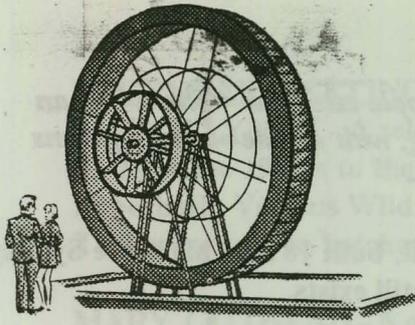


# BULLETIN



Patrons: Mr. Cleaver Bunton, A.O., O.B.E.  
Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.  
Mr. Ian Glachan, M.P.

President: Mr. M.G. (Gerry) Curtis (060) 21 3172

Secretary: Mr. Ron Braddy (060) 21 2038  
P.O. Box 822, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Meetings: Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury.  
8.00 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Albury Regional Museum (060) 21 4550  
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Family \$18  
Corporate \$18.50

Registered by Australia Post, PP.225170/00019

ISSN 0813 6645

BULLETIN 356 FEBRUARY 1997

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday February 11, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**  
**Slides of Early Albury - Particularly Dean Street in the 19th & 20th Century will be presented by Mary Thurling and Geoff Hamilton.**

QUESTION OF THE MONTH "What was originally located on the present Commercial Club site in Dean Street"

APOLOGY - The December Bulletin contained an error in the date of the riverside walk conducted by Gerry Curtis on Australia Day.  
To anyone who waited for the walk on January 8, we apologise.

ON THE MOVE The Wagga Wagga & District Family History Society has moved to new premises. They are still located on Charles Sturt University - South Campus, but no longer in the Archives. Their new room is in ROOM 19, R-Block.  
The CSU Riverina Archives are still open for research from 9am-5pm week days, however, the Family History Society, have now been moved to room 19. As this is only a short walk from the Archives, you could still combine a visit to the two if you wish. For opening times of the Society contact John. Winterbottom 069-262855.

MUSEUM NEWS - Beginning February 3, a new exhibition will be displayed at the Albury Museum. "The McPherson Collection" - Albury in the 60s and 70's.  
This is a photographic display from the McPherson Studios, which was in the former Commercial Club building in Dean Street, Albury.  
The Studio was started by D.McPherson, who had been an official photographer for the A.I.F.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday February 25, 7.30pm, Xavier High School, North Campus, off Fallon Street (entry Currawong Street), North Albury.

REPORT ON DECEMBER MEETING *Nearly forty people attended. There was an excellent response to our traditional "Bring & Tell" evening, with a wide variety of items brought along by members. Brief Details are as follows -*

HAROLD MAIR - Piece of Red Cedar from Rum Hospital, built 1812. This is the Sydney Hospital in Macquarie St where part of the Rum Hospital still exists.

CHERYL RYAN - Part of a Postcard collection 1905-15 came from her Great Aunt whilst researching family history and also several T.H.Mate & Co Calling Cards.

MARY CURTIS - Mate's Calling Card showing a picture of Doctors Point, to Mr G.J. Strauss, Walbundrie, 29 April 1910. Her second item was an Albury Boating Club Programme for their opening at Doctors Point in 1911.

CHRIS McQUELLIN-Cryptoscope-viewfinder for X-Ray tube 1897-8. Used to see if the x-ray tube was working. A Hand is held between the x-ray tube and the viewfinder. There was a Problem of radiation burning fingers and hands, and even caused deaths. It was found in a hospital in the district.

REG GARLAND - 1903 Bike Riding Sash which was made by the nuns in Queensland, worn by Don Palmer-Champion of Australasia. The sash came from Brian Seymour whose wife, Betty, is a daughter of Don Palmer.

JIM PATTERSON - Had several items. Medallions from the Albury Industrial Exhibition of 1896. The larger one was recently found on an Albury Development site. A Small Spanner -Bottle opener, advertising Dodge Vehicles by Albury Motors Dodge Agents (was made in USA) Phone 327. Made Nov.7.1911. Members suggested these were given out by Jungheim. Other items brought included a Watch. Woodings Railway Levee-Albury ; Coat hanger -RobertsTailor, Albury ; Shoe horn from Carew & Son, Albury & Wodonga ; Badge No.1.-1924 Hume Weir Cricket Club.

FRED HEATH -Brought along his Fathers Gold Medal for Swimming. He was known as - Handsome Harry Heath, Captained the Melbourne Swimming Club in 1894.

ANNE SIMMONDS- Cranberry Glass Spoon for Condiments 1915-1920 ;Anne sought help to identify Lions Head little clip & tongs with a short chain. Those present indicated that it could be for pickled onions or an incense device.

ELSIE SIMMONDS - Small glass stick rounded at both ends, thought to be used for grinding powders in a dish. Her second item was a Bracelet made up of Queen Victoria Threepences, showing the Queen as a girl.

RON BRADDY -Three photos of snow falling in Albury on 15th July 1966. Second item was a card of Everlasting "Silver Leaves" - A card sent to his mother from his Father in 1916.Sent from Cape Town,Africa. Leaves in good order 80 years later. Third item was a Motor Road Guide (circa 1930) NSW Govt Tourist Bureau and NRMA of NSW.



## ANSWERS TO TWENTY QUESTIONS QUIZ

1. Who had an artist's studio beside his Urana Rd grocery store? *Jack Bennett.*
2. What happened to Albury on July 4, 1859? *It became a municipality.*
3. A swimmer was the first Albury person to win a Commonwealth Games medal. Who? *Paul Jarvie.*
4. How many inches differences is there between the standard and broad railway gauges? *Six-and-a-half inches.*
5. What do Paine St and Mudge St have in common? *Both were named after town clerks.*
6. Where were the boys' and girls' hostels for Albury High School? *Adamshurst and a house corner of Guinea and Olive St (now CSU).*
7. This man started selling vegetables from a barrow in 1892 in Albury, beginning a business which still operates. *J.G. Arnold.*
8. This nun founded the Mercy Hospital at Chelvey in 1945. *Mother Hugh.*
9. Parmentier did what in Albury? *Piloted the Uiver to land at the racecourse in 1934.*
10. Which two aviators visited Albury in 1929 and recommended the present airport site? *Kingsford Smith and Ulm.*
11. Which explorer's wife visited Brown's Store in 1839? *Lady Franklin.*
12. Albury's Lilian Bishop was famous in the 1930s in what sport? *Cycling.*
13. A Wiradjuri Dictionary was written by this noted Albury district man in 1906. *J.F.H. Mitchell*
14. The last (Albury-born) survivor of Paraguay's New Australia died in 1993. Her name? *Mrs Maude Altona (nee Pogson)*
15. Who produced a plan in 1969 for Albury to grow to 125,000 people by the year 2000? *Jack Sarvaas, city engineer.*
16. Lavington became part of Albury in what year? *1962.*
17. Who was mayor immediately before Cleaver Bunton was first elected mayor? *Alderman D.G. Padman.*
18. Queen Elizabeth II Square has previously been called... *Civic Square, Dean Square, Market Square.*
19. Who was this? Born in Kent in 1810, migrated 1833, opened store in Albury 1850? *Thomas Mate.*
20. Who was the English winemaker in Albury who managed an Irishman's vineyard planted by a German? *J.D. Lankester.*

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**HERITAGE WEEK** A reminder to members to note in their diaries, is that Heritage Week will be celebrated in N.S.W. between April 20 - 27th.

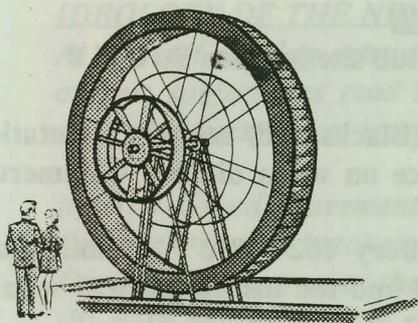
The Theme for this year is "Culture Down Under".

To date, we have received no information about Heritage Week celebrations in Victoria.

### A WISE SAYING

*It's not the one that has the most  
That gives the most away,  
It's not the one that knows the most  
That has the most to say*

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**BULLETIN 357 MARCH 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday March 11, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**  
**MEMBERS NIGHT - Claude Burke, Bob Dick and Janice Lynch**  
**will each present a short talk.**  
**Members, please bring a plate for supper.**

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH "What early connections did Albury have with the armed forces ?"**

### **REPORT ON FEBRUARY MEETING**

Members enjoyed a very interesting evening of slides featuring early Albury in the 19th and 20th Century. The slides were presented by Mary Thurling and Geoff Hamilton. In all, eighty slides were shown, and some of the subjects included - Sportsground 1913 with Mates 2-storey house in background; Watson's brick yard facing Nurigong St; Higgins Coach Factory; Exchange Store in Townsend St; Theatre Royal and the first billiard room 1860's; Hayes Bros Flour Mills; Maclure Bros Furniture Store; Beehive Chambers; Treloar's Cafe, Daniel's Boots, drapery-clothing in Townsend St; Carews Boots and Shoes in 1917; The old Brewery in Thurgoona St; The Club and Carlton Hotels; Travelodge, now reverted back to "The Carlton Hotel" pictured in 1972; Dean St West - McCullochs, Rural Bank, Border Mart (Sloans); Border Market : Jacobs Food Liner ; James Hodge -General Tinsmith, sewing machines repaired; Bank of New South Wales; The Banner Office; J.G.Arnold & Son -Olive St; Border Post Newspaper Office; Post Office and Court House; Council Chambers and Mechanics Institute; Fire Brigade; Telegraph Office in 1890; Union Bank-now ANZ bank; The Regent Theatre and Hoyts Theatre; Coles Store and Hume Weir Cafe; Dean St from the Fire Tower; Abe Nathans 1890 & 1913; Maples; Johnny McRachern's grave, Albury cemetery showing handmade blacksmith tools decorating the fence around the grave.

Members were unable to give information on a slide shown of the Daily News, when asked where it was located in Albury. If you have any information, the Society would appreciate hearing from you.

**RESIGNATION - The Society have accepted with regret the resignation of Committee member, Harold Mair.**





## BOTANICAL HISTORY

*Friends of the Albury Botanic Gardens has been formed to increase interest in, and use of, our award-winning Gardens. Although gardens staff conduct regulars tours it is aimed to make more tour opportunities available and increase the number of guides able to take tours.*

*The Albury Gardens has a wealth of history considering the curators, events, monuments and commemorative plantings. Although former curators have been diligent in preserving the history of the area there are many gaps to be filled, some information for which would be discovered in early newspapers. Staff are always glad of the opportunity to obtain copies of photographs to add to the collection. The summer exhibition at the Albury Regional Museum highlighted some of the history and drew attention to the areas where further research is required.*

*The Friends group has many facets including a group of volunteers who will propagate plants as a fund-raising exercise. They have already enjoyed a basic nursery technique lesson given by gardens staff.*

*Bus tours to other gardens are also on the agenda, the first one being to Benalla on April 6. Meetings are held at 2pm on the first Sunday of each month near the Band Rotunda in Wodonga Place. New members and volunteers will be most welcome.*

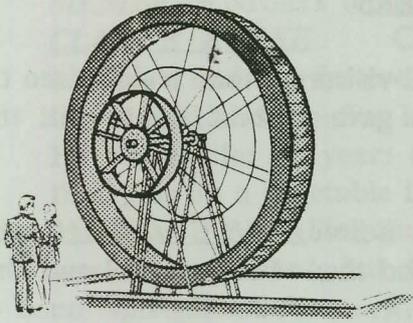
## SHARING ENJOYMENT IN AUSTRALIA'S MOST POPULAR HOBBY

*Former Albury resident and foundation member of this Society, John Henwood, was the guest speaker at the February meeting of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. He spoke about one of the most successful community projects in this country, Australia's Open Garden Scheme, which began ten years ago in Victoria and is now operating in all states.*

*John was an ABC rural reporter and presenter for 31 years and it was at his suggestion that the ABC started an open gardens scheme in Victoria when he was producing the 3LO Gardening Show. He has also worked on television, principally on the Country Hour and was a weather presenter on Channel 2 for 13 years. Although all this makes him sound quite old, it was not so long ago that, as a teenager, he was collecting memorabilia which was being discarded by local families and would have been lost forever had he not been so judicious. John's involvement in local history continues as he researches, when time permits, the history of the Sutherland family of Thologolong, from whom he is descended.*

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday, March 25, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

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**BULLETIN 358 APRIL 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday April 8, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**  
**GUEST SPEAKER** As part of Heritage Week being celebrated  
both in NSW and Vic, Audray Banfield, Director of the Albury  
Regional Arts Centre, will speak on this years Heritage  
theme - "Culture Down Under".  
Members, please bring a plate for supper.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH** "What is Culture down Under?"

