THE

ARGYLE BULLETIN

No. 98 November 2023 Cost \$1.00

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF

GOULBURN DISTRICT HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.

Trading as



Print Post Approved: PP100002263

ISSN 0617-960

Goulburn District Historical and Genealogical Society Inc.

Trading as HISTORY GOULBURN ABN 36 695 546 60

Postal Address: PO Box 396 Goulburn NSW 2580

Phone: 04 17 272 417

Email: historygoulburn2580@gmail.com

Facebook: History Goulburn

Committee:

President Jennifer Lamb <u>marangaroo@gmail.com</u>

1st Vice President Margaret Kendall <u>kendalls@tpg.com.au</u>

2nd Vice President Garry White <u>wollondillynet@gmail.com</u>

Secretary W. Sommerville <u>glenwood@tpg.com.au</u>

Treasurer Helen Condylios hcondyli@bigpond.net.au

Members (3) Roger Bayley <u>gullyraker53@gmail.com</u>

Bruce Harvey <u>bruce.harvey3@bigpond.com</u>

Annette Murphy <u>murphyannette68@yahoo.com</u>

Meetings

General meetings will be held on the 4th Thursday of February, April, June, August (AGM) and October at the Goulburn Workers Club, McKell Place at10.30am. All are welcome. December Christmas functional location to be decided.

Access to Archives

Public access to our archives is available at the temporary research centre situated at 324 Sloane Street between 10am and 4pm every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or by appointment by ringing (02) 4821 1156. Some research material is also available at the Regional History area of the Goulburn Mulwaree Library.

Research

Research enquiries welcome.

Phone: (02) 4821 1156

Email: wollondillynet@gmail.com

Membership Fees:

Junior (under 18 years) free
Single \$20.00
Family (2 adults) \$25.00
Corporate \$150.00

Disclaimer.

The Goulburn District Historical and Genealogical Society Inc. or any members, either individually or collectively, accepts no responsibility for any information contained in this journal. Anyone acting on such information does so at their own risk.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President's Report

Finally we are having a return – albeit very temporarily – to our home museum, St Clair. On Saturday and Sunday, 18-19 November, History Goulburn is hosting an open weekend at St Clair. It will be six years since we moved out so essential conservation work could be done on the 180 year-old building. It will be good to be back.

The open weekend will be a great opportunity for us, and our community, to see St Clair revitalised after the first stage of her conservation. It is obvious that more work needs to be done – and that is beginning early next year – but now is a chance to experience what has been done. It is also a chance to see at first hand the challenges of conserving a building constructed just 15 years after the township of Goulburn was declared in 1829.

But there won't just be the building to see. Each of the 12 rooms will have a Goulburn district theme with each having three key items from History Goulburn's extensive collection. In addition, the "colonial kitchen" will have a slightly larger display of utensils.

We encourage members to assist at this open weekend by volunteering two hours to show visitors through St Clair on either Saturday 18 or Sunday 19 November. We are aiming for four volunteers to be rostered at a time, so there will be support, security and shared knowledge. Please email historygoulburn2580@gmail.com or tel 0458 028 003 if you can help.

We held our AGM on 24 August, and the new committee was elected with Marg Kendall, Helen Condylios, Bill Sommerville, Roger Bayley, Garry White, Bruce Harvey and myself being returned. Ann Gillett chose not to continue and we warmly thank her for her work in the last year. Annette Murphy has subsequently come onto the committee, and we warmly welcome her.

Hoping to see you at St Clair on 18/19 November,

Jennifer Lamb

A lie will go round the world while truth, Is pulling its boots on £, a, #

Page scanned from an 'Autograph Book' belonging to a 13 year old girl, written 105 years ago. L A H Linda Alma Hutchins.

The Tuyynam Family at War

Joan Twynam

Joan Twynam, was born on 9 October 1882 at Riversdale, Goulburn.

In 1906 she began her training as a nurse at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney (RPA), taking 3 years to qualify. In 1910 she was in charge of a ward. It was at this time she applied for the position of Matron at the Goulburn District Hospital. Being unsuccessful with the application she remained at the RPA. She also trained in Obstetrics at the Crown Street Women's Hospital, Sydney.

