

# Albury & District Historical Society Inc

July 2022

No 635

Wiradjuri Country, PO Box 822 ALBURY 2640

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

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## Next Meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

7.30 pm, Commercial Club

**Topic:** 1. AGM

2. Jindera Pioneer Museum

**Speaker:** Margie Wehner

**ALBURY LIBRARYMUSEUM**  
**Questacon – Science on**  
**the Move**  
**Until July 31**

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Japanese Submarine

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Albury's historic old court house. Geoff Romero looked at "The Changing Language of the Law" at our June meeting. [see page 4]

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES FOR JULY

Preceding our July General Meeting we will hold our Annual General Meeting. I am stepping aside as Society president at the AGM so this is my last Bulletin as president. I have enjoyed serving the Society in this position and thank members for the support that I have received. Geoff Romero has accepted nomination as president for 2022/2023 and will assume the role subject to a vote of members at the AGM. I have accepted a nomination as vice-president and will continue in my other roles including Bulletin and website editor.

Also accepting nominations are Helen Livsey to continue as secretary and Simon Burgess as treasurer. Committee nominees are serving members Jenny Romero, Yelly Evenhuis and Col McAulay and new nominee Peter Harper. Dennis Hickey and Ralph Simpfendorfer will not stand this year but will remain available to help where necessary. Following the AGM, Margie Wehner will be our guest speaker, telling us some of her own family background and some details of what is happening at the Jindera Pioneer Museum. Members will then be invited to enjoy a light supper.

We are prepared to accept nominations from the floor at the AGM so please consider whether you can accept a role on the committee. We meet for up to two hours on the third Wednesday of each month, 3pm at the Albury LibraryMuseum.

Membership subscriptions are now due for 2022/23. The recommendation to the AGM is that the subscription fees remain unchanged – single members \$30 and family members \$35. Members requiring a posted copy of the Bulletin, please pay \$10 extra.

**2022/23 Subs Due**

A warm welcome to new member Sheridan Jobbins from Sydney. Sheridan was able to attend our June meeting and met several of our members.

If we thought that this past year would be any easier after the impact of Covid in the previous twelve months, we were mistaken.

Our biggest challenge for much of the year related to our Society's governance but thanks to the hard work of our Constitution Sub-committee, we can now go forward confident that we are complying with all regulations relating to Incorporated organisations in NSW. As well as a new constitution, we have brought our *Mission Statement and Society Objectives* up-to-date and we now have clear and precise policies relating to members' privacy and nomination of both Society patrons and Society life members.

Covid restrictions again had an impact causing the cancellation of three of our general meetings. But these monthly meetings remain an important part of our Society's yearly program. As in previous years, we have heard a broad range of topics from quality speakers:

- Simon Barlow spoke on the Dallinger family and in particular the photographic and artistic life of Jack Dallinger.
- Peter Harper focused on the practice of dentist Charles Pettitt who, in about 1888, founded a dental practice in Albury that has survived for over 130 years.
- Sandra Endrez highlighted the Wartons, a local pioneering family.
- Charter Member of Lavington Lions Club, Charlie Leaney, outlined the scope of his book entitled *50 Years of History 1970-2020*, describing the history of the club.
- Howard Jones spoke on the history of the Globe Hotel. His Society Paper, *Albury's Globe Hotel, Such a Nice Place* features every Globe Hotel publican and many of the famous and colourful characters that the hotel hosted.
- Colonel Ernest Latchford MBE MC, after whom Latchford Barracks is named, was the subject of November's meeting. In a first for our Society, Mark Latchford, his grandson, spoke from home in Sydney to both a live audience in Albury and an online audience via a video conferencing app.
- Jan Hunter related *A Story through Postcards* about a young Ernest Sharp who was killed in 1917 during WWI.
- Fossicker Connor Fedorowytch explained the rules of fossicking, then showed and described some of the many and varied items that he has found with his metal detector.
- Honor Auchinleck spoke about *A Very Ordinary Extraordinary Man*, her father Thomas Mitchell, his sporting achievements, the impact of time as a POW and his political career.
- Colbey Baines told us how he was preparing to represent Albury's CBD 'Then & Now' using the computer program *Minecraft*.
- Eileen Clark outlined the early days of the Border Bushwalking Club and discussed how things have changed since its formation in 1978.

