

PO Box 822 ALBURY 2640

<https://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



Justin Clancy's grandfather, John Clancy (white shirt) with a team of horses pulling a wagon in Henty

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

7.30 pm, Commercial Club

Archaeology research into local Aboriginal cave art.

Speaker: Claire Doolan

**ALBURY
LIBRARYMUSEUM
'Albury Views'
until June 14 in the
LibraryMuseum foyer**

Page 2 Clancy Connections
with Albury

Page 4 Show & Tell

Page 6 Did You Know

Page 7 Fifty Years Ago

REPORT ON DECEMBER MEETING (11.12.2019)

Our December meeting opened with Greg Ryan introducing two new members, Allan Wilson and his sister Denise Stewart. While welcoming them to A&DHS, Greg pointed out that there are two centuries worthy celebrating – we have passed 100 members of the Society (if couples are counted as two and corporate members are included we have over 140). Secondly, over 100 years in total has been served by current committee members – this includes 36 years by Helen Livsey, a fabulous effort.

Greg introduced our guest speaker by detailing his own family relationship to Justin Clancy. Justin opened his address by congratulating the Society on our work: “we need to have people in our community who have a passion for heritage and a passion for history ... it’s an important task and a task you perform really well.” Justin then went on to explain the Clancy family’s Irish origins and the links the family has with the local area.

The centenary of ‘turning the first sod’ to start construction of the Hume Dam was celebrated on November 28. A photo gallery featuring the commemoration of the event can be found on our website at <https://alburyhistory.org.au/eventsactivities/>. You can also find all of Joe Woodings’s *Border Mail* articles describing construction and much more at <https://alburyhistory.org.au/hume-dam/>.

Richard Lee presented his regular ‘50 Years Ago’ and Joe Wooding his ‘Did You Know.’ In ‘Show & Tell’ we had a plumb bob from Hume Dam construction, local cordial labels, an orange cricket ball and a ball counter, photos of a surveyor on his bicycle at the Hume Dam site and of the Mitta Mitta & Murray Rivers junction, a great-aunt’s diary and a British Empire Medal. Greg thanked members for their support throughout the year and wished members and guests a peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2020. The meeting then closed and supper provided by the Society was enjoyed by all.

Elected in March 2019 to represent the Albury Electorate in NSW Parliament, Justin Clancy spoke of the Clancy family's Irish origins and their long association with the Albury District.

History is story telling, but rather than just giving a talk, I would rather see it as a discussion, an opportunity to share information and stories.

Studying Ancient History at boarding school, something that 'jumped off the page' for me was the ancient Roman expression *mores maiorum*, "the way of the elders" and that resonated for me back then and still does today. I grew up on a diet of stories about family and I hope that I can do it justice. I can close my eyes now and see my father sitting at the table with friends and talking about farming on the Riverina. To me as a kid growing up, that was something special.

Many families have been part of my heritage, Carroll, Dalton, Egan, Spillane, Condon and others, but my focus will be the Clancy family. I also find locations, our country, fascinating, especially coming 'from the land.'

I have chosen to start with a photo of palms gracing the old *Willow Park* homestead, lost in the raising of the Hume Dam. A new house was built in which we lived from 1986 until 2015 when the property was sold – we could look out at those palm trees and be reminded of what was. It was also a reminder of the old Bowna village – people are now talking about building more dams but in the 1930s Bowna was uprooted, so just imagine the dislocation suffered by those communities.

The Bowna cemetery was also on our property at *Willow Park* – not a lot of headstones are left but before we sold the property, I photographed every headstone that I could identify. Families such as the Grays and Hores are part of that history.

With Bowna flooded by the dam, the locals had the 'Church of the Pioneers' built. At the laying of the foundation stone in 1934, Bishop Dwyer was reported saying "that new churches were fortresses to save the world from the influx of paganism. The city Press printed anything in favour of religion in a little corner, while three or four columns were devoted to the gods of the day, such as Don Bradman, Chipperfield, and the Japanese tennis players."