Joan stayed at RPA until 1911 and joined the Bush Nursing Association in January 1912 and was appointed to the district of Carinda near Coonamble NSW, by 1914 she was posted to Jindabyne. It was during this time that she joined the Australian Army Nursing Reserve.

When WW1 broke out, on 11 Sept 1914, Joan was one of the first nurses to enlist in the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS). She was 31 years old when she sailed on the HMAT (His Majesty's Australian Transport) "Euphrides" on 20 October 1914 to Cairo. One of the first eight nurses from New South Wales. She was attached to the 2nd Australian General Hospital Unit.

She left Cairo in September 1915 to join the hospital ship the "Gascon" anchored off the coast of Gallipoli. After the evacuation of the Australian troops from Gallipoli, Joan returned to Cairo and took some leave to spend Christmas in England.

In June 1916 the Number 2 Australian General Hospital was relocated to Boulogne France. Joan became ill and was hospitalised in February 1917. In March she was detached to the Number 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station at Estaires near Armentieres. Joan's work at the Western Front was noticed in despatches. She was then attached to the Number 1 Stationary Hospital and in May-June 1917 it was located at Saint-Omes.

Joan again became ill with gastritis and took leave in England in July 1917. In the September she was promoted as Temporary Head Sister to serve at the Number 25 British General Hospital near Boulogne, remaining there until February 1919 thus ending her war service of 4 and a half years. Joan left for Sydney arriving in April 1919 and returned to Riversdale.

She was awarded the 1914-1918 Star, the British War Medal, the Victory Medal in 1919. On 17th June 1920, the Prince of Wales (later to become the Duke of Windsor) awarded her with the Royal Red Cross Medal 1st Class at a presentation ceremony at Government House in Sydney. After the war Joan returned to nursing and was appointed Matron of the Bodington Nursing Home at Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains.

When her brother Ned returned from the war, he applied for a soldier's settler's land grant, Joan joined him on his farm at Burra near Taralga. She also claimed a soldier's settler's block next to Ned's house.

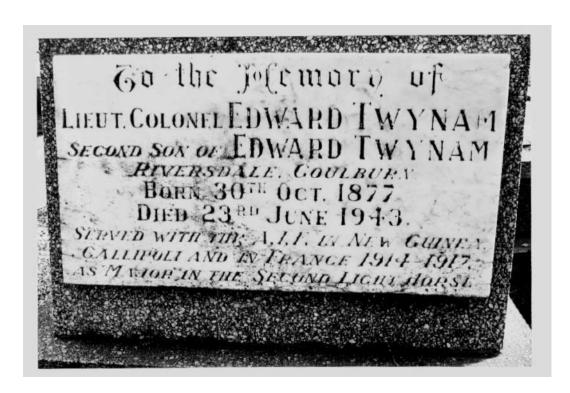
Joan applied to the Darwin Hospital in 1925, however she only lasted 10 months there where she worked at an isolated settlement at Pine Creek. She returned to Riversdale to live with her sister Edith where they ran the homestead as a genteel boarding house.

Joan was the last surviving sister and she sold Riversdale to the National Trust in January 1967. She moved to Richlands to Henry, her brother's, property near Taralga. On 26 September 1967 she passed away aged 85 at St John of God Hospital Goulburn and was privately cremated in Sydney.

Edward (Ned) Twynam

Edward (Ned) Twynam Jnr was the youngest of the Twynam brother's. He was born at Goulburn on 30th October, 1877. Like his elder brother Ned attended the Hurstville College, Goulburn and later, the Church of England Grammar School, Sydney he continued his education at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College and the Wagga Experimental Farm.

Joining the fledgling Australian Army, the 3rd Light Horse, in 1906 Ned eventually became the area officer at Goulburn. When war broke out in August 1914 Ned, now a Captain, was the first Goulburn man to leave for the war, sent with the expeditionary force to Rabaul, he was the officer commanding native affairs and O. C. for the native police and also a magistrate. He returned to Goulburn in the beginning of 1915. Ned enlisted in the A.I.F. with the rank of Captain and was posted to the 13th Battalion; a battalion recruited from southern New South Wales, and part of the 4th Brigade, sailing in the Shropshire in August 1915. He saw service at Gallipoli and was selected by the then Colonel Monash to lead one of the last group of men off the peninsula. At 1.50am on the 20th December 1915 Ned and his party of ten men left their post and proceeded to the beach by 4.30am Anzac Cove had been evacuated.



