

Albury & District Historical Society Inc

December 2022

No 640

Wiradjuri Country, PO Box 822 ALBURY 2640

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

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1500 school children forming a tableau in the centre of the Albury Showgrounds in Young Street, 1924

Next Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

7.30 pm, Commercial Club

Topic: Show & Tell

Speaker: Various

LAVINGTON LIBRARY

Transformations:

**Art of the Scott Sisters
Until February 25, 2023**

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES FOR DECEMBER

We were proud to be one of the first NSW Regional cities to unveil a Blue Plaque. Our plaque, unveiled on Monday 7 November, honoured Betrou Abicare (Abikhair). The Blue Plaque system originated in England in 1866 and many will have seen them in various parts of London and elsewhere in the UK. Two members of Heritage NSW travelled to Albury to be present at the unveiling by the Member for Albury, Justin Clancy with Tim Farrah representing the Lebanese community of Albury. The Albury media gave us good coverage of the event.

We were pleased to hear Mr Clancy speak in glowing terms about A&DHS and be so encouraging about the role we play in the preservation of our local heritage.

Peter Harper addressed a very well attended meeting on the subject of Hume and Hovell and his goal to establish a cycling track along the route, similar to the Hume and Hovell Track.

Our Member's Segment had two contributors. Allan Wilson spoke about a recent conversation he had with Ray Terrill, a long time 2AY radio announcer. Allan talked about the announcers of yesteryear, Ron McGann, Laurie Henry and others. Allan showed how easy a brief talk can be delivered and the amount of conversation it can generate – he had no PowerPoint and no props and we all enjoyed it. Jenny Romero gave an excellent talk on growing up in Roper street along the lines of similar talks given by Col McAulay and Dennis Hickey last year. I encourage members to share their stories in the Member's Segment.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 14 December. As is our custom, the Member's Segment will take the form of our always popular 'Show & Tell' and at the conclusion of the meeting we will have a Christmas Supper.



This month's presentation by Peter Harper centred on the Hume and Hovell Expedition Bicentenary which will be commemorated in 2024. Peter, who is a longtime outdoor sportsman, presented a bicentenary activity of a bicycle ride that could offer riders the challenge of following in the footsteps of the explorers.



The 2024 ride follows a line of monuments erected in 1924 to celebrate the centenary of the expedition. It will be a 660 kilometre, self-guided tour for touring cyclists and will showcase rural and urban parts of eastern Victoria. The monuments feature as checkpoints and provide the opportunity to connect with the history of the 1824 expedition that enabled settlers to trek out from the confines of the Sydney settlement into the lush pastures south of the Murray River.

The trail is designed for adventure cyclists who would ride unsupported following back roads, rail trails, 4WD tracks and bike paths. Camping and carrying all your supplies like the explorers would be part of the experience. Cyclists of high to moderate levels of skill and endurance should consider riding the Epic, ie exploring the entire trail and completing the full 660 km journey within a week or so. Riding at a more leisurely pace for the not-so-hardy and doing any or all of the 10 stages also might be a way of participating.

The route notes and maps of the stages would be available in a booklet or online to download to the riders' cycle mapping devices. These would offer clear navigational instructions.

To design the bicycle route a list of monuments was needed. The base list to find the monuments was Monuments Australia, a wonderful website that lists Australia-wide some 37000 monuments. Research trips were undertaken to locate and photograph the monuments. Plotting these on a map showed that the line of monuments did correspond closely

to the known path of the Hume and Hovell track. There was a chance new find, the monument at Meadow Creek, which is now listed on the website. Two of the school plaques (Upper Plenty and Samaria West) were sourced following much research through Trove.



Upper Plenty school plaque

The monuments have four basic shapes – cairn, obelisk, pyramid and plaque – and are constructed of different local materials. Each has a plaque with an inscription mostly with these words: Hume and Hovell passed or camped at/nearby this spot on ... date. The Stanley inscription reads poetically "one equal temper of heroic hearts, made weak by time and fate, but strong in will, to strive, to seek to find and not to yield." Iron arrows sit atop the monuments of Back Creek, Stanley, Tatong, Samaria, Barjarg and Woodfield and all point in the south-west direction of travel.

