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BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2004 441

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

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

Patrons:

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

President:

Mr Douglas Hunter
(02) 6021 2835

Secretary:

Mr Ron Braddy
(02) 6021 2038

Subscriptions:

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

★ NEXT MEETING ★

8pm Wed. November 10

Commercial Club,
Dean St, Albury

GUEST SPEAKER:

Mr Norman Douglas, Retired
Dentist, Original Developer of
the Hume Weir Trout Farm, on
the "History of the Hume
Weir Trout Farm."

QUESTION of the MONTH

Rainbow trout are native to
which continent? When and
how were they introduced to
Australia?

FUTURE EVENTS

① **17 November – 9 December, 2004:**
Albury Regional Museum: Exhibition;
"Roll Up, Roll Up! Unexpected Archives
with Robyn Archer.

② **23 November, 2004:** A&DHS
members are invited to **Wodonga Historical Society Christmas Dinner**, that
Tuesday, 6:30 PM for 7 PM; Warrina
Motel, Wodonga \$30. Please book with
Rhonda Flower, ph 02 6024 2547, by 15
November.

③ **8 December, 2004:** Christmas Function + "Bring & Tell": A Christmas
Dinner for A&DHS
members, family and
friends will be held
that Wednesday
evening, 6:30 PM for 7 PM, at the Commercial Club, Albury. \$20.00 per head.

Please send cheque (if posting) &
reply slip (p5) to: June Shanahan,
452 Reid Ave, Lavington,
NSW 2641.



Photo: David Armstrong

ALBURY PIONEER CEMETERY

REPORT on the OCTOBER MEETING

The Society was addressed
by *Mr David Armstrong*,
Works & Services Coordinator,
Parks & Recreation,
AlburyCity; his presentation was
"Albury's Pioneer
Cemetery: The Present &
The Future".

I have for you tonight a "power point"
presentation which runs through a lot
of things we have been doing down
at the **Albury Pioneer Cemetery**. Just
to give you a bit of background to my
actual position; as Doug Hunter says, I
am with *Parks & Recreation*. We are
what they call "the asset owner" for all
the parks & reserves throughout Al-
buryCity including the Pioneer
Cemetery. My role is to set standards

for the maintenance of all of our parks
& reserves including the Pioneer
Cemetery.

The other part of my task is to do a
lot of projects & I am actively in-
volved in this one - developing a
cemetery master plan; & also in the
Noreuil Park master plan about which
Doug Hunter has shown you something
from Jane Longhurst - about the his-
tory of Noreuil Park. I have had a
minor role in that - I have been mind-
ing the landscaping side of it. Another
one of my projects is at the Fredericks
adventure park for which we have been
involved in designing & implementing
a plan.

PIONEER CEMETERY

Introduction: The A&DHS most
probably knows more about the Pioneer
Cemetery than I do, as I had no
real interest in the cemetery until about
18 months to two years ago. I always
thought it was the dead centre of Al-
bury, as you do as a kid, when you
drive through it. It is bounded by
Waugh Road, Buckingham Street & St
James Crescent. The land was alloc-
ated in 1848 & was consecrated in
1858. The earliest monument belongs
to Dr John Crichton Esq. who died in
1847, transferred from the Sand Hills
in South Albury in 1860. There are
approximately 2500 headstones
throughout the site.

Why do we want to develop a plan
for the cemetery? We copped a lot of
public criticism over the years about
the state of the Pioneer Cemetery.
That was probably one of the instiga-
tions for us to get a "Conservation
Management Plan" & for developing
this "Master Plan". The cemetery is a
prime target for constant vandalism as
everyone is aware, & that is another
reason why we have developed
this plan to minimise the
vandalism.

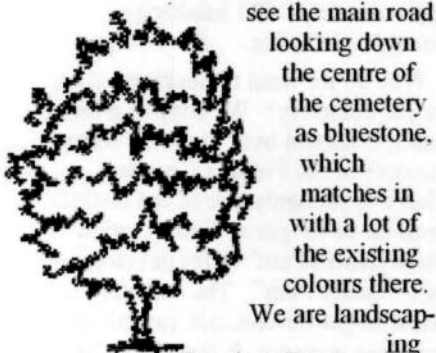
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Accessibility of information - who knows about the cemetery - what is in the cemetery? There is a limited number of people to whom you can go to & say, "I am after 'so & so' who died". Where do you find the information? We want to provide information to the public.