Memorial located in Stone Quarry Cemetery Taralga

After the evacuation to Lemnos Island Ned was officer commanding the isolation camp. In March 1916 Ned was second-in-command of the battalion and in April Brigade Musketry Officer. Ned was

apparently a well-liked officer. One story about him occurred while he was still in Cairo after the Gallipoli campaign. Apparently he heard a row going on down a side street and went to investigate when heard a soldier from "C" Company call out: "Are there any of the 13th in the crowd?" "I am one," replied Ned. "Well hold my teeth while I stoush these," and the soldier passed the major his false teeth and returned to complete the fight.

Now a major Ned arrived in France in June 1916 going to the front in the same month. Ned saw action at Pozieres but in August and again in September 1916 he reported sick with pyrexia (fever) and pleurisy (inflammation of the lungs) and was evacuated to London. Ned returned to France but by June 1917 was again ill and evacuated to England. He was eventually invalided home.

On returning to Australia Ned applied for a soldier settler's land grant and settled at Yalbraith, near Taralga. Later joined by his sister Joan they farmed in partnership until 1925 when Joan returned to nursing.

Ned, or Colonel Twynam, as he was referred to was a bachelor. He had an association with every public body in Taralga. He was president of the Taralga Soldiers Club and later patron of the Taralga RSL sub-branch. He was devoted to the Light Horse and continued his association with the 7th Light Horse when it was re-raised as a part time citizen force, serving firstly as a Major and was appointed a lieutenant-colonel in 1928. During World War II Ned organised the Taralga Volunteer Defence Corps which was modelled on the British Home Guard. Ned passed away in 1943 as a result of an accident on his farm.

Research: Marie Kennedy. (on-line war records) **Co-Authors**: Dawn Giles and Marie Kennedy.

Identities

Link With The Past

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 18 October 1926.

The recent visit to Goulburn of Rev. Clive Gore, of the Church Missionary Society, whose headquarters are in the southern Sudan, establishes a link with some early history. Mr. Gore is a descendant of one of the earliest pioneers to settle in the Goulburn district. He spent his boyhood here and will be remembered by many of the old families.

The name Gore was closely identified with the early beginnings of Lake Bathurst. "Gilmore," which is now owned by Mr. Walter Reynolds, originally belonged to the Gore family. Rev. Clive Gore's father was Mr. Graham Gore, son of Mr. Edward Gore. Edward Gore's father (Rev. Clive Gore's great-grandfather) was Rear Admiral John Gore who selected land in this district in the first instance.

The family has long been associated with history. Lieut. Graham Gore. R.N., was lost in the Franklin Arctic Expedition in 1847, was a brother of rear-Admiral Gore. Their father was Captain John Gore, who with Lieut, King (afterwards Governor of NSW) accompanied Captain Cook on his voyage to Australia.

Admiral Gore is buried in the old Church of England Cemetery at North Goulburn. Among the interesting curios belonging to the Gore family is a small globe (encased in shark skin) found among the relics of the Franklin Expedition. Australia is still described on this as New Holland. Rev. Clive Gore is also the proud possessor of a couple of volumes giving an account of Captain Cook's voyages.

Link With The Past

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 29 October 1926.

Death of Mr. W. Thompson

A link with the past history of Goulburn was severed by the death of Mr. W. Thompson at his residence Moore Park, Sydney, on Saturday night after a brief illness. The late Mr. Thompson was born in Auburn Street Goulburn in 1859, in a house where Messrs. Williams Bros, produce store now stands.

Educated in Goulburn, he established a black smithy alongside the old "White Horse" Hotel on the site on which Cody's Building now stands. Well known to all the old hands in Goulburn, he was a particular friend of the late George Adams, founder of Tattersall's Sweep, and took a prominent part in the first Eight Hour Day procession held in Goulburn over thirty years ago.

In the procession, Charlie McMahon's pony, with a boy on his back, was conveyed on a lorry and was shod while being conveyed along Auburn Street by the late Mr. Thompson and his brother Bob who is still in Goulburn. A feature of the same procession was an exhibition of shearing by shearers from local sheds. Another brother, Joe, was a prominent athlete and died in Brisbane a few years ago.