**HERITAGE WEEK VISIT** - On Sunday April 20, a tour of St Patrick's School on the  
South-East corner of Smollett and Olive Streets will take place.  
The tour will start at 2pm and finish at 4pm. There is no charge, and members are urged  
to take advantage of looking over this building which was originally opened in 1887 as St  
Patrick's Hall.

**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER** Following the recent resignation of Harold Mair, we  
welcome Bob Dick onto our Committee.

### **BOOKS FOR SALE**

Members, is your Historical library complete? - or maybe you would like to purchase a  
gift for a family member or a friend ---well, our Sales lady, Thelma Musselwhite would  
just love to help you.

Books and leaflets available include -

On The Home Front (By Bruce Pennay)

The Changing Face and Shape of Albury (heritage information kit)

Albury-Wodonga -the Chosen City (Jean McDonald)

There are only two books of the Albury Historical Society Bulletin Indexes left

Information packets on Albury History - ( First 25 years; Street Names; Railways;

River Murray; Wodonga Place; Vines and Wines; Beef Cattle;

Gold era; Albury Pioneer Cemetary).

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Tuesday, April 22, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North  
Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

## MEMBERS' NIGHT SPEAKERS

"Members Night" last month, gave attending members and visitors a rare insight into the lives of two active members of the Society, when they gave a short talk about their background and family history.

The first member to talk, was from our Society's Bulletin Editor, JANICE LYNCH, who began her talk with a background of her grandparents, and then her parents, and how they farmed in the wheatbelt town of Bruce Rock in W.A. Following continued dry seasons, they sold up and moved to Duranillin in the Southern Agricultural area and took up farming there in 1956.

Her Mother, Daisy (nee Buegge) served in the AWAS during the war. First in the transport then in the Signals section. She was based in Mornington but did her actual signal training at Bonegilla.

Her Father (Lance Park) was the third of six sons. His Father served in WW1 and when WW2 broke out, all the male members in the family except the two youngest joined up. Lance served in the 2/4 Mg battalion, and they were subsequently captured by the Japanese and were P.O.W's for four years.

Janice gave an insight into how their family battled over the years to get a living from the land.

Her mother grew all their fruit & vegetables, including peanuts, walnuts, preserving them for less bountiful times, and how the family would spend many hours around the kitchen table taking the pips and stalks off the dried grapes to make fruit for their cakes and biscuits. She also recounted her memories when it came to milking time, using the separator to get cream to sell, the making of butter, and the thankless task of washing the separator cups.

Her Mother either made their clothes, or they wore hand-me-downs. If these clothes were accidentally torn, Janice told how she and her sister would have to wear a sugar bag dress until they appreciated their clothes-and how they would hide when visitors arrived. The eldest of three children, Janice told how her parents were unable to afford kitchen chairs and used wooden boxes that used to hold 2x4gall tins of kerosine, also how wardrobes were a luxury with bricks and wooden planks used as substitutes.

Pocket money was rare. Filling super bags with cow manure for the garden raised 1/2d a bag. It was later raised to a penny then much later to threepence delivered in a wheelbarrow from the back paddocks to the garden. Dead wool was also collected.

In 1963 her parents built a general country store in Duranillin, and at the age of 16, Janice was to virtually run it single handed for nearly 28 years as well as helping on her parents farm. After the sale of the shop in 1991, Janice took up farm managing whilst the owners went on holidays, and helped her brother on her parents farm, as they had semi-retired to Denmark (near Albany).

Very community orientated, Janice was involved in tennis, badminton, golf, bowls, a reporter for 3 newspapers and the ABC News Dept; C.W.A.; District Hall Committees; Official rainfall recorder for the Bureau of Meteorology; District TAFE organiser; Music and Drama Group; Genealogical Society in Collie, all in her spare time. There were very few organisations that she wasn't involved in, not only as a member but holding an office as well, or helping in the background.

Her Albury connection came from attending her sisters' wedding in Melbourne in 1991, where she met her future Husband, Joe. Since moving to live in Albury, she has been actively involved with the Historical Society; CWA; & Garrison Hotel Social Club.

In closing her talk, Janice encouraged members to come forward at future member nights and reveal a little of their lives.



Further details contact Sue Hill 0358 548264 or Wendy Cooksey 563220.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What early connections did Albury have with the armed forces ?"

A volunteer Rifle Corps was started in 1870 but had little military significance.

*(Extracts from Sept 1964 Historical Society Bulletin No.38)*

As early as 1885, following the war in Sudan, a volunteer infantry corps fifty strong was formed in Albury under the leadership of Foster Cooper, a part-owner (and editor) of The Albury Banner, assisted by a man named D.J. Abercrombie. In the years that followed the town had never been without a military group in some form or other.

In 1888, John Wilkinson, a young solicitor, became interested in the movement, and rose by successive promotions to reach the rank of Colonel.

When at a later period the infantry company was abandoned, a half-battery of two field artillery guns was formed at Albury, the other half being made up by one gun each at Wagga Wagga and Young. This was known as No.3 Battery A.F.A, and its guns were 14 pounder muzzle-loaders. Later the Albury unit became the No.4 Battery A.F.A. and had a full six guns; and was the first to have its own horses. As the horses were young and unbroken, they were taken in hand by the Schultz brothers, of Wodonga, who had the department contract for this work.

*(Extracts from "Albury Heritage")*

The new Federal Government took control of the defence of the Commonwealth in March 1901, and the old colonial forces were officially brought into one Army the following year. Albury's infantry company was abandoned in favour of an artillery unit in 1903. This and a Wagga unit formed the two halves of No.4 NSW Battery of Artillery, but various name changes occurred.

Lord Kitchener reported on Australia's defence forces in 1910 and the Federal Government set about implementing his proposals for compulsory training of young men. This had important consequences for Albury, because there were to be two local Citizen Military Forces training units, one for artillery and another for infantry.

Information about Albury's early relationship with the Defence Force can be gleaned by reference to the Society's Bulletin No. 38 Sept 1964 and by reference to Howard Jones "Albury Heritage" pages 147-156. entitled "Military Matters".

<<<<<<>>>>>>

Attending last months meeting was John Neale, from the Military museum, in Albury. John, received a Citizen of the Year award last year for his work in compiling a list of people who fought in the last war from this area.

He has concentrated on museum history from 1988 tying up the WW2 and at the moment is looking at the Boer War and its history with those who served from this district.

Albury he stated was originally called an artillery town. It never really had armour or light horse. In 1948 it became a cavalry town with a tank regiment.

He was seeking information as to the original drill hall site location in Albury.

The present drill hall was transferred from the NSW State Govt in 1915 for £400-00.

The value of buildings was £1124.

He has photographs of the Battery of the day using the pavillion at the old Albury Showground.

John is seeking verification on the site of the drill hall which could have been used for training cadets in either Smollett or Townsend Streets

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Join the Society now, at last year's price, and receive 13 months Bulletins for the price of 12.

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Your name (Mr, Mrs, Miss) .....

and address .....



**REPORT ON LAST MEETING**

Audray Banfield, Director of the Albury Regional Arts Centre, was our Guest Speaker and as part of this years Heritage Week spoke on "Culture Down Under".

At the present moment the NSW Government has stated that every local Government conglomerate should have a CULTURAL POLICY. Grants would then follow. There was only one fully developed cultural policy in 1996, although it is much in the forefront of peoples minds.

What is Culture ? - art, music, heritage, but it is much more than this. The ethos of the community, religion, education, sport, food, minorities, Australian Culture what are the defining elements?.

We look back but must also look at the present, e.g. education, note the names on non Anglo-Celtic backgrounds in the HSC results. Is our attitude to education different to other countries?. The right of every child to have a sound education e.g. retention rate, education or a child minding centre. Tertiary education are they for inquiry and learning or for moulding business and commerce?.

Heritage attitude to heritage, parts of distant and near past. Heritage of what we were e.g. Fergie tractor or Furphy water tank. F.J. Holden, built enviroment: CML,AMP, Courthouse, Charles Sturt University, Clyde Cameron Training College. Such as these help to define the culture for the future. There was an optimism in the 1960s and 1970s.

Architecture in Australia - what defined it?. There was some influence from India and Ceylon. Old documents are important but give note to the future An important event recently was the declaration of the poll for the present council in Wodonga. 2 or 3 year ago planning powers handed back from Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation to local Government. It is not only yesterday, but today is making history. Today has been moulded by the past, while today is moulding the future.

How do we define culture? - Last October the Commonwealth Bank withdrew funding for ferrying around Australia art treasures from the National Gallery. They now fund the Netball Association. Does this define our culture? Blockbuster art shows and tours by the 3 tenors. This has little to do with our expression of culture. It leads people to think that big is beautiful. People go overseas and visit the Louvre Art Gallery etc. but have they been to their local Gallery? Is it that anything local is considered second rate? er More time is given to sports considerations than to other cultural matters. Our culture is defined by the block buster syndrome. Why do we think this way ? It was only in the last 20-30 years that Australian history was taught in the universities. A chair of Fine Arts was established post WW11. Anything in Australia must be inferior to overseas attitude.

What is culture? - Are we pandering to the cultural imperialism of "big is beautiful"?. How do we perceive ourselves and are we a tolerant country because we don't care too much?

We are no longer the land of the long weekend. We are cynical about politicians, apathetic about nationalism, and don't care much about education.

Sport defines culture down under. It is also very much about food. How different our ethos would have been if the French had beaten Cook to here.

Lawrence Durrell speaks of how the land had a spirit of place and the people acted within it. The ladscape rules. The Australian landscape with its strong light and blinding blue sky. The people arriving at Bonegilla in 1947 noticed this.

Sport, Landscape and weather defines us. The higher things are not passionate in our psyche - ETHOS is a whole world - picture of a people.

Questions and comments were made by R.Wynn, J.Mollison, B.Osmond and F.Higgins. A vote of thanks was made by Pat Scott to Audray on behalf of all members present.



## EVENTS OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

On **JANUARY 8, 1897** a phenomenally heavy fall of rain took place in Albury when three inches of rain fell within 26 hours, the next in sufficient quantity being on June 18. Mrs Thomas Mitchell died at Bringenbrong. She was the daughter of Peter Stuckey of Goulburn. Other deaths during the month were Louis Iverson, Professor of Music, and Mrs Caspers, daughter of Mr W.J. "Coffin" Jones. She was the mother of Ella Caspers, a contralto recognised world-wide, who died in 1987. On Jan. 18 a fire broke out in Justice's Buildings, Dean Street, the greater portion of the premises being gutted. A Saturday half holiday, instituted a few weeks before, fell through on January 23.

