



Newsletter of the **Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society**

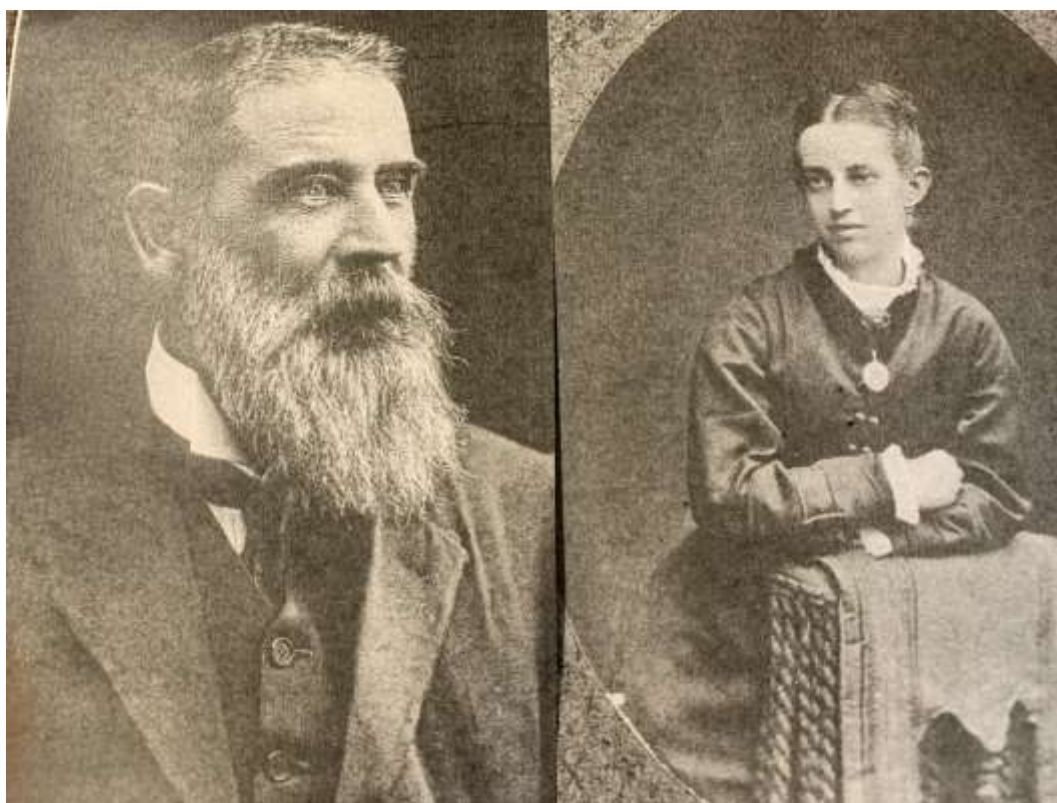
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Thomas and Annie Clydsdale

Committee Elected in February 2022

President:	Carolyn Carter	Treasurer:	Ann Bailey
Vice President:	Margaret MacDougall	Committee	Jayne Webster
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Committee	Carol Ray	Committee:	Don MacDougall
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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.

Your continuing subscription is important to us.

A Subscription Renewal Form is included in this newsletter. If paying by post please update your details by completing the form, including your current email address. Circle your choice to receive the newsletter in colour via email.

Subscription Renewal 2024

Subscriptions for 2024, are due by 1 February 2024.

Subscription rate is \$20.00 single and \$35.00 joint membership.

Membership renewals can now be paid by direct deposit.

Our bank details are:

Scone & Upper Historical Society

BSB: 932 000 Account: 787562

Please put your name and initials and "Subs" as reference.

If paying by direct deposit please send an email to confirm your payment and your choice to receive the Newsletter via email.

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 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 Box339 Scone NSW 2337. Please mark all enquires to "Attention Researcher" or 'Attention Secretary'.

Our Webpage can be found at:

SconeHistorical.org.au

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.

Life Members:

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

Welcome to New Members Paid since September

Thank you for your support

Martin Holmes

Lesley Thompson Ray & Zoe Garland

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.

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

This is our last Newsletter for 2023 bringing to a close what has been a fairly busy year for us. As usual, we have included membership renewal information in this Newsletter. Annual membership fees will be due on Wednesday 21st February, 2024 which is also the date of our AGM for 2024. The annual fees remain the same as for this year: \$20 for a single; and, \$35 for two at the same address.

We have received the extra funding from the Upper Hunter Shire Council Cultural Activities Grant for the workshop on managing museum collections. This funding together with the Micro Grant from Arts Upper Hunter which we received earlier means that this workshop can now go ahead. The workshop presenter is Margot Jolly who is a self-employed Museum Consultant and who, among other things, has worked with the Historic Houses Trust of NSW and the Museum of Democracy at Old Parliament House Canberra. The workshop will be held at UH Shire Council Chambers Scone, Thursday, 18th January, 9.30am to 3pm. Please contact us if you are interested in attending, numbers are limited to twenty.

The Bishop's History Awards were presented to the successful applicants on Wednesday, 12th October at a function which was held in the Old Scone Courthouse Theatre, followed by afternoon tea served on our Museum verandah. First prize was awarded to Sam Lambley; second prize went to Frederick Johnston; and Highly Commended went to Benjamin Froml, Cooper O'Gorman, Hugo Shann, and Bethannie Ardesch. Mr Tony and Mrs Anne Bishop were in attendance and Mr Bishop gave some very positive feedback on each of the entries and presented the prizes. Bishop's History Awards were introduced by Mr Bill Bishop (Mr Tony Bishop's father) in 1972 to encourage students to research our local history. We are very grateful for the ongoing generous support provided by Mr and Mrs Bishop.

