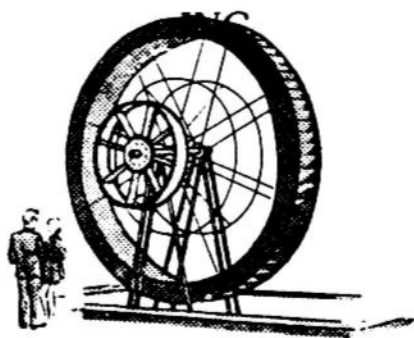


ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN



Subscriptions: Individual Member \$20
Family Members \$25
Corporate Member \$50

Registered by Australia Post, PP.225170/00019

Patrons: Mr. Harold Mair, O.A.M.
Mr. Ian Glachan

President: Mr. Doug Hunter (02) 6021 2835

Secretary: Mr. Ron Braddy (02) 6021 2038

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month, February to December.

Albury Regional Museum: (02) 6051 3450
Turks Head, Wodonga Place, Albury
Open every day, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Website: www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au/museum
ISSN 0813 6645

NEXT MEETING

8pm Wednesday July 14
Commercial Club,
Dean Street, Albury.

GUEST SPEAKER - Mr **Sam Goddard**, Ophthalmologist
will talk about the "Early History of Ophthalmology in Albury".

SUBSCRIPTIONS

now due!
A membership form is
attached to Page 5.

BULLETIN **437**
JULY 2004



FUTURE EVENTS

- ① **Albury Regional Museum** Exhibitions:
18 June -27 July.
-More Than Dinosaurs:
Evolution of Life. An
Australian Museum
Travelling Exhibition.
6 August -31 October.
-Crime Scene, Scientific
Investigation
Archives, 1945 - 1960

- ② August 7th. Introduction to
Archives: Felltimber Com-
munity Centre, Ritter Rd
Wodonga. Register by 23/7/04,
Ph 03 9348 5757 -Laura
Daniele. (\$16.50)

QUESTION OF THE MONTH



When were spectacles
first invented?

:FEATURES:

Page 2 - "Colonial
Wines" (- James Fallon)
Page 3 - Bruce Pennay,
"Anything to Declare?"
Page 3 - Jane Longhurst,
"Noreuil Park
Development Report".
Page 4 - A&DHS
Elected Office Bearers
for 2004/2005



Early Trabeated Gateway to Noreuil Park, Albury. c.1950.

Photo: John Livsey

JAMES FALLON

SAMOAN MAIL FRAUD & JAMES FALLON

by Dirk H.R. Spennemann



Mail fraud, the purchasing of items via mail order without paying for them, is a common mode of operation of modern day small time crooks. It is not new however. While trawling through the pages of nineteenth century newspapers published in Apia, Samoa (South Pacific) in the course of research of various aspects of Samoan history, I found an example of a European trader in Samoa defrauding *James Fallon* of Albury.

In early January 1892 *Alexander Pritchard*, European resident on Samoa, ordered "one or two cases of port, claret & sherry in quarts & two cases of sherry in pints & other wine you think would suit the market." Pritchard gave clear instructions on how to ship the wine. In his letter he claimed that *Fallon* had been recommended to him by *J Despeissis* (then NSW government

agricultural expert on vines) & also stated that

"we are desirous of importing our goods from the colonies instead of San Francisco." Both the (spurious) reference & the hope of breaking into a new market dominated Californian sellers possibly influenced *Fallon* in filling the order on the promise that payment would occur by return mail.¹ *Fallon* obliged on trust alone, delivering goods worth £14 5s (incl. Shipping)- but no payment occurred. If a supplier could be fooled once, it stood to reason that another try would be warranted. In early June *Pritchard* tried again, this time under the name 'Jas. Jackson of Lata Plantation, Savaii, Samoa,' using flattery as his modus operandi: "Through the introduction of The Samoan Trading & Plantain Company of the next island, Upolu, who are taking great pains in getting your wines thoroughly tested by the general public, I write to please send me ... 1 case dry wine each quarts & pints, claret, 1 case do. do. Port; 1 case do. do. sherry... Your wines are certainly the best that have ever come to this market."² *Fallon*, however, was not fooled again.