Secondary speakers at our meetings also deserve thanks and especially Richard Lee for his regular entertaining contributions. To the many others who do the little things that help ensure smoothly run meetings, my sincere thanks.

Our Society has secured coverage of local newspapers on the National Library's Trove website from 1860 to 1949 with a few small gaps in our coverage. The *Albury Banner & Wodonga Express* is digitised back to its first edition in 1860 and the *Border Morning Mail* covers the years 1903-1920 and 1938-49. Bruce Pennay has been the prime mover in making grant applications and we have recently ordered digitising of the *Border Morning Mail* for 1950 and 1951. This has been made possible with generous help from Wodonga Historical Society and a substantial grant from Albury City Council. In addition, our Society has secured a grant from Wodonga Council for Bruce to produce a video documentary which will examine the impact of the arrival of rail to Wodonga in 1873 – a proportion of that money will also help fund digitising for the Trove website.

An Albury & District Historical Society YouTube channel has been established. The channel now contains twenty video documentaries dealing with aspects of local history.

Jill Wooding was our 'Meeting Greeter' for many years. Reluctantly, Jill relinquished that role at the end of 2021. Jill was there through some difficult times with the loss of her daughter Catherine Browne and during Joe's illness and his final months, doing the job efficiently and cheerfully. My thanks to Cheryl Bromley, taking over as our new 'Meeting Greeter.'

Thank you again to our generous corporate sponsors: the Commercial Club (venue for our monthly meetings); AlburyCity (venue for committee meetings); Coxtech (website maintenance); KwikKopy (supply of

our printing needs); and financial support from sponsors Lester & Son Funeral Directors, Baker Motors, Hume Bank, ThinkPilates, Armstrongs Financial Advisers, Elders Real Estate (through Manny Gonzales) and Rotary Clubs of Albury, Albury North and Albury Hume.

My sincere thanks to all committee members for your continued enthusiasm for the role we play in helping preserve our local heritage. Unfortunately, mid-term we had to say farewell from the committee to Ashley Edwards after her election as an AlburyCity councillor. Ashley brought her significant expertise and experience to the committee and we wish her well in her role on Council.

I have served as President for the past four years and in that time membership has grown to over 120 members. The past twelve months have been challenging with issues to work through relating to Society governance and a serious family illness absorbing a lot of my time. I have appreciated the great support provided by members. Your ongoing commitment will continue to keep our Society strong and achieving the goals set out in our new *Mission Statement and Society Objectives*.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA—JULY 13, 2022

Declaration of Annual General Meeting open.

Apologies:

Minutes of AGM June 09, 2021

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Business:

Confirm membership subs: \$30 single, \$35 family (extra \$10 for posted Bulletin), corporate \$100

Confirmation of new *A&DHS Mission Statement and Society Objectives*.

Election of Office Bearers & Committee:

Society patron Greg Aplin has agreed to act as interim chairman to conduct the election of a new committee.

Nominations received:

President: Geoff Romero

Vice-President: Greg Ryan

Treasurer: Simon Burgess

Secretary: Helen Livsey

Committee of up to seven: Jenny Romero, Yelly Evenhuis, Colin McAulay and Peter Harper

Closure of Annual General Meeting.

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2022

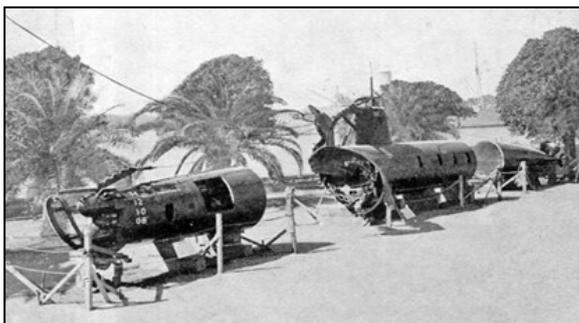
## JAPANESE SUBMARINE

Howard Jones

Of all the war trophies brought to Albury, none could compare with the Japanese midget submarine that arrived on road trucks on November 21, 1942. Three submarines had attacked Sydney Harbour on May 31 and were destroyed, but the authorities reassembled sections of two to make a 'composite' submarine weighing 85 tonnes. This was taken on a tour of the Eastern States in 1942/43, as a morale booster but also to raise funds for sailors' relief charities. Sailors escorted the eight heavy trucks transporting the sections down the Hume Highway.