A centenary committee, with ophthalmologist Sir James Barratt as Chairman, set the objectives of the centenary celebrations and encouraged towns along the route to erect the monuments. A

schools' program of activities was encouraged with the schools nearby participating in the unveiling ceremonies of each monument. There were plaques unveiled in the schools of Warrenbayne West, Samaria West, Lima South and Upper Plenty. Each monument was unveiled during a week of celebrations by members of the Centenary Committee who travelled by motorcade to each town to officiate. For the towns it was a joyous affair.

**Centenary
Monuments built in
1924**

Albury,
Lake Hume Bellbridge Ebdon.
Allans Flat, Back Creek, Stanley
Murrumgee, Everton Whorouly
Meadow Creek Tatong Samaria
Barjarg Woodfield Yarck Yea
Strath Creek Broadford
Kilmore Mt Disappointment
Beveridge Bulla St Albans
Deer Park Werribee
Lara



In Albury the week-long activities included horse and trotting races, swimming events, pastoral, horticultural and agriculture shows, literary and musical festival, schools' demonstrations, fire brigade contests, sports carnivals of cricket, tennis, bowling, judo and athletics. There were the official duties of unveiling the plaque. A ceremony at the Hovell Tree had a tree planting – christened as number 2 and finally a centenary dinner.

Alderman Alf Waugh was chairman of the Albury committee.

Completing the three parts of the presentation was the story of the Hume and Hovell Expedition. These Peter summarised as:

- ◆ Commissioned by Governor Brisbane to discover arable lands, navigable rivers and inland route between Sydney and Western Port.
- ◆ A remarkable journey from Lake George to Corio Bay over two months with only a month for the return.
- ◆ The trip was checked on three occasions: at Murrumbidgee River, Hume River and Mt Disappointment.
- ◆ With little government support, the poorly equipped expedition completed its commission without loss.
- ◆ Discovered 10 rivers. Hume surmised that the Hume River was central to the system and that it emptied into the sea at Bass Strait. The rich grassy plains they discovered were soon settled. Their return journey became the inland route to and from Port Phillip.
- ◆ Keeping to the high country, to view the way on their downward trek, they mostly avoided contact with aborigines.
- ◆ Hovell's journal descriptions provide a fine record of the environment prior to European settlement.

Peter then proposed to the meeting a list of activities that if implemented could progress celebrations in Albury for the Bicentenary year of 2024.

Timeline of Hume and Hovell Celebrations In Albury

- 1824 November 16-20: Arrived at Hume River and travelling downstream to find a crossing place. They camped nights 16/17 at Dights Hill. Both marked trees to show where they first met the river. Hovell's with the markings Hov Nov 17 1824 remains today.
November 18: camped at Mungabareena (Waterworks area).
November 20: Crossed the Hume River a little above the Mitta River junction.
- 1825 January 3: Re-crossed Hume River on the return journey at about Bethanga Bridge area ie mile north of original crossing place.
- 1848 Hume's tree was damaged by fires lit by passing stockmen who often camped nearby. The tree died and eventually fell into the river following erosion of the bank.
- 1853 Hovell, on a return trip to Albury, had a fence erected around the Hovell Tree.
- 1858 Hume, when visiting brother-in-law John Dight at Bungowannah Run, showed Dight the tree he blazed with an 'H' at the western turn-around point downriver on the day of November 17 1824.
- 1858 An ornate marble monument was erected at the site of Hume's tree at the 'Crossing Place'. The convenor was Robert Brown.
- 1884 In March the Hume monument was unveiled after its relocation to the Botanical Gardens.