The Pioneer Cemetery Advisory Committee, - have had a strong influence on what has been done. We have sat down with them & gone through the whole process of planning out what we want to do there in the long term. The 'Conservation Management Plan' was done in 2000 - The other thing is that access availability at the moment for users - that is getting around the site & trying to find graves - is very hard. You might be able to find out what section & what row they are in, but to go out there & actually find them is really hard. You have got to get someone who knows the site, or have a plan. When the pathways are under water during the winter it is not very acceptable. What we want to do is increase the usage & I have been asked, "do you want more people in there?". We are trying to get more people to visit & learn about the history of Albury & what is actually in that site.

Vandalism & Landscaping:

One of the main issues is vandalism & what the slide shows is what the surround of the pioneer cemetery used to be - with the two big bushes out the front. If you have known it in the last 6 to 12 months it has had a bit of change, & what we want is to have more self surveillance of the site & give the vandals some idea that eyes are watching them - so we have tried to open it to some extent. The planting we have done is low shrubs & trees, so we will have a middle section which will be open, & lower ground covers & a canopy. So it is going to give a screen to some extent. I



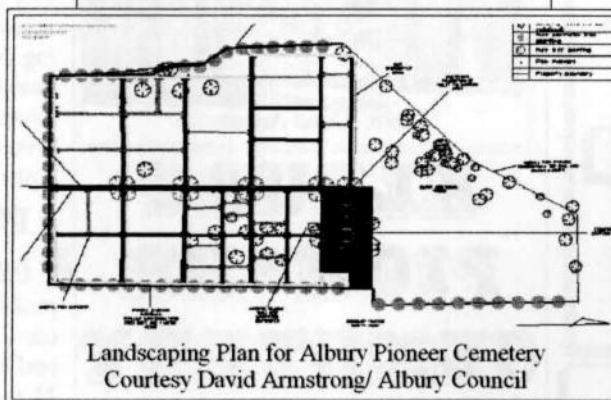
BOX ELDER

see the main road looking down the centre of the cemetery as bluestone, which matches in with a lot of the existing colours there. We are landscaping the

ALBURY PIONEER CEMETERY

perimeter vegetation: one of the key components of the project, to open it up. We are going to construct all-weather pathways, - now we are still undecided about what materials we are using. There has been talk about bitumen; there's been talk about bluestone; there's been talk about different types of materials. We really want something that is walk-able & drive-able, but not costly. So we are still in that investigation, but I am keen on the blue stone because I think it will look really good & it will achieve what we are looking for.

As you can see from the photo, we have got perimeter trees. The black line through the middle is the main



Landscaping Plan for Albury Pioneer Cemetery
Courtesy David Armstrong/ Albury Council

path way which hooks into a car park area. The blue lines will be hard surface so it will be some sort of buck shot or bitumen topping or something like that as a hard surface. The green lines are the turfed pathways. We have laid out the pathways which match in with where all our road markers are, so at any end of where those pathways are there is a road marker.

Grass paths: at the moment there are a lot of weed species through the path ways. What we are looking at doing is to try to minimize the number of weeds in there & putting in couch grass. The couch will gradually strangle out a lot of weeds so we won't have those long grassy shoots along the path ways. The maximum height of the couch will be about 100 ml. So that plus the access-way conservation is what we are aiming to do. With couch grass it will stay greener & last for a lot longer period of time through the summer.

The reticulated water system: At the moment there are about 15 water meters through the sites with individual taps. We are looking at re-doing all that because that's a real cost for us now. With the new water charges we are charged for every meter plus all the usage of the water, whereas before we were only charged for the water. We will carry out a tree assessment & we will do some tree work. The trees down the centre will include box elders (for which it won't be long before they will be classed as an environmental weed). So what we are looking at doing is maybe removing those trees as part of the upgrade of that central pathway & putting in more suitable tree species which match the theme of the old cemetery. There is no real tree species mentioned in the Conservation Management Plan, & we have information off the web & one of the heritage sites - which goes through what vegetation you should put in this type of cemetery.

Improved signage:

This is probably a key issue for getting people around the site. If people have been down to the Pioneer Cemetery you will see that we have put in a perimeter path-way, & have started putting in markers. There are green markers which identify the rows & also the sections throughout the site. So that's the beginning of getting this information to the public. We have had a designer examine the existing signage, &

develop a sign which gives you all the information you need to know about rows & sections & where they are located. There will be one sign at each gate, one at the car park entrance & in the middle near the old brick building, & two at the Waugh Road entry.

