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Hilltop Carers' Accommodation Centre, Albury

Next Meeting

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, September's meeting has been cancelled.

**A&DHS
meeting
cancelled !**

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Mate's Ltd

VICE-PRESIDENT'S NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

Observant readers of our Bulletin will have noted that the address in our header above now includes 'Wiradjuri Country' – it is also included on our letterhead. We have responded to an initiative that has been supported by Australia Post. This is a small acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land that Albury is part of.

After some last minute changes, guest speaker at our August meeting was Charlie Leaney of Lavington Lions Club. The Club was chartered in 1970 and has produced a book titled "50 years of History 1970-2020". The book's primary purpose was to record the 'life and times' of the club's history. It was compiled by Charlie who has been the club historian and records keeper for over 50 years. We also heard from Ros Walls, describing her role as Team Leader Events at Albury City Council and from Greg Ryan with a short presentation on the census

A very warm welcome to new member Joy Grinham. We also welcome new corporate sponsor Armstrong's Financial Services. They join the sponsors listed on page 8 who have committed to continued sponsorship. Where it is possible, please support our generous sponsors.

As our September meeting is cancelled, rather than hearing Bruce Pennay with 'Grounding a Regional City in Albury,' his presentation will soon be available to view on our website. As a precursor to the 75th anniversary of Albury being proclaimed a city in December 1946, Bruce will outline the writing strategies he is using to develop a short historical overview of how Albury has been imagined, planned, represented and experienced from the town's beginnings to the present day. He tracks the influence of a select few town and city dreamers who shaped the fortunes and feel of the place from the ground up and unravels some of the ways people have made their own sense of the place. More information will be provided once the presentation is available to view.



**Fifty Years of History
1970 – 2020**



*Carved Intarsia Lion made by Charlie Leaney

Compiled by PDG Charlie Leaney

Charlie Leaney was born in Sydney and grew up on the family farm with an involvement in harness horse racing and blacksmithing. He was school captain of Punchbowl Boys High School before graduating from Newcastle Teachers' College. His first appointment was to Albury High School in 1962 as a Manual Arts teacher.

After 10 years Charlie took a career change. He was working part time at Wilkinson Printers and when one of the partners in the business was selling out, the second partner, Perc Nugent, offered Charlie the opportunity to become a partner, an offer which he accepted. In 2000 he sold his business interests and retired.

Charlie was a Charter Member of Lavington Lions Club. He has had over 50 years of involvement in Lions Clubs International and has received numerous awards in recognition of his contribution to community, national and international service. With an interest in history, Charlie became the club historian and has recorded in photos and words every event that the club has been involved in over its 50+ years. After a long process, that history has been condensed into a book outlining the club's major achievements. Below is a brief outline of the club's history.

The Club's History

The Lions Club of Lavington was chartered in 1970. The club started with 28 members, all male, and is one of 58 clubs in Lions District 201V6. The District is spread from the foothills of the Australian Alps to part of the Riverina plains around Deniliquin (about 600 km) and along the Murray Valley where it is divided by the Murray River. In 2021, Club membership is 42 (male and female) and District membership is about 1250. Lavington is one of four clubs in the Albury Wodonga area.

Lavington Lions Club has been involved in around 200 projects including:

- ◆ Food and drink catering mainly at harness horse racing. This is the club's largest project – the club owns a commercial kitchen and catering kiosk at the Albury Showgrounds and this is the club's main source of income. However, Covid restrictions have meant crowd numbers have been significantly reduced, so along with most other community service organisations, fund raising has become much more difficult in recent times.
- ◆ In 1978 the club took over construction and maintenance of the Foresters' Grove park, Wagga Road Lavington, assisted with a generous cash injection from AlburyCity.
- ◆ The club provides drivers for cancer patients at the Albury Cancer Hospital. This initiative involves club members driving to towns on both sides of the border, delivering the patient to hospital for treatment in Albury, then driving them home again.
- ◆ Hilltop Carers' Accommodation for cancer patients waiting for treatment and their families, has been made possible by the fund raising of Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Zonta and the Cancer Council. Lavington Lions has been a major contributor, raising \$50,000 and helping secure a grant from the World Lions organisation of a further US\$90,000. When the first stage of Hilltop opened at a cost of over \$3 million it was debt free. Stage 2 of the project opened in 2021 bringing the number of suites to thirty and when the next stage is complete there will be forty suites. Lions, Rotary, Zonta and the Cancer Council jointly own the facility.

