



Newsletter
of the
Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society

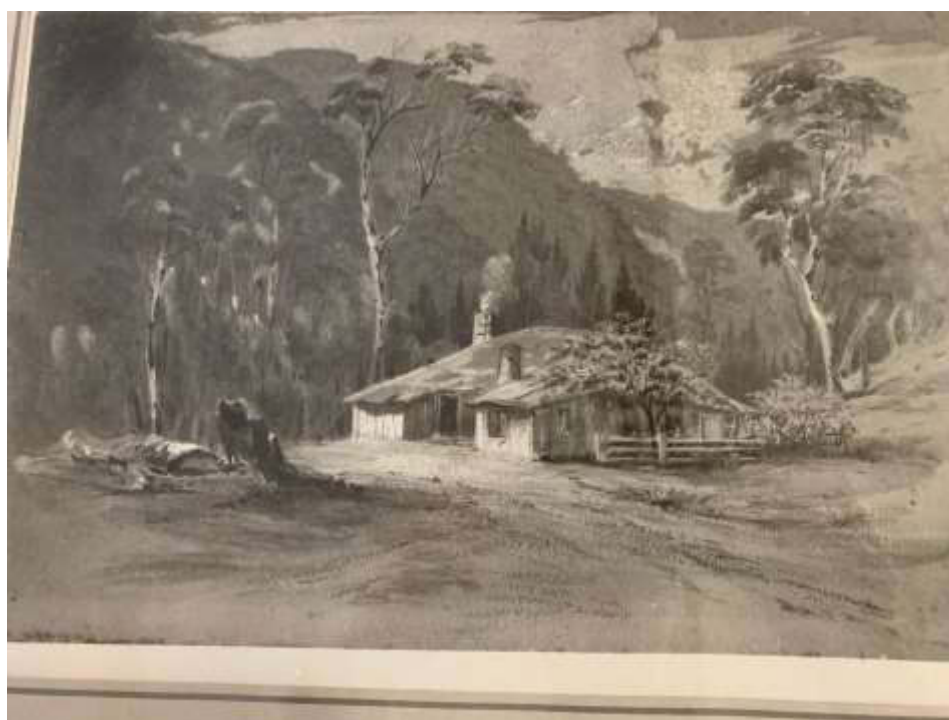
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Painting of "Coomerlogue" said to be by Conrad Martens

Committee Elected in February 2022

President:	Carolyn Carter	Treasurer:	Ann Bailey
Vice President:	Margaret MacDougall	Committee	Jayne Webster
Secretary:	Dianne Walmsley	Committee:	Val Ray
Committee	Carol Ray	Committee:	Melissa MacDougall
Committee	Donald MacDougall		

Membership of the Society – is open to everyone who is interested in Local or Family History. Subscriptions are \$20.00 for singles and \$35.00 joint membership (same address) per calendar year (January to December). Financial member's names are listed in the newsletter following the receipt of their payment.

The Historical Museum – is open every Wednesday from 9.30am to 2.30pm and every Sunday between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. There is always an interesting historical display on view with many items connected to Scone's history.

The Museum is housed in the original Police Station and Lock-up. The displays are regularly changed.

Entry fees – Adults \$5.00 and Children \$1.

The Sergeant's Residence Research Centre

Adjacent to the Museum, the Research Centre is open every Wednesday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. We have extensive resources available and there will be someone to assist you during your visit. You do not have to make an appointment to do your research. Research fees are \$20.00 for Non-member's and \$5.00 for Member; plus photocopying costs at 25cents per sheet if you are researching in person.

Research Requests

Research will also be undertaken by correspondence the fee will be \$25.00 which includes up to 20 pages of photocopying and standard postage.

Please email the society at sconehistorical@yahoo.com.au.

For these requests, clearly outline what it is you want researched. Our researcher will check our files and advise if we can help you and let you know then commence the research when the research fee is paid.

Our mailing address is PO Box 339 Scone NSW 2337. Please mark all enquires to "Attention Researcher" or "Attention Secretary".