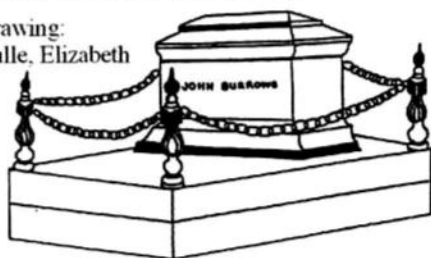
To get rid of the water problems we will do some drainage work, & that might mean putting some sub-surface drainage in, & it might require re-forming the pathways & the roadways better, & having major pick up points (sumps) for the storm water.

Accessibility & Information:

For getting information out to the public we are developing a Pioneer Cemetery pictorial data-base. A few years ago we had a lady go around & record all the grave stones, so we a data-base of all the people that are known to be buried in the site. What we are trying to do is marry those two together. **The data base will be search-able, so you can**

put a name in the computer & it will come up with the matching surname & then link the photos to that. We were hoping to get that done last year, but because we didn't have the full gamut of information from the cemetery we had to re-jig all that information & import extra data. So it has been a longer process than we were hoping for. We hope that we will have something ready in the new year (2005).

Drawing:
Bulle, Elizabeth



Grave restorations: We are looking at a program to try to restore some of the graves that have been damaged.

One of the key things we want to try to do is to get community involvement with the project. As part of that programme you can see the grave site of James Fallon which the students from the James Fallon High School helped restore. We are looking at doing some interpretive brochures. I know the A&DHS has done a brochure which goes through a lot of the information about the site. We are aiming at producing an interpretive brochure for school kids, & worksheets that teachers can utilise when they bring their students down there, as it has a list of questions for which they need to go around the Pioneer Cemetery to find out the answers.

The other key thing is for people to adopt a grave just like James Fallon High School did. Hopefully we can get some involvement with the schools. Xavier High School expressed interest in it once we had finished the master plan of the site. So Xavier could be another school which would be interested in adopting a grave & raising money to help restore those grave sites.



Drawing: Bulle, Elizabeth

More about Grave

Restorations: At the moment there is a rebate of up to \$200 for any families that want to restore their relatives' graves. If they spend \$400 then they will receive \$200

back as part of this program.

I suppose one of the key things with the data base is 'date integrity' that we put into the data base. I know there is always going to be mistakes & we are hoping that we can get feedback from groups like you & the general community about the integrity of the data & if it is wrong we need to make sure that we do change that data.

We must promote the site in a number of ways through the schools, through our crematorium staff, & also by getting people visiting there (with more people there it will be a more user-friendly place). The A&DHS will be an integral part in helping us do a lot of this work, with the information that you have, & I know Bruce Pennay has done a fair of work in the Conservation Management Plan concerning the history of the cemetery. We see your Society continuing that work by providing information to us about the site.

What have we achieved?

This plan was adopted by council about 12 months ago when we had a 'Green Corps' group. 'Green Corps' is a Federal Government program which employs young people to work mainly in the natural (environmental) areas. This project in the Pioneer Cemetery fitted in with the heritage side of it. We had this group for six months & they spent a fair bit of their time in the Pioneer Cemetery, & they were the ones that hacked down all those trees with hand saws & shifted them into piles to be mulched.



Photo: by David Armstrong

They did a perimeter vegetation removal, constructed perimeter garden beds (close to 1300 metres of them), shifted 130 cubic metres of bark. It was dumped off & they wheel barrowed it around & levelled it off. They did some **tree planting** - they planted 30 red box (they are the trees around the perimeter; they are local trees). They did the hedge consisting of 400 hundred Grevillea plants of 'Scarlet Sprite' (which is a miniature grevillea). Anyone that knows Grevilleas will know they are prickly. That is why we chose them, so if people

want to jump over the fence they are going to get a few prickles in what-ever part of their body they may land. They installed a 'drip irrigation system' alongside the tree & for the Grevilleas, & they did a perimeter path. There was 600 metres by 1.5 metres of path-way that they constructed which is equivalent to 90 cubic metres of crushed granite. They did a fair bit of work there & some basic grave restoration: they straightened up the gravestones that they could, & they pulled some weeds out & put some bluestone & white stone on top of some of the graves where headstones & identification were missing.