- 1924 November 16-19: Weeklong celebration activities took place with the unveiling of a bronze plaque on the outside wall of the Council Chambers, now MAMA (see image of plaque on the previous page).
- 1973 Centenary commemoration of the death of Hamilton Hume.
- 1974 150th anniversary celebration at the Hovell Tree was marked with the planting of five eucalyptus trees by members of the Hume and Hovell families – Ross Hovell, Margaret Spinnay, Stuart Hume, Tom Mitchell and Mrs A Quiggan, President of A&DHS. An additional plaque was unveiled to commemorate this event.
- 1975 Centenary commemoration of the death of William Hovell.
- 1988 A special walk over the full distance of the Hume and Hovell Track was conducted to Woomargama. The event saw walkers cover the full distance, matching date, locality and daily distances of the 1824 expedition.
- 1999 Parklands Albury Wodonga completed the final section of Hume and Hovell Track to Albury stretching north through farmland to the established track end coming out of Woomargama State Forest at Tunnel Road. It was opened in 1999 in time for the 175th-anniversary celebrations.
- 2012 November 22: A cloned Hovell tree was planted at Lake Hume Bay by the Woolshed- Thurgoona Landcare Group on the 188th anniversary of the crossing. The tree needs signage and a protective fence. Other trees placed are at Ebden, Tatong, Deer Park, Beveridge, Broadford.
- 2018 At the opening of High Country Rail Trail a sign was placed at Ebden cloned Hovell Tree by A-W Parklands. The sign highlights the crossing of the Hume and Mitta Rivers.
- 2024 Bicentenary activities and the Hume and Hovell Monuments Bike Ride.

An Article in the Argus (Melbourne), Saturday November 15, 1924, page 25

Hume-Hovell Centenary Monuments – Itinerary for unveiling Memorials.

“One hundred years ago this month the Australian explorers Hume and Hovell were cutting their way through unknown bush country on their overland journey from Sydney to Corio Bay. Their historic feat is being commemorated in Victoria and New South Wales by a series of centenary celebrations. In order that some permanent record of the occasion be established, cairns are erected along the route followed by the explorers. Committees at the different centres through which Hume and Hovell passed in Victoria are working to the end that at each town and village there shall be erected a cairn, monument or tablet to mark the route followed by the explorers. The Victorian efforts in this direction are being amalgamated in order that continuity of celebrations, following the original route of Hume and Hovell shall be observed.

The series of cairns and monuments will be unveiled next week and for this purpose, a party organised by a committee of which Sir James Barrett is chairman will leave Melbourne this morning.

The first of the unveiling ceremonies will be performed at The Horn, Mount Buffalo at 3 o'clock on **Sunday** afternoon. Thereafter the itinerary for the party is as follows:

Monday, November 17, visits Bright. Unveils memorials at Myrtleford (lunch) 11.30am; Whorouly, 1pm; Everton, 2.30pm; Murmungee, 4.30pm; stay at Beechworth.

Tuesday, November 18, leaves Beechworth. Unveils memorials at Stanley 10.30am; Back Creek (lunch), 12 noon; Allan's Flat 1pm; Staghorn Flat 2pm; Bethanga, 3.15pm; Ebden, 4.30 pm; reaches Wodonga or Albury.



Wednesday, November 19 attends ceremonies at Albury. The first party leaves Albury for Wangaratta; stays the night.

Thursday, November 20, leaves Wangaratta for Benalla. Unveils cairns at Warrenbayne, 11.30am; Violet Town, 12.30pm; Euroa (lunch), 2.30pm; Avenel 3.30pm; stays the night at Seymour.

Friday, November 21, unveils cairn at Seymour 11am; leaves for Broadford, unveiling Broadford (lunch), 1.30pm.

Wednesday, November 19, the second party leaves Albury for Wangaratta (lunch), unveiling ceremonies at Moyhu 2.30pm; Hansonville 3.30pm; Molyullah 4.30pm; arrives at Benalla, and stays the night.

Thursday, November 20, leaves Benalla (party divides). First division unveils cairn at Swanpool 11am; second division unveils cairn at Tatong, 11am; and at Samaria 12.30pm. United party lunches at Bonnie Doon, 1.45pm; and unveils cairn at Yarck, 4.30pm; stays the night at Yea.

Friday, November 21, unveils memorials at Yea, 11am; and Strath Creek, 12.30pm. Joins first party at Broadford, 1.10pm.