Other service activities include assistance with physically and mentally disabled people, care of the aged, youth camp at Licola, truck and caravan show catering, dog show catering and Meals on Wheels. The club provided two welfare houses within UPA Aged Care in Wagga



Serving patrons from the Lions Club kiosk at Albury Harness Racing



Official opening of new facilities at National Foresters' Grove Park

Road Lavington and a suite within Albury Mercy Palliative Care.

The club participates in all district and national Lions Club projects such as Youth Exchange, Youth of the Year, Junior Public Speaking, Christmas Cakes, Lion Mints and Hearing Dog. Lavington has hosted youth from Japan, America, Slovakia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, Finland, Denmark and New Zealand. It has sent local youth representatives to Japan, America, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, Austria, Italy and Holland. The club participates in International Operation Friendship with New Zealand, Norway and the United Kingdom.

Since its charter Lavington has hosted four District Conventions, served a major role on the host committee of the Australian Multiple District Convention and has been strongly represented at District and National Conventions. Members have attended 24 International Conventions. Six members have served as District Governor and at least one member has served on District Cabinet for 44 of the club's 50 years. One member has served as MD 201 Lions Australia Council Chairman and one member has served as MD 201 Australia Youth Exchange Chairman.

The club has been awarded the District Governor's Top Club Award, an award for International Understanding, a Top Ten Award for Youth Exchange, Australian Lions Mobility Foundation media award and numerous other District, National and International Awards. Albury City Council has awarded the Lions Club the Community Group of the Year Award in 2007, 2011, 2015 and 2016.



Albury Community Group of the Year presentation at Noreuil Park

Lavington has sponsored four new clubs being Holbrook, Thurgoona, Yarrum New Century and Thurgoona & District. The club has twenty-two Melvin Jones Fellows, eighteen Chris August Memorial Award members, one International Ambassador of Goodwill holder, one ALF Hall of Fame member and two Life Members.

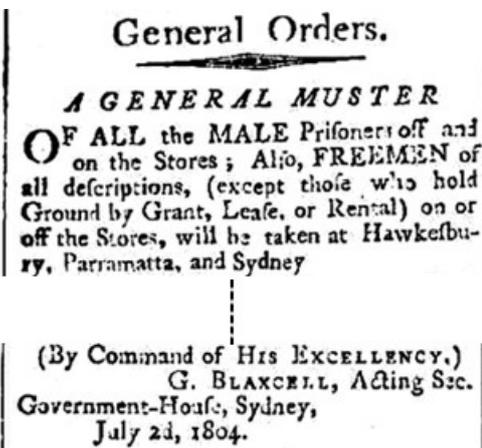
CENSUS NIGHT

Greg Ryan

The first systematic survey of the population of the New South Wales settlement was made in 1795 when Governor Hunter called a muster.

Musters were used to number people and to note whether they were victualled (receiving provisions) from the Government, as a means of assessing whether the Colony would be able to maintain itself without assistance from the public stores, and as a control over the convict population.

General musters, called by the governor, required all inhabitants, bonded (convicts) or free, to attend muster points. They were held regularly between 1795 and 1825. Different classes of musters were also taken, including settlers' musters, musters of livestock, musters of convicts, or specific ones that included only males, females or children or convicts per a certain ship.



The notice left appeared in the Government Gazette. The missing text (in part) is:

... on Tuesday the 10th instant at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Those at Sydney and in its districts to assemble in the yard at Government House.

Parramatta, Georges River and its Districts at the Court House Parramatta. Hawkesbury and in its neighbourhood at the Government House there.

And those at Castle Hill at the Superintendent's house at that place.

The Women prisoners, and those who are free, of all descriptions, with their children, whether on or off the stores, are to be present at the above places on Thursday the 12th of July.

The Settlers, of all descriptions, will be Mustered as soon after as possible—Notice of which will be given. All persons who do not appear at

those Musters will be taken up as Vagrants, and punished to the utmost extent of the Law, if free; and should any Prisoner be guilty of such Neglect, he will be sentenced to Twelve Months Confinement in the Gaol Gang—any attempt to impose false accounts of any Person, whether absent or present, will be punished accordingly ...

The first census was held in November 1828 after it was found that a Governor had no right to compel free men to come to a muster. The other factor was that as the population was increasing, it was becoming more difficult to muster at specific locations.