How serious was such a loss? And, by implication, how trusting was *Fallon*? The buying capacity of £14 5s in 1892 can be corrected to year 2000 prices using the Australian Bureau of Statistics Consumer-Price-Index.³ This correction gives us \$1,318.11 – a sum sufficiently large to attempt long-distance recovery. On 1 March 1893 *Fallon* wrote to the Apia solicitor *William Cooper* in the hope of recovering the payment or the merchandise. *Cooper* had to inform *Fallon*, however, that he had little chance of recovering any of the outstanding account.⁴

Who was this *Alexander Pritchard*? He was the son of the missionary & British Consul *George Pritchard*. In 1888 *Alexander* came to Samoa from Queensland, where he had been an MLA.⁵ It is unclear why he left Queensland, but it had been suggested by his Apia contemporaries that he had left to avoid his creditors. By early 1892 *Pritchard* had a major swindle operation going. He requested, & frequently received, from unsuspecting Sydney & Melbourne companies,⁶ goods by using the names: 'Pritchard & Co.,' 'The Pritchard Trading Co.,' 'The Samoan Trading & Plantation Co.,' 'Jas. Jackson & Co.' & 'Jas Jackson of Lata Plantation, Savaii, Samoa.'⁷ For this he was hauled before the High Commissioner's court, but because of lack of finances & any property which could be seized, was left off the hook on a caution.

And finally, why could nothing be done? It seems *Pritchard* had been very careful in ordering consumables & items that could be swiftly disposed of to the local Samoan community so that no assets could be seized. In the light of this, his assertion to *Fallon* has a very different meaning when *Pritchard* was 'taking great pains in getting [*Fallon's*] wines thoroughly tested by the general public ..."

Notes:

K G HIGGINSON & CO
ACCOUNTANTS
531 Wilson St ALBURY
Ph 02 6021 7155

¶ *Dirk HR Spennemann*, The Johnstone Centre & School of Environment & In-

Albury & District Historical Society Inc., PO Box 822, ALBURY, NSW, 2640.
BULLETIN 437, July 2004. Page 2

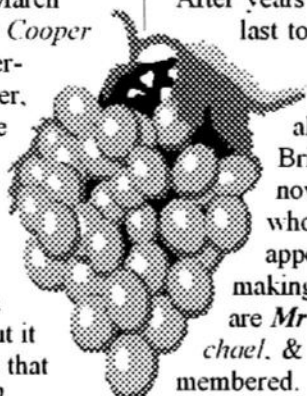
formation Services, Charles Sturt University, PO Box 789, Albury NSW 2640. E-mail: dsennemann@csu.edu.au

1. Letter A.P. (Alexander Pritchard) to Fallon, Murray Valley Vineyard Co., Apia 1 January 1892. Reproduced in *Samoa Weekly Herald* (Apia) vol. 1 no 26, 3 June 1893, p.2 col. 2-3.
2. Letter Jas. Jackson, Lata Plantation Savai'i, to Fallon, Murray Valley Vineyard Co., Apia 13 June 1892. Reproduced in *Samoa Weekly Herald* (Apia) vol. 1 no 26, 3 June 1893, p.2 col. 3.
3. Australian Bureau of Statistics, retrieved via <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/>
4. William Cooper 'The Height of Impudence. Letter to the editor.' *Samoa Weekly Herald* (Apia) vol.1 no 26, 3 June 1893, p.3 col.2-3.
5. Pritchard died 1 December 1898. - Local & General News *Samoa Weekly Herald* (Apia) vol. 4 no 43, 3 December 1898, p.2 col. 4.
6. Swallow & Ariell Ltd, Melbourne; Marc Robertson, Fitzroy; S.T. Leigh, Sydney: 'High Commissioner's Court.' *Samoa Times & South Sea Advertiser* (Apia) vol. 4 no 182, 16 April 1892, p.2, cols 5-6.
7. See *Cooper* op cit. (note 4). —See also: William Cooper 'Sublime Audacity.' *Samoa Weekly Herald* (Apia) vol. 1 no 36, 19 August 1893, p.2 col. 7.

