



Casino and District Family History Group Inc

FEB 2023 - No. 140 - IBSN 0808 19-8535



Mummulgum School – 1922
Image Courtesy of the Casino & District Historical Society

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Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at 10.00am

Room 5, Upstairs School of Arts Building, Walker Street, Casino.

Opening Times:

Monday and Friday CLOSED
Monday nights only when advertised
Tuesday and Thursday 10am-2pm
Wednesdays 12pm-4pm
Saturdays open 3rd only 9am-11.30am
Closed mid Dec-late Jan
Open by appointment mid Dec- late Jan

Memberships:

Single \$40
Family \$50 (2 people same address)
Pensioner \$35 Pensioner Couple \$45
Student \$30 (needs to show card)
Joining Fee \$5 All prices include GST
(Membership year Jan to Dec)

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CASINO & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC. COMMITTEE 2022

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Committee Member	Rick Lawrence		

President's Report – Dec 2022 -Feb 2023

Hope you have all started back researching those interesting ancestors. Make some time for yourself in your busy week to sit down and add to your tree. I have spent a few days in hospital and cannot speak highly enough of the amazing job that nurses do and always with a smile on their face.

December: We finished the year with a good roll up to our Christmas Party. A wonderful selection of food was supplied by members. The manager of Windara was our guest speaker and gave us an insight into the running of the Windara nursery and the function centre. It was nice to sit back and see the great friendship among our members.

January: Our first meeting of the new year was held along with our planning day to arrange events and activities for 2023. There are some blank spaces in the diary so if you would like to have a lesson/class about anything to help with your research please inform us or if you know of a speaker let us know.

It is with regret that as of March we will not be opening our research room on Fridays. The reason for this decision is the lack of members using our facilities on Fridays. We also struggle to have enough roster persons to cover our days of opening so with Friday closures these roster people can now help on other days during the week.

February: After our general meeting 16 members went to have lunch at Windara. All agreed we should have more social outings in the future.

Our new printer has been installed and roster persons need to make sure they know how to operate this machine. The printer is very similar to the old machine. Please ask for a lesson from Cherryl or Robyn (Please be sure only "LASER" paper is used in the machine.)

Attention Trove: It is with concern that money may not be forthcoming in the budget in May to the National Library for the continuation of digitizing newspapers etc (TROVE) We ask members and concerned citizens to go online, find a petition, here's one below, and sign it so that the Government is informed we want the digitization process to continue. - <https://www.aph.gov.au/e-petitions/petition/EN4747/sign>

Coming up: Member's, please support the events /classes/workshops that have been organised for your benefit to help with your research.

March is our AGM followed by our General Meeting – Please if you would like to put your name forward for a position on committee, nominations can be handwritten or taken from the floor on the day. New blood brings forth new ideas to help operate this group.

April 1st: Open house - **WHO WERE THE ANCESTORS WHO MADE YOU – "YOU"** (see page 7)

April 12 Speaker: - A Driving Instructor will explain what older drivers need to know to keep their licenses after the age of 70. This will also be of interest to younger members.

April Monday 17: Join us for a you drive excursion out to "Mara Seeds" at Mallanganee. (Details to be advised)

RIP - MEMBERS: Bert Morris passed away on 23 January in Labrador Qld; our sympathy goes out to his family and Gail Fisher who also died in Queensland on 7 February. Gail and Bert were both long time members.

Top members: Thanks must go to Chris Houlihan and Gary McAteer for disposing of a lot of old and surplus newspapers etc. These men need a medal for lumping heavy items down two steep flights of stairs.

Happy hunting.

Cheers from your President Barbara

Scottish Highland Clearances - Some Facts from Skye

Clarence & Richmond Examiner & New England Advertiser
18 August 1883 page 6

Crofters - People who live and work on croft land. Usually, they are tenants of the person who owns the land

Tacksman - A person who holds a lease and sublets to others.

Factor - A person or firm charged with superintending or managing properties and estates. Highland factors had immense power over the populations that they lived within.

Bothy - A small cottage, especially one for communal use in remote areas by labourers or farmhands.

The royal commissioners having now closed the enquiry into crofter's grievances so far as Skye is concerned, it may be of interest to sum up deep pith of the evidence given.

My father was evicted 4 times to make way for sheep said Malcolm McCaskill.

I am 78 years of age. I was evicted 5 years ago with my daughter, daughter-in-law and 2 children - Donald Nicholson

I have seen the tenants of Glen Uig voluntarily going out. I have no doubt they went under constraint, but they went quietly. - Alex McDonald factor.

There was nothing for it but to sign papers that I would be obedient to the tacksman or the whole family should leave the country - John McCaskill

I had to pay 16 pound of my predecessor's arrears of rent to get into Carradale. I might be removed at any time. I was removed not with my own consent. - Donald Beaton

A widow and her two children were thrown out of her house for no reason. Her rent was not in arrears. She is now at the door. - Neil Nicholson

I was removed to make way for a ground officer. I had a good stone-built house. The house I got was a mere stable or bothy. - Donald Robertson

I was evicted 2 years ago, and an old widow was evicted to make room for me. - John McLean, Hamara.

Many of us have seen the law officers come and strip the rooms in Edinbane, or down water on the fires. - Tenants at Edinbane

I am not aware that a crofter was ever removed for the purpose of bettering the condition of those who remain behind. - Murdoch McLean

A man took in a lodger against the factor's wish at 1 pound a year for 5 or 6 years. Only pardoned last Martinmas. [the Feast of St Martin on Nov 11] - Tenants of Edinbane

It was for harbouring hawkers and on their becoming a nuisance the rent was increased. - John Robertson, factor

One man for quarrelling was fined 10s a year on his rent. - Tenants of Edinbane

The man's rent was raised for quarrelling and fighting and being otherwise troublesome. - John Robertson, factor

Fiscal refused to prosecute a gamekeeper for shooting my dog because the factor said we had no right to keep it. - Neil Nicholson

If a man married, his father dare not give him shelter for a night. - Donald Campbell

During the shooting they do not like us to go on our own pasture. - Charles Mackenzie

Any shopkeeper in Sleat or Broadford would not be allowed to sell goods without an additional 2 lb of rent. - Notice seen by Rev F Graham

The payment of arrears of rent by the incoming for the outgoing tenant was a pretty general practise and was enforced.- McDonald of Tormore.