As part of this plan we developed a staged works program. We haven't quite finished that yet. We identified what stage we wanted to do this year, but that is as far as we got. This year we tried to get funding for \$100,000 to do the main road-way through the cemetery. Unfortunately, they only gave us \$25,000, so we had to shelve that part of the project & spent \$25,000 on erecting cyclone fence along the Bungambrawartha Creek, putting up the signage & developing the data base. If we have got money left over we will be looking at finishing off the markers. We are going to make contact with education facilities - & that will happen in the new year. We will be trying to get them involved in the project - adopt a grave. We will try & get some information out to them so they can come to the site with information to send their students around looking at the different grave sites. We will develop partnerships with community groups such as the A&DHS & whoever else wants to listen to what we are doing out there.

So these are the things that we are going to do: install the drainage & complete the planting which hasn't already been completed. We haven't done the designs yet, which will happen in the New Year, & the the assessment will happen in the New Year as well.

- David Armstrong 13/10/04

Building The Lychgate:

It was about 20 years ago when I was the President here & the A&DHS Committee thought there should be something done about honouring the many pioneers who rested in the Albury cemetery. After some discussion I went to see Ken Young who was the architect: could we design some sort of a plaque to put up at the Albury Pioneer

cemetery to honour the people buried there - they made Albury what it is? Ken suggested we rebuild the lychgate. Gerry thought that it was a bit ambitious & Ken said it was possible. He would draw the plan & he suggested that perhaps TAFE would build it.

Gerry Curtis went to see Max Barry who was the chairman of the appropriate TAFE committee & suggested what we were thinking of & he agreed: he took the proposal to TAFE & they also agreed. So TAFE built the structure & the community supplied the money. TAFE built the steel structure, & put it up as an exercise as they do for many other projects.

"Albrik" supplied the paving bricks free of charge & Col Frauenfelder & myself laid them. Pascol Paints were supplied by "The Paint Box" free of charge & the Master Painters of Albury applied it. There was wonderful co-operation.

It was opened in Heritage week, April 1987 - that would have been the appropriate time. John Roach was the mayor of Albury, & he was a bit unhappy because we invited the mayor of Wodonga. (was it Malcolm McEachern?). It was the first time that the two mayors sat side by side at a function & I was in the middle between them. Many Wodonga people were buried in that cemetery before Wodonga had a cemetery & one of the most famous graves was the McEachern grave - which I am sure you are all familiar with: it is worth talking about.

So we did all of this & opened it up & we understood that "lych" was the Saxon word for "body". The only photograph of the original Lychgate we could find at the time was a scene taken looking from the Albury Golf Club in a northerly direction in which the Lychgate appeared. That is all we had. Allan Henshaw - I am sure you all know him, remembers when Bill Galvin was the grave digger & he kept his shovels, spades & picks in the box which formed a seat in the original Lychgate, & Alan would often help to fill in the grave after a burial in the more primitive days. Nobody ever pinched the tools. The old Lychgate eventually fell down but nobody seems to remember when - it just disappeared in the passage of time, only to be replaced in 1986/7.

- Gerry Curtis



In 1934 the RSL took interest in the diggers' graves at the Pioneer Cemetery & placed a little coloured plaque on each of them. They had a service where a scout stood at each grave &, on a signal from the bugle, they placed a wreath at the bottom the grave. Ron Braddy was one of those scouts. You will find that there was a photo taken at the time - it was donated to the RSL in Albury.

Ron's father was on the committee that organised the service.

- Ron Braddy

ANSWER to the QUESTION of the MONTH (October)

(What is the origin of the lychgate or lychgate?)

- (Anne Davies brought a small book which gave a drawing of a lychgate in Kent & a definition of lychgate).

Lychgate: Porch or roofed gateway leading to a churchyard, under which the coffin was placed at a funeral to await the arrival of the clergyman. (Dictionary definition).

Lych-gate or Corpse gate: Lych was the Old English word for a dead body. At the

lychgate the coffin was rested on a wooden or stone table, while the priest said part of the burial service. The gate was at the entrance to the churchyard. (Needham p8, 9 pl 1).

- Anne Davies.

- Lych-Gate, also spelt Lich-Gate, also called "Corpse Gate"; "a roofed-in gate way to a churchyard in which a bier might stand while the introductory part of the burial service was read. Lych-gates existed in seventh century England. Few early ones survive because most were constructed of wood. The origin is Middle English - Lyche "body" - Yate, "gate". (Encyclopaedia Britannica). Macquarie Dictionary indicates origin "Old English".