*

COLONIAL WINES.

(Article Reproduced from "Town & Country Journal", April 6, 1878, page 652)



After years of education, colonial wines may be said at last to have come into almost general consumption in Australia, & in NSW particularly. At almost every dinner-table we now find colonial wines; in some cases they entirely supersede British beer. With some complacency we can now afford to give due praise to those educators who toiled for years, & put up with so many disappointments in perfecting colonial wines, & making them popular. Amongst these men in NSW are *Mr Fallon*, *Mr Wyndham*, *Mr Doyle*, *Mr Carmichael*, & a few others, whose names will long be remembered. Foremost amongst these is *Mr J T Fallon*, who enjoys a European reputation. It has been justly said of him: "Perhaps no man has done more for popularising Australian wines than that indefatigable & enthusiastic vigneron, *Mr J T Fallon*. One greets him in *Albury*, nervously watching the various processes of wine-making, or carefully overlooking his magnificent vineyard.

One meets him in the Hall of the Society of Arts, London, learnedly descanting on the vine & its Australian history. A year or so later one listens to his pleasant voice at the meetings of the Royal Colonial Institute, presided over by the Duke of Manchester, & surrounded by all of the elite of London society. A little later on & one joins him in a deputation to the English Chancellor of the Exchequer to urge on his consideration the claims of Australian wine to exemption from excessive duty. And between these times we find him backwards & forwards to Australia, & traversing the vast wine districts of France, Italy, & Germany, picking up information for guidance in his own vineyards & wine cellars. Surely no man deserves so well of the colonies as >>>

PLANNING TO SPEAK AT A MEETING?

Please remember to write it down & give it to a Committee Member for the Bulletin Editor.

Photographs (originals or large copies) are welcome.

Avoid Plagiarism - quote your sources!

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advertisers!**

one so energetic! The wine makers of Australia have as yet had a hard battle to fight. The craze for beer & brandy has been a very decided one; but slowly & surely the people are coming to reason & a pure wine. It is a hopeful sign, too, to find that *Mr Fallon* has seen his way to open a central depôt for his wine in Sydney. The requirements of the shipping trade, it is found, can be better met at the port of Sydney than they can at the port of Melbourne, where for some time past every obstacle seems to have been thrown in the way of the bonâ fide producer. Of course Albury wines could be conveyed to Melbourne more conveniently than to Sydney, & it says much against the Custom's arrangements at the former place, when *Mr Fallon* is able to convey his wines hundreds of miles overland to Sydney, & still find the advantage to be on the side of this city." We had an opportunity afforded us of inspecting the new wine-cellars just opened in Pitt-street by *Mr Fallon*. As he does not do things by halves, we were not disappointed in finding the large cellars filled with ranges of immense casks, containing some of the choicest wines ever made in Australia, sound pure Reisling, charming Tokay, & delightful Verdelho. Of the many thousands of gallons of pure wine here stored, it was agreeable to notice that few of the samples were new, & that most of them had the benefit of age, from two to ten years. Though for years he was represented by a well known agency, it is a matter of congratulation to the wine-drinkers that *Mr Fallon* has at last opened cellars in Sydney, where we might be certain to obtain at all times a fair sample of Australian wines.

— Article courtesy of **Jack Sullivan**, Ph 4929 5317
72 Bar Beach Ave, MEREWETHER, NSW 2291 *

(James Fallon moved to Albury in 1854, 150 years ago).