The submarine "convoy" entering Albury [Border Morning Mail, November 23, 1942]



A souvenir postcard published for the original exhibition in Sydney.

Several thousand people paid one shilling to view it inside the Albury Public School grounds.

Amazingly, there were still bits and pieces from the submarines for sale as 'souvenirs.' Many valuable items had already been sold to private citizens in Sydney. Souvenir postcards were also on sale. The Australian War Memorial houses the composite submarine but the conning tower is at Garden Island, Sydney.

The language of legal contracts, correspondence and judgments is continually evolving. This was highlighted when we were researching our constitution in 2021. We found that judges were suggesting the need to move away from the use of the word “shall” which they found merely expressed an intention to do something. They suggested the word “must” be instead used to create a legal obligation.

At our June meeting we examined the language in some very old legal documents which we were able to pass around those attending the meeting.

Being able to hold the documents and read the text was central to understanding their age.

The first document examined was the Admission Certificate when Frederick Tietjens was made a Notary of the High Court of Australia. Sir Samuel Griffith was the first Chief Justice of the High Court (1903-1919). However, in the document his name had been ruled through and the name Sir Edmund Barton neatly handwritten in its place. Sir Edmund had signed the document.

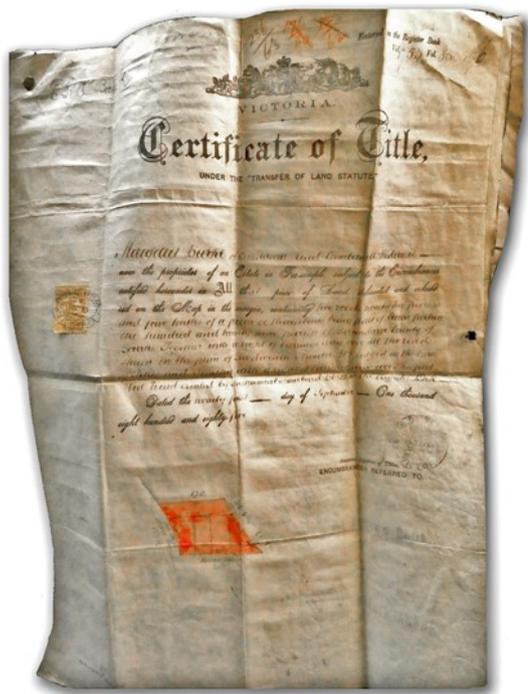
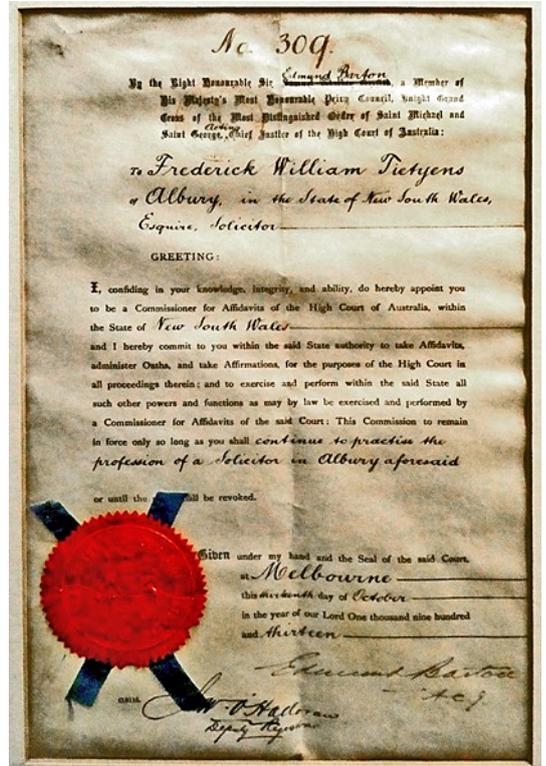
I went looking for the reason Sir Samuel did not sign the certificate. The answer was that he was in London presiding as a Justice of the Privy Council, the ultimate court of appeal from Australian courts from 1901 until 1986.

