gathered at Albury's Pioneer Cemetery on Armistice Day, Sunday 11 November for the special centenary service, organised by the city's RSL sub-branch.

Member for Farrer, Sussan Ley, told of the reaction on the Western Front to peace on November 11, 1918:

"Once the news spread, all over the world, people were dancing in the streets and drinking champagne, but at the front there was no celebration ... No words today or any day can do justice to the lives of the 61,721 Australians who were then dead, but from the magnitude of their sacrifice our young nation emerged more confident to take its place in the world."

Albury mayor Kevin Mack paid tribute to the role of local people: "The volunteers, the nurses, the ladies' auxiliaries and those people who raised money for much needed war bonds and food to be sent to the front, they are the people who are unheralded in a lot of ways."

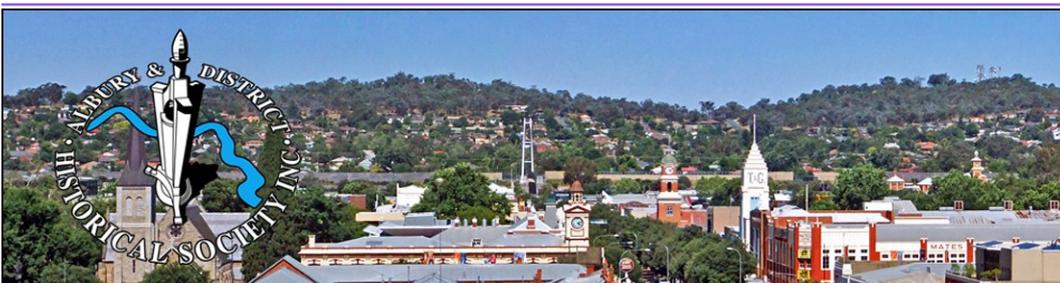
Member for Albury, Greg Aplin reflected on what can be learnt from the commemorative service: "This is a reminder that the wickedness that leads to war will pass, that evil philosophies and atrocities will end, that friendships can be rebuilt albeit over time and a reminder that war is the failure of diplomacy."

The Albury City Band, Scots School Pipe Band, the Sing Australia Group and Dianne Prince provided a musical focus for much of the service.

Two wreaths were laid in memory of two decorated soldiers buried in the pioneer and general cemeteries, one by Darcy Bishop, great grandson of Charles Bishop and the second by Rowan Chalmers-Borella, son of Albert Borella.



The A&DHS Team worked hard on Saturday afternoon and early Sunday morning. They installed the flags of origin and some documentation of war service on the graves and memorials of all the WW I soldiers and airmen found so far.



Visit our website for photos of old Albury, history articles and much more. Go to: <https://alburyhistory.org.au/>



Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Albury.DHS>

The Hovell Tree poem

From the Border Morning Mail November 1968

Great gaunt gum tree standing there,
Steeped in history as you are,
Did those weary men of old
Rest 'neath you, at even star?

History honors now those men,
Famous now that trek so stalk
You now wear your badge for me,
They blazed a relic on your bark.

What changes you have seen, old tree,
From wagons slow to screaming jet.
Buildings and bridges fade away,
But you old tree, are standing yet.

Tough as they were, those pioneers
They took what came, the snow, the heat
You too, have faced the seasons wrath,
Too proud are you to cede defeat.

You do not wear the golden crown
As worn by, wattle, fickle, fair,
You wear a far more precious thing
A crown of glory, antique, rare.

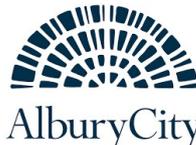


(signed) Mrs. W McGrath "Meath Park"

The Hovell tree poem by Mrs. W C McGrath of Bungil near Granya. Mrs. McGrath wrote the poem and sent it to the Albury & District Historical Society because of the Hovell tree anniversary at that time. The tree would have been celebrating 144 years.

A&DHS Corporate Sponsors

Albury & District Historical Society receives generous support from the following sponsors.
Please click on the logo to visit their respective websites.



Special thanks to the Commercial Club Albury Ltd for supplying a meeting room for many years and also for their continued support.
Please click on the logo to access their website.

Disclaimer:

The Albury & District Historical Society Inc., and/or its members, through this newsletter, endeavours to provide accurate and reliable information, but does not warrant or make any representation regarding the accuracy or reliability of information contained within this newsletter.

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the Society and/or its members shall not be liable for any damages of any kind relating to the use of this information, including without limitation, direct, indirect, special, compensatory or consequential damages, loss of profits or damage to property, even if the Society and/or its members have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Patron: Patricia Gould OAM

Honorary Life Members:

Howard Jones, Helen Livsey,
June Shanahan, Jan Hunter.

President: Greg Ryan

Vice-President: Joe Wooding

Secretary: Helen Livsey
02 6021 3671

Treasurer: Simon Burgess

Minute Secretary: Jill Wooding

Publicity Officer: Jill Wooding

Public Officer: Helen Livsey

Committee: Marion Taylor, Howard Jones, Chris de Vreeze, Bruce Pennay, Ray Gear

Bulletin Editor: Marion Taylor
marion.taylor7@bigpond.com

Publications & Stock Officer: Ray Gear

Bulletin dispatch: Richard Lee

Meeting Greeter: Jill Wooding

Web Editor: Greg Ryan

Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm usually at the Commercial Club Albury.

The Committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 3 pm at the Albury LibraryMuseum.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Single: \$25 Family: \$33

Corporate: \$100

Note: There is a \$10 surcharge for mailed Bulletins.

Research undertaken, \$25 first hour. Enquiries in writing with \$25