- John Craig.

- **June Shanahan** (who was unable to attend the meeting) says it can be spelt two ways; "lich-gate" or "lych-gate". It means 'a roof entrance gateway to a churchyard, beneath which a bier supporting a corpse (lich is Anglo Saxon, meaning body) could be rested while awaiting the arrival of a priest.

GENERAL NOTICES

1 Bruce Pennay would appreciate information about **Adamshurst**, particularly the dates of the first and second building. (Ph. 02 6051 9857)

2 Bulletin 441 was transcribed & scanned by June Shanahan. Editing assistance from Helen Livsey & Doug Hunter.

3 **Family History:** Lillian McGrath (of the Lavington Family History Group) is available at Albury Library every Thursday between 10 am & noon & is willing to assist people doing family history research.

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:

ANCES-TREE: Journal Burwood-Drummoynne F.H.G., July 2004.

1. German Migrant Ships to Eastern Australia, Part 5 "Reiherstieg" 1852.

DESCENT: Journal of Society of Australian Genealogists, June 2004

1. August F Chevreux, A Stonemason Without a Memorial.

2. What's on at S.A.G., Kent St., July to Dec. 2004.

HAWKESBURY CRIER: F.H.G. Newsletter, July 2004

1. Family & Local History in Postal Records.

LINKS 'N' CHAINS: Liverpool GS Journal, August 2004

1. Samuel Pitt (1797-1847)

MURRUMBIDGEE ANCESTOR - Journal Wagga Wagga F H S, July 2004 History of the Town. - continued from January journal.

MUSTER: Central Coast (Gosford) Family History Society Journal, August 2004

1. Some Interesting Ancestors, Part 3. WC Yuille (1819-1854).

2. Reports on Seminar 2004 & AGM.

PARRAMATTA PACKET: F H Group & Historical Society Newsletter, July 2004

1. The Platter Family: A Polish Family's Romantic History.

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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!



A&DHS Financial Membership List 2004-2005 (amended)

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Pat Scott
Richard Senior
June Shanahan
Claire Simpson
Bev Stewart
Faye Stevenson
Ruth Symes
Val Symons
Mary Thurling
John Waterstreet
Vonnie Wharton

←←← **RICHMOND RIVER** Historical
Society Bulletin. (Lismore) June
2004

Memoirs of the Tucker Family, by
Margaret Moss (nee Tucker).

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COLLECTION
- Memorabilia from Wagga Wagga
Teachers College.

STOCKMAN'S HALL OF FAME
July 2004

1. Lost in the Bush – an extract from
Gerald Walsh's book "The Bush & the
Never Never".



Drawing: Bulle, Elizabeth

Principal Bulletin 441 References

- Needham, A. "How to Study an Old Church", 2nd Edition, 1944/45. BT Batsford Ltd. (p 8 – Pl 1) -courtesy of Anne Davies.
- Encyclopaedia Britannica Inc. 1997.
- Macquarie Dictionary
- Sketches from A&DHS Cemetery Brochure by Elizabeth Bulle.
- Bulle, Elizabeth. Sketches from A&DHS Cemetery Brochure.
- Guertner, Beryl (Ed.) Trees & Shrubs. Murray Publishers, Sydney.

(Editor: Michael J Katalinic, Ph.02 6025 9347 michaeljkatalinic@yahoo.com.au)
Albury & District Historical Society Inc, PO Box 822, ALBURY, NSW 2640
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**COMMITTEE Meeting: 5.15pm Tuesday
November 23, 2004, at Albury City Library**

ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY inc.



Xmas Function + "Bring & Tell": Theme is "Christmas Memories" (e.g.

Special cards, decorations, gifts & toys which have become treasures). (Please bring a
written/ graphic description of items for publication in February -Ed.).

☞ A Christmas Dinner for A&DHS members, family and friends will be held Wednesday evening
December 8th, 2004, at 6.30PM for 7 PM, in the Bridge Room, Commercial Club, Albury.

☞ **\$20.00** per head. Please send cheque (if posting) & this reply slip to:
June Shanahan, 452 Reid Avenue, Lavington, NSW 2641.

☞ Please reply before 28th November, 2004.

NAMES: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____

CHEQUE AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