In his early twenties the late Mr. Thompson married Miss Corby of Taralga, who he now leaves to mourn his loss with his three sons and four daughters. One son was killed at the war

Mrs. Shannon and Miss May Thompson of Croydon are his sisters, and Mr. Bob Thompson of Goulburn his brother. The funeral took place at Rookwood on Monday.

Remarkable Occurrence

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 8 September 1926

Harold Clancy, of Mt. View, Gunning, owes his life to a double-barrelled hammerless gun. While riding round his paddocks attending to ewes and lambs, he carried the gun to deal with marauding crows. He saw one of the ewes down, and he swang himself out of the saddle to

marauding crows. He saw one of the ewes down, and he swung himself out of the saddle to dismount, when a rabbit caught in a trap nearby commenced to struggle and rattle the trap. This frightened the horse, which bolted dragging Mr. Clancy along the ground with his left foot caught fast in the stirrup. Realising that he might be bumped to death, he fired both barrels of his gun into the horse, but before it fell dead he was dragged another 70 yards. He escaped with a severe bruising and shaking.

Car Leaps into Flower Bed

In the early hours of Monday morning last, a Buick car driven by Mr. T Birch, of Kippilaw, struck the concrete border of the garden plot in front of the Goulburn railway station with such force that it bounced over on to the flower bed, the wheels sinking to the axles in the soft soil. Of the five occupants one was thrown out on the ground, but all of them escaped injury, the gear box of the car was dislodged, the four wheels bent, and the steering gear damaged.

The vehicle was later pulled out by means of a tractor, and towed to a garage.

CLD Building demolished

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 17 November 1926

The demolition of the two-storey building near the "Penny Post" office for the A.M.P Society has been completed, as the results of the activities of the wreckers over the past fortnight only a heap of bricks and other debris now remains where this interesting landmark stood.

This afternoon a sale of bricks, roofing and other materials was conducted on the premises of Mr. W. E. Llewellyn, and there was a satisfactory attendance of buyers.

Soon the whole site will be cleared of the relics of a bygone age in building construction, and workmen will make a start on the fine modern structure which will replace the demolished one.

When P.O. Was Built

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 1 November 1927.

Returning to Goulburn last week after an absence of 20 years Mr. John Hall, veteran builder, drew an interesting comparison between the Goulburn of today and the Goulburn of a quarter of a century ago.

Turning his mind back to some 28 years ago, Mr. Hall recalled the building of the Goulburn post and telegraph office. In the employ of the contractors, Messrs. Horne and Donnelly, Mr. Hall assisted in the construction of the building and relates an amusing incident that marked the completion of the building.

Following the usual custom it was anticipated that the occasion would be celebrated by the foreman "shouting" all hands. For some reason or other, the foreman failed to come up to the mark, much to the chagrin of the men, who gave expression to their feelings by hoisting an empty bottle and black flag on the building. The bottle obscured by the flag, passers-by naturally came to the conclusion that somebody had died and persistent enquiries as to who "deceased" was made by the more curious people.

Anything that the men may have missed owing to the foreman's short comings was amply compensated for at the banquet given in celebration of the occasion. The banquet was held in the old Protestant Hall and a most convivial evening was spent.

Mr. Hall was identified with the building of the first railway running sheds at Goulburn, in addition to the erection of the first building on Church Hill, and he installation of stacks and furnaces at Cox and Worrel's flour mill. During the course of an interesting conversation with a "Post" representative Mr. Hall referred to the proposal of the City Council to build a dam on the Sooley Creek for the purpose of augmenting the city's water supply. "The Sooley Valley is nothing more than a dirty gutter," declared the old builder, who had a wide experience in dredging and sluicing.



Lake behind Sooley Dam - August 2023

Owing to the extensive formation of yellow clay and pipe clay on the Sooley catchment area, Goulburn can never hope to have a really good supply from this source, he pointed out. The water could certainly be treated but where was the necessity for chemical water when there were two good supplies available (1) from the Shoalhaven River and (2) from the Pejar.

He favoured the Shoalhaven water for preference, but if that was impracticable the Pejar would provide a supply almost equally as good. Mr. Hall, who now resides at Queanbeyan, will probably take up residence in Goulburn at no distant date.

Staff of Rogers & Co Give Dance Happy Function at Soldiers Club

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 15 November 1926.