The factor has two shares of sheep on the hill, and makes us twice a year build up the dyke that keeps our sheep out of our grazings - Tenants of Edinbane

Beyond the value of 10 pound we must get the consent of the factor before we can sell any stock. - Murdoch McLean

All beasts bought from the crofters will be seized, wherever found unless the purchase money be paid to me. - Notice on door of Post Office, Husabost 19th May 1883.

I am a man who had my rent raised for selling a stack of corn off the farm though I had offered it several times to the factor. - Kenneth MacPhee.

A huntsman threatened to shoot my neighbour, though he was on ground for which he was paying rent. You must stand it or prepare for the worst. - Charles Mackenzie.

We were forbidden to keep horses and had to do the work by carrying burdens on our backs. - Norman Nicholson.

If I did not pay an increase on rent for my own improvements, I would be sent off at the May term. - Donald McDonald

So many of our sheep were pounded we had to pay 20 pounds for them. When the sheep from the farms strayed on our land, we did not pound them. They were stronger than us. - Alex Lamont.

"Tormore" the factor threatened me with his enmity if I went against him and my superiors. - Peter McKinnon.

The factor used to object to people gathering whelks on the shore opposite their own door. - John McKay.

"Tormore" threatened to do for me because I gave hospitality to two strangers who came to the Glen. - John McLean.

The tenants have to give free labour in cutting Dr. Martin's corn with their own hooks. In performing this unlawful labour, the grieve made them work like slaves. - Statement from Husabost read by Professor McKinnon.

We had to buy hooks from the proprietor to shear his corn. - Donald McLean

My wife who was working for the landlord without wages was not allowed to come and prepare food for me when I came home after four months absence at the fishing. - Murdoch McLean, Husabost

We were forced to work ten days at spring and harvest for the laird, if we did not, we were in danger of eviction. - D. McLean.

There are families in want of bed and body clothing. - Donald Ross, Merchant.

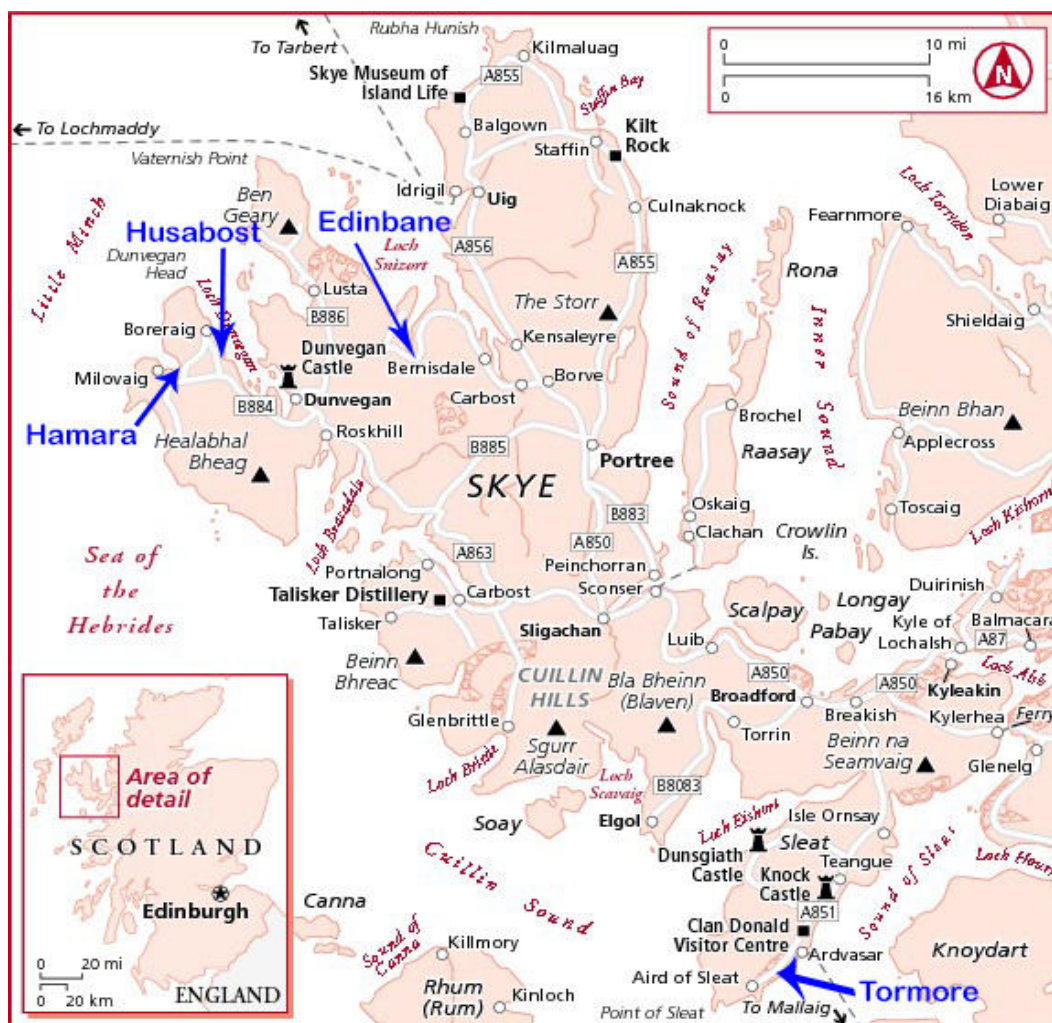
The land is not yielding us a living. - Peter McNab.

I got a bad bargain of the land. The sheep are going over the rocks and are being carried away by the sea. - Alex Morrison.