**FEBRUARY 1** was 112° F (44.4°C) in the shade. Alderman Hodge was elected Mayor of Albury during the month. During the year the ratepayers held an indignation meeting, and compelled the Council to forego a scheme of retrenchment to which several of the Council were allied. Premier Reid visited Albury on Feb. 23 and delivered a lecture on Federation. The Albury Butter Factory was formally opened on Feb. 27. The subsequent season proved the worst possible for the industry, but later in the year the factory was in full work and, early in October, exported its first ton of butter.

On **MARCH 4** the polling for the election of delegates to the Federal Convention took place. Mr P. Joyce, late customs officer at Albury, died in Sydney. The Albury race meeting was held March 17 & 18. Solicitor, A.H. Emerson, died March 20. W.F. Zweck, a farmer at Burrumbuttock, died March 30.

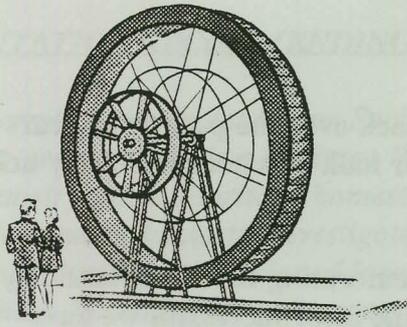
On **APRIL 8** railway employee, George Buckpitt, died, and on the 11th there was a destructive fire in the Chinese camp in Townsend Street, Albury. The balance sheet of the Albury Industrial Exhibition, published April, showed a profit of £137/2/10d.

In **MAY** Rev. Canon Kingsmill left St. Matthew's Church for North Goulburn and was succeeded by Rev. Canon Spencer. The Commissioners of Railways of Victoria and N S W met in Conference at Albury and agreed to an adjustment in railway rates. Colonel Home and Mr McKinney, irrigation experts, inspected the Murray on May 15 in connection with a proposal to construct a weir at Bungowannah. Colonel Home subsequently reported favourably on the scheme. The band of the Permanent Artillery visited Albury late in May when a ball and concert proved a great social success.

On **JUNE 22** the Queen's Record Reign celebrations in Albury were attended with great success. The financial result was highly satisfactory, the funds being debited to nucleus towards adding a new wing to the Albury Hospital. On June 29 Mrs James Nelson died after giving birth to triplets, only one of whom survived.

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Tuesday, May 27, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

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**BULLETIN 360 JUNE 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday June 10, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by the monthly meeting**

**GUEST SPEAKER** will be Mrs Dorothy Fellowes of Wagga Wagga, who will give a talk about the Albury Botanical Gardens, and the Fellowes Family.

**AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

1. *Minutes of the previous A.G.M. held on June 11.1996*
2. *President's Report (see page 2)*
3. *Treasurer's Report & Audited Accounts.*
4. *Election of Committee of twelve (including Office Bearers). Public Officer, and Honorary Auditor.*
5. *Mr Ian Glachan will chair the election.*

<i>President</i>	<i>Geoff Hamilton</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Reg Garland</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Ron Braddy</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Ron Braddy</i>
<i>Minute Secretary</i>	<i>Frank Higgins</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Tom Jelbart</i>

*Committee - Claude Burke, Robert Dick, Janice Lynch, Christopher McQuellin, Betty Osmond, Claire Simpson, Mary Thurling.*

*Public Officer : Helen Livsey      Honorary Auditor : Hugh McKenzie-McHarg*

5. *General Business : To set membership fees.*  
*The Treasurer recommends retaining our present scale of fees at \$15 adult, \$18 family, \$18-50 Corporate, while proposing a 50c Supper Fee be introduced on meeting nights*

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH** "What are your memories of special events at the Albury Botanical Gardens" ?

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

In writing a report for the past year, I am inclined to look back over the past three years since I took over the presidency from Ron Braddy and take a broader look at what the Society achieved in that time.

The meeting in October 1994 at the Council Chambers commemorating the Uiver landing, with the Dutch Consul and Dutch community present, was one of the most successful we have conducted and caused much favorable comment.

Another success was the function at the Monument on April 21, 1996, when the national president of the RSL., Maj-Gen Digger James, and his wife, were present. A plaque was unveiled honoring the men who designed, built and opened the Monument. As a result of that event, the Torch of Liberty as planned by Louis Harrison, now shines every night and may be seen from a great distance.

But I think the most important event of the three years was that finally Alex Savidge was proved right. There has been a weakness in the Hume Dam and today millions of dollars are being spent on remedial work, full details of which are never clear. Alex first showed the Weir slides in November 1986 and his comments caused much controversy that night, and have ever since. He alone carried on the battle to draw attention to what he considered weaknesses in the wall. Today that battle has been won and work is proceeding.

Our meetings have been well-attended in the comfortable rooms of the Commercial Club and the staff have always been most helpful. Each committee member has a job and has carried out his or her duties well. Some, like Tom, have had a difficult time. Janice has produced excellent Bulletins. Helen, as always, is the power behind the throne, and keeps the Society on track. John is a most patient husband.

I am not standing for election this year, as I have five years and then three years as president, but I have every confidence that the new committee will continue to guide the Society in the right direction. My thanks to all the members who make our meetings interesting and to my wife, Mary, (who gave me two years as president, and I have taken three).

Jerry Curran

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GIFTS for which the Society is most grateful: (former) Albury Base Hospital Precinct.  
Volume 1: Conservation Plan. Volume 11: Building Inventory, 1996 compiled by Nicole Fransen, Heritage Consultant, Freeman Collett & Partners Pty Ltd, Architects and Planners, and Kenneth W.Young, Architect.

Photograph by the Salmon Studio, Albury, of about 130 men at a dinner (maybe R.S.L. members) in a hall, circa 1930's. The photo is the gift of Julie Fitzgerald of Rutherglen.

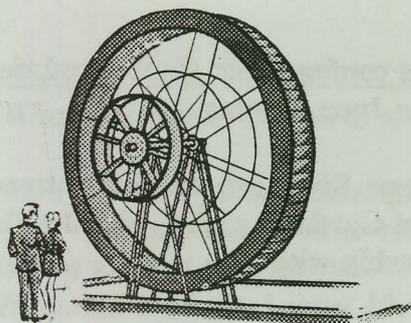
SBS TELEVISION comes to ALbury-Wodonga Area  
Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) television has now commenced transmission in the Upper Murray area. Test pattern transmissions commenced on 23 April 1997 with full programme transmissions on air as from 14 May. Residents of the Upper Murray area, which includes Albury-Wodonga, Wangaratta, Yarrawonga, Benalla, Beechworth, Yackandandah and Tallangatta can now tune in to SBS television on UHF channel 30.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, June 24, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.





# BULLETIN



Patrons: Mr. Cleaver Bunton, A.O., O.B.E.  
Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.  
Mr. Ian Glachan, M.P.

President: Mr. M.G. (Gerry) Curtis (060) 21 3172

Secretary: Mr. Ron Braddy (060) 21 2038  
P.O. Box 822, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Meetings: Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury.  
8.00 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Albury Regional Museum (060) 21 4550  
Turks Head, Wodonga Place, Albury  
Open every day, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Subscriptions: Adult \$15  
Family \$18  
Corporate \$18.50

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ISSN 0813 6645

**BULLETIN 361 JULY 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday July 8, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**

**GUEST SPEAKER** will be Jean Whitla, who will speak about her own and her Father's experiences in central Australia.

Jean's Father was Rev. Bruce Plowman, Rev. John Flynn's first Padre 1912-1917.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH** "What make of plane did the Rev. John Flynn first commence the (R.F.D.S.) Royal Flying Doctor Service " ?

## WHO DOES WHAT IN THE COMING YEAR

<i>President</i>	<i>Geoff Hamilton</i>	<i>212431</i>
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	<i>Reg Garland</i>	<i>263730</i>
	<i>Ron Braddy</i>	<i>212038</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Ron Braddy</i>	<i>212038</i>
<i>Minute Secretary</i>	<i>Frank Higgins</i>	<i>251607</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Tom Jelbart</i>	<i>213339</i>

**COMMITTEE** Mary Thurling 216975, Claire Simpson 212035, Janice Lynch 255462, Reg Garland 263730, Claude Burke 262327, Robert Dick, Christopher McQuellin, Betty Osmond 252636.

**PUBLIC OFFICER** : Helen Livsey

**BULLETIN EDITOR** : Janice Lynch (ph/fax 060-255462)

**RESEARCH OFFICER** : Helen Livsey (Ph. 060-213671)

**TOURS OFFICER** :

**JOURNALS READER** : Arthur Scott

**HONORARY AUDITOR** : Hugh McKenzie-McHarg

**LIBRARY ACCESSIONS** : Jacqui Bullivant

**MEMBERSHIP MAILING LIST & BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION** : Claire Simpson

**MEETING HOSTS** : Claude Burke and Betty Osmond

**HERITAGE WEEK CO-ORDINATORS** :

**PUBLICATION SALES** : Thelma Musselwhite (Ph. 060-212347)

**RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE** :

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** - Will remain as last year - \$15 adult, \$18 family, \$18-50 Corporate.  
A tea/coffee donation of 50 cents on meeting nights will be introduced as from July.

**REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S MEETING**

Congratulations are extended to Gerry Curtis, on whom was conferred an Honorary Life Membership of the Albury & District Historical Society at our June meeting.

Our Guest speaker was Mrs Dorothy Fellowes of Wagga Wagga. She gave members attending our meeting a very interesting talk about the Albury Botanical Gardens, along with details of how the Fellowes family has had a very close working relationship with the Gardens over many years.

James Edward Richard Fellowes was born in Sussex, England on September 15.1859.

In October 1887 he married Mary Elixabeth Baker in England and early in their marriage they sailed to Australia.

The first evidence of their arrival in Australia came with the birth of their first son, Henry James who was born in Fremantle W.A. in October 1888.

Their first daughter Louisa Annie was born in Albury in 1890.

They experienced a number of adventures including convicts, a coastal trip to the east coast, and then gold mining, where their luck ran out, before arriving in Albury, almost penny-less.

In the ensuing ten years, 3 more daughters and two sons were born in Albury.

James was a young 18 year old living at home in England when the original grant of 50 acres was made in 1877 for the Albury Gardens. This comprised the area covered by the gardens, the sportsground and the Hovell Tree reserve.

In June 1901 he was appointed as Curator of the Botanic Gardents etc, in the Albury Municipality.

Wages were then five shillings a day.

There were 45 applications for the second position.

Since their arrival in Albury "J.E.R." had become involved in a number of local Societies including the St. Mathews Church Choir and the Horticultural Society.

In 1902 the gardens had been separated from the sports ground and the actual area covered was 10 acres, only half of which was cultivated. "J.E.R" re-counted that when first laid out the garden paths were modelled in the form of the Union Jack, linking in the centre with a huge lattice work conservatory.

He believed the creation of a garden was like the painting of a picture, which should be visible from all angles.

Many changes took place during his incumbancy, which included the first Bowling Greens in Albury, which were established within the gardens.

In 1909 the present residence was built. Whilst the house was being built, the Fellowes family lived in a galvanised shed which had previously been used as a tool and potting shed.

There was great excitement when the family moved into their new home.

Albury was already well known for its street trees. "J.E.R" was widely criticised for his heavy prunings. The economic situation at the time didn't allow for them to be pruned every year, so the decision was made to prune hard and less frequently.

In 1936, on his retirement, Albury had between 400-500 street trees, mainly English varieties.