Armed with a map produced by my aunt, I travelled to Ireland in 2002 to find my Clancy origins. We called at a farmhouse in Limerick, bordering on Tipperary and after being invited in, we were taken to see the Clancy house (or hovel) located on the property.

Patrick and Bridget Clancy were married at the Glenbrohane church, Limerick, in 1832. The baptisms of their children are recorded in the registry of the church at Galbally – Margaret, John, Bridget, Daniel (who will feature in our story, born 1840), Mary and Honorah.

The Great Irish Famine of 1845 to 1848 is probably related to the decision of the Clancy family in 1852 to emigrate to Australia. The family travelled on the *Chowringhee*, arriving in Melbourne on July 13, 1852 after a voyage of 114 days. There were 319 persons on the ship, coming as sponsored immigrants, the Clancy family travelling in steerage. Newspapers reported that there had been a serious outbreak of cholera on board with eight lives lost.

Eldest daughter Margaret, aged 16, travelled under her own name, presumably as single young females received more in sponsorship because the colony sought more single young women.

The family settled in Kilmore. I don't know much more about Patrick and Bridget. Bridget died in 1872, Patrick in 1876. At about the same time, the two Clancy boys, John and Daniel (my great grandfather) travelled north and settled around Urangeline, taking a selection on the Brookong Station.

For supplies, Daniel and John would walk the thirty miles to Urana in a day, a second day to complete transactions and a third day to walk back – walking to save on the cost of stabling horses. I have been told that a selection in those days could be assured if a hearth was established and kept warm. If that hearth crossed the boundary of two titles then both could be claimed.

John remained a bachelor all his life, dying in 1917. By the 1880s, Daniel could afford to marry. In 1888, he married Margaret Condon. Daniel and Margaret had children Patrick, Joseph, John (my grandfather), Margaret, Annie and Daniel. Daniel Snr died in September 1910 and Margaret in August 1929 – both are buried in the Albury Pioneer Cemetery.



'Church of the Pioneers,' Bowna

Many would know Stan Clancy of Tabletop – his father Daniel married Elizabeth Carroll and her sister Margaret is my maternal grandmother. So Stan and I are related through both my father and my mother.

In 1988 the Clancy family celebrated 100 years at their property, *Arranmore*, Urangeline East, one of the two selections taken up by Daniel and John Clancy. The property is just east of the Urangeline East siding.

Patrick (Paddy), the eldest child of Daniel and Margaret, enlisted in the Third Pioneer Battalion and served in France in World War I. After a medical discharge at the end of the war, his parents bought him a property at *Clontarf*. He was spoken of as “mad Uncle Paddy,” the ‘madness’ probably a result of his wartime experiences. The story goes that after he returned from war, a new tractor was bought at Henty and he drove it through every German property between Henty and Urangeline, destroying fencing all the way. The other Clancy boys then had to spend the following weeks repairing all the fences. Paddy later moved to Yerong Creek and then drove taxis in Wagga. He died in 1924.

My grandfather, John Clancy, married Alice Spillane, the sixth of eleven children, born in County Kerry, Ireland. Alice came to Australia with a cousin in 1921 and lived with her aunt Margaret Maloney who in the early 1920s was licensee at the Pleasant Hills hotel. It is from there that Alice met and eventually married John Clancy in Henty in 1928. Their children were Margaret, Mary, Brian, Kerry (who died in infancy), Terence, Nano, Carmel and Frances.



Pleasant Hills Hotel

John had a passion for farming. He and Dan bred champion rams and grew record wheat crops. John wanted to grow the Urangeline township – in the 1920s the railway line went through, sidings and silos were built. John and Alice had the post office built and moved in for a while. John took up *Clontarf* after Paddy moved on and also at Killarney.



Clontarf

John Clancy died in February 1947. He, the local school teacher and the kids were in the paddock trying to rob a beehive when John fell out of a tree, possibly after suffering a stroke. Alice, his widow and a lady with tremendous drive, continued to run the farm and raise a family, the youngest only six months old at the time of John’s death.

My dad, Terence, talked his mother into letting him leave school at age 15 and came to run the farm and continued farming until he was 77 years old.