I remember the factor clearing a township and turning the land into a deer forest. - Angus Stewart.

There is no music among the people. The pipes are silent. - A. McKenzie.

Below: Map of the Isle of Skye with estate locations, named in the above article, marked with arrows.



Today none of these estates exist as they were, often listed as small villages or with their lodge houses converted to tourist accommodation or a restaurants for example Edinbane <https://www.edinbanelodge.com> and Hamara Lodge <http://www.glendaleestate.co.uk> or as holiday cottages offered to tourists like Husabost <https://husabost-croft.co.uk> Most of the Tormore farmland was sold by Lord MacDonald to the Forestry Commission in the 1960s

FURTHER RESEARCH: A reprint of Donald McLeod's excellent account of the Highland Clearances titled "Gloomy Memories" is available from the Strathnaver Museum: <https://www.strathnavermuseum.org.uk/gloomy-memories-by-donald-macleod/>

Also a full free PDF version of the 1892 publication of "Gloomy Memories" can be downloaded here: <https://electricScotland.com/history/donaldmcleodsglo00mcleuoft.pdf>

For more interesting articles and other transcribed old books on Scottish history see these very good websites: randomscottishhistory.com & electricScotland.com

CONVICTS IN THE FAMILY – NO WAY! - Submitted by member Kaylene Morris

My great grandmother Dinah was a twin, born 26 June 1871 in Seven Hills, New South Wales. Dinah didn't talk about her parents; both had died when her own children were young. Dinah's parents were John Taylor (1848-1905) and Eliza Jane nee Power (1845-1897). John married Eliza Jane on 15 October 1870 at Parramatta. They had 8 children together. John's father was Edward Taylor (c.1803- 1886).

Edward Taylor was a convict sentenced at Worcestershire Assizes 18 March 1820 for life for stealing a horse. Edward arrived 30 December 1820 per 'Elizabeth'. He was sent to Airds, where he was assigned to Joseph Onus. Edward married Ann Hannabus on 13 April 1848 in St Bartholomew's Church, Prospect. Ann's parents were John Hannabus and Margaret Edwards, who were also convicts.

John Hannabus had been sentenced to death for burglary on 3 August 1792. This was changed to being transported for life. John arrived per "Ganges" on 2 June 1797. He received his full pardon on 4 June 1804. John cohabitated with Margaret Edwards, also a convict. Margaret arrived 18 July 1798 per "Britannia II". No records have been found for a marriage. Margaret Edwards was sentenced at Salop Assizes for a term of 7 yrs. She gained her Certificate of Freedom 21 September 1824. Margaret Hannabus was 46 years old by the 1837 census. She was free by servitude. Arrived per Ship: Brittanica, 1798, 7 years, a washer woman to Jos. (Joseph) Barns, Parramatta.

So far, three convicts, let's continue...

Eliza Jane Taylor nee Power was born on 27th May 1845 at Seven Hills, the daughter of Timothy Power and Elizabeth Best. Timothy and Elizabeth were married on 29 July 1823 at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Seven Hills, New South Wales. They had ten children. Timothy was the son of Morgan Power (Poere) and Bridget Byrne.

Morgan Power was a cattle doctor in the County of Wicklow, Ireland, when in 1796 he purchased 26 sheep from a man he didn't know, only to find out they were stolen. Morgan was charged with theft and sentenced to death. His sentence was commuted to life after General Joseph Holt spoke up for him at his trial. Morgan was sent to goal at Cork and on the 21st or 22nd November 1796, boarded the 'Britannia I'. The ship was not ready for such a long journey, and it was 10 December before it set sail, arriving in Port Jackson on 27 May 1797. This ship was known as the 'Hell Ship'. Morgan was lucky to survive.

A List of Convicts continued

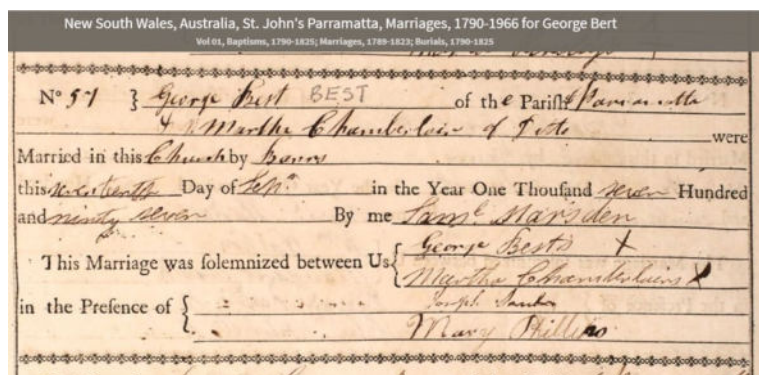
Convicts Names	Age when tried	Where tried	Term of Punishment
Mary Barry	25	Meath	April 1799 7 years
Cath. Carter	20	Longford	April 1801 Seven years
Bridget Byrne	20	Meath	August 1801 Life
Mary McEneaney	26	Meath	1801 7 years
Mary Kelly	40	Meath	April 1802 D?
Ann Magill	20	Wexford	August 1801 Life
Cath. Hurley & Anne	40	Meath	D?

On arrival Morgan was assigned to a medical man at Toongabbie where he worked for 3 years. About 1804 Morgan Power chose Bridget Byrne to be his housekeeper at Toongabbie. Bridget was a convict per "Rolla" which arrived 12 May 1803. Bridget (see left) was tried and convicted at Meath, Ireland. She was sentenced to life in August 1801 for allegedly putting a rock in a sock and hitting and killing a soldier who had killed her brother. Morgan and Bridget had two children. Bridget was in her thirties when her first son Timothy was born. Timothy whose baptism has not been found was born around 1805 and his brother Morgan Power junior was born on 8 June 1808 at Toongabbie.