On **Saturday**, December 6, a memorial at Upper Plenty will be unveiled, and a district excursion from Wallan to Mt Disappointment will take place.

A further series of unveiling of memorials will be celebrated in the shires of Kilmore, Broadmeadows, Bulla, Keilor, Braybrook, Werribee, and Corio in December commencing on **Saturday** December 13."

Such monuments literally wrote the history of British exploration and settlement (as it was then understood) upon the landscape and were as such important markers both of settlement, society and culture. Their style often harked back to that of ancient monuments in the old world. These sites were also important in consolidating the mythology of exploration and pioneering that had become a celebrated part of Australia's history at the time. The centenary of Hume & Hovell's expedition was held at Broadford on December 13, 1924, the actual date when they reached Sunday Creek one hundred years before.

Aron Paul, *Environmental History, Mitchell Shire Stage One Heritage Study Report*, pp. 2-4; McDonald, E H, *Country Life: A History of Broadford & District 1891-1981, Broadford, 1981*, p. 39.

DIGGER'S BUSINESS ON WHEELS

Howard Jones

Digger Plummer's fruit and vegetable barrow in Dean Street was part of Albury for about 13 years in the Fifties and Sixties. Although loved by many shoppers, it drew hostility from regular shops and business people in its latter years and divided the city council who leased out the spot.

Tough competition from "the big combines", together with opposition from shopkeepers and some aldermen finally forced Digger to cease trading in June 1964.

We asked Digger in his 94th year for his memories of the "portable shop" parked on the roadway outside the old Court House in Dean Street from 1951.

Naturally he is proud the Plummers are one of Albury's oldest families, having settled here in 1856. Digger represents the fourth generation on from a Cornish couple, William and Mary Plummer, who died in 1863 and 1896 respectively. Their son Thomas (1840-1918) was Digger's grandfather.

"The old family home was Ivy Tree Farm at the bottom of Olive Street," Digger said. "I left St Patrick's School in 1943 when I was 13.

"The war was on and people were moving out of the Dean Street shops." He persuaded his father Jack, a market gardener, to let him run a fruit and vegetable corner shop. "I went up and asked the man at the CML block if I could have a long corner shop fronting Olive Street" [occupied in 2022 by Coronet Jewellers]. "Give it a go, son," he said.

By October 1943 he was advertising lettuces at threepence each, but sold a wide range of produce.

During wartime, Albury was virtually a garrison town full of "Diggers" in Army camps, but our Digger already long had his moniker. "My maternal grandfather, Michael McInerney, a railwayman who lived in Olive Street across the road from us, used to call me Digger from the age of about three," he said.

Doing business in Albury in the 1940s had features that might seem extraordinary today. "Bruce Small, the bicycle dealers, wanted our corner



Digger with his sister Molly

shop and they gave me a hundred quid to move one shop down Olive Street,” Digger said. “After about four years we sold the business to Jack Rixon.”



The barrow in about 1960. Digger can be seen weighing produce three. While their own produce took priority, the Plummer family also sourced fruit and vegetables from the Melbourne markets, as did Arnold’s, their principle local competitor.

One or two photographs of the barrow appeared in the *Border Morning Mail*, but its atmosphere was best captured by a migrant artist. “He came from Bonegilla and sat for days painting us, but I never asked his name,” Digger said. “I still have the original.”

The barrow’s days seemed numbered in 1963 when 1500 people petitioned the council not to ban the barrow. Some said it created unfair competition and indicated a lack of civic pride, but others argued the Plummers grew local produce and purchases kept the money local. Mayor Cleaver Bunton was among its strongest supports on council.

After the barrow closed, Digger was a fruit fly inspector at the Union Bridge for eight years, drove an Armaguard truck for a while and had a mail run to Tumbarumba and Tumut. But he and Val then focused on building and operating a motel in Hume Street and building many houses and flats.

The barrow languished at the Albury Football club for some years.