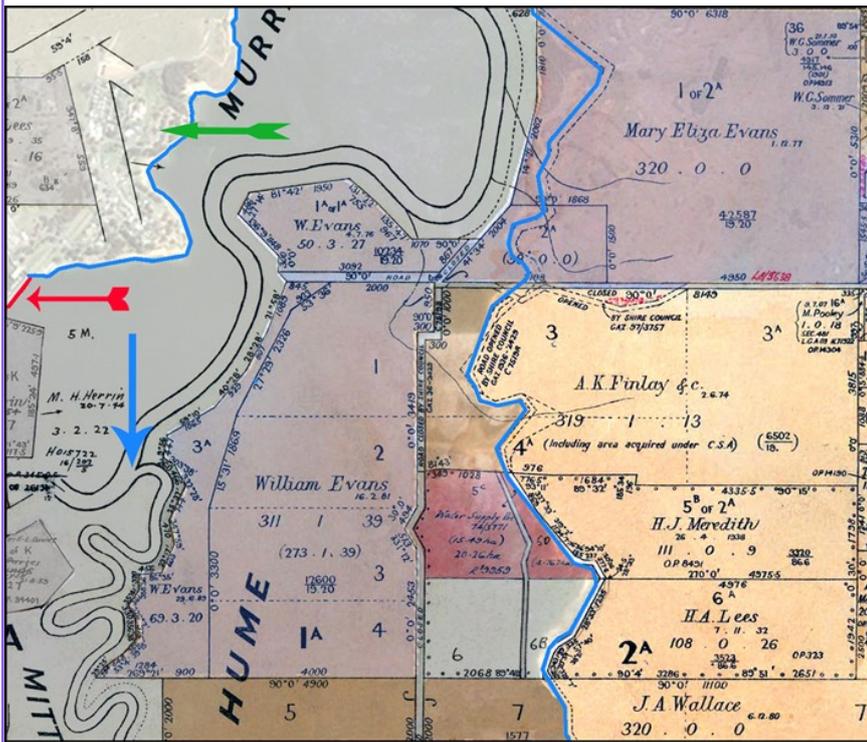
The question why politics? Dad’s older brother Brian was on Lockhart Council for a number of years and also Shire President, so growing up around people such as Brian and Tim Fischer, who was a local, probably had an influence. Our family was not a political family, but out there in the country, community is the big thing. Dad was involved on P&C, parish council, and things like that and I was brought up on a diet of involvement. So after time with groups like Rotary, politics for me is a natural extension to community.



Left: Harvesting on Clancy property; Right: Justin, his brother David and father Terence Clancy in 1999.

JUNCTION OF THE MURRAY & MITTA MITTA RIVERS

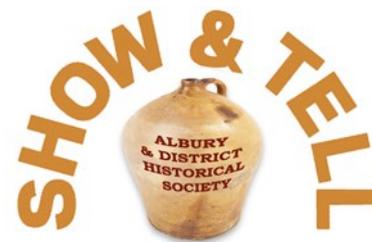
Greg Ryan



- Hume Dam shoreline (approx)
- ← Hume Dam spillway
- ← Hume Weir Village
- ← Junction of Murray & Mitta Mitta Rivers

Recently members of the Evans family provided us with a Parish Map and a Google Earth image of the same site. The Evans family have owned the land for about 140 years, but much of the land was resumed for construction of the Hume Dam.

When the Google Earth image is overlaid over the Parish Map, it becomes quite clear where the Hume Dam spillway is in relation to the junction of the Murray and Mitta Mitta Rivers, now beneath the Hume Dam.



SURVEYING THE HUME DAM SITE

Sarah Ind

Albury Library Museum was recently loaned a photograph album that originally belonging to Hume Dam surveyor Murdoch T Ironside. The album contains over 50 original photographs, including images relating to early survey work, formal photographs of staff and early construction photographs, captioned with the neat printed script of a surveyor's hand.