Elizabeth Best was a daughter of George Best and Martha Chamberlain. George arrived in Port Jackson on 28 Aug 1791 per "William and Ann" part of the 3rd fleet. He was 33 years old. There were 188 male convicts and no females when they embarked. Seven convicts died on the voyage. George had stolen a silver watch and other goods to the value of £5 1s 3d (Five pound one shilling and three pence). He was tried 15 Mar 1790 at the Lent

Assizes, Maidstone, Kent. George was lucky, as he was first sentenced "to be hanged by the neck until he be dead". This was changed to being 'transported across the seas, for life'. George worked at the prison farm at Toongabbie, becoming a valuable employee and being promoted to overseer and seedsman. On 1st May 1797 George, after only five and a bit year of good service at the prison farm, Toongabbie, was granted absolute pardon.

George's wife, Martha Chamberlain, also a convict, was transported across the seas for stealing goods of the value of 39 shillings, but not guilty of breaking and entering. Martha was tried at Middlesex, England and sentenced to 7 years, arriving at Port Jackson the 30th April 1796 per "Indispensable". There were 133 female convicts onboard. Martha's native place was St Giles. She was 21 years old.



George Best met Martha Chamberlain and they started their family with son Robert born 14 March 1797 at Toongabbie. Sadly, Robert died as an infant. George and Martha were then married at St. John's Church of England, Parramatta on 17 September 1797. There were nine more children born to George and Martha with all being baptised at St John's Parramatta, except for my great, great, great grandmother Elizabeth Best, who may have been baptised there, but there is no record, so lost!! The only

other records of her birth are from the 1822 census when Elizabeth is age 16, and the 1824 census age 18, making her year of birth around 1806.

A total of seven convicts and that is just my maternal side of the family. Is this why my great grandmother didn't want to talk about her family?

Sources:

NSW State Records – Convicts
Biographical Database of Australia
Musters & General Musters of N.S.W. Books
Fellowship of First Fleeters

Wikitree

Trove Newspapers,
'Lloyd's Evening Post' London, England August 1792

Web Addresses:

www.convictrecords.com.au
www.australianroyalty.net.au
www.convictrecords.com.au
www.australianroyalty.net.au
www.familysearch.org,
www.ancestry.com
www.oldbaileyonline.org

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_elizabeth_1820.htm

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_ganges_1797.htm

<https://poi-australia.com.au/arrival-of-convict-ship-ganges/>

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_britania_1797.htm

[nia_1797.htm](https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_britania_1797.htm)

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_britania_1798.htm

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_rolia_1803.htm

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_william_and_anne.htm

https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/convict_ship_indispensable_1796.htm

WHO WERE THE ANCESTORS WHO MADE YOU –“YOU”

Invitation to the general public and group members to
an Open House & Afternoon Tea
2pm Saturday 01 April 2023

Come along and learn where to begin looking for those ancestors whose genes run through your veins.

Have an orientation of what we hold in our facility to help you begin or continue your journey into finding those ancestors who made you YOU.

Members, please bring a plate of afternoon tea to share and bring along a friend or acquaintance and introduce them to the exciting pastime of family history.

- MUMMULGUM PUBLIC SCHOOL – A BRIEF HISTORY –

Submitted by member Shirlee McPherson

Mummulgum is a small rural village in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales, Australia, 740 kilometres from the state capital, Sydney. Mummulgum is located on Shannon Brook between Tenterfield and Casino on the Bruxner Highway (Highway 44). It is 58 km south-west of Kyogle with the village and surrounding area being locally administered by Kyogle Council. The nearest large town is Casino which is 27 kilometres east of Mummulgum. (Courtesy Wikipedia)

The school at Mummulgum celebrated its centenary in 2001 and a detailed school history was produced, a copy of which is on our library shelves. It was researched and written by the then school principal Mr. Ian Spencer and edited by Enid Barber, Narelle Fuhrmann, Gwen Urquhart, Brenda Northfield, Joe Gibbins, Max Hiscocks and Bill Baker.

In the forward Ian Spencer writes "This book contains an array of personal family histories, photographs, and comment. We have included the origins of the school, and these are linked with the original timber getters who came to this area in the 1800s to fell the cedar along the Richmond River and then on the Cambridge Plateau. The name 'Mummulgum' itself originated from the Aboriginal phrase 'hoot of the owl'. In recent years the school has adopted the owl as a symbol. It is worn with pride on the school uniform, replacing the school motto, 'Manners Maketh Man'."



Our cover page features a school photograph taken of the pupils of Mummulgum School in 1922. It is the earliest known photograph of one of the school classes.

Teacher Jack O'Keefe was in charge. His students were: back row from left: Jack Furnaville, Dick Charlton, Cecil Adams, Ben Childs, Jack Toovey, Harry Handford, Walter Campbell and Fred Charlton.

Second row from left, Esther Mulholland, Ethel Bridge, Mabel Shirm, Mary Toovey, Ivy Rose, Ivy Bodley, Beryl Mason, Ethel Charlton, Mary McCabe, Rachel Mason; third row from left, Len Shirm, Lorna Charlton, Ella Toovey, Madge Childs, Elleen McCabe, Phyllis Handford, Hazel Handford, Dick Mulholland, Norm Charlton, Harry Childs; front row from left, Jack Nola, Ron Urquart, Gordon Wilson, Bob Bridge, Jerry Nolan and George Childs. Absent from the photograph were Jim Mason and Aub Bodley.