Our Webpage can be found at:

SconeHistorical.org.au

Scone Historical Society banking details are –

All payments either for Membership or Research can be paid by direct deposit into our bank

**** Reminder ** : to only use the New Bank Account details –**

Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society
BSB: 932 000 Account Number: 787562

Please put your name and initials and "M'ship" or "Research" as a reference.

Or you can pay by cheque or cash.

New Members are always most welcome. Forms to become a member are available on our webpage or from the Secretary upon request.

Publication

The Society has published numerous historical books pertaining to Scone and the district. A list of titles is available on our webpage or contact the Secretary for a full list of titles and prices.

Sense of Place Case

The Historical Society has a small interesting display of historical items pertaining to the Scone area at the Scone Library.

Please take time to have a look when you are next at or near the library. It is changed regularly.

Life Members:

Miss E Davies, Mrs A Entwistle, Mrs A Miles, Mrs M MacDougall.

New Members since June 2023

We are very reliant on members' subscriptions to cover our running costs so we thank you wholeheartedly for your support.

Bell, Mrs D

Bishop, Mr A & Mrs A

Rowney, Mr D (new)

Ariel, Mr H (new)

Palmer, Mrs E

Posa, Ms L

Donations – The Scone and Upper Hunter Historical Society would like to thank everyone who has made a donation of any kind, whether cash or items to be used in the Museum or Research Centre.

We are always grateful for any donations; no matter how small.

Tell us your story

We know that there are many members who have some very interesting local history stories to tell and we invite you share them with others through our Newsletter.

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

Since our last Newsletter we have continued to prepare for the construction of our new storage shed. Unfortunately we are still at the stage of preparing all the paperwork necessary to lodge an application for a Construction Certificate which these days has to be done online through a State-wide Planning portal. Staff at the Upper Hunter Shire Council have been very supportive in this and we are getting close to sending the documents through.

We have been successful in gaining a Micro Grant from ARTS Upper Hunter to run a workshop on managing museum collections. We still need just a bit more money to pay for the consultant and anticipate that a Cultural Activity Grant from the UHSC will provide this and that we can hold the workshop before the end of this year.

In our last Newsletter I mentioned that we were seeking permission to hold a book stall at the Gundy Soldier's Memorial Hall Centenary celebrations last July. This permission was granted and we had a very successful day selling some of our publications and other items surplus to our requirements. It also gave us the opportunity to engage with the people who came to participate in the celebrations, many of whom had travelled a great distance and were interested in local history and our work.

A part of the Official service was the presentation of a plaque and storyboard commemorating Lieutenant Ada Joyce Bridge, a nurse in the 2/13th Australian General Hospital, AIF in World War II. Joyce grew up on her parent's property 'Stoney Creek', at Belltrees and did her nursing training at St Luke's Hospital, Potts Point. She joined the Australian Army Nursing Service in April 1941 and was posted to the 2/13th AGH at Singapore in August 1941. When Singapore was invaded by the Japanese she was evacuated from there with 64 other Australian Nurses and civilians in February, 1942. The boat they were on was bombed by the Japanese as they made their way through the Bangka Straits off Indonesia. She and 21 other nurses made it to shore on Radji Beach, but tragically they were massacred by Japanese soldiers on 16th February 1942. Joyce's name does not appear on the WWII honour board at the Gundy Soldier's Memorial Hall, so the Scone & District CWA donated funds for the plaque and storyboard which were unveiled following a moving account of the massacre by Anne McPhee, Vice President, Scone & District CWA.



Anne McPhee & Lyn Tout (Scone C.W.A.) Barnaby Joyce M.P. unveiling the plaque.

The Glenbawn Museum Committee has continued to meet regularly and president, John O'Brien, CEO Arts Upper Hunter, has been able to make contact and get the involvement of people who have worked on the collection at various times over the last twenty years. This has involved developing an inventory of the items in the collection and/or preparing a significance assessment. A construction report on the building has been carried out by Reflections, who manage the Lake Glenbawn site. The structure is sound but work is needed on the drainage, the ceiling and eaves and some rust needs attention. The Committee has decided to apply for incorporation and to hold a workshop to develop a strategic plan by the end of this year – these things are necessary to attract any grants that might be available.