Of special interest is the inclusion of many informal photographs of Murdoch and other surveyors. These images show the surveyors relaxing in their tents, hanging washing, playing tennis and enjoying bicycle trips along the river. Although there are many photographs of Hume Dam construction in the Albury City collection, there are fewer images of workers, and only a small number of images showing workers engaged in everyday pursuits.

These images help to tell the story of what life was like for the men involved at the beginning of those long years of hard labour and toil in the building of the Hume Dam.



A photo from the collection: a man, possibly Murdoch Ironside, standing with his bicycle.



HUME DAM CONSTRUCTION PLUMB BOB

A plumb bob, about 15 cms high, provided by David Murray, and souvenired from the Hume Dam by his father, William Murray, a worker on the Dam in the 1930s. It is also interesting to note that David's great great grandfather was James Murray, a stockman and fencer for Charles Ebdon on the Mungabareena and Bonegilla runs in the 1830s.

ITEMS HANDED DOWN FROM MARY MULLAVEY

Cheryl Ryan



My items of interest belonged to Great Aunt Mary Mullavey, born in 1878 and died in 1923. She was the daughter of Peter Mullavey and Margaret (née Hickey) of Greenville, Bowna. This property was on the Sydney Road, north of the village of Bowna and on the banks of Mullengandra Creek.

Mary was single and helped her father and her three brothers on their farms at Mullengandra, Morven and Urangeline. She has left an exercise book with an account of time harvesting on these properties, recipes to feed workers, home hints (eg how to clean a stove with a mixture of boiled linseed, kerosene and vinegar). She also records in January 1912 the death of a worker employed by the family. With the help of Trove we have been able to find a newspaper article describing this tragedy and identifying the victim as 18 year old Herbert Cummings, a ward of the State, fatally injured in a wagon accident.

Mary also owned a store at Bowna village which was rented to Mr EJ Norman and later to Mr W Poulson from 1919 till 1923. Receipts are enclosed, also records of payment to Mates store, Father Slattery and Abikhairs in Albury. The book also has details of clothing made for her family and other country women – aprons were in demand as women had only one good dress and could not afford to have that spoiled.

The second items, two of these aprons, made of heavy cotton and decorated with black stitching, serviceable but also attractive.

These items show the range and type of skills needed for a woman from a farming background and the domestic labour without modern appliances and limited access to supplies. I am very proud to have these articles as a record of her life. She was my Great Aunt in more ways than one.

IVY BEATRICE ODEWAHN'S BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL

Roma Freeman

Roma Freeman brought along the British Empire Medal awarded to her grandmother, Ivy Beatrice Odewahn in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 1966. Ivy worked for the United Protestants' Association, Girl Guides and Red Cross. Her father, George Whitehouse Griffith, was born in Birmingham, England. He came to Australia and had businesses at Manildra and Walla Walla before returning to England to help Red Cross place families of World War I soldiers. He died of pneumonia in Birmingham in 1918.

Ivy married Roma's grandfather while working at a shop in Walla Walla and she and her husband lived on a local farm called 'Hill & Dale.'



WILSON'S CORDIAL LABELS

Allan Wilson & Denise Stewart

Keith & John Wilson started Wilson's cordial factory in Smollett Street, started in the 1920s. New Society members, Allan and Denise, had a number of items for display – a framed set of a variety of Wilson Cordial's products found in an antique store at The Rock, a soda stream bottle with the logo of John Frederick Wilson and a number of advertisements for Wilson Cordials from the *Border Morning Mail*. Allan also pointed out that Wilson Cordials won a contract to manufacture a drink called 'Passiona' for Cottees Cordials which was distributed right across Australia.

Allan digressed to describe how he would wag school in West Albury to travel with Tommy Brown on his horse and cart, picking up ice from Wilsons and delivering around town.



ORANGE CRICKET BALL

Joe Wooding

Joe produced an orange cricket ball, explaining this was one of the colours trialled for night test matches. He explained that white balls quickly lost their colour and were not suitable for a day night test match innings having to last at least 80 overs. Hence the pink ball tests.