Both Griffith and Barton were leading figures in Federation. They were both involved in drafting the Constitution and both attended the Federation convention in Corowa in 1893. Barton later travelled to Albury on 25 April 1898 to speak in favour of a “Yes” vote in the referendum to be held in June of the same year.

The next document was the appointment of Fred Tietjens as a Public Notary which began:

*By Divine Providence Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England by authority of Parliament lawfully empowered to our Beloved in Christ Frederick William Tietjens ...*

This document dated 27 July 1901 is handwritten with quill and ink on vellum. Vellum was used for important legal documents and is treated calf hide which has been split in half.



We also inspected an old Certificate of Title dated 21 September 1885 also on vellum. It is a very early example of Torrens Title. This was the land registration system devised by Robert Torrens, the South Australian Registrar General, in 1858.

The system was adopted by all Australian states and some countries around the world. Robert Torrens was knighted for his efforts.

We then viewed an Assignment dated 30 March 1905 handwritten on paper between Frederick William Tietjens and Reginald John Foord. Foord was an articled clerk who had been articled to John Fowler, solicitor who had since died.

The Assignment transferred the articles to Fred Tietjens. It read in part:

*This Indenture made the thirtieth day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five the said clerk does bind himself to serve during the term of five years thence ensuing.*

The Foord family have an historical connection with the agricultural property named Wyseworth on the Howlong Road.

An impressive lease dated 22 September 1906 handwritten on vellum between King Edward VII and Frederick William Tietjens was also inspected.

It said in part:

Edward VII by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith.

To all to whom these Presents shall come  
Greeting

Whereas Frederick William Tietzens of Albury in the State of New South Wales has applied to the Crown for a lease of the land, hereditaments and premises hereinafter described. Now Know Ye that We do hereby grant a lease of ... premises known as The Old Telegraph Office situated on the corner of Dean street and Olive street Albury.

The lease was prepared by the Crown Solicitor in Sydney and provided for a rent of £60 in the first year and £100 annually for the following six years.

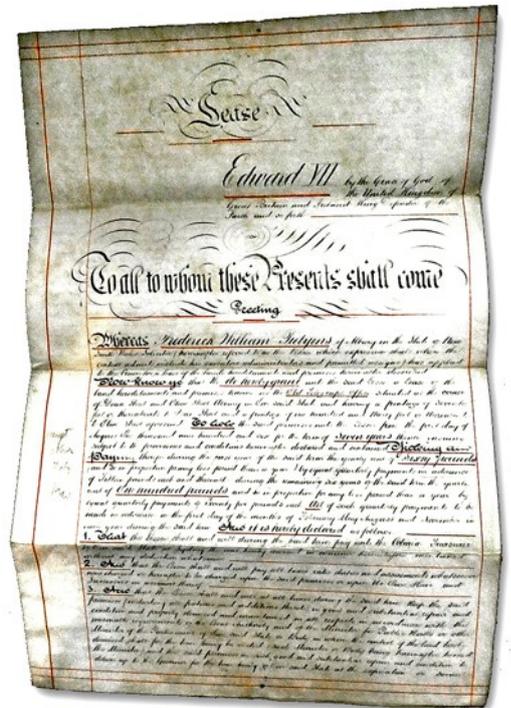
With the lease was also a deal of correspondence between 26 March 1907 and 31 July 1909 all of which was produced on a typewriter which had become the office machine of choice by then. The formal language of the correspondence from the Public Works Department and later The Treasury concluded with the words:

*I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your obedient servant.*

A final document of interest dated 1 December 1912 was between Frederick Tietzens and Bartholomew Shanahan where Tietzens is described as “The master” and Shanahan “The servant.”

In the document “the servant” binds himself to serve “the master” as his chauffeur and general hand “for the term of three years for one pound per week and suitable board and lodging free of cost.”