The 1828 census was held in NSW only and returned a population of 36,598. The census required name and age, whether bond or free, if born in the colony or year of arrival and ship, length of sentence (if a convict), religion, employment, residence, district, total number of acres, acres cleared, acres cultivated, horses, horned cattle, sheep, and remarks. Census officials went door-to-door to collect information that they recorded before moving on.

Censuses were held thereafter in 1833, 1836, 1841, 1846, 1851, 1856, 1861 and then every ten years to 1901.

Tasmania's first census was in 1836 (population 50,216), then in South Australia 1841, West Australia 1847, Victoria 1854 and Queensland in 1859. The first census of all six colonies was taken as part of 'The great census of the Empire of Great Britain' in April 1881 when the population of Australia was 2,250,194.

It is interesting to note that Victoria was the most populous colony from 1854 to 1892.

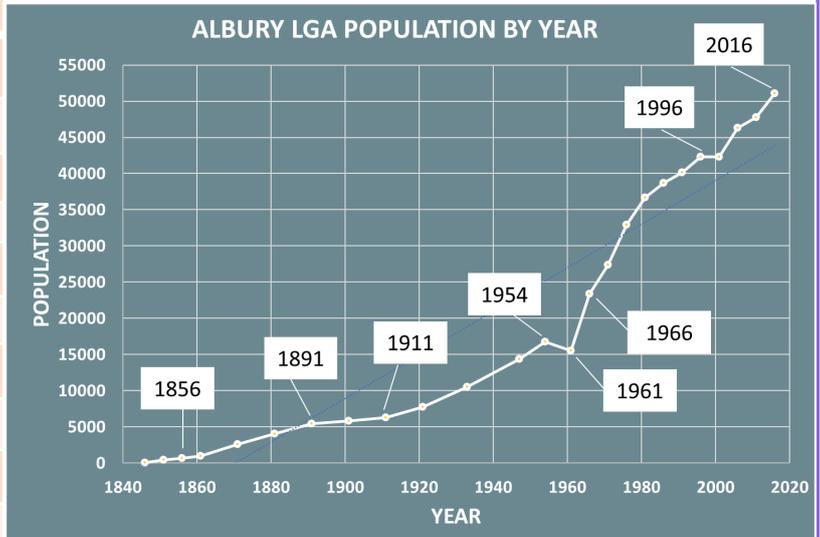
The first Commonwealth census was taken in 1911; after that in 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954, 1961 and from then on, every five years.



The *Garden Palace*, built for the Sydney International Exhibition, September 1879-April 1880, was situated just south of the present Conservatorium of Music. After the exhibition closed, the basement was used to house official records. Fire broke out in September 1882 totally consuming the building. Photo: <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/magazine/galleries/garden-palace-fire>

ALBURY LGA POPULATION

19 th Century		1901-1971		1976-2016	
1846	65	1901	5,821	1976	32,944
1851	442	1911	6,309	1981	36,684
1856	645	1921	7,751	1986	38,704
1861	981	1933	10,543	1991	40,154
1871	2,611	1947	14,412	1996	42,322
1881	4,040	1954	16,726	2001	42,314
1891	5,447	1961	15,514	2006	46,282
		1966	23,379	2011	47,810
		1971	27,403	2016	51,076



Notes:

- 1856 and 1861 numbers are from *Albury Banner* Sept 6, 1862.
- All numbers quoted for Albury LGA since 1911 are from records of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).
- Each dot on the graph line represents a census year.
- Lavington was added to Albury Local Government Area on January 1, 1962. The population of Lavington at the 1961 census was 3,065. Approximately 4000 Lavington residents were added to Albury LGA at the 1966 census.
- Albury's population figures vary in some sources. Bayley's *Border City* quotes figures, without naming his source, that differ from the above. The most reliable are the ABS figures but only since the 1911 census. Much early data is missing as in September 1882 the *Garden Palace* fire (refer to photo above) "destroyed the NSW census records for 1846, 1851, 1856, 1861, 1871 and 1881, including the detailed household forms from 1861, 1871 and 1881." <https://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/earlycensus/nsw>
- The table and graph above by Greg Ryan.

OUR POPULATION.— By the census returns it appears that the number of the inhabitants in "the town of Albury" was 981 last year against 645 in 1856; showing an increase of 336 in the past five years, or, at the rate of rather more than 52 per cent. during that period.