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**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

*For observant readers of our monthly Bulletins - Over the past three months, we have been experiencing a few problems in the change-over from our Bulletins being printed on a dot matrix printer, then taken to our printers as "hard copy" and photocopied, to a complete change in our system by now providing a computer disk copy of our bulletins to the printers. You may have noticed that in some cases a complete line may have been missing at the end of some pages, to various other minor technical problems.*

*I apologise to readers for this, and hope that these problems will soon be rectified.*

**ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

*"What are your memories of special events at the Albury Botanic Gardens " ?*

*There was a very disappointing response by members to this question.*

*Thelma Musselwhite recounted to members how her husband, George Lewis Musselwhite, used to work at the gardens.*

*He started work on August 10, 1942 and in the ensuing twenty-eight years held the position of Park foreman and also Acting Park Supervisor.*

*Thelma told how, under his supervision, the Albury Botanic Gardens won the State Garden competition on four occasions.*

*She proudly displayed a Testimonial that was presented to her husband signed by Cleaver Bunton and Jack Carter on March 25 1970, in honour of the special pride he took in preparing the gardens, which brought distinction to the City of Albury in the Sydney Morning Herald State Garden Competitions.*

*Unfortunately, Mr Musselwhite was to pass away a month after receiving this honour.*

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**ARCHITECTS** - Following the information in the June Bulletin, Wendy Moriarty, who is presently gathering material for a history of the Albury Golf Club, has provided the following additional information about WILLIAM POWRIE. He was a member of the Albury Golf Club and served on the committee at least twice, in 1916 and 1925. The local paper in August 1911 mentioned him as have a State Handicap (from Sydney) of 8. (A.A.Burt at the same time had a handicap of 4). Mr Powrie had submitted a design for the Federal Capital in a competition in 1911.

Andrew Kelso mentioned an additional architect - SYDENHAM STANLEY OXENHAM architect and engineer who designed the masonic temple in Kiewa Street, Albury in 1938. Andrew's sister, Peggy, worked for him as a tracer in 1935.

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**OF INTEREST TO READERS**

*The Hume Dam will be the subject of a special feature by the A.B.C's QUANTUM programme set to be televised on THURSDAY JULY 3, 1997.*

*Information received from Alex Savidge, is that the Quantum Team recently visited the region to televise present day earthworks and re-construction work being undertaken.*

*It's understood the programme will include footage of the original construction work on the dam, along with information and photographs provided, with suitable credits being given to the Albury Historical Society, Mrs Mary Thurling and also Alex Savidge.*

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**HUME DAM OPEN DAY** Will take place on Saturday 5 July, between 10am to 4pm.

A programme of remedial works at the Hume Dam has been underway since 1995 to ensure it meets modern day standards.

Take the opportunity to talk first hand with members of the project team. Tour the remedial works on a shuttle coach.

Other activities will include static displays, videos and presentations in a heated marquee. All activities are under cover.

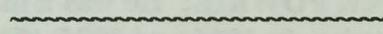
free information kits will be supplied.

**OBITUARIES**

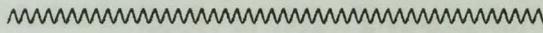
The Society records the death of one of its very interested members of just a few years ago, **Margery Gibson**. For some years Marge attended most meetings and let her feelings be known on pet subjects. She was a regular visitor and volunteer at the Museum and probably travelled on the *Cumberoona* more often than anyone except the crew. She was also a frequent visitor to the Jindera Museum.

When not working at her chiropody/podiatry practice she spent a lot of time at Noreuil Park and was renowned for her daily swims, whatever the season. Marge will be remembered for her musical contributions to local theatre groups and to the speech sections of the Albury Eisteddfod, which she always attended, whether a participant or not.

She related that she and her mother, also Margery, designed her home at 367 Kiewa Street, to which she later added a rooftop sunroom. Marge passed away at the end of May at the Albury Base Hospital where she had been a regular patient over the last two years. We can all sincerely wish her "Rest In Peace" after keeping us all on our toes for so many years.



**W. Wilson Mayne** passed away in Albury on May 31. Wilson was known as a regular contributor to *The Border Mail* Letters to the Editor on many and varied subjects and the paper published an obituary for him on June 5. The Society extends sympathy to Wilson's wife, daughter and grandchildren.



*The Flower Garden in Australia* by Mrs Rolf Boldrewood was first published 1893 when her husband, T.A. Browne, was the Police Magistrate in Albury. A new edition of Mrs Browne's book was published in 1995 by Mulini Press, Canberra. Angus & Robertson, 520 Olive Street, Albury will order the book, which sells at \$19.95. However it may be a little more if less than ten people place orders.

In January 1893 the *Albury Border Post* wrote, "Mrs Browne has added to her reputation as a florist by the very capable manner in which the book seems to be compiled, and from the comprehensive treatment of the art of floriculture the work should have more general application than modestly assumed by the authoress in the introductory note. The subjects are treated in alphabetical order, and comprise the whole of the best known of the numerous family of shrubs and flowers."

**Next Committee meeting:** Tuesday, July 22, 7.30pm Xavier High School North Campus, Fallon Street (entry off Currawong Street), North Albury

**ALBURY and DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED**  
encourages the study of the history of the Albury district and of Australia through

- \* **Monthly Meetings** - 8pm, second Tuesday of each month February to December
- \* **Monthly Bulletins** - 11 per year - activities of the Society, research, liaison
- \* **Tours** - private and fund-raising - to sites and properties of historic significance
- \* **Research** - Archives in the Local History Room at the Albury Library
- \* **Albury Regional Museum** - local history, visiting exhibitions, Museum shop, open daily

**MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY ARE ENTITLED TO:**

- \* 10% discount on all items at the Museum shop
- \* A monthly Bulletin, but not in January or for Junior members
- \* 10% discount on books from Angus & Robertson, 520 Olive Street, Albury
- \* 10% discount on books from Riverina Books, 2/905 Metry Street, Albury

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**ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC., P.O. Box 822, Albury NSW 2640**

Subscriptions to **May 31, 1998.**      Your **MEMBERSHIP CARD** will be a **RED** one.

Adult \$15      Family \$18      Junior (16 or under) \$1 (no Bulletin)      Corporate \$18.50

Please **PRINT CLEARLY** for the Society's mailing list

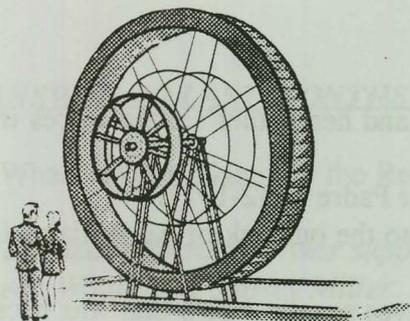
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# BULLETIN



Patrons: Mr. Cleaver Bunton, A.O., O.B.E.  
Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.  
Mr. Ian Glachan, M.P.

President: Mr. M.G. (Gerry) Curtis (060) 21 3172

Secretary: Mr. Ron Braddy (060) 21 2038  
P.O. Box 822, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Meetings: Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury.  
8.00 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Albury Regional Museum (060) 21 4550  
Turks Head, Wodonga Place, Albury  
Open every day, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Subscriptions: Adult \$15  
Family \$18  
Corporate \$18.50

Registered by Australia Post, PP.225170/00019

ISSN 0813 6645

**BULLETIN 362 AUGUST 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday August 12, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.**  
**Members, please bring a plate for supper.**

**MEMBERS NIGHT** An interesting night is assured with two speakers -  
**John Mollison and Dr Allan Hogan**

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH** What was the first date upon which a court was held in  
Albury, and who was the first Police Magistrate.

### **WHERE HAVE ALL OUR MEMBERS GONE ????**

We are all familiar with the Seekers song - "Where have all the flowers gone", but maybe our organisation should be asking - "Where have all our members gone" ?

Subscriptions became due following the Annual General Meeting in June, but not all members had renewed at the time of going to press.

Perhaps there may also be some intending new members just waiting in the sidelines wanting to know what the subscription rates are - well in either case details are as follows -

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** - \$15 Adult, \$18 Family and \$18-50 Corporate.

A listing of all financial members will be included in our September issue of the Bulletin.

### **MUSEUM NOTES**

"BEYOND THE LIGHTS" - July 18 - August 31 Behind the big curtains and scenery of Australian Theatre.

"Odyssey Suite" Sept 15 - Oct 13 - woodblock prints of a migrant's journey

"Bonegilla Festival" - 50th anniversary re-union - Sept 27 - Oct 4.

### **ALBURY REGIONAL ARTS CENTRE**

Will hold their Bonegilla Festival exhibition between 19 September - 5 October.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Mrs Elaine Jacob of Albury, made history in being the first female <sup>from Albury</sup> to be appointed as a NSW Magistrate. She was sworn in at the Downing Centre in Sydney on July 21, 1997.

## REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Our Guest Speaker was Jean Whitla, who spoke about her own and her Father's experiences in central Australia.

Jean's Father was Rev. Bruce Plowman, Rev. John Flynn's first Padre 1912-1917.

Her Father had volunteered to give five years of his life to go into the outback of Australia and take practical christian services.

His idea was to visit as many people as possible, and give whatever practical help that was necessary to these people. This meant sometimes being a nurse, teacher, stockman, shearer, and farmer.

All their lives, the four Plowman children heard about Central Australia - "What a wonderful place it was" - it was a very "special place", The people were a "different race" - they all wore "wings and halos" - they were the best people that walked this earth, and the colour of the country was such as you had never seen.

Jean said that they were bored to tears at their father's enthusiasm.

At the age of 18, Jean decided to see it for herself, and came back more enthused than what her father was, and has visited the area every year (with the exception of this year) for the past 49 years.

Rev. Plowman started off with horses and a buggy, and later got a team of camels. He also got the services of a black boy who was paid 50c a month.

Beltana, far north of the Flinders Ranges in South Australia, has a lot of meaning for her father, as he did his first twelve months apprenticeship there, and that is where he inherited the horses and buggy, and was sent off to visit everybody within reach - this he did very successfully.

Jean found out over the years with her husband and children, that they were covering so much of the same ground, meeting the same types of people as well as having "little adventures" and had lots of fun, & she could relate to some of her father's experiences.

Some of these adventures included how Jean, and her children, in a Honda Civic & towing a trailer, decided to go visiting during the summer time, which usually is a pretty safe time of the year to drive, but because of the rivers being in flood, it made for many adventures.

She recounted how her Father, in the very early days of water repellent, was able to help stranded drivers using WD40.

Books - Her Father must have had the largest mobile library in the world.

He encouraged everyone to swap these books and would even write south to get people to send books north to the various stations. He also encouraged women to correspond as the women on stations were very isolated. Writers would swap recipes, patterns, scraps of material etc.

Jean carries on her Fathers' tradition, and when she travels "bush" she collects from Libraries, books that would be normally be "turfed out".

She appealed to anyone travelling to the outback, to take as many books as they could carry, and leave them at local Police Stations, or stores, so that they could go out on a mail run.

On station properties the owners usually had their own store. Provisions used to come in about once every six months, and often came in with Afghans and their camel teams.

Provisions were usually in bulk - bags of flour, tea chests of tea, boxes of sugar.

Station owners in those days were responsible for feeding and educating all aboriginals on their property, whether they worked for the owners or not.

If the store ran out of any provisions, they would have to wait until the next shipment came in -very different than just popping down to the local corner shop or supermarket.

For members who couldn't attend, they missed out on a very colourful, descriptive talk about Jean's life, her Fathers work, as well as the life of people in the outback .

A vote of thanks was extended by Janice Lynch on behalf of a very interested and attentive gathering.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

"What make of plane did the Rev. John Flynn first commence the Royal Flying Doctor Service. " ?