Entries for the Bishop's History have arrived and these will be assessed over the next few weeks. The presentation of the Bishop's History Awards will be held at the Old Court House Theatre on Wednesday 18th October at 4pm. This will be followed by afternoon tea on the Museum verandah. We are very grateful for the ongoing support of Mr Tony and Mrs Anne Bishop.

Recently the offer of a very generous donation was made to the Society by Mr Bruce Clydsdale who has “dedicated many years of research in Scotland (as well as Australia), writing an insightful history and background of the reasons so many Scots wanted to emigrate during the 19th Century.” Bruce has offered to donate some family portraits to our collection and also give a presentation of some of his family research at a function we are sponsoring at the Scone RSL Club on Wednesday, 8th November. Bruce is a descendant of the Rouchel branch of the Clydsdale family who have made (and continue to make) a significant contribution to the development and life of our local area. Please find an invitation to this function elsewhere in this Newsletter.

In this Newsletter we have also included the presentation I made at our ‘Shared Stories’ Luncheon in April this year. It is about my great, great grandmother Sarah Carter, nee Hollington, who was the original matriarch of the Stewarts Brook Carter family.

Carolyn Carter, Editor

SARAH CARTER nee HOLLINGTON

My great, great grandparents, Sarah and Robert Carter were among the earliest settlers at Stewarts Brook. Their eighth child, Henry Richard Carter, was born at ‘Belltrees’ in 1851, and their ninth child, Phoebe Emma Carter, was born on their property ‘Coomerlogue’ in October 1853 and it is said that she was the first white person to be born at Stewarts Brook. So, they settled in Stewarts Brook sometime between 1851 and 1853.

When my father and his sister got together, they enjoyed talking about ‘old times.’ One of the stories that was told was about where Robert and Sarah came from which went like this: Robert’s father was a Spaniard and Robert’s real name was Robert Juba and he had been a soldier helping to guard Napoleon when the latter was exiled on St Helena (I can’t remember how or why they said he came to Australia); as for Sarah, the Hollingtons were said to be descendants of the Huguenots (French protestants who were severely persecuted by Louis XIV from 1685 causing many to flee to England and other protestant countries in Europe) – again, nothing specific about how or why she came to Australia. That bit seemed to be a bit hazy.

Then in the early 1980s some of their descendants started doing some family history research, and guess what? Records showed that both Robert and Sarah were convicts and that’s why and how they came to Australia. Many of the older members of the family would not believe it and they took some convincing. Gone were the exotic stories of soldiers rubbing shoulders with Napoleon (although the Spanish connection and the name Juba might be true), and persecuted French people fleeing to England, and in their place: two thieves!

There is not enough time today to tell the stories of both Robert and Sarah, so I’m going to share with you what we know about Sarah.

Sarah was born Sarah King in the St Matthew's Workhouse at Bethnal Green in London East End on 3rd May, 1819 to Elizabeth King. Six years later, on 12th September, 1825, Elizabeth King married George Hollington. Sarah adopted her stepfather's name. At the age of 15, Sarah was working as a nursery maid for Robert Firman, Bethnal Green, when she was found guilty of stealing from "her master in his dwelling-house" 5 sovereigns and 8 half sovereigns. I do not know anything definite about Robert Firman, except at that time there was a Robert Firman associated with Firman & Sons in Drury Lane. This business made and sold brass buttons and was established in 1795.

Sarah was sentenced to transportation for life and imprisoned in Middlesex Gaol until she was shipped out. Convict records describe her as having a ruddy complexion, sandy hair, grey eyes and being 4ft 11inches in height. On the 3rd December, 1833 the ship 'Numa,' which was the ship that Sarah was being transported to Australia on, was due to depart from Portsmouth, but was held up by the bad weather and did not depart until 29th January 1834. The 'Numa' departed the Cape of Good Hope on 17th March, 1834, and reached Port Jackson on the 13th June, 1834. On board were 138 female convicts, 24 children and 18 tons of gunpowder for public service. It was recorded that 2 female convicts had died at sea during the voyage, and 3 were sick in hospital, one of whom eventually died.