The staff of Rogers & Co gave an enjoyable dance at the Soldiers' Club on Saturday night in return for the dance given them by the employees of Bray & Halliday, the contractors who are engaged in the reconstruction of Rogers & Co building. The dance was also in the nature of a farewell, as the work of the contractors is now practically finished.

The function ended up with the singing of Auld Lang Syne. The tables were artistically decorated, the flowers been given by Mrs. George Rogers and Mrs. John Duffy. The Super-Six Orchestra rendered good music.

Mr. Bruce Rogers, on behalf of Rogers & Co, in a happy speech mentioned the consideration shown by the employees of Bray & Halliday to customers during the alterations. He was pleased that such good relations should exist between the two firms. Mr. Stewart Lawson responded on the behalf of Bray & Halliday.

Unveiling War Memorial Tablets

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 1 November 1926.

The Goulburn War Memorial Committee held a meeting on Friday night, the Mayor (Ald. Middlebrook) being in the chair.

It was decided to unveil the marble tablets, on which are inscribed the names of the Goulburn district's heroes, at 3 pm on Armistice Day, November 11.

The committee decided that the Mayor undertakes this ceremony and that invitations be issued to the local clergy, Brig-General McNicoll, Major Twynam and members of the local sub branch of the R.S.L to be present.

The tablets contain 1400 names of soldiers and sailors of the Goulburn district. They are to be placed in position at the base of the Rocky Hill Tower during the week.

Armistice Day

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 12 November 1926

Ceremony on Rocky Hill

The unveiling of the tablets at the base of the War Memorial Tower on Rocky Hill yesterday was the principal ceremony which marked the observation of Armistice Day in Goulburn. the tablets were inscribed with the names of 1400 sailors and soldiers who enlisted from the Goulburn district. About a 100 people ascended the hill to participate in the ceremony which was performed by the Mayor (Ald. J. W. Middlebrook). Apologies were received from Bishop Radford & Barry, Rev. G. M. Bull, and Rev. Silas Bembrick.

Ald. Middlebrook gave an interesting review of the history of the memorial. The contract was let, he stated, in March 1924, and in December 1925, the tower was unveiled. The debt on the structure was liquidated by the end of last year, and the committee then placed an order with Mr. J. Turner for the tablets which were executed at cost price. The cost of these had still to be met and the committee also proposed to have the crypt fitted up as a war museum. It was considered advisable too, to erect a caretaker's residence and to place a return soldier in charge. The Mayor then removed the draping's and the gaze of the gathering rested on Goulburn's proud Roll of Honour.

The tablets are of marble with the names inscribed in black lettering. They are affixed to the interior of the eastern wall beneath the free-stone canopy presenting a fine representation of the rising sun, at the base of which is the following inscription; "1914 – To Those Who Served – 1918."

"This memorial stands as a tribute to all who served and not only to those who fell," declared Brigadier General W. McNicoll. "We must commemorate the victorious side of the war as well as its sad features." Armistice Day was, he added, a day of great rejoicing as well as one of sad remembrance of those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

The two minute silence was generally observed at 11 am throughout the city. As soon as the town clock had commenced to strike the flag at the Town Hall was dropped to half-mast. The flag at the Railway loco shed was also flown. The whistle at the Per Way shops was sounded at 11 am and again at 11 2 am. Those engaged in disposing of poppies in aid of the United Soldiers' fund reported a record sale.

The first Armistice Day smoke social, under the auspices of the local sub-branch of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' League took place in the evening in the Soldiers' Hall. The gathering numbered about one hundred. Major Howell presiding. The function was a great success, everyone having a thoroughly enjoyable time.

GOULBURN'S HIDDEN MILITARY HISTORY

Most people would be familiar with Goulburn's war landmarks, notably the Battle Tower Monument at Rocky Hill, the Boer War memorial at Belmore Park and the more recent District Memorial in that same park commemorating the role of Goulburn and district locals in nineteenth and twentieth century conflicts. Perhaps people are also familiar with the honour roll for serving railwaymen situated at the railway station.