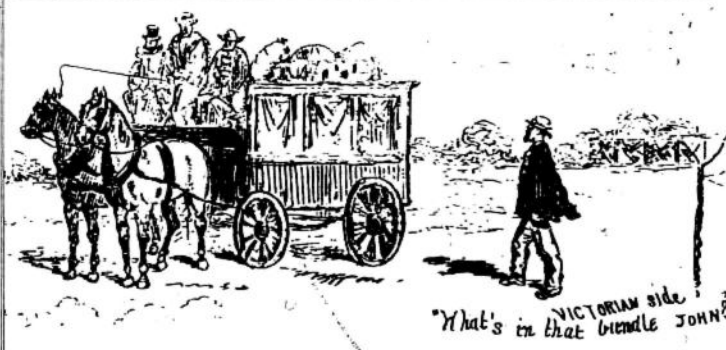
ANYTHING TO DECLARE ?

- By **Bruce Pennay** 17/5/04

Border customs duties caused lots of difficulties for residents on both sides of the border (Albury-Wodonga) in the late nineteenth century. Two sources of information give insights into some of the local impact of the duties in the 1880s and 1890s.

1. Report of Board to inquire into the effects of the fiscal system of Victoria upon industry and production, upon the employment of people; upon the condition and extension of agricultural, mining and other producing interests; and upon exports and imports, First Report *Victoria Parliamentary Papers* 1894, vol 2. Second report VPP 1895-96, vol 2, pp. 509-522.
2. Correspondence, Customs Office Wodonga, National Australian Archives, Canberra, A1037/1 vol. 2-4, letters dated 25 August and 8 December 1880; 19, 22 and 28 February 1881; 6 and 19 May 1881; 28 November 1883.

People from Wodonga frequently bought new clothes in Albury and wore them back home without paying duty. One Wodonga storekeeper told the inquiry in 1894 that 'half the



◆ It was customary for customs officers to challenge travellers crossing the Union Bridge in horse-drawn 'buses' as they made their way to and from Wodonga railway station. That traffic was to grow rapidly as the railway neared, then, reached Albury in 1881 (*Australasian Sketcher* 13 May 1876).

wearing apparel of the community is got on the other side of the river'. He went on to show how boots, hats, moles, shirts, woollen goods and drapery generally were cheaper in Albury than Wodonga.

The correspondence of the Collector of Customs at Wodonga points to ways some Wodonga people wanted him to be more rigorous. A Vigilance Committee, led by a dealer in saddlery and harness, questioned the ways in which customs officers used their discretion to determine what was dutiable or not, in terms of things being 'in use' or new. Worn clothes might be considered used, but were horse saddles and/or reins that had been newly bought in Albury and fitted for the return trip? Not according to the Wodonga competitor in the manufacture and sale of leather goods - and the Collector of Customs agreed.

The Collector of Customs found some gentlemen and ladies wore unusual amounts of 'used' jewellery across the border. One lady, whom he detained, was wearing a pair of gold bracelets, two gold rings, a gold chain and a gold watch.

The correspondence shows how the Collector of Customs could rely on the help of informers in Wodonga to carry out his duties. There were always those who would let him know who had a new carriage that might have been bought without paying duty.

Others would let him know if Chinese tobacco growers, up river, were illegally sending tobacco into Victoria. One Chinaman hoped to earn a share of the penalty imposed on a countryman he accused of introducing opium without paying duty. *

REPORT ON THE JUNE MEETING NOREUIL PARK ALBURY



The Society was addressed by **Jane Longhurst** about the **Noreuil Park Development Report**.

Jane was approached by Albury Council to canvas public opinion on the Noreuil Park foreshore cultural development (not Hovell Tree, Oddi's or Australia Park). Lighting, signage etc. would be considered. The report will be a "user friendly" document for Council & the wider community.

This space
is available
for
ADVERTISING

Gerry Curtis said there was once a dance floor near the kiosk (1930's), made of timber. It would not have lasted more than ten years. Noreuil was originally called "Beans Baths". (Ron Braddy said the "Albury Baths" was on the corner of Stanley & Creek Streets). Who "Bean" was is unknown. There was an entrepreneur named "Scott" who made some development at Noreuil foreshore.

In 1922 a lot of the exotic trees were planted at Noreuil by returned WWI soldiers (a job creation scheme).

There was a stone "arch" at the entrance to Noreuil from Hovell Street (date removed?). When Noreuil became a caravan park (Council leased it for 15 years) in the 1950's / 1960's, the low "arch" had to be removed.