*Technical information was supplied by Janice Lynch and Geoff Hamilton, with comments given by Jean Whitla and Shirley Miller.*

*1928 A De Havilland D.H. 50 named VICTORY was used on the first official flight on the 17th May 1928 from Cloncurry to Julia Creek.*

*It was a bi-plane owned and crewed by QANTAS. The plane had a single 230 h.p. Siddeley Puma engine, with a wing span of 42.75 feet, a length of 29.75 feet, a cruising speed of 80 Knots (152 kms/hr) and a range of 175 miles (280 Kms).*

*The pilot was in an open cockpit and four passengers were carried in an enclosed cabin.*

*This plane was replaced in 1934 with a De Havilland D.H.83 Fox Moth*

*(taken from page 93 A chronological list of the aircraft used in Queensland by the RFDS "Western Wings of Care by Timothy O'Leary").*

Further information of interest

For the position of the world's first flying doctor there were twenty-three applicants. The man selected was Dr.K. St VINCENT WELCH.

He told Flynn that since the World War, when he had been compelled to stay at home, he had been waiting for just such a challenge as this.

Waiting for the flying doctor at Cloncurry, trim and freshly painted, was the "Victory", a cabin bi-plane. It had been fitted with a stretcher, and an improved undercarriage to minimize bumps in landing.

ARTHUR AFFLECK, the first pilot, had no navigational aids, no radio, and no adequate maps. Frequently he navigated by fences and rivers. In the open cockpit behind the doctor's cabin he was fully exposed to the weather.

For a landing and take-off the "Victory" needed a clear 400 yards. In some parts this meant removing not only trees but hundreds of white ant hills.

(Pages 22 & 23 from Six Great Australians - third series.)

Jean Whitla told how ten tins of extra fuel were carried in the plane's cockpit in case the pilot needed it for extra range.

Shirley Miller recalled how she met Dr Flynn when she took him a drinking flask of tea and some sandwiches to the Albury railway Station when he was travelling through. She commented that he was "a very nice man".

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CHESS IN THE ALBURY GAOL 1881

Two of the prisoners in the Albury Gaol were detected a few days since playing chess in contravention of the regulations.

The board had been made out of squares of tweed, apparently cut out of an old pair of trousers, and stitched on to a pocket-handkerchief, the uncovered portion of which formed the white squares.

The Chessmen were very ingeniously cut out of soap.

As playing at any game is against the rules of the prison, the board and men were seized and removed.

### VALE - MRS JOSEPHINE WATERSTREET

Former Albury Publican, well known singer and community worker, Mrs Josephine Waterstreet died on July 12, aged 96 years.

Mrs Waterstreet, was born Mary Josephine Carroll, and at the age of 24 married Charles Waterstreet, a member of the well-established Albury family.

Her career in the hotel industry was to span five decades.

In 1938 her husband in partnership with Jim Cox, built the Pastoral Hotel in Townsend Street, but he died before the hotel was finished.

She left Albury with her six children, but returned in 1944 to run the Railway Commercial with the help of her eldest daughter Nora, whilst most of the younger children were at boarding school.

She was to take a backseat in running the hotel when her only son Bill took over the Railway Commercial in 1953, but this wasn't for long as she bought out the Cox family from the Pastoral in 1958.

The Pastoral became Mrs Waterstreet's domain until selling out to K-Mart in 1985.

She was a very civic minded person, fund-raising for many organisations. She gained a life membership of the Albury Base and Mercy Hospitals and the gratitude of the Albury City Band.

She loved to sing, a talent she was willing to share at parish singalongs, fund-raising and charity ventures, St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney and the Sydney Town Hall.

A memorial mass was held for Mrs Waterstreet at St Patrick's Church on July 16.

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### HUME DAM OPEN DAY

The recent Open Day at the Hume Dam on July 5 attracted thousands of people.

Grace Emery of Wodonga was one such person, and the day brought back many memories of her school days out there.

Her Father, Mr Sewell, got work there in 1922, and he worked in the big hole on the Victorian bank in 1925. The hole was ninety-feet deep.

Grace remembers the flying fox towers being built, the trains, the whistle at the power house, and especially the rides into Albury in the Thornycroft trucks, driven by Tim Coleman, a brother of Mrs Belle Shepard, one of our members.

Her first job was in the boarding house, feeding the hungry men.

She remembered the Doctor, the teacher and many events too numerous to mention.

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### SATISFACTION

*There's no thrill in easy sailing*

*when the sky is clear and blue*

*There's no joy in merely doing things*

*that anyone can do.*

*But there is a great satisfaction,*

*that is mighty sweet to take*

*When you reach a destination that*

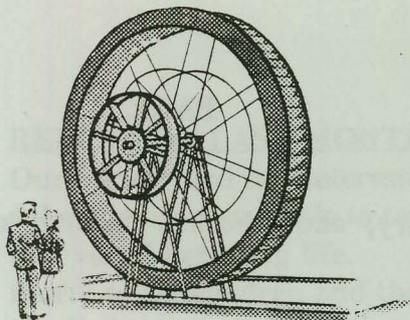
*you thought you couldn't make.*

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Tuesday August 26, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

Bulletin 362, August 1997. Albury & District Historical Society Inc.

(Mrs Janice Lynch, Editor. Ph/Fax 060-255462) P.O. Box 822, ALBURY. N.S.W. 2640

# BULLETIN



Patrons: Mr. Cleaver Bunton, A.O., O.B.E.  
Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.  
Mr. Ian Glachan, M.P.

President: Mr. Geoff Hamilton (02) 6021 2431

Secretary: Mr. Ron Braddy (02) 6021 2038  
P.O. Box 822, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Meetings: Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury.  
8.00 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Albury Regional Museum (02) 6021 4550  
Turks Head, Wodonga Place, Albury  
Open every day, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Subscriptions: Adult \$15  
Family \$18  
Corporate \$18.50

Registered by Australia Post, PP.225170/00019

ISSN 0813 6645

**BULLETIN 363 SEPTEMBER 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday September 9, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.  
Members, please bring a plate for supper.**

**GUEST SPEAKERS Trish Forrest, the Co-ordinator of the Back to Bonegilla  
Celebrations ; Mr & Mrs Peter Joos and Ray Harrison.**

**COMMITTEE VACANCY Mr Reg Garland takes over the position of Minute Secretary from  
Frank Higgins who has left Albury to live in Orange (see separate item).  
With this appointment, there now exists a vacancy on our Committee.**

## **QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

*"Who is buried on the Isle of Mull in the inner Hebrides with all the family, in a granite tomb with a  
florid inscription. "The Father of Australia"*

## **DONATION**

Following a request by the James Fallon High School, the Albury Historical Society has made a donation towards the final restoration costs of the James Fallon grave, situated in the Albury Pioneer Cemetery.

The students, under the supervision of stonemason Mr Frank Spagnolo, cleaned the headstone and replaced the grave's foundations, granite surrounds and missing pickets.

Funds for the restoration work came from a \$500 grant received under the NSW Heritage Assistance Programme. The Student Council along with the Parents and Citizens group each raised \$500 towards the project.

There is however, still a shortfall, even after the Historical Society's donation.

The school is seeking sponsors, to help towards the cost of the city's Inaugural Mayor's Grave site.

## **WHOOOPS !**

*In the August edition of the Bulletin it was stated that Mrs Elaine Jacob of Albury made history as being the first female, to be appointed as a NSW Magistrate. She was sworn in at the Downing Centre in Sydney on July 21, 1997.*



REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Our Society had two interesting guest speakers at last months meeting.

John Mollison was able to tell members a little of his own upbringing, along with many anecdotes of a very interesting life. He was born in London, during the middle of the first world war, the fourth of six children and the second son.

His Father was an ear, nose and throat surgeon at Guy's Hospital.

The first school John attended was in Baker Street, reputed to have been the home of Sherlock Holmes.

His Mother was keen for John to go into the diplomatic service. During his vacations he went abroad to France and Germany, to improve his language skills. He was in France in the summer of 1936 and was able to attend the Olympic Games held in Berlin and recalled his memories of them, including seeing Adolf Hitler and Jessie Owens, an outstanding negro athlete, as well as the political scene at the time, and eventually how happy he was to leave the continent and return to England.

In 1939 he became a volunteer for the military services, later the Home Guard and joined up to do his cadet training.

He gave details of his service years during WW11 and the places he went to, and admired the Sinai wilderness and Mt. Carmel.

Time restraints prevented us learning when he was to marry & move to Australia to live.

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Our Second guest speaker was Dr Allan Hogan, who also gave a very interesting talk, about the Medical and Hospital changes that have taken place in the Albury area over the last 50 years.

Dr Hogan arrived in Albury 47 years ago as a medical practitioner. At the time of his arrival there were 12 general practitioners, a radiologist and a quarantine officer in Albury (and another two general practitioners in Wodonga). The Albury Hospital was situated in Wodonga Place, where he noted that the foundation stone was laid in 1914.

The Albury District Hospital was administered by a Board of Directors, which was appointed by the Minister for Health.

It was decided that if the Albury District Hospital was to become a Base Hospital, this would mean that many new requirements would be needed to attract specialised services.

The first change to take place was the appointment of a Medical Superintendent. There were 2 applicants for the position, and Dr Hogan was subsequently appointed. Many changes were to take place over a time, and this included resident medical officers being appointed.

A new Blood transfusion service replacing the "Panel of blood donors", moved to a fibro building at the rear of the hospital where blood could be kept for 96hrs.

In the early 60's, an appeal to raise funds for a new Blood Bank was so successful that it was over subscribed, and funds went towards, not only the new brick building near the corner of Smollett and Townsend, but also towards new furnishings.

The blood bank was also successful. When a Chinese delegation visited Australia for the purposes of trying to find out how to establish a country blood bank, they heard about Albury, and visited. Exports of Blood from Albury to Indonesia also took place.

With the introduction of the various specialists at the Hospital, this created yet another problem in the classification of staff, but eventually this was dealt with.

In 1994 a new Base Hospital was built, and eventually the old services were transferred to the new hospital. A new system of administration was introduced, and the local Board of Directors was

ALBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP LIST

Only those listed below and those who pay before September 12th will receive the October Bulletin.

Subscriptions became due after the Annual General Meeting held in June.

A membership form was attached to the July Bulletin.

## SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

Ella Allan	Sam J. Goddard	Jan Marsden	Dorothy Ross
Colin Angus	Susan Gray	Christine McDonald	Belle Shepard
Paula Bongetti	Fred W. Heath	Joy Mc Gowan	Claire Simpson
Jacqui Bullivant	Myrtle Hodda	June McKenzie	Elsie Simmonds
Claude Burke	Ella Hohnhorst	Shirley Miller	Grace I. Simpson
Joan Burgess	Anne Holloway	John Mollison	Lily Smith
Olga Butt	Lee Howard	Peg Morrison	Lucy A. Staton
Constance Chambers	Tom Jelbart	Thelma Musselwhite	Faye L. Stevenson
Eva E. Cobcroft	Andrew J.B. Kelso	F.J. Nagle	Valerie Symons
Vivienne Colley	Muriel Kelly	Helen Nixon	Di. Waldon
Marilyn Comitti	Gina Langlands	Audrey Nugent	Barbara Watson
Margaret Cottrell	Mary Leithead	Betty Osmond	Patricia E. Watson
Roddy Davies	Dawn Lindner	Rupert L. Paech	Vonnie Wharton
Joan M. Doyle	Janice Lynch	Jim Paterson	Gladys V. Williams
Dick Fielder	Harold Mair	Raymond J. Payne	Kenneth W. Young
Ray Gear	Christopher P. McQuellin	Alice E. Plunkett	

## CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Gerry & Mary Curtis  
C.W.A., Albury  
Jindera Pioneer Museum

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Gerry Curtis  
Anne Davies  
Helen Livsey

## LIFE MEMBERS

A. Buckmaster  
W.H. Chambers  
Commercial Club (Albury) Ltd  
J. D. Crooke  
Norm C. Douglas  
Mrs I. Geddes  
Olive Odewahn  
Jean Read  
Mr & Mrs S.P. Webb