We rarely use “master” and “servant” these days. “Employer” and “employee” have gained much more popular usage instead.



### A SMALL PIECE OF ALBURY HISTORY

Peter Whitbourn

Around 1960/61 I attended an auction in Olive St Albury at the Paddy Rauber Cycle shop which was almost opposite the entrance of Albury’s current Police Station. The business had closed down and everything was to be sold.

I purchased the brazing torch (pictured on the next page) along with a roll of the brazing wire plus a small forge. I had an interest in welding and the small forge I knew was the type generally used by blacksmiths. At that time I had no idea how the torch would work or how it was used. Eventually the forge was disposed of but the torch and wire I have kept. It was only in recent years that I discovered how this brazing torch actually worked along with the fact that town gas plus compressed air were used for producing the flame.

I had a friend who had worked for Charlie Gribbles Cycle Shop just down Olive Street on the opposite side and hence the discovery of this small piece of Albury history in my possession. My knowledge of the town gas from Albury Gas works and how that was piped around the streets in the centre of town is fairly limited but when this was explained to me it gave me some understanding of what and how Paddy Rauber used this torch.



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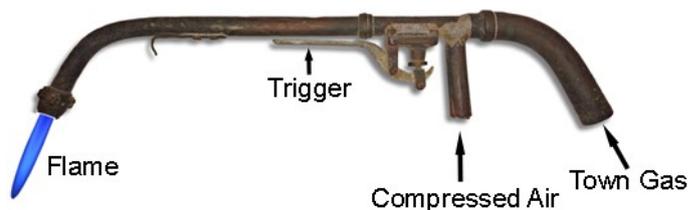
Have you visited our YouTube Channel?

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDzIPypinJegksrO-l2s5Vg>



On close inspection it could be that this torch had been made especially for its purpose.

Town gas, as I understand, was only at quite a low pressure when piped around the streets. That was connected with a hose to the larger curved tubing at one end of the torch and the compressed air was supplied to the straight tube of a much smaller diameter.



When the town gas was turned on and lit, it would have been quite a soft flame until the trigger valve under the torch was opened. Then the flame would have been much more fierce with the compressed air added. The temperature of this flame was about 1800 degrees Celsius which is a low welding flame compared with oxygen and acetylene at 3100 degrees Celsius.

As many know, Albury has a very long history of bike manufacturing, from Fred Blacklock history through to quite a number of cycle shops established after the Second World War when there were bikes in most households. Because the humble bike was often used as a workhorse, there were repairs needed from being overloaded. Hence the need for frame repairs. As I understand the joint of the bike frame would be repaired or replaced then slid into the forge to be totally heated ready for brazing. The frame would then be drawn slightly out of the forge and then the town gas torch would be used to keep the joint hot and the brazing wire fed into the joint by hand. The brazing wire would be melted by this applied heat and it would flow in and around the complete joint then allowed to cool slowly.

Although I never witnessed this kind of repair taking place I do understand the process and now have an appreciation of the work that was undertaken by these business owners.

Thank you for the input from a number of our Society members with their knowledge of the Albury Gas Works and Greg with the location of Raubers and the photos of the old Albury Gas Works.

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**Patrons:** Patricia Gould, Greg Aplin

**Honorary Life Members:**

Howard Jones, Helen Livsey,

June Shanahan, Jan Hunter.

**President:** Greg Ryan

**Vice-President:** Jennifer Romero

**Secretary:** Helen Livsey

02 6021 3671

**Treasurer:** Simon Burgess

**Minute Secretary:** Yelly Evenhuis

**Publicity Officer:** Helen Livsey

**Public Officer:** Helen Livsey

**Committee:** Dennis Hickey, Colin McAulay, Ralph Simpfendorfer.

**Bulletin Editor:** Greg Ryan

gmjryan@bigpond.com

**Publications & Stock Officer:** Colin McAulay

**Bulletin dispatch:** Richard Lee

**Meeting Greeter:** Cheryl Bromley

**Web Editor:** Greg Ryan

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

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

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Single: \$30 Family: \$35

Corporate: \$100

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

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