The report will be 15 pages. It will go to artists who may be commissioned to make customised benches etc. around the foreshore. The historical influence / component will also investigate why the park is called "Noreuil" (it was named after the "WWI Battle of 1917" - Ron Braddy). On 24/6/92 the report will be presented to Council, stating the themes which the community want to see articulated more prominently in the park, for the benefit of the wider community.

-Jane Longhurst 9/6/04 Ph 02 6023 5258

GENERAL NOTICES

1 BULLETIN 436. (GENERAL NOTICES Nr 2). *Con Zymaris* is mistaken about the **Gutenberg Bible** being written in Old German in the early 16th Century. It was in fact written in Latin. - *Dirk H R Spennemann* 3/6/04

"The¹ Gutenberg Bible, also known as the Mazarin Bible, & the 42-Line Bible, Latin Edition of the Bible, was printed at Mainz, Germany, sometime between 1450 & 1456. (i.e. the middle 15th Century! *Zymaris* says his anecdote is only an approximation -Ed.). Although German bibliographers claim that it was printed by the German printer *Johann Gutenberg*, the edition was probably the work of the German printers *Johann Fust* & *Peter Schöffer* (c.1425-1502), associates of *Gutenberg*."

"There² is no reason to doubt that the printing of certain books (werck der bucher, specifically mentioned in the record of the trial, refers to the Forty-two-Line Bible that was Gutenberg's (Latin) masterpiece)

A&DHS OFFICE BEARERS elected for 2004/2005

PRESIDENT	Doug Hunter
VICE PRESIDENT	Max Barry
SECRETARY	Ron Braddy
MINUTE SECRETARY	Jan Marsden
TREASURER	June Shanahan
COMMITTEE	Ray Gear, Helen Livsey, Helen Pithie, Claire Simpson, Carole Whitbourn.
HONORARY AUDITOR	Kevin Higginson
PUBLIC OFFICER	Helen Livsey
BULLETIN EDITOR	Michael Katalinic
BULLETIN PROOF READER	Helen Livsey
RESEARCH OFFICER	Helen Livsey
JOURNALS READER	John Craig
LIBRARY ACCESSIONS	John Craig
MEMBERSHIP MAILING & BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION	Claire Simpson
MEETING HOSTS	John Craig

Douglas Hunter, new President of A&DHS.

Born in Albury, he attended Albury Public School & then Albury High School. He left school & did an apprenticeship as a Cabinet Maker & Joiner. He worked at that for a little while & then worked as a Draftsman.

Doug married Jan in 1959. They went to Papua New Guinea for several years. Then Doug worked with the Albury Wodonga Development Corporation until retirement 12 yrs ago.

Doug always had a parallel career with the Army. He did his National Service, & then stayed on in the Citizens Military Forces, & later with the Army Reserves (until he turned 50 yo).

He then enrolled with the Riverina Murray Institute of Higher Education (the forerunner of Charles Sturt University), & gained a BA majoring in History.

He is now interested in the Military History Society in Albury-Wodonga & also the Army Museum at Bandiana.

Doug's vision is for the gathering, interpretation & preservation of 'Local history'.

was completed, according to Gutenberg's major biographers, in 1455 at the latest."

■ 1. *New Millennium* (CD) Encyclopedia. vs

■ 2. *Encyclopaedia Britannica Standard Edition 2004* (CD).

2 BULLETIN 436. (A-Q.O.M. p.4) Helen Livsey's notes are taken from Bayley p146.

Gerry Curtis's notes: before the Ambulance Station in David Street there was an A/S in a house in Banff Avenue - Bayley p146.

■ "Border City", 1976. W A Bayley.

3 Mrs Eileen Andrews & Mr Howard Jones were joint recipients of the Wodonga City Council's **Eagle Award**, in May. They were recognised for their work on the Place Names

Committee, identifying the major pioneering families in Wodonga. (The Post 2, 20/5/04).