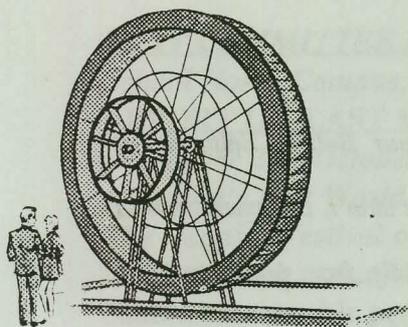
## FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

J.D. & D.V. Beachcroft  
Margaret & Kevin Beyer  
Ron & Betty Braddy  
Bob & Mrs Dick  
Ms Shirley Dobson & Mr Brian Haynes  
Reg & Alma Garland  
Ian D. & Helen Glachan  
Geoff & Mrs Hamilton  
Howard C. & Hazel Jones  
Steve T. & Carol A. Judd  
George & Inga Krain  
Jim & Marie Lee  
Brian & Wendy Moriarty  
Mr & Mrs Bruce Pennay  
Sep & Helena Prosser  
Narda Reid & Luke Rayner  
Greg & Cheryl Ryan  
Ken & Elma Scholz  
Arthur & Pat Scott  
I.G. & M. C. Watson  
Reuben & Betty Wynn

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday September 23, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

Bulletin 363, September 1997. Albury & District Historical Society Inc.  
(EDITOR, Mrs Janice Lynch. Phone/Fax 02 - 60255462) P.O. Box 822, ALBURY, N.S.W. 2640

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**BULLETIN 364 OCTOBER 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday October 14, Commercial Club,  
 Dean St, Albury.  
 Members, a plate for supper please.**

**GUEST SPEAKERS Following on from last month's Guest Speakers with the  
 Immigration theme relevant to Bonegilla '97 : the 50th Anniversary  
 Anniversary Festival, this month we will hear a further three speakers :  
 Mrs.D.Eitler, Elizabeth Bartsch and Ron Braddy.**

**COMMITTEE VACANCY A vacancy still exists on our Committee. If you  
 would like to be on this committee, or if you know of someone who would, please  
 don't be backward in coming forward.**

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH "From which railway station did migrants  
 alight from, to be conveyed by bus to the Bonegilla migrant centre"**

**A PAUSE FOR REFLECTION  
 Chiltern Athenaeum historian, Rex Fuge, will conduct a  
**CHILTERN OLD CEMETERY WALK** Sunday October 26, 1pm to 3pm.  
 Meet at cemetery gate corner Hume Highway and Wenkes Road to enjoy a pleasant  
 Spring walk through the cemetery visiting the graves of Chiltern pioneers who  
 helped to make the town we know today.  
 Please bring a chair for the talk which will follow the walk.  
 Enquiries : Rex Fuge 0357 261 467**

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**MEMBERSHIP LIST (continued from our September Bulletin)**

**CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP**

Harrisons Office Equipment

**FAMILY MEMBERS**

John & Mrs Craig  
 Frank & Dot Higgins  
 Jim & Dorothy Mackey

Charles & Ruth Nagle  
 Mick & Marie Ryan  
 Les & Anne Simmonds  
 Alva & Evelyn Smith  
 Michael & Guilan Thurling  
 R.C. & Mrs Ward  
 I.G. & M. E. Watson  
 Merrick & Allison Webb

**SINGLE MEMBERSHIP**

Marie Bollenhagen  
 Elizabeth Close  
 Claire Endacott  
 John Henwood  
 Jim Hunter  
 Michael John Katalinic  
 Ken Logan

Gwen McMillan  
 Helen Nixon  
 Maryann Priest  
 Douglas Royal  
 Ruth Symes  
 Mary Thurling

WHOOPS !

We are again experiencing problems with our printers, as explained by your Bulletin Editor at last month's meeting. For this issue, we are reverting to normal margins. For those eagle eyes that spotted the problems, and for many member that didn't, the amendments to the September Bulletin are

Page 1- an additional line should have said : Mrs Jacob was the first female from Albury to be appointed"

Page 3 - The last 2 lines - "dispensed of and replaced by the Hume Health Service.

A vote of thanks to both speakers was made by Ron Braddy on behalf of all members".

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

*"Who is buried on the Isle of Mull in the inner Hebrides with all the family, in a granite tomb with a florid inscription. "The Father of Australia"*

Two members, John Craig & Geoff Hamilton, researched the subject and found two "Fathers of Australia", but only one was buried on the Isle of Mull.

The first answer was given by John Craig.

In 1642 Abel Tasman sailing from Java discovered Tasmania which he named Van Diemen's Land. It was during this period that the great South Land was named "New Holland" and later named Australia in 1814 by Lachlan Macquarie, born circa 1760 on the Island of Ulva, the son of a Scottish farmer. He saw service in Northern America during the War of Independence, then in India and Egypt. It was then as Lt. Colonel he went with his regiment to N.S.W. succeeding William Bligh as Governor.

Lachlan Macquarie was Governor of New South Wales between 1810-1821. He died in London on July 1.1824, and was buried on his estate on the Island of Mull, where he lies with his wife and family in a tomb, which came under the control of an Australian Trust in 1950.

The Father of Australia - Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

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Geoff Hamilton gleaned his information from the Australian Encyclopedia Vol.3. This gentleman, only son of William, was born in Argyle Street, London on 13 Feb. 1743.

He accompanied Captain Cook on the Endeavour, when he discovered the east coast of Australia on April 20.1770.

During this trip, this gentleman, collected over 3,600 plants, of which 1400 had never been classified. He was the founder of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew and was appointed President of the Royal Society in 1777 until his death in London on 19 June 1820. He was Sir Joseph Banks.

There is some truth in the claim that he should be called, and is called, the Father of Australia, but no monument was ever erected in his name.

*(EDITOR'S NOTE -- Joseph Banks : it was partly due to his advocacy before the Committee Enquiring into Transportation Act in 1784 that N.S.W. was selected as a penal colony. Joseph Banks died in London).*

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**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Tuesday October 28, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

**REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S MEETING**

September 26 - October 5 marked the 50th anniversary of the opening of Australia's post World War 11 Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre..

The reunion festival celebrated the contribution Bonegilla migrants had made to the Australian way of life.

At last month's meeting to commemorate this occasion we had three guest speakers who talked about the festival and some of its history. They were Trish Forrest, Peter Joos and Ray Harrison.

Trish Forrest was appointed as co-ordinator of the 50th year Anniversary of Bonegilla six months ago, and inherited the decision on the pronounciation of the name for the festival. She commented that we all know that the place is Bonegilla but in recognition of the eastern European pronounciation, it was decided that the festival would pronounce is as "Bonny-gilla", being culturally appropriate because it is the 50th anniversary of the settlement of migrants at the reception area at Bonegilla.

As co-ordinator, she faced many challenges with arranging both dry and wet weather venues for the 105 events, to be held at 40 venues over the 10 days of celebrations. 320,000 migrants came through Bonegilla in the 24 years that the centre was open, and unfortunately records of that era weren't good.

Trish told the meeting that her committee was looking to use the festival as being a springboard to the ongoing preservation of Block 19, which is the last remaining piece of migrant reception centre, and until recently in a state of disrepair.

Programmes handed out during the meeting detailed events to be held during the 10 days of celebrations. Trish praised the support given by the community, ethnic groups and community organistions.

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Ray Harrison was our second guest speaker. He is a life member and former President of the Albury Apex Club, one of the many service clubs involved with the assimilation of migrants at Bonegilla.

He recounted many memories associated with the first migrants coming in 1947/48.

They were friendly, however many weren't able to speak the English language.

He recounted how district service clubs, including the Apex club, helped to make the migrants feel more welcome.

District service clubs were involved in the Annual Christmas party, in which Santa, or Saint Nicholas (Cliff Chamberlain and later Ron Braddy) would arrive bearing gifts at the Bonegilla Migrant Centre.

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Peter Joos, came from Amsterdam and arrived in Port Melbourne on July.1.1954.

He recounted that it took 5.1/2 hours to get to Bonegilla

Peter told of his impressions of the district during his time here as a migrant, where he worked at the Bunge Flour Mill, as well as the Snowy River Scheme, and also farmed in the Kiewa Valley.

For him and his wife, it would not be a celebration as many of the friends they made have since died, however they both looked forward to taking part in the events.

On JULY 11, 1897 Mr W.H. Easterby, J.P., drowned at Howlong. He was a native of Lancashire and had spent time on the Ovens goldfields before becoming a grain, machinery and insurance agent at Howlong.

On AUGUST 16 W.R. Conley, a council employee, died at the age of 49. He was the son of William Conley who had owned considerable property in Albury including the Exchange Hotel. Owing to the severity of the season the Germanton (Holbrook) Show was not held. The lapsing of the show was generally regarded as a mistake, the Albury Show being almost as pronounced a success as any of its predecessors. Miss Lucy Dulley, aged 22, died on Aug. 28. She was the daughter of George S. Dulley, the Council health inspector, known as "The Sage of Riverview".

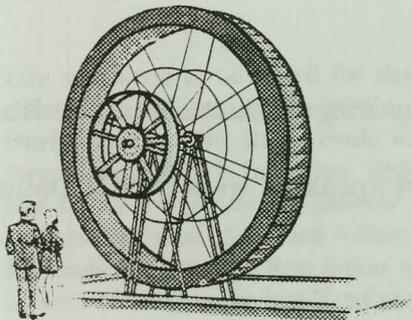
In SEPTEMBER the Concord Lodge installed the following officers: C.R. Morrison, G.A. Thompson, S.J. Hansford, Jas. Nelson, Radford (Acting Chaplain), Dr. Woods, Jas Thompson, A.J. Smith, R. Aikins, F.J. Belbridge, G.H. Roxburgh, A. Justice, M. MacTaggart, R.H. Douglas and J. Hawkins.

OCTOBER 19 saw a public meeting held when a strong committee was appointed to take steps to impress on the Federal delegates the suitability of Albury as the site of the Federal capital. In the same month Thos. Affleck, Hon. Treasurer of the Albury Hospital, received from the Government the subsidy in connection with the demonstration held for the erection of the Queen's Jubilee Ward, thus making the net receipts from the carnival £468/2/2d. The cool chambers at the Albury Butter Factory were made ready for receiving meat and other perishable products. A creamery was opened at Jindera.

In NOVEMBER Dr. Cleaver Woods was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace. The following were appointed office bearers for the Albury Vine and Fruit Growers Association: Geo. Day, A. Andrews, C.J. Morton, J.F. Boadle, J.D. Lankester, J. Frauenfelder, Thos. Plummer, W.H. Polkinghorne, W.B. Wilson, J.R. Kennedy, E.O. Mitchell, J. Ferguson, P.A. Buchhorn, G.S. Adams, G.A. Thompson, W.J. Gordon and Thos. Affleck. A social and concert in connection with the anniversary of the Presbyterian Church, held on Nov. 16, was a great success. A large and representative meeting of residents of Wodonga and Albury was held at the former place on Nov. 17 to urge the claims of Albury to be chosen as a site for the Federal City. It was decided to give a prize of £10 for the best essay as to Albury's suitability for the site. Deaths during the month included Henry Pusterla of Albury and William Smith of Talgarno. An anniversary service of the Wesleyan Church was held on Nov. 21.

In DECEMBER a case of anthrax was successfully cured in Albury. Deaths during the month included Thomas Smith, a railway porter and old resident of Albury, John Findlay of Towong Station, and Mr Kershaw, late superintendent of the Albury Hospital. A remarkable success attended the adoption of the trellis system by Mr Frere in his vineyard at St.Hilaire during the year.

# BULLETIN



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Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.  
Mr. Ian Glachan, M.P.