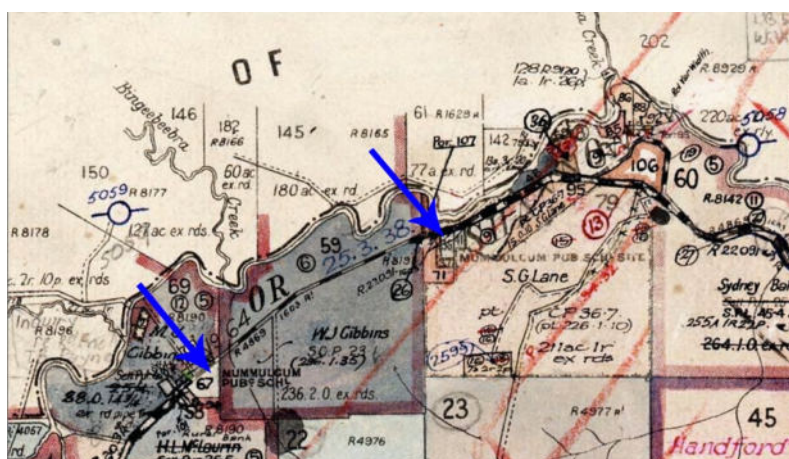
The school has had two locations in Mummulgum since it opened on 17 August 1901. A two-acre site, portion of 36, Parish of Mummulgum, County of Rous, was dedicated by December 1901 and 8 acres was reserved as a school paddock. Thomas Pidcock built a 20ft x 17 ft x 10ft building. He won the tender to build the school for 93 pounds.

The school opened with a range of attendance from 12-20 pupils. The reason for the second location of the school is explained in the centenary book. "During the early 1920s, there was considerable discussion as to the relocation of the school. In 1923 it was recommended that the school be relocated to 4 acres at the 18-mile peg as a Public Hall was to be erected at that point. It was thought that the 18-mile peg would be the future centre of the village's population. 4 acres of Block 4, Portion 58 (Soldier Settlement) on the Casino-Tenterfield Road would be set aside for the new school's location. The then teacher, Mr. Lickess, reported that with 37 children, the school building was totally inadequate and if moved to the 18-mile peg with the prospect of up to 50 children, a new and larger building would be required"



[1110] Sydney, 22nd August, 1924.
DEDICATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SITE.
 IT is hereby notified, for public information, that, in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Closes Settlement (Amendment) Act, 1911, the lands hereunder described shall be and are hereby dedicated for the purpose of a Public School Site.
 W. E. WEARNE, Minister for Lands.
 EASTERN DIVISION.
Mummulgum Public School Site.
 LAND DISTRICT OF CASINO; KYOGLE SHIRE.
 County of Rous, parish of Mummulgum, containing an area of 4 acres 2 roods 25 perches. The lands within portion 67. Plan 8,575-1,759.
 [Papers—Clo. Sett. 1924-3,662]

On the 14th February 1924 at a special public meeting the relocation site was unanimously approved of. On 22nd August 1924 the Government Gazette published the dedication of the new site. A school building was erected by builder Mark Edwards from Lismore at a cost of 734 pounds. It measured 27ft x 21.5ft with a verandah of 19ft x 8 ft. It was completed by 15th June 1925. A teacher's residence was also requested that same year and was ready for occupation on 1st October 1926.



This historic map shows the old and new locations of the Mummulgum School. Top arrow is the old school site and bottom arrow the new and current site. This is the only map I found where both sites are recorded together.

The school has had a variety of teachers, assistants and pupil numbers over the years.

Pupil attendance numbers often depended on what development was being undertaken in the district. For example, during 1930 construction had started on the railway bringing the attendance up to 65 with an additional 14 children being accommodated from the fettler's camps. By 1931 the attendance number rose to 81 with 5 more seeking admission. By 1936 enrolment had reached 114 due to an increasing number of workers building the district roads. Despite being a small school, some students excelled. In 1930 Joyce James and Finlay Urquart both won bursaries Joyce to Sydney Girls High School and Finlay to Lismore High School. School picnics, carnivals and concerts were well attended.

By the late 1930s the numbers began to drop and by the end of 1960 several small schools in the district closed including Hogarth Range and Theresa Creek with children from these schools transferring to Mummulgum. As a result, a school bus started operating. At the end of 2016 there were 17 enrolled students. In 2018 the annual report stated 23 pupils were enrolled. The 2020 enrolment varied from 17-12 students, and the 2021 enrolments showed there were only 14 pupils. It seems the school has gone full circle with student numbers from those early beginnings in 1901 to today.

However, despite the small numbers the school continues to thrive and survive and promotes itself as "a caring rural school supporting students to develop responsible committed members of society." For more info see: <https://mummulgum-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

USEFUL TIPS FOR NEW MEMBERS

Commence researching your family history tree from yourself and work back. Never try to work forwards.

1. Write down your correct name your birth date and place of birth
2. Write your father's full name and place of birth
3. Write your mother's full name birth date and place of birth
4. Then continue to your grandparents, great grandparent's etc.

After all these are written you can see what information you do not know. This will give you a starting point for your research.

It is well to always check your information with available resources because many times you will find information passed down may not always be correct. Names may be different, for example grandfather's name may have been Bill, and you will send him as William, when in fact you may find that he was really John William, and he always used his second name.

You may also find a birthplace to be different to what is thought. Grandma may have thought she was born in Casino, but in fact she was born in Lismore and always lived in Casino.

Civil registration of birth, marriages and deaths became compulsory at different periods in each state, before this the only records are of Parish registers all different churches.

Civil registration began in each Australian state on the following dates:

New South Wales	1st of March 1856
Victoria	1st of July 1853
Queensland	1st of March 1856 (still part of NSW)
South Australia	1st July 1842
Western Australia	9th September 1841
Tasmania	1st December 1888
Northern Territory	24th August 1879
Australian Capital Territory	1st of January 1930

If the names of your ancestors do not appear on the indexes of any state, look up shipping indexes to arrivals of assistant immigrants, or convict records, if their name is found on these indexes further information can be gained from the microfilm reels of shipping. Write down both numbers listed in the shipping indexes as each film contains different information.