Albury Banner
September 6, 1862

ALBURY PIONEER CEMETERY WALK, APRIL 2021

Continuing our series of articles to publish the presentations at 'Distinguished, ordinary and forgotten women' on April 18, 2021 at Albury's Pioneer Cemetery.

CATHERINE SCANLAN (née Corley)

Gael Winnick (as told by Geraldine Hocking)

Catherine was born in Westport, Co Mayo, Ireland in April 1851, one of at least seven children of Patrick Corley and Mary Ellen Keary/Carey. She arrived in Melbourne in 1867 with her brothers James and John and there they joined the eldest brother, Thomas. Her brothers Michael and Francis arrived later. All five brothers who came to Australia were stonemasons, as was their father. These brothers built significant buildings in New South Wales and Victoria as well as the Catholic cathedral in Fiji.

Following her marriage to Edward Scanlan in Melbourne in 1870 the couple moved to El Dorado in the goldfields in Victoria where their first sons, James and Edward were born. They then moved to Albury, presumably later in 1873, as young Edward died early in January 1874 and is buried in Albury next to Catherine's grave. They lived in Albury in a very grand house, *Westport* (Sackville St) named after her hometown.

Catherine and Edward were married in a registry office in Melbourne. Catherine was a Catholic and had arrived in Australia with a document attesting to the baptisms of James, Catherine and John, presumably so they could get married in a Catholic church. I suspect Edward was the reason the event took place in a registry office rather than a Catholic church. Edward's parents were Catholic (father) and Church of England (Wales) (mother) and no record has been found of his or any of his siblings' baptisms in Ruthin. Apparently, there is some note in the margin of the baptismal books in Albury indicating his displeasure at the Catholic baptisms of his children. His funeral was conducted by the Church of England clergyman and he is buried in the Anglican section while Catherine is in the Catholic section.

By all accounts Catherine was a formidable woman and seemed to value education for her children. Her oldest son James, whose letters from South Africa were published in the local paper, wrote very well. Music also was valued. One of her daughters travelled around the district with Fr Hartigan, priest of the parish of Saint Patrick's in Albury, and played the piano while Fr Hartigan (John O'Brien) recited his poems which later appeared in the volume *Around the Boree Log*.

Catherine must have been a force to be reckoned with in Albury, a town where her husband was a mover and shaker. Could Catherine have had an influence on women's suffrage? It seems possible. She was a friend and strong supporter of Sir William Lyne who represented the district in the NSW Legislative Assembly and after federation was the member for Hume. He enabled "woman's suffrage legislation, enacted in 1901-02, introduced in his term" (<https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lyne-sir-william-john-7274>).

On December 11, 1903 Catherine had a stirring letter in support of William Lyne published in the *Albury Banner and Wodonga Express* urging the women to vote "Woman voters, an opportunity is now given us to say who shall represent us in the Federal Parliament."

Following the election of 1903 Sir William Lyne gave a speech which was reported in the *Albury Banner*: "He thanked all who had worked for him, and he would specially mention Mrs Scanlan, who had worked almost alone, and proved herself that day equal to the whole strength of the Opposition. Cheers were given for Sir William Lyne, for the ladies of Albury and for Mrs Scanlan."

Catherine brought up daughters who were no shrinking violets. During that same election in 1903 the *Albury Banner* reported that a police constable had tried to stop Miss Scanlan from voting on the grounds that she had voted already. A senior-sergeant was called to sort out the matter and she was permitted to exercise her franchise. The piece ended thus: "If this sort of thing is to be permitted, ladies voting in future will require to take male protectors to save them from insolent interference."

When her husband died intestate, Catherine's eldest son, James, was still in South Africa. Edward had apparently been something of a property speculator so there was property to be sold and the contents of the house to be valued for probate. This was done by their neighbour and friend, G H Roxburgh, who lived in *Loma*



Catherine Scanlan (née Corley)

Loma, and was also Edward's partner in some ventures. Items of linen and cutlery were listed; contents of cupboards, furniture, saucepans, vases, and in the stables there were saddles, one old buggy complete, one old buggy no wheels. It must have been humiliating for Catherine.

Catherine died on October 28, 1928. Her grave, in the Pioneer Cemetery in Albury, has no headstone, is enclosed by an iron fence and it is located next to the plot which contains James, Edward, Edward Michael, and Geraldine.

