



President's Report

Greetings,

Another month of ups and downs as we await a number of decisions vital to our plans.

Disappointingly, our application for the Community Heritage Grant funding for a significance assessment of the archival collection has not been successful, citing the lack of a document that was definitely attached. We queried this and an apology was received but unfortunately no funds. We have negotiated with our preferred assessor who will undertake the task for a lesser amount when we can organise it.

I was invited to address the Yass Rotary Club dinner meeting last week on the subject of our archives where I gave a background to the importance of the archives, the situation we are now in, and how we plan to forge ahead. It allowed us to put the record straight.

The cloud hanging over all our plans is the NSW Government grant which we are assured is just a few weeks away. Other enquiries for funding to Yass Rotary, and the Yass Soldiers Club are being considered. Response for a volunteers grant through Federal Member Kristy McBain's office is due by 6 November.

The members of the Yass Antique Farm Machinery Club dropped by the museum again and shifted many of the heavier items which has allowed us to set up things for the auction on Saturday 18 November. They have done an incredible amount of lifting and carrying as have our members.

We have been fortunate to have our volunteers turn up week after week to ready the museum and the collection for its next phase. The collection has been assessed and items no longer required will be sold at the auction which yet another team of volunteers—auction professionals - have agreed to conduct for us. Members have checked, cleaned, sorted, tagged, listed and compiled a photographic record of the items being sold. Several display cases have already been sold with some interest in the remaining cases.

There is a lot happening for the society at present but not often do we have the opportunity to host a high ranking international parliamentarian who expressed a desire to visit a rural community during his Australian stay. We are honoured to host Minister Sean Fleming TD, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Irish Ambassador to Australia Mr Tim Mawe and party. We will hold a luncheon in Lovat Chapel on Wednesday 6 December. See overleaf for further details.

Once again we are very grateful for further significant donations that have been made this past month— it is very much appreciated. My sincere thanks to all concerned for their generosity during what has been a very concerning time for the committee .

Please note the change of venue for our **next meeting—Monday 6 November at 2pm at the museum** for an auction preview.

Cheryl Mongan
President

Auction Sat 18 Nov

Jump ahead of the auction queue by attending our meeting at the museum on Monday 6 November. We have also extended out viewing hours the day before the auction to give more people the opportunity to see what is for sale. We will open the museum on Friday 17 November from 11am to 2pm and 5pm to 7pm and on Saturday 18 November from 9am with the auction now commencing at 11am. Bidders are encouraged to register before the auction begins. Full details along with a brief catalogue will be sent to all members and will also be available on our website and Facebook page. To answer questions as to why we are selling items from the collection there will be a slide show set up in the front part of the museum—it will explain to non-members why we are holding an auction without us having to repeat the reasons multiple times.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- ◆ **Monday 6 November**
Monthly meeting
Museum—sale preview
- ◆ **Saturday 18 November**
De-accessioned objects
Auction 11.00am.
- ◆ **Monday 4 December**
Annual General Meeting
Uniting Church Hall 2pm
Speaker to be advised
- ◆ **Wednesday 6 December**
'Celebrating our Irish'
Luncheon, Lovat Chapel
12.30pm - see overleaf
for further details

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OUR SOCIETY VALUES THE SUPPORT OF

yass valley council

the country the people

**Museums
& Galleries
of NSW**



Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources.



IRISHMAN SEAN FLEMING TD, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILL BE OUR GUEST AT OUR END OF YEAR GATHERING ON 6 DECEMBER
[EMBASSY OF IRELAND]



IRISH AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA TIM MAWE WILL ACCOMPANY MINISTER FLEMING ON HIS YASS VISIT.
[EMBASSY OF IRELAND]



THE NATIONAL TRUST'S MANAGER OF COLLECTIONS REBECCA PINCHIN TAKING DELIVERY OF A PAIR OF DEMI-LUNE TABLES THAT ONCE BELONGED TO HAMILTON HUME FROM PRESIDENT CHERYL MONGAN
[JUDITH DAVIDSON]

Celebrating our Irish

This year our *End of Year Gathering* will take a different format with a luncheon in Lovat Chapel. As mentioned in my report overleaf we are privileged to host Minister Sean Fleming TD, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs responsible for International Development and Diaspora and the Irish Ambassador Tim Mawe on Wednesday 6 December at 12.30pm.

The Irish government ensures the welfare of the Irish (and those of Irish heritage) abroad, promoting and celebrating the diversity of the diaspora* through developing mutually beneficial economic ties and supporting cultural expression.

Ambassador Mawe and his wife Ms Patricia McCarthy attended our *Return to Tipperary* seminar at Galong last year and are well aware of our commitment to history and the strong Irish presence in Yass Valley where almost half the early settlers in the Yass Police District were of Irish descent.

There is no more Irish connected venue in Yass than Lovat Chapel largely built by Irish parishioners—emancipated convicts, publicans, doctors, solicitors, teachers, businessmen, settlers and their families. It is not only a fitting venue but one with great atmosphere and items of Irish interest from our collection will be on display.