DON'T ANNOY US SENIORS — Reproduced from Lachlan Valley Gold, page 7

The old lady handed her bank card to a bank teller and said, "I would like to withdraw \$10.00." The teller told her, "For withdrawals less than \$100.00 please use the ATM." The lady wanted to know why. The teller returned her bank card and irritably told her, "These are the rules. Please leave if there is no other matter. There is a line of customers behind you." The old lady remained silent for a few seconds, then handed the card back to the teller and said, "Please help me withdraw all the money I have." The teller was astounded when she checked the account balance. She nodded her head, leaned down and respectfully told her, "You have \$300,000.00 in your account. And the bank doesn't have that much cash currently. Could you make an appointment and come again tomorrow?" The old lady asked how much she could withdraw immediately. The teller told her any amount up to \$3000.00. "Well, please let me have \$3000.00 now," she said. The teller then handed it very friendly and respectfully to her. The old lady put \$10.00 in her purse and asked the teller to deposit \$2990 back into her account. The moral of this tale...

Don't be difficult with old people, they've spent a lifetime learning these skills!!

WORLD WAR 2 & LONDON – TWO LETTERS

LETTER 1. – FROM THE CHILDREN'S COLUMN in the *Northern Star*, 11 February 1939, page 12

PRIZE LETTER - Written by Irene Starr, Stratheden, Via Casino. 29/1/39.

My Dear Aunt Kath, - You will no doubt be thinking I have forgotten the page as it is over a year since I have written. But although I haven't written I always read the page. Since I last wrote I have left school, and for the past year have been attending the Lismore Technical Dressmaking College. I saw in the "Star" that I was successful in the examination, so I shall be going again this year.

How did you enjoy Christmas and New Year? We all had a very enjoyable one here. We received a few parcels through the mail for Christmas. The main one was from an auntie and uncle who have (just before Christmas) returned from a business trip abroad. It contained a bracelet and miniature picture of Westminster Abbey for myself and other nice things for each of us. These presents were purchased at different places in the world, so we value our presents very much. I think perhaps you would like to hear a little more about the war we nearly had with Germany, so I will try to tell you as auntie told me. My auntie and uncle were in London at the time of the "war scare," and school children and their teachers and lots of people (auntie and uncle as well) went out into the country for safety. Auntie said we were only two hours off a war with Germany— but the British Prime Minister, Mr Chamberlain, [Neville Chamberlain 1937-1940] made three trips over to see Herr Hitler and on the final trip they came to an agreement.



Men digging trenches for air-raid shelters in a London park.

Meanwhile in London everything was in readiness for the war; trenches were dug in all the parks and gardens. Auntie said it quite spoilt the look of everything. They also had a "balloon barrage," that is, they put up balloons full of gas about 30 feet long and 50ft. in diameter all around London and hung long cables from them. The idea was to protect London from air raids— like dropping a net around London; then enemy ships (aeroplanes) would get caught in them! Auntie said it was quite a sight to see. I think it would be, too. Don't you. Aunt Kath?

When the Prime Minister returned and announced that he had come to an agreement with Hitler, all England rejoiced, and the school children came back to live in London again; and so "Old Merry England" settled down once more.

When the "war-scare" was over auntie and uncle began to enjoy themselves. They did something that not everyone does, and that was to go down the Thames in a ferry boat. They said it was wonderfully interesting to see the various ships and the river crowded with boats of all kinds and doing every kind of job. They also saw the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. Such a form and ceremony every time the guard is changed. Auntie also said in her letter that everywhere you go there's someone in uniform of some sort or another. She said also that no other place in world has such a lot of old world customs and traditions. Some of the things they did years ago, they still do.

When it started to get cold there the people started getting ready for their long winter. They painted posts and edges of platforms white, so that they would show up in the heavy fog. It seems funny for me to be writing about winter and fogs when we are having such a hot and dry summer. Auntie said it rained quite a lot when they were over there and about November it began to get very cold and auntie and uncle were glad to sail home to "sunny Australia" in October, for, after all, there's "no place like home." Well. Auntie, I must close, with best wishes and love from - IRENE STARR.



Barrage balloons over London WW2. Buckingham Palace and the Victoria Memorial can be seen in the middle



Children wearing ID labels being checked and prepared for evacuation from London WW2

LETTER 2. I CAME ACROSS THIS NEXT LETTER IN OUR FILES SUBMITTED BY A PAST MEMBER

"Olga Baglin Member No: 16 - This letter was written by my husband Ken's uncle to his friend in Perth"

Western Mail, Perth WA 20th May 1941 Page 7 – CHURCHILL AN INSPIRATION

This letter was written by Mr Lindsay J Baglin who is now in England to a friend in Perth.

I have had some great experiences. Over here one is in the frontline at times, at least he reckons he is when he is in London at night when there is a heavy raid on. I have spent many nights in London during the last three months. About 6 weeks ago, I spent the night at the Bedford Hotel Southampton Row, and "Jerry" sent 500 planes over. Things were thick and heavy, and one could hear the bombs swishing down. One wondered which one had his ticket on. However, I came out unscathed. What intrigues me about the business is, with the amount of stuff that they throw up at them, that so few planes get brought down. The sky is full of bursting shells.

I spent a Saturday night in Southampton. I got out next day and showed good judgement as "Jerry" turned it on again on the Sunday night. I shall never forget it. Early in the night, the planes that came over first dropped flares, and these lit the place up like day. These flares were a marvellous site. I have never seen anything in the sky so beautiful. As soon as flares had lit the place up, oncoming waves of planes began to throw hundreds of bombs down. I was staying at Netley alongside Southampton Water.



A Henikel He 111 bomber over the Surrey Commercial Docks in South London and Wapping and the Isle of Dogs East End London



A 3.7-inch gun on a travelling carriage, London 1939

There was a battery of six inch naval guns nearby and the roar of them was terrifying a times.

At midnight "Jerry" flared over these and had a go at them but the guns were too hot and they gave it up. One plane dived over a house and dropped two pills and the guns threw six shells at him. I thought the end of the world had come.

The Luftwaffe by daytime. I have seen a few air scraps, and the Spitfires and the Hurricanes put it all over them. One day there was a big air battle over Heybridge where I have been working. So much happened, but one could never describe it in full. Another day I saw one of our fighters give five "Jerry" bombers a beating.