President: Mr. Geoff Hamilton (02) 6021 2431

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P.O. Box 822, Albury, N.S.W. 2640

Meetings: Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury.  
8.00 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month

Albury Regional Museum (02) 6021 4550  
Turks Head, Wodonga Place, Albury  
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Family \$18  
Corporate \$18.50

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ISSN 0813 6645

**BULLETIN 365 NOVEMBER 1997**

**NEXT MEETING 8pm Tuesday November 11, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.  
Members, a plate for supper please.**

**GUEST SPEAKER Lyn Lehman of the Albury Campus of T.A.F.E. will talk about the importance of recording our history/genealogy. Particular emphasis will be made on the availability of specially designed computer courses for the mature aged person, with little or no keyboard skills, to help them in recording their history for future generations.**

**WELCOME We welcome Jan Marsden to our committee.**

*Jan's appointment follows a vacancy left by former member Frank Higgins, who left Albury with his family in September, to live in Orange.*

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH What famous Australian poet was involved with St. Johns orphanage at Thurgoona.**

**Saint Patrick's Church, Albury**

*125th Anniversary of the opening of the church, November 24, 1872.*

*An invitation is extended to the celebrations which take place Nov.23 to 28.*

*Tour of the church, led by Gerry Curtis, and the launch, by Harold Mair, of Howard Jones' book on St. Patrick's Parish : 2.30pm Sunday Nov.23.*

*Mass, with St. Patrick's choir, will be celebrated 7.30pm Mon. Nov 24.*

*Concert in the Church with Murray Conservatorium Choir 7.30pm Wed. Nov 26.*

*A parish dinner, with guest speaker Mr Justice Nagle, for which bookings have now closed, will conclude the week.*

**WODONGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc**

*Will be holding a "Railway" remembering evening at the Wodonga Football Club rooms on Monday November 10 at 7.30pm.*

*Members of the Albury Historical Society, and any other person that may be interested have been invited to attend. The venue is at Martin Park, off Vermont Street.*

*There will be a gold coin admission charge, supper provided and a \$2 raffle will be held.*

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday November 25, 7.30pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.**

## REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S MEETING

September 26 - October 5 marked the 50th anniversary of the opening of Australia's post World War 11 Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre.

Following on from the Bonegilla Festival, last month's Guest Speakers were : Mrs.Doina Eitler, Elizabeth Bartsch and Ron Braddy.

**RON BRADDY** was the first guest to talk about his experiences at Bonegilla.

At the time Colonel Guinn was Commander of the Bonegilla Immigration Reception Centre, and one of the officials was Major Goss-Webb. He was an English Major and he married Myra who was a new Australian. They came to Albury to live (Jones Street) and she used to work at the railway station. They had a daughter Myra.

After Colonel Guinn left the area, Russell Dawson took over as Commander.

He recalled that the Matron at the Bonegilla Hospital was Nell Seymour.

The Albury Apex Club, in particular one of its members Peter Garnsey, suggested that it would be a nice gesture if there was a "Father Christmas" at Bonegilla for the kiddies out there. Business houses around Albury were approached by Apex club members, and they were able to collect gifts, sweets, and donations of ice creams.

Tom Miller, had the truck for the first occassion. Father Christmas and his helpers handed out icecreams and sweets around the camp and from there they went onto the Hospital to do the same.

For the first two years, Cliff Chamberlain was "Father Christmas", and for the next four or five years, Ron himself took over this position, until his "retirement" in 1960, and then the task was undertaken by Paul Wallace.

Ron said that the Apex members got as much fun out of the occasion as the children did - it was a big day for everyone concerned and at one time there was between 700-800 children. Of course for the children it wasn't Father Christmas, it was Saint Nicholas, and over the years he would arrive at the camp in horse drawn vehicles, backs of trucks, open motor cars.

Ron then gave a listing of members of Apex during the years that they helped the children at Bonegilla.

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**DOINA EITLER** was our second speaker, and her talk centered around how her family got their very first home in Australia.

Her family left Romania early in the war and fled to Austria. Life was hard during the war, & was even worse afterwards, as there was very little food and there was no work.

Her parents thought that there would be no future in Europe for them or for their three children, so they applied to go to Chile, were accepted, then Chile decided not to accept any more migrants. This was also to happen when they applied to go to Argentina.

By this time, when the family were very desperate, Australia then opened its doors to displaced persons, to which they qualified. They applied & went through a very rigid screening process, & in February 1949 their journey started. They left by train from Austria & travelled to Naples. For the six weeks they waited, males & females were segregated & this was to continue on the boat, then again in Bonegilla, & until they could afford to buy their little house and settle at Wodonga.

The family arrived in Bonegilla in May 1949. The men were then shifted to Bandiana to work and the women & children were moved to Uranquinty camp.

The first pay for most of the men, was used as a down payment on a bicycle & every weekend they would ride their bikes to Uranquinty to see their families. During the week there was no Fathers there, and all the responsibility was left up to the Mothers. In her case she was the eldest, at nearly eleven years of age, and her Mother was due to have a baby. It was up to her to look after her Mum. She recalled the anguish at her Mother not being able to speak English & the worry if her mother died during childbirth, & how she sat on the hospital steps all night crying & praying that she would live. At dawn, she knocked on the door, and to the astonishment of staff at finding her there, was told that her Mother was alive & she had a baby sister.

In the meantime, her Father managed to get a loan of £50 with which he bought enough building material to build a one-roomed hut on the Wodonga flats.

He and his friends got together, and they built the hut and then scrounged for furniture, pots and pans etc. His next task was to move the rest of the family from Uranquinty to Wodonga.

He approached his friend Mick Pressnell in Wodonga, & asked for his help with his truck to pick up his family & personal belongings. Doina recounted that the children were allowed to stand on the back of the truck with the wind blowing through their hair - it was a wonderful feeling and they were having fun.

It was really exciting to eventually arrive at their new home. Everyone was very helpful and kind and although poor, it was good to be together as a family. Coupons were needed still to buy sugar, tea, butter, & flour.

Life continued to be hard for the family. Her youngest sister contracted polio and there were great fears for the other three children in the family. Apart from a slight limp, her sister pulled through this experience. During all this time Doina could never remember her parents complaining. All she remembers is their happy smiling faces, and gratitude for what little they had.

Her father eventually got another job on the road gang of the Wodonga Council, and stayed there for many years. He went on to be Assistant Acting Shire Engineer.

He made friends with Ron Baker who used to own a bicycle shop & it was Ron who eventually persuaded him to buy a block of land. He lent her father £100 & they went to the next auction sale in summer 1951, where they bought 2 blocks of land for 100 guineas. It reached from Parker St. to Vermont St, (Parker St is now Charles St). They then asked Mick Pressnell to transport their little house to the new blocks. Friends then assisted in putting the house on the truck where it was then transported to Parker Street.

It was, Doina told the meeting, one of the proudest days in her parents lives.

That little house, to this day, still stands on what used to be 23 Parker St. She thought that it should stand as a monument to her parents and to the many great people who helped them to make this dream come true and also to make them feel " part of Australia".

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ELIZABETH BARTSCH Our third guest speaker, Elizabeth Bartsch, talked briefly of some of the work of the Lutheran World Service office in Bonegilla, in particular the work of three retired former executive officers, Bruno Meutzelfeldt, Brian Neldner and Sid Bartsch (Elizabeth's husband, who died a few months ago and left her to be guest speaker.)

For Sid & I, the most memorable and biggest learning period of our lives was the six years we spent in the Bonegilla migrant centre.

In 1947 Bruno was the Lutheran Pastor in Albury. He visited the Bonegilla Migrant Centre from its inception, in order to establish chaplaincy services to new arrivals of Baltic origin. He noted that most Estonian and Latvian people were Lutheran and most Lithuanians were Catholic, so while still a Pastor at St Luke's Parish, Bruno was also busy with worship services, weddings and instruction classes and counselling activities in Bonegilla. As chaplain, Bruno addressed ship-loads of new arrivals up to 1,000 at a time, at the official receptions conducted by the Centre Director. He frequently found himself in the position of an advocate between new arrivals and the centre administration in the quest for better living conditions and a more humane approach by employment officials, so that new arrivals could be placed near to their earlier arrived relatives.

In 1950 the Lutheran World Federation with headquarters in Geneva, named the Bonegilla office, a field office. Bruno was released from the Albury Parish to become the first (Australian) executive officer (in Australia). Geneva took on the financial responsibility for the staff and all work involved with aid to immigrants who had suffered and lost so much during the war. In return for its free accommodation in Bonegilla, the L.W.S. office provided a general advice and counselling service to new arrivals, support for the chaplain's office and some welfare services. It also conducted a medical insurance agency for migrants who had been unaware that they were not at that time covered by some National Health scheme.

The key to L.W.S. re-settlement activities was a Revolving Fund. Many European workers were unable to migrate in the 50's due to being ineligible for an assisted passage, or through lack of an Australian sponsor.

The Revolving Fund assisted in the migration of about 1,500 families or 5,000 persons by providing their fares on a reduced cost, time payment basis. The Australian Govt. then provided hostel and placement facilities. The people regularly paid back their loans. By 1955, staff increased to 5 with Brian Neldner as work assistant to Bruno. During the 50's and 60's the office did a lot of detective work, with hundred's of requests from both overseas and within Australia looking for lost family members.

In 1960 Bruno was appointed senior director of L.W.S. in Geneva, & Brian took over in Bonegilla. A Chaplain was required so Norman Sander accepted the call. In early 1965 Brian was posted to Tasmania, and Sid was the next executive officer.

Leaving from a comfortable life in Adelaide, Sid, Elizabeth and children wondered what they would find when they arrived at Bonegilla. One of the first tasks for Sid was to implement a secondary use for the Revolving Fund. Money was made available to migrants for housing, trade or craft establishment.

To administer this new fund a corporate structure was needed. It became L.W.F. Project Ltd, a company incorporated in N.S.W. and the first directors were Stan Jackling and Sid Bartsch, both serving until their retirements in 1990.

Early in 1970 there was talk of Bonegilla closing due to the age of the buildings and the need to replace electricity and sewerage systems etc, which were becoming too costly to maintain. Finally the Minister for Immigration, the Hon. Phillip Lynch announced that Bonegilla would be phased out during the last half of 1971.

For L.W.S., much of the office's work load was, and still is, conducted by correspondence, telephone and electronic communications, so it could relocate anywhere in Australia. After consultation with Geneva, the office moved to the Albury C.M.L. Building in November 1971.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

"From which railway station did migrants alight from, to be conveyed by bus to the Bonegilla migrant centre"

ANNE DAVIES The answer was from the Bonegilla Railway Station. This was on the other side of the Murray Valley highway from the migrant centre, and about 10Km from Wodonga. It is marked by a notice board. The railway site is still there, but has no lines, few sleepers and no buildings, but there is still a little bit of the platform left.

The site is now managed by the Victorian Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources.

HAROLD MAIR stated that the Bonegilla railway siding was used during WW11.

TOM JELBART asked if there ever was a Bonegilla railway station or was it the Ebdon railway station, as he thought there was a Bandiana station east of the Kiewa River as there was just a platform and a sign and the next station was Ebdon.

GEORGE KRAIN on 30th September 1950 at 10pm he arrived by train at what used to be called a railway siding. There was a platform, very little lights, & no shelter.

He came direct from the boat at Melbourne, travelling by train via Seymour & Wodonga, across the Bandiana crossing, and further up that was the train that used to go on to Tallangatta years ago. The army siding was where migrants were taken into buses to the camp. The luggage of migrants was transported to the Ebdon railway station, and 2-3 days later, the luggage was taken off a special railway truck and was inspected by customs. The luggage (which were usually wooden boxes), in most cases, were taken back to the camp, where they were then handed over and taken to the huts.

REG GARLAND In reply to Tom's query, said that the Bandiana Station was immediately below the present Blazing Stump site. He worked there during the war.

The Bonegilla railway siding was on top of a hill.