He also produced an 8 ball counter. Since its inception, cricket has used 4, 5, 6 and 8 ball overs. In 2020 in England, matches of 100 ball innings will be staged. The format will be made up of ten 10-ball overs. Bowlers deliver either five or 10 consecutive balls so two bowlers can be used per over.



TRAVEL IN THE 1850s & 60s



The cost of travel around the 1860s was not cheap.

A glimpse of costs at the time was provided with bank manager, J Walker Jones, on a salary of £400 per annum, plus £1 per week for his servant and the same for his horse.

In June 1858, Lewis Jones was taking coach bookings which included Albury to Yackandandah 15/- to Beechworth £1.10.0 and to Melbourne £7.10.0. Albury to Yass was £7.

In July 1858, Adam Kidd and William Brickell were offering five horse American wagon transport to Melbourne on a monthly basis. Fare not published.

In 1860, our roads weren't great. Mr Lockhart (Crown Land Commissioner), was approaching the Advance Australia Hotel (Sodens) when his gig capsized after hitting a small stump. Again in 1860, the Telegraph Line of mail coaches were offering a fare to Melbourne of £4.5.0, running through in 27 hours. The fare to Chiltern was 15/-. In 1861 their fare to Melbourne was £5.5.0 and to Chiltern still 15/.

In 1864, Lewis Jones was offering a return fare to Wagga for £5. The trip was 16 hours each way.

In 1866, paddlesteamer owners saw an opportunity. The 'Lady Daly' was offering return tickets between Wahgunyah and Echuca at £3 each. The 'Wahgunyah' offered deck passengers a £1 trip each way. The attraction was the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1866. The Victorian government had just opened the railway between Melbourne and Echuca.

Joe Wooding's
did?
YOU?
KNOW

ROYAL MAIL LINE OF COACHES
To and from BEECHWORTH,
YACKANDANDAH, ALBURY, SANDY
CREEK, SNOWY CREEK &c
From the Commercial Hotel, Beech-
worth... .. 6.30 p.m
Clarence Hotel, Yack-
andandah (every day) 2.45 p.m
Exchange Hotel, Albury 6 a.m
FARES—Beechworth & Yackandandah, 7s 6d
Albury, 5s.
CRAWFORD & CONNOLLY, Proprietors.
J. H. B. SPEARING, Booking Clerk.

An advert in the *Ovens & Murray Advertiser*, June 1865

HONORARY DOCTOR OF ART FOR BRUCE PENNAY

[Adapted from a report in the *Border Mail*]

Congratulations to long-time A&DHS member Bruce Pennay, who has been named an Honorary Doctor of Art after more than four decades of service to higher education on the Border.

The Charles Sturt University associate professor was recognised by the university council for his “exceptional achievement and service to the university and the Albury Wodonga region.”

The citation that supported Dr Pennay's nomination said both his “professional and personal pursuits had aligned with the university's goals of enriching the lives of regional Australians.”

Bruce commented: “I feel the award is also a recognition of the efforts of many people who struggled to secure and advance a higher education presence in Albury Wodonga, and then helped establish a university campus engaged in developing a vibrant regional culture.”

“I am grateful to the School of Environmental Sciences and the Institute of Land Water and Society which have encouraged my interest in the historic environment and heritage. I am also grateful to colleagues in other faculties and university units which have collaborated with me in several really worthwhile projects.”



50 YEARS AGO, DECEMBER 1969

Richard Lee

The unveiling of Albury's waterwheel had taken place in November and a letter to the editor by Bob Garland suggested that the Historical Society should run a merry-go-round for the children with the Society to organize such. Still on Historical Society matters, the Annual General Meeting was held at the CWA Hall with A&DHS Patron Alderman Cleaver Bunton conducting the election.

On December 3, a serious hail and wind storm necessitated a big clean up while the Astor Hotel-Motel had just been sold to a Sydney Company for \$455,000. Wool was still the money winner for the town and Dalgety, Farmers & Graziers and Younghusband Ltd were the main trading companies. Sales consisted of 50% Merino, 50% Comebacks and cross breeds. The bulk of sales were to the Continent, Eastern Europe and Japan.