'The Sydney Monitor' reported that "a draft of women of the 'Numa' were forwarded on the 'Sophia Jane' on Monday 30th June [1834] for distribution among the settlers on the Hunter River." Sarah Hollington was one of these women drafted. The "Sophia Jane" was a steamer (the first to sail in Sydney Harbour), it was reported that it could make the trip between Sydney and Newcastle in under 8 hours.

Families settled on the Hunter River were advised that if they were "in want of a female servant they could apply by the 26th June [1834] for prisoners from the 'Numa'. Assignees to enter engagement under penalty of 40/- to keep their servants for one month."

I have been able to find the names of three of the people to whom Sarah was assigned. The first one was a Mr Baker in Newcastle from December 1834 to February, 1835. I have been unable to find out any information about Mr Baker. On 22nd May, 1835 she was assigned to William Dun at Paterson. William Dun had arrived in Australia with his wife and daughters in December 1821. He had recommendations from Lord Bathurst, Secretary of State for Colonies, to be a free settler and be provided with a land grant proportionate to his means. He had made his selection by 1822, which was the first major land grant on the Paterson. He was assigned four convicts and supplies from the stores at Newcastle for his family and assigned convicts. His property was named 'Duninald'. One of his daughters, Frances, married Charles Reynolds of Tocal who later owned 'Duninald.' William Dun was declared insolvent in 1843 and died in Ipswich, Qld.

Sarah was readmitted to Newcastle Gaol in July, 1835. The third assignment that I have found for Sarah is to the Reverend George Augustus Middleton on the Paterson River on

15th November, 1836. Middleton had been appointed chaplain for Newcastle in 1821, and in July had “come overland into town. Accompanied by [a son of John Blaxland], some convict servants and 174 head of cattle.” (‘The Convict Valley’ by Mark Dunn). He had taken a different route to the one taken by John Howe whose route was roughly that of the Windsor Putty Road. Middleton’s route, which became known as the ‘Parson’s Road’ was roughly that of the Wiseman’s Ferry to Singleton Old North Road, and “it soon became the new favourite escaping route for convicts.” By the way, Reverend Middleton made “the first recorded visit by a chaplain to the Upper Hunter and [held] the first baptism” when he baptised William Elliott (son of John and Martha Elliott) 25th June 1825 at ‘Segenhoe.’

Before Sarah had been assigned to William Dun in May 1835, it is recorded that a convict named James Savage had applied to marry Sarah Hollington in April 1835. It is also recorded that Sarah had been returned to the government 6th May, 1835 as she was about to be married, but on 22nd May she was assigned to William Dun as described above. This marriage did not take place for some unknown reason. James Savage had been transported from Dublin for pickpocketing and arrived in Sydney on the ‘James Pattison’ in 1830. In records he is described as being a waiter in a public house. He was sent to Newcastle and assigned to John Smith, who owned a hotel on the corner on Watt and King Streets in Newcastle. John Smith was well known in Newcastle and accumulated several properties, and was known as ‘Gentleman John Smith.’ I have not found any further information on James Savage.

On March 2nd 1837, Sarah was given permission to marry Robert Carter, and the marriage ceremony took place at Maitland on 17th May, 1837 and was performed by Reverend G Rushen. Sarah was 18 and Robert was 34. How or where they met I don’t know, probably working on the same property. Sarah and Robert had thirteen children and they were all baptised in the Church of England, this makes it easier to work out the vicinity of where they were living although not the specific place. Their first child, Robert Hollington was born 28th May 1838 “Lower Wybong” is the place given in one record “Ridgelands” in another. “Ridgelands” is also given for the place of birth for their next five children born 1840 – 1847. In 1843, Sarah was given permission to remain at Merton, and September 1845 she was granted a Ticket of Leave. As many of you know, “Merton” was the name of the estate owned by William Ogilvie who settled there in 1826 and it became the name given to the Denman district in the early years of white settlement. Another document of the Carter family history records that Robert worked for “a Mr Pickering” at Wybong. This is probably referring to the property “Pickering” which was an estate established and owned by Captain John Pike who settled there in 1825. He was granted 2,000 acres and then given permission to purchase another 4,000 acres. In “Dawn in the Valley”, Allan Wood states that “Captain Pike was the first to take a dray to that part of the country and the track, which others followed, was called Captain Pike’s Road...Mrs Justine Pike was the first white woman and Mary Elizabeth was the first white girl to go to the Upper Hunter.” (p.66).