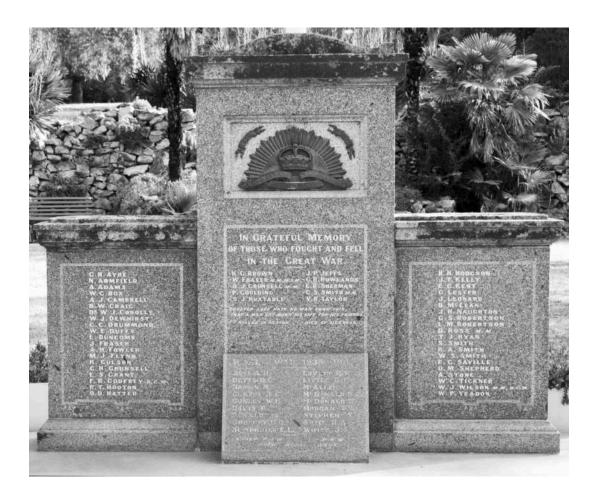
However, there is a lesser known history spread around the city, one that remains poignant and important to this city's heritage. It is a hidden history of people, places and events.

Places

Kenmore Hospital has a long military history. Known around World War 1 as The Asylum, the hospital housed ex-servicemen as patients post war. The war memorial in the Kenmore hospital grounds was unveiled in 1924 remembering the contributions of Kenmore staff in that war.

During World War 2 (from 1942 to 1945) Kenmore became the site of the 114th Australian General Hospital, treating men from the three services wounded in various theatres of conflict. The hospital treated wounded Japanese Prisoners of War injured in the Cowra Breakout, these prisoners under heavy guard. The hospital also treated Italian Prisoners of War taken ill when working on Riverina farms during the war. Kenmore was chosen because of its rail siding off the Crookwell line, enabling direct and easy access to the hospital.

Many army constructed buildings at Kenmore are now silent reminders of times past. For example the building on the right inside the main entrance gates was the treatment unit for patients with venereal diseases. It was later used as a chapel and then a meeting place for the Country Women's Association (Kenmore Hospital Branch) and there still exists a raised garden bed with CWA moulded onto its outside. The Kenmore Nurse Training School was originally the Officers' Mess. The lawns behind the Administration Building were painted with red crosses on a white background for aerial identification as a hospital. The hospital bus shelter was used as a guardhouse. The Regimental Post Office post war became the Canteen.



War Memorial Kenmore Hospital

In 1992, 37 army huts were relocated mostly for use by the scouting movement. Some went to Kilto Scout Camp on the Taralga Road.

(Information courtesy of Leone Morgan Mulwaree Museum Friends)

Other notable buildings around the city include the now demolished Supertex complex opposite Tully Park Golf Course which comprised a World War 2 Munitions Factory, and two buildings constructed in World War 2 close by the Braidwood Road rail overpass to store wheat for shipment overseas. One still stands today, though empty and in disrepair.

"Carrawarra," a period two storey building on the corner of Cowper and Braddley Streets was used as a soldier's club for World War 1 servicemen.

A class at Goulburn Technical School, now known as Goulburn High School built a home for a returned First World War soldier in Lansdowne Street. The home, which still stands, has a plaque commemorating its construction attached to the front wall of the building. Another five homes for returning servicemen were also built towards the western end of Kinghorne Street. Additionally, several homes in Bourke Street were resumed for returning ex-servicemen.

At the southern end of Auburn Street is a long used military site which is now the headquarters of 359 Squadron RAAF. The site previously hosted the pre Boer War Australian Commonwealth



Goulburn Drill Hall Southern end of Auburn St

Horse, the Australian Light Horse (notably the 7th) and in World War 2 housed an RAAF Trainer for simulated flight training for men before heading off for further training at other RAAF bases such as Point Cook in Victoria. The Trainer, together with an Honour Board of successful World War 2 trainees, still exists today.

There were several military camps around Goulburn during World Wars 1 and 2. The first camp was at the Goulburn Racecourse, later moved to what is now Prell Oval. The World War 2 camp is thought to have been located either at the Worker's Arena or Goulburn Showground.

In 1992 students at Mulwaree High School planted rows of trees along McDermott Drive and Middle Arm Road commemorating the sacrifices of hundreds of men and the one woman from the Goulburn district killed on active service in World Wars 1 and 2, and Vietnam. These corridors of trees are now on the NSW Register of War Memorials and many contain brass plaques identifying the servicemen's (and the one woman's) service records. The Mulwaree Museum complements these memorial corridors and has been used by district students for thirty years as an educational facility.