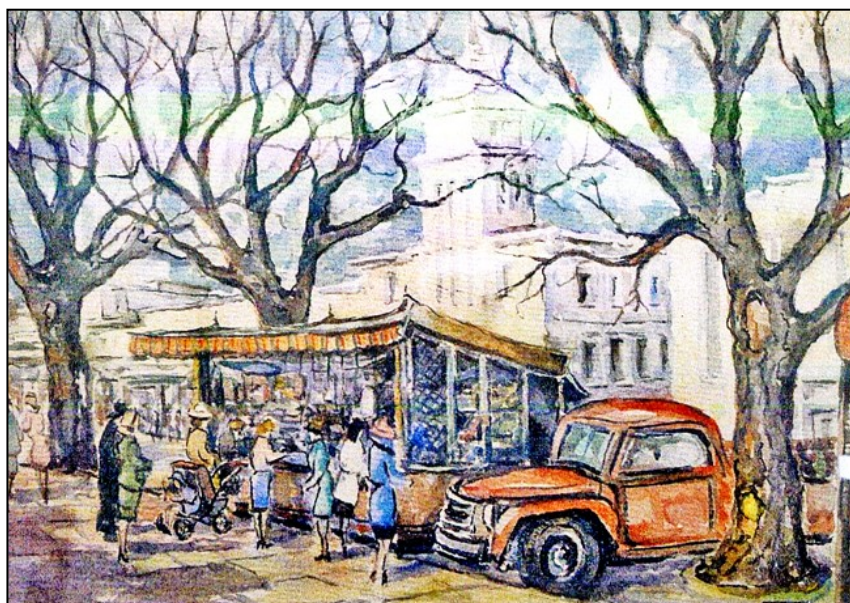
Sadly, Val Plummer passed away this year several weeks after the couple celebrated 70 years of marriage on June 11.

Note: Apart from losing Digger’s barrow in 1964, Albury saw some momentous changes that year. The Airport and Civic Theatre were officially opened, the AMV4 and ABC television stations went to air, the C38 Class steam locomotives were withdrawn and Albury Council introduced one-hour parking in Dean Street.

Jack Plummer and his sons (who were also bricklayers) continued to grow water melons, cabbages, lettuces, pumpkins, tomatoes and other produce at Ivy Tree Farm in South Albury. Digger was keen to get back to selling direct and considered buying a shop in Olive Street opposite his original shop. “My father said, ‘why don’t you have a go at a fruit barrow?’ And that was the start of it.”

So about 1950 or 1951 he built the barrow, he and his father hauling it from the farm to Dean Street behind an old Dodge truck. “We had to be there by 5am to get the parking spot before anyone else, then set it up. We came back after breakfast at home to open about 9am.” They aimed to be back home by 6pm.

Digger married Val Macleod in 1952 and the couple raised a family of



Digger’s Barrow – the painting of the Dean St barrow with Digger’s ute parked alongside, T&G building behind.

Henry McIllree (1824–1882) was born in Belturbet, County Cavan, Ireland. After running away to sea as a youth, he spent about 11 years in and out of the Navy. Henry made his way to South Australia in 1849, leaving for the Victorian goldfields c1851. Luck was not with him at Bendigo, but he found enough gold on the Woolshed field near Beechworth to establish himself, marry, and set up a farm on Wodonga's House Creek.

Henry became Wodonga's second pound-keeper in June 1855. He had married the former Isabella Johnston (c1835-1898) from Ireland the previous January. The couple lived at Wodonga from 1855 until 1877, when the McIllrees moved to Biggara, Upper Murray, where Henry and his sons, bred cattle and horses. Henry and Isabella had 11 children. Their eldest son, John Drope McIllree (1855–1885), surveyor with the 1884/5 Stockdale expedition to north Australia, died tragically in what is now the Northern Territory on 5 January 1885.

My grandfather, the eighth McIllree child, Robert Gordon (Bob) McIllree (1869–1958), was born at Biggara. He attended secondary school in Sydney. He worked as a jackaroo on various NSW properties before his 1897 marriage to Laura Lindsay Milligan Gregory (1864-1934). Grazing interests at Burrumbuttock and at Benambra, Culcairn kept him very busy until 1916 when financial difficulties forced the sale of the beloved property.