4 †OBITUARY: Mrs Helen Dempsey Fielder (nee Rosborough)

† died in Albury on May 29, 2004, aged 103 years. She was born on February 22, 1901. She & her husband *Wattie*, were founding members of the A&DHS in 1960 & they collected & stored many items for the Albury Mureum.

Wattie often told *Helen* of a building to be demolished & she would ride her push bike to get a photo. *Helen's* pictures are the only record of some of Albury's vanished history.



Photo: Border Mail

As was the way of the times, *Helen* retired from paid employment when she married *Walter Fielder* in 1943. From that time she was a volunteer for a number of organisations, but mainly for the A&DHS.

She was a most alert & interested lady, who always read the daily paper, & expressed her views on subjects affecting Albury.

- Helen Livsey.

JOURNEYING THROUGH THE JOURNALS

- by John Craig

A compilation to help members find items of interest. These journals can be viewed at the Albury City Library - History Resources Room:

alburyprinting

1081A CORELLA ST.

NORTH ALBURY

PH: (02) 6025 2138

(Editor: Michael J. Katalinic, Phone 02 6025 9347 michaeljkatalinic@hotmail.com)
Albury & District Historical Society Inc., PO Box 822, ALBURY, NSW, 2640.

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<<<

ARGYLE BULLETIN: Goulburn H S & F H S Journal.
May '04

1. The Bunyips Tale.

BORDERLINE NEWS: Wodonga F H S Newsletter.
May 2004

1. AGM 20 July 2004. Guest Speaker Pam Eade of Granya.

HERITAGE: N S W Heritage Office. Autumn 2004

1. Volunteer Heritage Awards – Jindera Pioneer Museum Group, Harold Courtts, Culcain Station House Museum.

2. Facelift for Wentworth on the Murray Darling.

HISTORY: ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Magazine. June 2004

1. The History of Book Plates in Australia.

2. Calendar of Events, July to August 2004.

INFORMATION VICTORIA: Victorian Community History Awards 2004.

1. Winners List & Extracts from Entries.

INSITES: Historic Houses Trust NSW, Winter 2004

1. Rampart Garden: A Garden Laid Out in 1840's, in Romantic Gothic Spirit, at Government House, is being Reinstated.

2. Calendar of Events: June-August 2004.

LINKS 'N' CHAINS: Liverpool F H S Journal, May 2004

1. A Guide to Reminiscing.

2. Is Your Family History Recorded in Maritime Records?

MEMENTO: News from National Archives. May 2004

1. Our Oldest Document Celebrates 200 Years, Deed of Title 1804.

2. Secrets & Spies – The Harbin Files

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter June 2004

1. David, Stanley & Norman Drummond – Children in Schooling & Welfare 1924-1983.

2. Sydney "Wowzers" & the Spatial Conception of Decency 1901-1912.

UPDATE: Information Victoria Newsletter, May/June 2004

1. New Legislation – Reports – New Regulations & Reprinted Acts.

WAGGA WAGGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter.

July '04

1. Snippets from Wagga Wagga Advertiser 1897.

2. Untimely Death of H B Fitzharding, Mayor of Wagga 1879/82 & 1887/90.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

5.15pm Tuesday July 27, 2004, at Albury City Library.

Printed by..



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(Editor: Michael J. Katalinic, Phone 02 6025 9347 michaeljkatalinic@hotmail.com)
Albury & District Historical Society Inc., PO Box 822, ALBURY, NSW, 2640.
BULLETIN 437, July 2004. Page 5

ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY inc.

encourages the study of the history of the Albury district & of Australia through

- ✦ Monthly Meetings, 8pm, second Wednesday of the month, February to December.
- ♣ Monthly Bulletins, 11 issues per year sent to members (articles, research, A&DHS activities, liaison etc.).
- ♣ Tours, private & fund raising, to sites & properties of historic significance.
- ♣ Research, Archives in the History Room at the Albury Library: Oral & Graphic history recording.
- ✦ Albury Regional Museum, local history, visiting exhibitions, Museum shop, open daily.

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