Events

After the First World War the Australian Government allocated *guidons*, or "The Colours" of military regiments to towns and cities across Australia. Goulburn was allocated the Standard of the 7th Light Horse Regiment. The banner hangs in St. Saviour's Cathedral. After more than one hundred years hanging in the cathedral the banner is too valuable an historical artefact to be further exposed to dust and sunlight and would be better preserved in specially designed archival storage, perhaps replaced by a modern copy that could still hang in the cathedral.

A part of the national collection of war trophies was donated to Goulburn in the 1920's, and along with donated items from Goulburn and district people these were housed in or around Rocky Hill.



The Altar in the War Memorial Chapel — St. Saviours Cathedral

In the 1990's Goulburn RSL was concerned about the long term future of these items as the basement flooded after rain and the room was mouldy with little air circulation. The collection was placed in storage (after it was catalogued by a young local school student- David Cohen) but some larger items upstairs were left on display inside the tower. These included a German Heavy Trench Mortar captured by the AIF late in World War 1 and a selection of Lewis machine guns. These items were regrettably appropriated by a serving Australian officer who removed them without permission for cleaning and restoration. After many months the 'items' were returned. However the returned trench mortar was a 1923 British model, not the original German weapon with its brass plaque attached identifying the Australian Battalion that had captured it. The Lewis guns were also missing parts. Goulburn RSL enlisted the assistance of the Military Police to recover the weapons and in due course the actual weapons were returned, though the missing parts of the Lewis guns were never recovered.

As an aside an elderly East Goulburn resident recounted to the author in the 1990's that as a child attending East Goulburn school he watched a section of Rocky Hill being blown up to lay the foundations for the tower, after which he and his classmates had to collect the rocks strewn across the hill and cart them back uphill to be used in the tower's construction.

Another World War 2 aside relayed to the author was the memory of training exercises undertaken by soldiers and vehicles (described as Armoured Personnel Carriers) and conducted along the creek line north from Lansdowne Street towards Combemere Street and right up to the Worker's Arena. Most of this land is now residential.

The 7th Light Horse still existed as a mounted unit at the beginning of the Second World War before being converted to an armed regiment. In 1941 one of the mounted regiment's last duties was to ride from Goulburn to the Fitzroy Falls area down to the bottom of Macquarie Pass onto Dapto. The unit camped at a spot called Yellow Rock Creek and from there mounted patrols along Shellharbour beaches.

(Information courtesy of Bob McLaren Mulwaree Museum Friends, Barry Bright Goulburn and anonymous informants)

People

One of the first Australian killed in the First World War, if not the first Australian, hailed from Goulburn. William Leggett was training to be a wireless operator in England when war was declared and he enlisted in the First Life Guards. In a battle skirmish near Gheluwe in Belgium he was killed on October 14th 1914. There is a memorial to him at Harlebeke, unveiled in 2001 and the 'negative' of this memorial, a metal silhouette of William Leggett falling from his horse, was unveiled at Rocky Hill in 2005.

In the 1980's local historian the late Albert Speer MBE unearthed a very sad story concerning an Aboriginal soldier named Billy Punch. Albert thought he originally came from North Queensland but later research suggests Billy was born in Central western NSW. The Queensland story was likely told to mask his actual origins. Billy was the sole survivor of a family massacre, found protected under his mother's body and was 'adopted' by a family at Woodhouselee, later living at a home in Bourke Street. He enlisted in the First Battalion 1st AIF only to fall ill in the terrible European winter of 1917. He died of illness (pneumonia and endocarditis) in England.

One local remarkable person who has largely flown under the historical radar is Alice Chisholm. In World War 1 she travelled overseas to care for her wounded son, a Lighthorseman in Egypt. Upon her arrival she saw the need for a soldiers' canteen for men going to and returning from the front and established one at Kantara. The canteen ran from 1917 until 1919 and at one stage a second canteen was established in Jerusalem. In the early days food was begged, borrowed or otherwise procured. One British Army officer recounted how she apparently served 50,000 eggs to troops returning from the Front and no one knew where she sourced the food.

Alice attended the opening of the Light Horse Gates after the war, these situated opposite the Mitchell Library in Sydney. When the Lighthorsemen realised she was there they began to chant "Ma Chisholm" the chant continuing until she appeared to a tumultuous reception that apparently reduced her to tears.