There will be a two course luncheon and refreshments served up with helpings of Irish music, poetry from Yass' own renowned poet Fr Patrick Hartigan—John O'Brien of *Around the Boree Log* fame and several presentations providing historical context. Both Minister Fleming and Ambassador Mawe will speak during the luncheon.

We expect this to be a popular event and suggest that you book as soon as possible. Reservations can be made via a link in our email that will be sent to you early next week.

Cost for members is \$35.00 (a discount of \$5.00 per person) and first option to book before opening the event to members of kindred societies and the public. Bookings will be confirmed by email after payment is made to our bank account as directed. Please ensure you state any dietary requirements on the booking form. Closing date for reservations is 30 November.

Contact Cheryl if you have queries about the event on 0413 312 081

Hume tables go home!

Whilst the Hume collection of furniture is owned by the Yass and District Historical Society it has been decided to loan the two demi lune tables which have been on display in the Museum to *Cooma Cottage*, the former home of Hamilton Hume. As part of the general downsizing of the Museum collection quite a few articles are going home!

The Hume furniture was given to the Society by descendants of the Hume family in the 1980s. Although Hamilton Hume and his wife Elizabeth didn't have any children, Hamilton very generously set up his brothers with extensive land grants and purchases he had been able to obtain as rewards for his exploring endeavours. It is via this extended family and their descendants that the Society came into possession of this valuable collection.

Other parts of the Hume furniture collection have already been housed at *Cooma Cottage* under a bi-annual loan agreement between the National Trust and the YDHS. The tables had previously been at *Cooma Cottage* but were recalled for display in our *Fifty Treasures* exhibition will now, very appropriately, join the collection and be on displayed at *Cooma Cottage* under the careful guardianship of the National Trust. The official loan papers and the tables were handed to Ms Rebecca Pinchin, Manager of Collections for the National Trust, by President Cheryl on Wednesday.

Judith Davidson

Hume Furniture restoration

Long overdue restoration of the Hume furniture on loan to the National Trust at *Cooma Cottage* is planned for the near future.

Rebecca Pinchin has asked that we provide a letter of support for the Trust to source funding through the Copeland Foundation to finance work to be carried out by well known Sydney business International Conservation Services. We are awaiting a report from the company as to what work is necessary and what can be undertaken. The society itself is not in a position to fund the work which will be a considerable sum if we had to find the money ourselves.

The work will not only add to the long term preservation of the furniture but by removing old finishes that were applied before we acquired the furniture improve its appearance and value.

Many happy returns

Over the years numbers of objects were loaned to the museum and we have endeavoured to return them wherever possible. The miniature farmyard, shearing shed and wool wagon that was assembled by Life Member Bert Thompson has been returned to his family as we are at present unable to display the items.

Prints that we have stored for years have been returned to the Yass Soldiers Club from whence they came in poor condition some three decades ago. The artworks could never have been displayed without extensive restoration and that is what will happen as part of the refurbishment of the club in the next year. A portrait that was loaned by the Goulburn Historical Society in 1980 will be returning to the newly refurbished St Clair in time for their 'soft' opening on the weekend of 18/19 November.

Items from St Augustine's Catholic Church and St Clement's Anglican Church which were on display in the churches exhibition have also been returned as has a hand stitched tapestry seated chair from the Uniting Church. Unfortunately the Cornish pump organ that once accompanied the voices of parishioners at St Mary's Church, Mundoonan will not be so lucky. St Clement's have advised us that they do not wish to have the organ back and it will be sold at the auction on Sat 18 November. So if you fancy a little music and exercise while remaining seated this could be the instrument for you.

Boots and all!

Well not quite. Items relevant to our Yass Valley history have been carefully returned to the store room.

The deaccessioning of Museum items however has resulted in a very eclectic collection of items for sale at the auction on November 18. Much cleaning sorting, labelling and cataloguing has been done. Publicity and organisation for the big day are also underway.

Members are encouraged to come to the viewing on Friday 17 November from 11.00am until 2.00pm and between 5pm and 7pm, or the auction day Saturday 18 starting from 9.00am and bring their friends and family who might just find that fascinating object they never knew they wanted.

October Meeting

We were absolutely delighted with the number of members, guests and the public who attended our October meeting to hear Cameron Archer speak about his forthcoming publication on the Cavan area.

It was clear from those who attended that when families and locations are mentioned in presentations that descendants and neighbours find these of interest. Our archive volunteers were happy to assist Cameron with images and information for the book, which has grown somewhat larger than originally intended and we look forward to its release in the near future.