An obituary appeared in *The Catholic Press* (NSW) on November 1, 1928:

"Mrs Catherine Scanlan, of Walbundie [sic], who had resided in the Albury district for many years, died recently. She was 79 years of age, and arrived in Australia from Ireland 70 years ago. Her husband, who predeceased her, was for many years a prominent business man of Albury, an alderman, and founder of the Albury Gas Company. Deceased was of a cheerful and charitable disposition, and her many kind deeds were well known. She is survived by her children – Mr Ernest Scanlan (Walbundie), Mr Desmond Scanlan (Sydney), Mrs Wilson (Rand), Mrs P Fagan, Mrs Clear, and Mrs Loftus (Walbundie). Staff-Sergeant James Scanlan (deceased) fought in the South African and also in the Great War – RIP."

Both Gael Winnick and Geraldine Hocking are great granddaughters of Catherine.

BILL GOLLAN

Bruce Pennay

Bill Gollan, the deputy headmaster at Albury High School, seemed a strange person to choose in a series of 'Border Personalities' sketched by the visiting Melbourne cartoonist, Dudley Gordon and published in the *Border Morning Mail* in 1949. Yet Bill Gollan was just as much a mover and shaker of life in post-war Albury, as any of the other business, industrial or rural leaders featured in the series.

Gollan was a leader in the Communist Party of Australia, and a prominent spokesperson for the party's cause. He regularly caught the train at weekends to Sydney to attend the party's headquarters meetings. His program, 'The People's Voice', was broadcast each week on radio 2AY.

He spoke at many public gatherings. Over 4000 people attended a public debate he had with Rev P V Ryan, a Catholic church spokesman, on the assertion that 'Communism was in the best interests of the Australian public'. There Gollan rebutted criticisms of the party's atheism with its call for justice for common people.

Gollan stood first for election to Council and then to the Federal Parliament. He was unsuccessful in getting elected to Council, which he claimed was dominated by conservatives from the building trade and real estate agents. He presented the local branch's detailed plan for a community centre, which would accommodate facilities for adult education classes, a museum, library, concert hall, kindergarten and youth centre. Council's job, he argued was to provide such facilities for 'John Citizen', not just look to the interests of property developers.

He was similarly unsuccessful getting elected to Parliament. Nevertheless, his campaign was vigorous and so were his opponents. At one street meeting on 'the Tech corner' (Dean/Olive Streets), he was pelted with eggs and a crowd drowned out his speech by singing 'God Save the King' lustily. The *Border Morning Mail* called for him to be given a fair hearing. Albury, it argued, was big enough to tolerate the expression of views that seemed against the mainstream.

Gollan's presence and the opposition it provoked showed that the chill winds of the Cold War whistled through Albury's streets in 1949.

Gerry Curtis remembered signing a letter on behalf of a disgruntled fellow Catholic teacher, who wanted to remain anonymous, attacking the Department for letting a Communist have responsibility for the city's youth.

The cane the cartoonist gave Gollan to carry was to typify his role as a deputy headmaster. Gollan, however, opposed corporal punishment. When he left Albury to become headmaster at Wyong he was able to introduce a ban on caning as school policy.

Gollan was a Border Personality who showed the new city was adapting to a diversity of political views.

BORDER PERSONALITIES



From Vale to Bay: A Hamilton Family History by Walter Stuart Hamilton, published privately.

Family history as a hobby continues to grow from strength to strength, helped enormously by online resources. Many enthusiasts like to share their findings in the trusty old-fashioned form of a printed book full of pictures and stories of their ancestors and close relations and places they lived in.

Among a splendid new offering is *From Vale to Bay*, a volume of 366 pages written and published privately by Walter Stuart Hamilton, of Oatley, NSW. It tells the story of the Hamilton family, who hailed from the Vale of Leven in Dunbartonshire, Scotland. Other ancestral lines concern the Stuart, Bourke, Barry, Lynch, Clancy, Brown and Grace families, a real mixed broth of Scots and Irish. Eight generations are featured.

Mr Hamilton shows how part of his family survived the Great Famine in Ireland while others had labored in Scottish textile industries.

Some Irish descendants (the Bourkes) who arrived in Melbourne in 1852 came on a ship that lost 39 passengers, mostly children, to whooping cough, measles or typhoid. They settled first at the Woolshed, near Beechworth. Bessie Bourke, a child of that family, married a Woolshed miner from Limerick, James Barry.