In the 1950s Bob McIllree Snr moved first to Canberra, then to Sydney, to be with his daughters. He died in Adelaide at his eldest daughter Enid's home in 1958.



Coora, 480 Parkinson St, opposite Albury railyards. This photo in the *Border Morning Mail*, Aug 30, 1919.

My mother, Laura Glamis McIllree, was born at Rokeby Private Hospital, Albury on 13 May 1910. Her older siblings were Enid, Gordon (Nicholas Gordon) and Bob (Robert Gregory). The boys boarded at the former Albury Grammar School, now Scots School. In 1916 the family moved permanently into Albury to Coora, 480 Parkinson Street, demolished in 1970 to make way for the Hume Freeway.

After leaving school, Enid worked at Dalgetys, Young St. She married in 1922. Gordon and Bob Jnr were both employed in local businesses. Laura attended local schools in Albury. After leaving school she became a bank officer at the Bank of NSW, Wodonga.

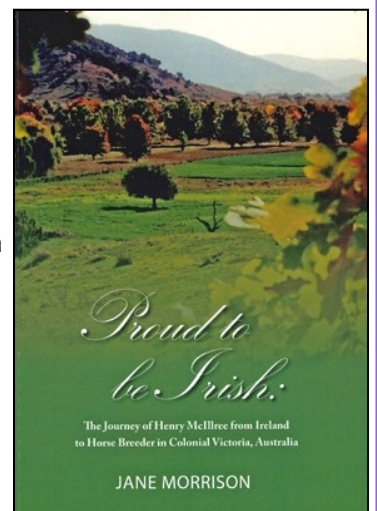
The McIllree children all enjoyed Albury's social and sporting life. Gordon was a boxer, cricket, golf and tennis player. Before World War II he became a bank officer with the Commercial Banking Company of Australasia with postings to Nyngan and Dubbo. He joined up with the AIF

on 17 November 1939, serving with the 2/4th Battalion in the Middle East, Greece and Crete. Following the evacuation of Crete in May 1941, Gordon died at Alexandria, Egypt, of wounds sustained during the bombing of HMS Orion. He is buried at Chatby Military Cemetery, Alexandria. A plaque commemorating Gordon is among the many at the Albury War Memorial.

Bob McIllree Jnr joined Younghusbands Albury as a young man, where he became an auctioneer and stock and station agent. Among other sports he took part in such as boxing, Bob played football for Albury. He joined the 8th Division Signals, AIF, in 1941 and saw action in Malaya before the fall of Singapore. As Prisoners of War, Company members were sent to Kobe, Japan to work in coal mines. Many of the men in C Company sent to Fukuoka died from disease and starvation before the liberation of the camp in August 1945. Bob McIllree was among the survivors, returning first to his sisters Enid and Laura in Sydney, then to Albury, where he took up his role again as auctioneer at Younghusbands. Later Bob became Younghusbands' regional manager. He married Isabel Garlick (1922-1998), a telephonist, in 1952. They had one daughter, Susan (1956-2015).

Bob McIllree Jnr, Isabel and Susan lived at 480 Parkinson Street, Albury until 1970 when they moved to a new property, also called Coora, on Huon Creek Road, Wodonga. Isabel died at Wodonga, aged 76 in 1998. Bob died at Osburn Lodge, Wodonga, aged 97 in 1999. Susan passed away in Wangaratta in 2015. Bob, Isabel and Susan are buried in the Wodonga Cemetery not far from Henry McIllree, his infant son William, and his grand-daughter Laura. Another of Henry's sons, Edward Quigley McIllree (1863-1945), has a separate grave in the cemetery. Isabella McIllree née Johnston, who died at Biggara, is buried at Corryong. Other members of the McIllrees' extended family who lived in Albury are buried in Albury cemeteries.

Jane Morrison's book, *Proud to be Irish: The Journey of Henry McIllree from Ireland to Horse Breeder in Colonial Victoria, Australia*, 2021, is now available in hard copy and now in a PDF version, from Calico Bag Books: calicobagbooks@gmail.com, website: <https://calicobagbooks.com.au>, or PO Box 3139, Weston Creek ACT 2611.