The RAF have mastered the



Three children sitting on the rubble of their home in London after it was destroyed during an air-raid

Life goes on normally in London. I have seen a lot of London lately and can safely say that not 2% of it is down. It is amazing that with the continual bombing that it has had that it is not half down. In places the damage is terrific, but one can travel miles in other places and hardly see a brick out of place. The people are wonderful.

No friend, there is no panic or fear. The whole nation has its tail right up thanks chiefly to the greatest of all time Winston Churchill [1940-1945,1951-1955]. He has been the inspiration and never has England had a man who has been so respected, admired and loved. I have travelled a lot here. I spent a month touring the country in a car and not once did I hear a complaint about Churchill. Not even in areas that had been bombed out. Never has a nation taken such a battering and stood behind it's leader like this nation has.



When he stood before the House of Commons and said, "I have nothing but blood, toil and sweat to offer you." Everybody said, "If that is good enough for Churchill it is good enough for me." England has produced some great men but none as great as this one. Last night he spoke to the Italians. You should have heard the workers in the factory today. They were thrilled to the backbone it was the best "Christmas Box" they could have had to hear him speak.



Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill left speaking with intent and above inspecting an anti-aircraft gun and its crew in London 17 October 1941

I have seen some of our bombers. At present they are building three new types, these three are beauties. I have worked on a bench on aircraft components just for experience, etc. It is interesting work. Occasionally I have day or so free when I do, I go after experience. Since I started on this letter I have received "The Western Mail." It was very thoughtful of you to send it. I have passed it around here and it is very popular. The people here are tickled pink over the Aussies in Libya. They consider the Aussies the world's best scrappers and it is a source of great satisfaction that the Italians have had to face them.

WW2 LONDON BLITZ - FURTHER RESEARCH AND READING WEB LINKS

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/evacuees/>

<https://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/collections/stories/war/evacuation>

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/the-evacuated-children-of-the-second-world-war>

https://search.lma.gov.uk/rg_pdf_creator/index.php?research_guide=56

<https://history.blog.gov.uk/2019/08/30/child-evacuees-in-the-second-world-war-operation-pied-piper-at-80/>

[https://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/RESEARCH GUIDES/web_detail rg/SISN+56?SESSIONS EARCH](https://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/RESEARCH_GUIDES/web_detail_rg/SISN+56?SESSIONS EARCH)

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/research/tracing-your-family-history/second-world-war-home-front-family-history/evacuees>

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Blitz

<https://findmypast.co.uk/1939register/barrage-balloons>

www.iwm.org.uk/history/how-churchill-led-britain-to-victory-in-the-second-world-war

MEMBER'S NOTICE BOARD – Feb 2023 - May 2023

- 1 March & onwards – Every Friday: Research Room will be CLOSED
- 8 March – Annual General Meeting – 10.00am
- 1 April - Open Day at Rooms – Saturday - 2pm with Afternoon Tea (setup 1.30pm)
- 12 April - General Meeting – Wednesday - 10am & Speaker “Driving for the over 65’s”
- 17 April – Excursion to Mara Seeds, Mallanganee – Details TBA
- 28 April – Workshop on Google Maps for Family History – 10am
- 3 May – Please return sold tickets for Mother’s Day Raffle
- 10 May - General Meeting – Wednesday - 10am & Webinar: Topic TBA
- 10 May - Mother’s Day Raffle to be drawn.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES – General Information

(per family name e.g.: Mr and Mrs Smith and children)

\$25 for initial enquiry using resources available at rooms with 10 photocopies included in initial fee.

You will be advised of any additional information available over the fee with extra photocopies charged at 20 cents per page. Please supply basic information i.e., BDM dates and parents if known. Inform research officer **exactly** what you are looking for and what you already know so time is not wasted doubling up on research.

Research will not be undertaken until research fee is received. Research may take 4-6 weeks depending on number of enquiries received and availability of the research team.

Research where reference given from book or newsletter: \$5.00 includes 2 photocopies – 20 cents each for any additional pages.

MEMBERSHIPS - We welcome new member Cyril Harris to our group.

Reminder: Memberships 2023 are due by 31st March 2023. Members can forward membership payments by post, email or deliver to the rooms. If paying by electronic transfer, (EFT) use your surname as a reference and/or your membership number. Please return your membership form either by email, post or drop it into the rooms. Be sure you mark which age group you are in, for insurance purposes and consider being on roster. It's good way to learn more about the resources we have in the rooms. All new members are invited to come to the rooms and find out how we can help you with your research. Workshops and meetings, often followed by interesting talks. Hope to see you there. – *Kaylene Morris – Membership Secretary*

A \$40 payment was made to our FHG Account on 13/12/22. No name was included. Please contact Kaylene

Research Inquiry:

Michael:- is looking for information on Daniel Joseph Banditt Simpkins b. 1910 d. 1989. Daniel's parents were Herbert Forster Simpkins & Albertine Augusta Martha Bertha Banditt. He would like to find information on Daniel's siblings, and anything their descendants may know about Daniel.

Ingrid:- looking for information on Jonathon R Sewell and his wife Hannah Elizabeth Lawrence/Lawrance. They were living in Casino area in the 1880's. Ingrid would like to know if Joseph William Roberts lived in the area at the same time.

If you can help with these enquiries please contact our group, and we can pass your information to the relative person. - *Kaylene Morris – Research Officer*

ROSTER

It is the Roster person's responsibility to find a replacement if they cannot do their roster. If you cannot get a replacement for your roster, please ring the rooms or ring Cheryl on 0490149905 and leave a message as soon as you know you cannot do it.

WE URGENTLY NEED ROSTER PEOPLE. We will place you with an experienced person.