Later, back in Goulburn, she planted an Aleppo Pine near the gates of St. Saviour's cathedral. For her services during World War 1 she was made a Dame of the British Empire. She is buried at Kippilaw Cemetery.

(Reference: The Lady of Kantara J.Champion Fast Books 1977)

One unusual serviceman was a man named Rink who lived post World War 2 near the Rossiville Bridge. Mr Rink served with the German army in World War 1 and the Australian army in World War 2. According to historian Peter Burness AO he is one of just five such men of whom the Australian War Memorial is aware.

A second notable man is Ernest Corey, the only Allied soldier from any country in any war to be awarded the Military Medal four times. Ernie lived in Goulburn for a time late in his life.

One interesting aside relates to the Mons Star, a clasp awarded to the 1914 Star and issued to people who served in France and Belgium from August to November 1914. Richard Reid contributed an article to the War Memorial's journal Wartime in the spring edition 1999. In the article he identifies just four Australians who were awarded this clasp. One man he does not identify, simply stating he was an officer from a Queensland regiment who was originally from Goulburn NSW. The second was a nurse from Wheeo, Catherine Tully, who trained in Goulburn.

In correspondence with Richard Reid (Wartime Issue 8 Summer 1999) it transpired that William Leggett, mentioned earlier in this article, should also have been awarded the Mons clasp. By some curious twist three of the five known Mons Star Australian recipients hailed from the Goulburn district.

In recent years Rod MacLean, a local Goulburn military historian who has undertaken the mammoth task of identifying Goulburn and district service personnel across all wars, uncovered a story concerning a bogus Victoria Cross recipient from the district. During the First World War the sizeable sum of one hundred pounds was offered to the first Victoria Cross winner from the district. One Private Charles Leary from the 35th Battalion First AIF claimed the award. Born in Gundagai, Leary claimed he received the award for having saved an officer in the battle for the French town of Bray, as well as taking out a machine gun post. He claimed his recommendation for the award was made by a stretcher bearer. Subsequent developments and enquiries in Sydney revealed his claim to be bogus. Army records clearly indicate that no bravery medal of any type was issued to him and he was repeatedly told not to wear the ribbon or the miniature Victoria Cross. Eventually, just before he was about to be awarded the sum of one hundred pounds by the Goulburn mayor, Charles Leary fronted court on the charge of falsely claiming his bravery award. He was fined ten pounds in lieu of three months hard labour. Leary's letter to the editor of the Goulburn Evening and Penny Post on August 2nd 1919 (the day after he appeared in court) contained an apology. *References: Goulburn Evening and Penny Post 4th March 1919, 1st August 1919, 2nd August 1919.*)

There must be still more of Goulburn's hidden history waiting to be discovered, especially the biographical details of local men and women who served. Edward Bryden, the son of a Goulburn dentist who lived at "Berklees" in Cowper Street and who died at Gallipoli; the three Lees brothers from "Bois Chere" on the Braidwood Road, one who died at Gallipoli, another killed at Fromelles, the third serving with distinction in the Camel Corps and then The Australian Flying Corps; Oscar Shepherd from "Teneriffe" on the Mary's Mount Road killed in a flying accident in England are just three such examples. Researching biographical details can sometimes reveal heart wrenching stories.

One example is William Weedon, a railwayman who served in France with the 6th Light Railway Operating Company in France. Discharged as medically unfit he was repatriated home in 1917. His mother who lived in Kadwell Street sold him a nearby block of land for ten shillings, a nominal sum of money equivalent to one dollar in today's currency. Her son built his home but succumbed to his wartime afflictions and died soon after his house was completed in 1923 leaving a wife, a young family and a mortgage. His widow took in boarders who were students at local schools to make ends meet. While it is commonly known that over sixty thousand Australians died on active service during World War 1, it is less commonly known that an equal number died of war related injuries or illnesses in the decade after that war ended.

Other stories must be waiting to be discovered. It just takes some sleuthing by interested motivated people, budding historians whatever your age.

(This article is copyright and every attempt has been made to ensure the information is accurate). Bill Needham OA.



Roll of Honour Goulburn Railway Station

Note: All images in this Bulletin were captured by Darcy Kennedy