Joe Wooding in his *150 Not Out – Cricket in Albury-Wodonga* speculated on the location of Albury's first cricket match, played in March 1859. After stating "there was no shortage of vacant land," Joe concluded that the most likely location was "the site now used for the Albury City Council depot between Reserve Street and Wodonga Place."

A Border Cricket Club was formed at a meeting held at Nichol's Rose Hotel, Kiwa St on September 10, 1862. The club was instrumental in the early development of portion of the Recreation Reserve as the Albury Cricket Ground, later to become known as the Albury Sportsground.

In August 1863, cricket club secretary Edward Brown wrote to Council asking for "a portion of the Reserve on the west of the town for a cricket ground ... the ground to be vested in joint trustees, and the club to expend a sum in turfing, planting trees, &c."

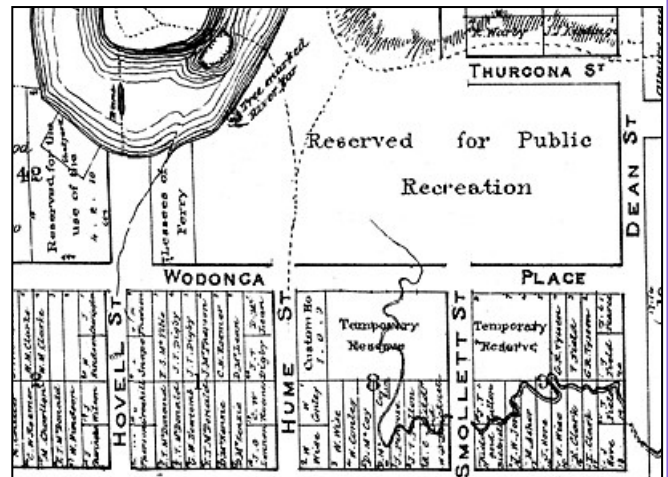
Nothing came of that submission. Four years later Brown was chair of a sub-committee that returned to Council and we read in the *Albury Banner* that in a letter to Council "The club engaged that the public should have free access to the ground at all times, but a two-rail fence would be necessary, to keep cattle from the turf. A more ornamental fence would be put up when funds permitted, and it was also intended to plant trees on the ground, &c. The Council ... resolved to grant permissive occupation of the land in question, until such time as the Council might require it for other purposes."

The *Border Post* of August 19, 1868 noted that "The Border Cricket Club have just finished fencing their new ground situated on the Recreation Reserve."

In September of the following year, the *Banner* reported "the Albury Cricket Ground has lately been much improved by the whole of the area round the turfed portion having been ploughed over and levelled, and sown with English grass seed. As soon as the weather permits the seed to progress, the ground will be one of the best cricket fields in the colonies. A row of English and other shade trees was some time ago planted round the fence, and now appear to be doing well."

The Border Cricket Club erected a pavilion at the northern end of the ground. At the official opening in March 1872 a flag was hoisted emblazoned with "BCC" and the pavilion described as "a good looking and well-built weatherboard cottage, built by Mr Frew and members of the Club."

The pavilion provided good use until in June 1891 it was destroyed by fire. A new pavilion was built and ready for the 1892-93 cricket season. It too came to a sad ending in August 1897, also destroyed by fire. Newspapers reporting that "the water plug could not be found" hampering efforts to save the building.



From a 1859 map of Albury. Land east from Thurgoona St and the river through to Wodonga Place and south from Dean St to Hovell St "Reserved for Public Recreation." Smollett St only extended west as far as Wodonga Place.



The Albury Cricket Ground in about 1888. The large house is *Caerleon* on the corner of Wodonga Place and Hume Street, built by Thomas Mate for his daughter,

It was not until the early twentieth century that the ground became better known as the Albury Sportsground. It became home to events such as the Albury Floral Festival and other sporting codes including football, cycling, tennis and more. The first Albury Easter tournament to be held on grass was held at the Sportsground in 1933 and continued there until 1941 after which it was suspended for a few years due to World War II.