MARCH

Wed 1: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer	Thurs 2: C Mison, Y Downes, L Reynolds
Fri 3: CLOSED	Sat 4: CLOSED
Tues 7: R Nesbitt, P McDonald	Wed 8: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer
Thurs 9: N Cowen, J Rowe, C Houlihan	Fri 10: CLOSED
Sat 11: CLOSED	Tues 14: Y Stevenson, N Cowen, M Goodlad
Wed 15: R Nesbitt, J Griffiths	Thurs 16: K Francis, H Elford
Fri 17: CLOSED	Sat 18: L Yates, G Rooney
Tues 21: K Morris, J Gorry	Wed 22: R Nesbitt, C Mison
Thurs 23: B Hollis, J Wilton	Fri 24: CLOSED
Sat 25: CLOSED	Tues 28: K Morris, R Birmingham
Wed 29: B Hollis, C Mison	Thurs 30: N Cowen, C Houlihan, J Rowe
Fri 31: CLOSED	

APRIL

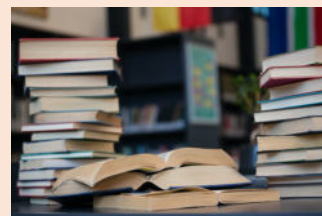
Tues 4: R Nesbitt, P McDonald	Wed 5: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer
Thurs 6: C Mison, Y Downes, L Reynolds	Fri 7: CLOSED
Sat 8: CLOSED	Tues 11: Y Stevenson, N Cowen, M Goodlad
Wed 12: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer	Thurs 13: N Cowen, C Houlihan, J Rowe
Fri 14: CLOSED	Sat 15: CLOSED
Tues 18: J Gorry, K Morris	Wed 19: R Nesbitt, J Griffiths
Thurs 20: K Francis, H Elford	FRI 21: L Yates, G Rooney
Sat 22: CLOSED	Tues 25: K Morris, R Birmingham
Wed 26: R Nesbitt, C Mison	Thurs 27: B Hollis, J Wilton
Fri 28: CLOSED	Sat 29: CLOSED

MAY

Tues 2: R Nesbitt, P McDonald	Wed 3: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer
Thurs 4: C Mison, Y Downes, L Reynolds	Fri 5: CLOSED
Sat 6: CLOSED	Tues 9: Y Stevenson, N Cowen, M Goodlad
Wed 10: M Goodlad, C Houlihan, G McAteer	Thurs 11: N Cowen, C Houlihan, J Rowe
Fri 12: CLOSED	Sat 13: CLOSED
Tues 16: K Morris, J Gorry	Wed 17: R Nesbitt, J Griffiths
Thurs 18: H Elford, K Francis	Fri 19: CLOSED
Sat 20: L Yates, G Rooney	Tues 23: K Morris, R Birmingham
Wed 24: C Mison, R Nesbitt	Thurs 25: B Hollis, J Wilton
Fri 26: CLOSED	Sat 27: CLOSED
Tues 30: Y Stevenson, N Cowen, M Goodlad	Wed 31: B Hollis, C Mison

NEW BOOKS ON OUR SHELVES

<p>Schools of the Upper Clarence Primary Schools of the Casino District Small Schools of the Kyogle District Photo of Casino District Casino Council Minutes 1880 Who's Been Living in my Moruya Street. Municipality of Casino Roll of Electors 1991 Gold Gold - Diary of Claus Gronn - A Dane on the Diggings Monumental Inscriptions of Cowra Cemetery 2018 Woodburn Cemetery Churchyard on the Hill - St Anne's at Ryde, NSW West Dapto Catholic Cemetery - The Early Families Part 1/2</p>	<p>Branches of the Cedar Tree - Lebanese on the North Coast NSW Northern Rivers - The Pioneering Years Tulloona 1849 – 1988 (Station) Pears Creek School - 125 years Down the Track Wilson's Creek Commemoration - School 75th Anniversary 1980 Those who Served - Surf Lifesavers at War</p>
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PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Postage

Under 500 gms = \$9.00 p&h per book
Over 500gms & under 3kg - \$15.00 p&h for up to 2 books (If ordering more than 2 books contact group for postage costs)

All prices include GST

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery

Books – Weight under 500gms

Coraki Deaths & Burials - \$25.00

West of the Range Cemeteries - \$20.00

Woodburn Cemetery - \$15.00

Recipe Book – 98 pages 400 recipes - \$15.00

Yorklea Public School 1894-1994 - \$5.00

Books – Weight over 500gms & under 3kg

Casino West St Cemetery - \$37.50

Casino Lawn Cemetery - \$37.00

Casino & District Pioneer Register Pre-1900 - \$37.50

Casino & District Pre 1925 Pioneer Register - \$37.50

Casino & District Family History Group CORPORATE MEMBERS

- Gill Engineering
- Casino Medical Centre
- F. Kwong Sing & Co Pty Ltd
- Pinkerton's Hourglass Jewellers
- Casino Pest Control **NEW MEMBER**

Please support our Corporate Members

SECOND-HAND BOOKS FOR SALE

A Place by the River – Part 2 1920-1989	\$5.00
Bridges of Fairymount	\$5.00
Casino - The Rocky Crossing Meeting Place 1855 -2012	\$50.00
Casino School Magazine – Onward 1998	\$2.00
Casino Show – 100 Years	\$10.00
Cheshire's Modern Real Property	\$2.00
Directory of Art & Archaeology	\$3.00
Family History Research Manager	\$3.00

"It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors."

Author: - Plutarch

"May you embrace all the rich legacies of your heritage."

Author: Irish Blessing

"May the roots of your family tree grow deep and strong."

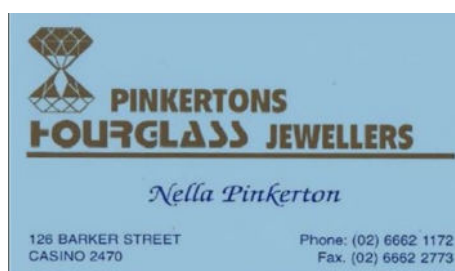
Author: Irish Blessing



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Fax: (03) 9338 3380

Email: sales@gillengineering.com.au

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Casino Medical Centre

Contact Us

☎ 0266621555

🕒 Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:30pm

📍 144 Canterbury Street Casino NSW
2470