GEOFF HAMILTON The railway station was classified as the Bonegilla Siding. The train would come up from Port Melbourne, with the migrants, all of the one nationality. They would stop at Seymour for a meal, then continue on to Bonegilla, where they would alight (there was no lighting facilities for about 2 years. The Train Guard used to come out with his flash light and help the best he could at night time. There was the bus from Bonegilla and two buses from Mylons, which would take the migrants across the road, through two sets of gates, to the assembly hall, at the Bonegilla camp, where they would be welcomed and allocated to their respective huts.

DOINA EITLER agreed with Geoff's description, and commented that for her, as a child, and because it was pitch black when her family arrived, & they didn't know where they were going, it was one of the scariest experiences to see the light flashing around.

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Wodonga Family History Soc Inc will be conducting a Seminar on Nov.15 at St Stephen's Hall, Nilmar Ave, Wodonga.

Members as well as non members are welcome to participate.

There will be three speakers -Dorothy Fellowes (Did my ancestor own property - a beginner's look at Maps and Land Titles) ; Frances Brown (Librarian from the Victorian State Library) and Lenore Frost (Dating old photos -bring yours along).

Cost is \$15 tea/coffee provided, food outlets within 100metres.Registration at 9.30am.

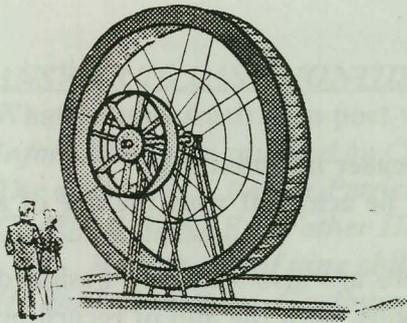
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A Thin Line but Not Invisible The Kotzurs in Australia 1857-1997

This laminated hard cover book of 250pages has family tree charts, stories and poetry, maps, statistics, 294 photographs, and chapters on Sorbian/Wendish history and culture. Over 2,000 names fully indexed. \$50 plus postage (price covers production costs only) Available from Mrs Ruth Kotzur, 29 Market St, Walla Walla NSW 2659. Phone 02-6029 2429

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# BULLETIN



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BULLETIN 366 DECEMBER 1997

**NEXT MEETING** 8pm Tuesday December 9, Commercial Club, Dean St, Albury.

**SUPPER** *Continuing our tradition, the men are asked to bring and serve the supper at our Christmas meeting.*

**BRING AND TELL** As December is always a BRING & TELL meeting, we request members to bring along something interesting and/or historical, and talk about it. It would be of tremendous help to your Bulletin Editor if you could please provide a brief written description of your item, for inclusion in the next Bulletin. You are invited to bring along a family member or friend for this meeting.

**TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT** *There will be no Question of the Month for December. There will however, be a trivia quiz session for members & visitors.*

**SOCIETY PROPERTY** Our Society is endeavouring to locate property and equipment belonging to it. Plans are under way to make a full inventory listing item/s, (including photos, slides, books etc), who has the property, and where it is located. If you have, or know of where any equipment or property is located, please advise the President, Secretary or any committee member as soon as possible.

**WHOOOPS** *In last months Bulletin, guest speaker Elizabeth Bartsch was reported as saying that in early 1965 Brian Neldner was posted to Tasmania - it should have read TANZANIA. In the question of the month last month the spelling of Ebdon railway station should have read EB DEN railway station.*

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**NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY**

*The first meeting for 1998 will take place on FEBRUARY 10th.*

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Tuesday January 27, 7.30 pm, Xavier High School North Campus, off Currawong Street, North Albury.

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A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR is extended to all our Society members and readers of our Bulletin from the Editor and Committee.

REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Lyn Lehman of the Albury Campus of T.A.F.E. was our guest speaker last month. She gave those present a practical demonstration on what could be achieved with the use of a computer in storing and retrieving information.

She pointed out that many short courses are available, and there are also specially designed courses for the mature aged person, with little or no keyboard skills, with the aim of recording their own information such as family history.

A demonstration of a database, showing how to make a listing of equipment or items was shown, especially with the view that our Society is endeavouring to locate and make a list of all equipment etc, that it has.

For members of our Society interested in learning about computers (it's never too late to learn "new tricks") expressions of interest can be made direct to Lyn Lehman at T.A.F.E. or to our committee member, Bob Dick, who has more than a passing interest in this subject.

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VALE WALTER ABIKHAIR

We record the death of Albury's oldest draper Walter Abikhar who died on October 29. at the Albury Base Hospital. He was aged 94 years.

His funeral was held on Monday November 3 at St. David's Uniting Church.

Mr Abikhair had worked at his family's store at the corner of Swift and Olive Streets since the early 1920's, until the business closed down in December 1996.

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ALBURY'S MONUMENT IS NOW "CLASSIFIED"

The Albury City Council was notified on November 3 that the National Trust of Australia has officially classified the Albury War Memorial and included it on its Register.

According to the Trust, the 27.6m-high memorial is "a striking example of the Inter-War Art Deco style.

The style symbolised among other things "progress in the face of adversity".

It was designed by architect Mr Louis Harrison, and built in 1924-25 by a local builder Mr Tom Bartleson.

The memorial, memorial bowl and Dean Street parkland are listed separately as items of enviromental heritage in the Albury Local Enviromental Plan 1995.

The Australian Heritage Commission has also listed the memorial on the Register of the National Estate.

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GLANCING BACK TO THE PAST

Gleaned from the files of the Albury Banner for April 1869.

The "Randan", or double-wheeled velocipede\* has made its appearance in Melbourne. The driver had his "crank" vehicle under good control. Some legislation will be required should these become numerous.

A Velocipede Club has been arranged in connection with the Liverpool gymnasium. It is said that any one sufficently practised with the machine can be carried forward by it at the rate of twenty-five miles per hour.

Then in July 1869 - UNICYCLE for TWO - Lovers of velocipedes will be glad to learn that there will shortly be a machine of new description submitted to public favour. It is a unicycle, intended to carry two men at the speed of 16 miles per hour. It consists of a single wheel seven feet in diameter, with a seat and winch attached to the centre of each side of the wheel.

(\*Nowadays called a bicycle.)

### ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What famous Australian poet was involved with St. Johns orphanage at Thurgoona ?.

*Information was supplied by Claude Burke. Arthur Scott and Helen Livsey -*

*The answer is - Father Patrick Hartigan or his pen name of "John O'Brien".*

CLAUDE BURKE - *Father Hartigan, was born in Yass on 13 October 1878.*

*He was one of nine children of whom two were priests and four became Sisters of Mercy. He studied at Yass, Goulburn and Manly and was ordained a priest on 18 January 1903 at Goulburn. He became a curate in Albury where he stayed for seven years. In 1910 he was appointed Inspector of Catholic Schools in the Goulburn Diocese and lived at Thurgoona near St John's (Newtown) Orphanage.*

*He worked in Berrigan before going to Narrandera, staying for 27 years. In 1944 he became Chaplain to the Convent at Rose Bay. He died at Lewisham 27 December 1952 and was buried at North Rocks.*

*His literary career started during his training to become a priest when he was an avid reader of The Bulletin, which was not exactly at the top of the list of approved seminary reading matter. However he submitted poetry which was published in the Bulletin using his pen name of Mary Ann. Some of his most prominent poems were published in a book entitled "Around the Boree Log".*

*His Character -He was a tall imposing man with a high brow and wore half glasses.*

*For many many years he smoked a cigar with a long holder. His great interest in life was motor cars. His car was generally the best in the district. There were no many cars around in the 1900's. He was an expert at nature, and provided an aviary for the Sisters at the Albury Convent, and a goldfish bowl near the church.*

*He was forever gardening, and kept the church surrounds in excellent condition.*

*He had a wonderful gift for preaching, even young children were amazed by his sermons. He was often asked to speak on special occasions and was known to hold an audience in the church for over an hour without a murmur.*

*The orphanage at Thurgoona was an offshoot of Mt. Carmel College at Yass, which was the only diocese in N.S.W. covering areas just out of Sydney to Wilcannia, Forbes and the Victorian border. (Wagga Wagga wasn't a diocese then). The Sisters of Mercy organised all the schools and churches in these areas.*

*Claude's wife, Carmel, enjoyed ribbing her siblings saying that she was baptised by Father Hartigan, while they were baptised by "ordinary priests".*

*(Editor's Note) The Newtown Orphanage at Thurgoona was built in 1880 and was opened in 1882 by the Sisters of Mercy. This large brick building, much enlarged, is now Guadalupe House.*

ARTHUR SCOTT said that Father Hartigan lived in a small cottage adjacent to the orphanage 1910-1916. He went to Berrigan for a few years, then to Narrandera in 1917. In 1935 he was notified of his transfer to Corowa. The people at Narrandra on hearing of his transfer, petitioned the Bishop to keep him at Narrandera. This was to upset the parishioners of Corowa who then decided to petition to keep their own parish priest. Father Hartigan stayed at Narrandera until 1944 and then went to the Sacred Heart Convent at Rose Bay where he died in 1952 from cancer.

*His first writings were printed by Angus & Robertson in 1921.*

HELEN LIVSEY brought along the Historical Society Bulletin No 227 of May 1985 containing a previously unpublished poem by Father Hartigan. Entitled "How Stumpy Made the Weight" it was written about Mrs May Bishop (nee Knobel) who knew Father Hartigan when she was growing up at Thurgoona.

Bonegilla By way of clarification, a word about Directors of the Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre. The Centre was established in 1947 and its first Commandant was Major A. Kershaw, who initially wore his old Army uniform on duty, though the Centre was never a military establishment. The Immigration Department changed the title to Director in 1948. Expansion of the Centre meant there were three camps for a while, directed by Major Kershaw, Brigadier Christianson and Wing-commander Clifford.

A professional public servant, R.G. Dawson, was Assistant Director to Major Kershaw, but gradually assumed more control and about 1950 replaced Major Kershaw. Mr Dawson was in charge in the peak years of the early 50s until he left in 1954. About 150,000 migrants passed through Bonegilla in his seven years as Assistant Director and Director. Mr Dawson was succeeded by a retired army officer, Colonel Henry Guinn, who attended the recent reunion. Colonel Guinn found conditions poor and instigated a rebuilding program and other reforms, helped considerably by Sir Alexander Downer when he was Immigration Minister in 1958-63. Colonel Guinn retired in 1964 and J.E.Hawton replaced him. Mr Hawton was transferred to Beirut in late 1966 and John Carroll came from Brisbane. By then, the biggest groups were the Greeks, Yugoslavs and Germans. Mr Carroll was Director until the centre closed in 1971. (Howard Jones)

#### Saint Patrick's Church, Albury

A tour of St. Patrick's Catholic Church on Nov. 23 heralded a week of events to celebrate the church's 125th anniversary. A large number of people, probably one for every year since the church was opened in 1872, enjoyed the results of Gerry Curtis' efficient organisation. They heard history and music - organ and bagpipes - and toured all the nooks and crannies not usually seen by the congregation.

Harold Mair launched a 36-page illustrated history of St. Patricks written by Howard Jones. The book is for sale at \$5 a copy and will be available at our December meeting. (Helen Livsey)

#### We've Lost a Friend

We lost one of our "old faithfuls", Dick Fielder, on Nov. 4. Dick was born in Bowna 92 years ago, and had suffered deteriorating health for the last few years. He had a good knowledge of Albury and was always helpful in providing information to the Society, particularly through the "Friday Group" which ran for a few years but has now lapsed.

Dick, a retired builder, had worked on the Prime Minister's Canberra Lodge, the Albury High School, St. Patrick's Hall, Blackie House, and numerous homes. Sympathy is extended to his daughter, Mrs Merle Saville and her family, and to the Fielder family.