In early 1915 work started on construction of the grandstand on the western side of the sportsground, from a design by Albury Municipal engineer George Read. The successful tender of £772/8/ was from local builder John Cochrane. The grandstand was officially opened in June 1915, the *Border Morning Mail* describing the building as “in brick and reinforced concrete ... there are two dressing rooms, two refreshment rooms, two bathrooms, and one store room.” The building still survives in 2022.



Cycling and athletics in front of the grandstand, 1930s

ALBURY TIMELINE

Richard Lee started working on an Albury Timeline several years ago. He is now up to version 50 and it has expanded into a 57 page document.

If there is an important person, event, or building that you need to find out where and when, it is likely that you will find it as the document is fully searchable. If it's not there, let Richard know so that he can work on version 51 and beyond.

The file can be found on our website by clicking on the link:
[Albury Timeline.](#)



RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

Earlier in the year our Society received a grant from both AlburyCity and from Wodonga City Council. We have recently been notified that two grant applications submitted by Bruce Pennay have been successful, one for \$3800 from Inland Rail through Wodonga Historical Society and the second from Transport Heritage NSW for \$4200 through A&DHS.

Bruce is using the money to produce three documentary videos with three different perspectives – Victoria, NSW, and National. The set of three is to mark the 150th anniversary of the North-east Railway to Wodonga, and the 140th anniversary of the connection of the two railway systems in 2023.

1. Wodonga, a Railway Town – the impact of the NE Railway on Wodonga.
2. The connection of the NSW and Victorian railway systems.
3. Bridging the Murray River.

A small portion of the grants will be used to pay for professional help. Bruce will be donating payment for his time towards more digitising of local newspapers for the Trove website.



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



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Have you visited our YouTube Channel?

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



FIVE GOOD SQUADRONS – A REGIMENTAL HISTORY OF THE 1ST NSW MOUNTED RIFLES IN THE BOER WAR (1899-1902)

by Robin Droogleever

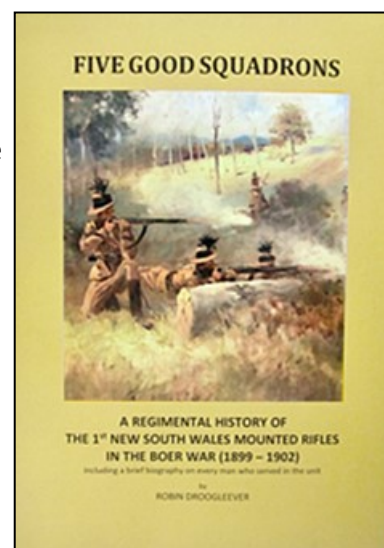
A story of an early and valuable part of our military heritage. The five squadrons that constituted the 1st Regiment of the New South Wales Mounted Rifles which joined the British campaign in South Africa in 1900 were initially a mix of trained militiamen, supplemented two months later by volunteers who were prepared to 'give it a go.' Accepted on the basis of whether they were healthy and could ride and shoot, they were made up of professional soldiers, farmers, landowners, labourers, students, teachers, policemen, gentlemen of leisure, railway and tram workers, unemployed men, and those who had crossed the law. Over 600 served. More than 50 never came home.

The regiment played a significant role in the course of the campaign and were described by one British Commander as "The finest mounted infantry material in the world." Their reputation in the Boer War had an impact on the development of the Light Horse Brigades that went on to serve Australia so well in the First World War. There were 6 men of the 1NSWMR recorded as having been born in Albury; 10 were noted as having worked in Albury and 4 are known to have died and were buried in Albury.

There are 185 pages of biographies of all the men who served. There are also 150 pages of photos which provide a wonderful panorama of social life at the turn of the 20th century.

Cost: \$60 plus postage of \$13.50. Payment by bank transfer (details upon request) or cheque to Robin Droogleever, PO Box 42, Bulleen, 3105, Victoria.

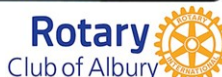
Contact: Robin Droogleever, email at jerwfd@optusnet.com.au or phone 0455 346 777.



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Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month
(not January) 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

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