Windsor Park Bowls Club on the corner of Young Street and Railway Place, opened their new clubhouse on December 6. It was stated that the club was formed in 1952 and greens were opened in 1956.

Mates, Albury's largest retail department store, advertised their animated windows to operate from 9.00am to 11.00pm. Santa would be in the toy department from 9.00am until 5.00pm and Mates' choir will be singing every morning at 9.30am until Christmas Day. Another Mates' advert (don't say I haven't given you a Christmas gift idea) "Give her a new K & S 'Duchess' [an Ironing board] for easier ironing, ideal for Christmas."

Plans for the proposed Hume Highway by-pass of Albury would be seen as soon as January next year (1970 – amazing!). Albury City Council received loans of almost \$1 million including funding for a new Town Hall, the second stage of sewerage for Lavington, a housing scheme project and road widening. This also led to a rate increase of 4 cents in the dollar to maintain the city's accelerated growth.

Lavington Sports Club outlined plans for a \$1 million development for the club. Farrah House 526 Swift Street was opened on Monday December 22. Also Sarah Coventry (fashion jewellery) moved into their new premises in Melbourne Road Wodonga. No date for manufacturing has been set said Mr George Grylewicz.

Hume Weir Motor Circuit was to hold a race meeting with six of Australia's best drivers to be in attendance – Jim McKeown, Peter Manton, Jim Smith, Lakis Matikas, Alan Hamilton and Bob Jane.

The Hume Weir Trout Farm was opened on December 27 by local members of Parliament, David Fairbairn and Gordon Mackie. The commercial trout farm was established by Norman and Alison Douglas. Norm passed away the week before our December meeting – he had been a member of our Society since the mid 1960s.



The Society is involved in presenting a session to explain how Trove might be used to explore the local past. The session is intended broadly for researchers, teachers, students and family historians.

Wednesday 12 February at Albury LibraryMuseum 4.30 to 6.00pm.

Bookings are essential 02 60238333.

Albury Newspapers on
 **Trove**
trove.nla.gov.au



Visit our website for photos of old Albury, history articles, past Bulletins and much more.

Go to:

<https://alburyhistory.org.au/>



Find us on
Facebook

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

RETICULATION OF GAS, WATER, ELECTRICITY & SEWERAGE

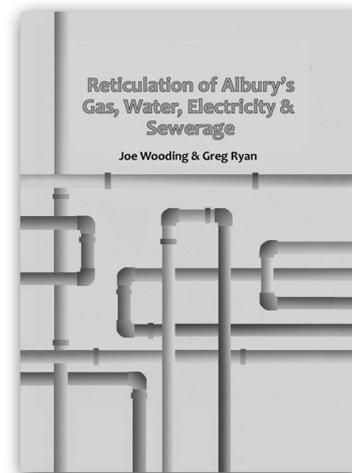
When and how did Albury get a reticulated gas, water and electricity supply? And what problems existed in relation to the disposal of sewerage in the early days of Albury and how was it solved?

The answers to these questions and more can be found in a new Society Paper written by Joe Wooding and Greg Ryan, "Reticulation of Albury's Gas, Water, Electricity and Sewerage."

It is now available for sale for \$15 through the Society or at Albury LibraryMuseum and Lavington Library.

Check other titles available in the A&DHS Society Papers series by going to our website:

<https://alburyhistory.org.au/resources/publications/>



The inaugural collaborative Wodonga Council and Albury City Council Festival of Art + Culture will be held from 6 March to 9 March. There are events in Wodonga, Belvoir Park, Bonegilla, Gateway Island and Albury, but not at Thurgoona or Lavington.

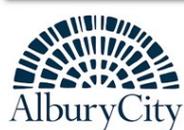
The festival showcases the work of local visual and performing artists. There is a standing invitation to visit Wagirra Trail and Yindyamarra, but apart from that there are no events related to exploring the past of Albury Wodonga.



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.



Thanks to Commercial Club for many years of support.



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.

Patrons: Patricia Gould, Greg Aplin

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: Greg Ryan

gmjryan@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: \$30 Family: \$35

Corporate: \$100

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

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