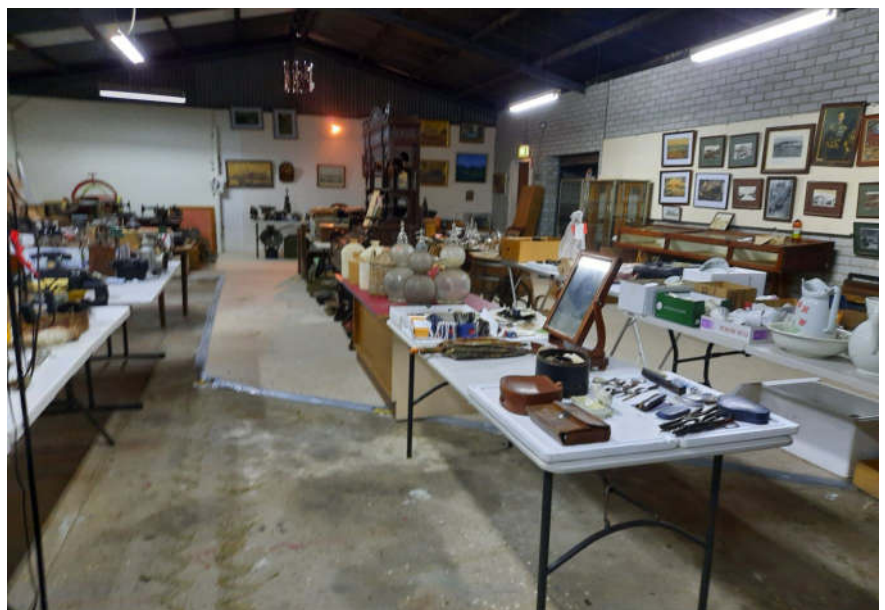
BOOTS AND LEATHER ITEMS ARE TO GO TO AUCTION ON 18 NOVEMBER.
[JUDITH DAVIDSON]



VICE PRESIDENT JUDITH DAVIDSON PRESENTED MEMBER CAMERON ARCHER WITH A GIFT FOLLOWING HIS PRESENTATION AT OUR OCTOBER MEETING. [CHERYL MONGAN]



READY TO BE A UNIQUE ADDITION TO YOUR HOME. [CHERYL MONGAN]



READY FOR THE AUCTION ON SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER. [CHERYL MONGAN]

Mail: P O Box 304, Yass NSW 2582
 Museum: 247A Comur Street, Yass
 GPS -34.846457, 148.914576
 Archives: former ambulance station
 88 Meehan Street, Yass
 GPS -34.84183, 148.91211
 Phone: 0413 312 081 (President)
 0450 338 379 (Vice Pres)
 6226 2132 (Vice Pres)
 (Secretary)
 E-mail: info@yasshistory.org.au

Seen this view of Yass?



FORERUNNER TO THE YASS ANTIQUE FARM MACHINERY CLUB? E.O. MOORE & CO WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THE TENT WERE ADVERTISING MOTOR VEHICLES IN YASS WAY BACK IN 1915. (YDHS ARCHIVES)

Find us on the web

www.yasshistory.org.au

Benefits of Membership

Benefits of membership include informative speakers at our meetings, digital copies of our journal *Boongaroon* and newsletters, talks, trips, access to archival information and museum entrance plus reduced rates for selected activities such as seminars, our conferences, trips and events.

We are still need books!

Further donations of pre-loved family and local history are always welcome. The sale of these books generate much needed income for the society. During the last month we had donations from Diana MacQuillan. Bring your books to meetings or call Cheryl Mongan 0413 312 081 to arrange for collection.

PATRON

Marion McCarthy

ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS

President: Cheryl Mongan
 Vice President: Judith Davidson
 Nola Bindon
 Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: Tanya Cullen
 Publicity Officer: Vacant
 Museum Coordinator: Vacant
 Archives Coordinator: Maureen Collins
 Public Officer: Rosalie Bush



Yass & District Historical Society Inc is affiliated with the Museums Australia & Royal Australian Historical Society

New members

We are very pleased to extend a warm welcome to our new members Jeremy Sullivan, Camille Kersley, Bill Phillips and Liz Biggs who joined us this month. We hope that they will enjoy their association with the Society.

Boongaroon

Compiling an interesting edition of our journal is almost always a challenge. While our focus is on local history we must not lose sight of the fact that it does tie into the bigger picture of national and even global history. Immigration, punishment, wars, pandemics, natural disasters, politics, depressions, adverse weather conditions and a host of other factors occurring elsewhere can have significant impacts on our local history. If you have a story to tell we would like to hear from you.

We welcome stories, articles, book reviews and other items of interest (up to 2,500 words) for publication. Longer articles will be considered but may be published in two parts. *Boongaroon* is posted or a digital copy emailed to all members according to their preference. Articles for the next issue are required by the end of February but if you have a work in progress please contact Cheryl Mongan 0413 312 081 email boongaroon@yasshistory.org.au

Diary Dates

November 2023

Mon 6	Monthly Meeting 2pm
Tues 7	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 14	Archives 2-5pm
Sat 18	Auction Sale 11am-4pm
Tues 21	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 28	Archives 2-5pm

December 2023

Mon 4	Annual General Meeting 2pm
Tues 5	Archives 2-5pm
Wed 6	Luncheon 12.30pm
Tues 12	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 19	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 26	Closed

Christmas Markets

The annual Christmas Street Parade, Markets and late night shopping will take place on Thursday 14 December.

Last year we held a very successful book stall selling new and donated pre-loved books. We are building up a good collection of history and family history publications and are happy to receive your books should you no longer have need of them.

We will be needing volunteers to help set up and sell our wares. If you are able to assist from 3pm to 8pm (or part thereof) please contact Cheryl at info@yasshistory.org.au.