Sarah's seventh child, Charles Francis, is recorded as being born at Dartbrook October 6th 1849. Robert might have been working on 'Invermien,' but this is difficult to check as he was no longer a convict having received his Ticket of Freedom in 1831 and so his name does not appear on the list of convicts at "Invermien" at that time.

Family history records state that Sarah and Robert lived at Moonan for three years before moving to Stewarts Brook. Their eighth child, Henry Richard is recorded as being born at Belltrees in 1851. Just exactly where they lived at Moonan is not recorded.

Sarah's five youngest children are recorded as being born at Stewarts Brook at their first property "Coomerlogue" from 1853 to 1862, which make Sarah 43 years of age when she had last child. All thirteen of her children lived to adulthood, eight of her children were male and most of them bought property and settled in the Stewarts Brook area and other parts of the Upper Hunter. Of the five female children, only one, Phoebe Emma, married. Of the four who remained spinsters, Margaret (the second eldest child) died reasonably young in 1895, the other three: Sarah Harriet (Henrietta); Eleanor Justine; and Sophia lived at "Woomelguy" and are referred to in family history records as being referred to as "the Old Maids of 'Woomelguy'".



Site of "Woomelguy"

Sarah and Robert prospered at Stewarts Brook as did many of their descendants. Sarah died on 25th January, 1882 at 'Woomelguy' at the age of 62. Her death certificate records that she died of kidney disease, that the undertaker was William Caslick and that she was buried in a private cemetery on "Woomelguy." Robert died 7 years later on 30th January, 1889 at "Woomelguy" at the age of 89 and was also buried in the "Woomelguy" private cemetery. Where they are buried is now marked by a granite rock placed there by Carter descendants in 1989.



HISTORY IN THE MUSEUM

Recently a group who call themselves “The Golden Oldies” held a reunion in Scone to renew old friendships and reminisce about their time together as Apexians forty odd years ago. When we were alerted to this event we remembered that we hold some items from Scone Apex in our collection, in particular, a large shield which records the names of the Club Presidents from 1955 to 1997 and then 2005 to 2006.

According to an article in the September 14, 1995 edition of *The Scone Advocate*, the Scone Apex Club held it's first dinner on July 2nd 1955 and Barry Flint was elected the first President of the Club. The annual change over dinner on August 12, 1995 marked 40 years of service given by Apex to Scone and district, and it was the Club's 1000th dinner. The number 40 is very meaningful for Apexians as this is the age at which they traditionally retire from Apex.

At the 40th Anniversary dinner, five of the original charter members were in attendance: Fred Winter; Bob Johnson; Doug Hayes; Peter Marshall; and, Treath Rowney. Eighteen past Presidents were also in attendance and Steve Gowlland, who was retiring (having turned 40) was awarded senior active membership. The incoming President for 1995/1996, was Steve Lewer who addressed the dinner on “the need to increase membership, highlighting the Club ideals of friendship, service and personal development.” He also stated that he was “a strong supporter of women joining Apex and he congratulated the Club for being one of the first in NSW to have female associate members, and to have the Club's first female board member.” He also announced that Scone Apex Club had donated \$3,542 to various local organisations and several programs sponsored by Apex.

On the shield pictured below it shows that there appears to have been a hiatus for the Club between 1997 and 2005. The last President's name on the Shield is Brad Moran 2005 to 2006.



*Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society
invite you to*

“Shoebox Archives”

*Presentation by Bruce Clydsdale
of Clydsdale Family Portraits
and introduction to his book
soon to be published*

Wednesday 8th November, 2023

Scone R.S.L. Club Auditorium

11.30am for 12 noon

Light lunch

\$10.00 pay at door

Early bookings please. Phone 0476 471089
or email - sconehistorical@yahoo.com.au
R.S.V.P. by Wednesday 1st November