William Bourke

The Barry family moved to Albury about 1880. One son, David, learned coachbuilding and William learned house painting and signwriting. Both later ran their own businesses in Albury. William's famous son was Sir John Vincent Barry (1903-1969), the Victorian Supreme Court judge and criminologist known as Jack to his family.

The book gives a good description of the Barry-Bourke family in Albury and has several local pictures.

More fascinating is the story of daughter Kate Barry "who was turned out of the family home in Albury by her Irish-born mother for refusing to give up on marrying John Stuart Hamilton, a policeman and a Protestant". The couple married anyway and started the 20th century living at Henty (they were the author's grandparents).

The book's description of the religious bigotry in Albury that caused the family breach is almost unbelievable to a generation now witnessing same-sex marriages! But it was an important part of our local history.

Although the book lacks an index, there are hundreds of footnotes at the end of each chapter.

The author is a former Australian Associated Press and ABC journalist, including overseas postings in Tokyo and Singapore. His father, "Wally" was a former Sun journalist who became editor-in-chief of the ABC in 1946 and lived at Rose Bay (hence the book title).

Mr Hamilton has generously donated a copy of the book to the society, which we will place in the Albury LibraryMuseum.

Reviewed by Howard Jones

GROWTH OF MATE'S BUSINESS EMPIRE

Greg Ryan

In 1850, Thomas Hodges Mate came to Albury, a small border town with a population of just a couple of hundred. His first store was on the south-west corner of Hume and Townsend streets, in the CBD of the developing township.

Richard Lees' Timeline (<https://alburyhistory.org.au/about/albury-timeline/>) tells us that in the same year, Albury's Anglican parish was established in February, a steam powered flour mill was opened in May by Richard Heaver on the south side of Hume Street, east of Townsend Street and in July the National School, under Henry Rich, opened on the south-east corner of Dean & Kiewa Streets.

A full-page promotion in the *Border Morning Mail Jubilee Issue* on October 24, 1953, told readers that Mate "opened a small wholesale business in a single-storey building on the corner of Hume and Townsend Streets, using the original Court House, built of slabs, as a lime shed. The Post Office was under the same roof as Mate's.



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“When the first steamboats to navigate the Murray reached Albury in 1855, the town entered a new era. Freight costs were low and Mate’s continued to grow. In 1856 the first bank and newspaper office were opened. The population of the town had risen to 600.

“In 1884 Mr Mate found it necessary to enlarge the premises to handle the increasing business, and the old premises gave way to a substantial two-storey building ... a distinct advance on anything of the kind that had been attempted in Albury up to that time.” In 2021, this building survives on the Townsend and Hume Streets corner.

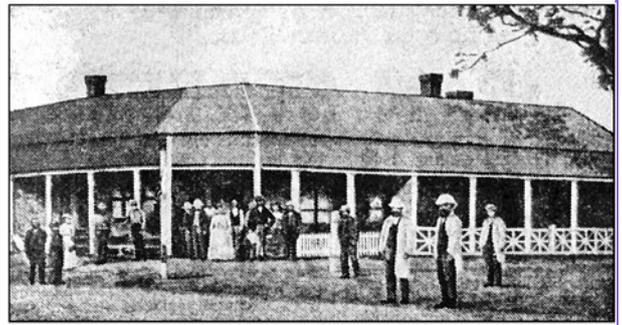
“In 1861 Mr Mate, with an eye to the future requirements of his progressive business, purchased, for the sum of £700, the allotment at the corner of Dean & Kiewa Streets.

Mate’s business empire continued to expand, and on October 7, 1899 their main retail store opened with great fanfare on the south-east corner of Dean and Kiewa Streets. Up until then, the corner had been known as ‘Dulley’s Corner’ – it was not long before the corner became known as ‘Mate’s Corner.’

The Dean Street store was destroyed by fire in December 1915 to be replaced by a new building, much of which remains intact on that same corner.

The 1953 newspaper also reported that “in 1899 Mr Mate purchased the house and property of the late Mr Phibbs, in Townsend St and converted the homestead into timber yard offices. On the opposite corner, where the hardwood section is now situated, the ‘Horse and Jockey’ Hotel once stood.”

In October 1952, a new furniture store opened in Kiewa Street, opposite what is in 2021 the Target store. The 1953 article describes it as “another stepping stone in the onward march of Mate’s.”



T. H. MATE & Co., 1850.
Corner HUME and TOWNSEND STREETS.
A photo of Mate’s first Albury store from the 1953 *Border Morning Mail* supplement

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