Sam Lambley's essay is a very well researched piece on the last 150 years of the property at 40-42 Guernsey Street, which is on the corner of Guernsey and St Aubin's Streets, Scone, now the site of the Mitre 10 hardware store. We be including Sam's essay in our Newsletter in two parts. You will find the first part below.

In October we were very pleased to have a visit from David Kaus, a museum consultant specialising in Aboriginal Artefacts. David had been working for the Glenbawn Museum Group, assessing the collection of Aboriginal artefacts at the Museum of Rural Life at Lake Glenbawn. He came to our Research Centre and Museum to do some research on the local people who had donated artefacts to that collection. David also generously gave his time to assessing the Aboriginal artefacts in our collection. He found that one item is a sacred object

that is not for public viewing and advised us to donate it to the National Museum of Australia, which we will do. Two other wooden items are authentic: a paring shield and a digging stick from the south eastern area of Australia. The other wooden items are items made for the tourist trade.

In our last Newsletter we included an invitation to the 'Shoebox Archives' presentation by Bruce Clydsdale which was held at the Scone RSL Club on 8th November. I'm pleased to report that this event went off very well. Bruce has done a wonderful job on the presentation of the family portraits and he gave a detailed account of each of the people whose photographs make up the collection. The portraits are now on display in the Gray Room and we look forward to the publication of Bruce's book which he plans to have completed in the first half of next year.



Recently, Scone hosted the 2023 Tidy Towns Awards run by the Keep Australia Beautiful organisation. We provided one of the activities for delegates during free time on the Saturday afternoon. We had ten people participate in the Heritage Walk and a tour of the Museum. On the Sunday morning, the Handover Breakfast was held in our grounds outside the History Museum, when Scone handed over the banner to this year's overall winner, Bathurst.



We are hoping to hold another workshop early next year, this time on the conservation of textiles. Recently we were very fortunate to have the military dress uniform of Major

Frederick Parbury donated to us by a descendant of his family. The uniform requires some conservation work to be done and we are hoping to gain some funding through the Country Arts Support Program for the conservator, Tess Evans, to run a workshop on basic textile conservation.

Our last day for this year will be Wednesday, 6th December, and we will re-open on Wednesday 17th January, 2024. Best wishes for a joyful and safe festive season. I hope Santa treats you generously.

HOW HAS THE SITE OF 40-42 GUERNSEY STREET SCONE TRANSFORMED OVER THE LAST 150 YEARS?

by Sam Lambley

Part One

40-42 Guernsey Street, Scone, is an historic site in the township of Scone and is located on the corner of St Aubin's and Guernsey Streets. The site has seen many changes over the last 150 years, starting as a Timber Mill when M Campbell and Co. Ltd. came to Scone and later transforming into the site for well-known hardware chains. Mr Ian Logan, a resident of Scone, who once worked at and managed the site working for M Campbell and Co., and the Gould Brothers Hardware Company from 1964 until 1995, provided wonderful insight into this address as a prominent business for Scone over the years. Mr Ray Garland, a farmer from Moonan Flat, also provided personal reflections of his many experiences of visiting this site to purchase supplies for the family property from when he was a young person in the 1950s, and over the years to come.

M Campbell and Co., a well known company in the Upper Hunter, purchased their first store in Scone from Mr James Little in 1880 which was the flour mill and adjoining store located in Guernsey Street. This is now the Scone RSL Club. However, this site was found to be too small and therefore a new building was built on the corner of Liverpool and Guernsey Streets in 1885, and the site at 40-42 Guernsey Street was also acquired at around this time with the start of a timber mill on this site.

M Campbell and Co. were a prominent feature of the Upper Hunter retail sector featuring across the area in Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Scone, Rouchel, Merriwa, Denman, and Moonan Flat, with the M Campbell and Co., store in Scone being noted as the biggest store in the township of Scone at one point.

These stores were the main outlet, selling groceries, automotive services, pharmacy items and hardware supplies to the people of the Upper Hunter district. M Campbell and Co., was also a one stop shop for farmers within the area buying horse feed, grain, chaff and other farming supplies. The site at 40-42 Guernsey Street consisted of what was known as the Bulk Store and was allocated to selling these farming supplies as well as building and hardware supplies such as concrete, timber, and even explosives at one point.

In 1930, M Campbell and Co. business employed about 200 people throughout the Upper Hunter sites with some of these workers being based at the Guernsey Street site.

Mr Logan confirmed there was a sawmill on this site which was in the south eastern point of the timber yard. After 1885, cypress logs would be transported to Scone by rail from the northwest and were milled on site. Once the sawmill ceased operation the engine which was

once used to drive the sawmill was removed and the shed that remained was later known as the Coke Shed, which sold coal used for the stoves across the Upper Hunter. The photo below is a photo of the Coke Shed thought to be one of the earliest sheds constructed on this site.



The larger shed known as the Bulk Store was located on the northern side of the block running from east to west. It is documented in *The Scone Advocate* that the Guernsey Street and St Aubin's Street land was purchased by M Campbell and Co. from the government in 1894 and this Bulk Store, consisting of a large 150ft by 35ft goods shed was built, and the tender of Mr Mantova was accepted to erect the Bulk Store. The site was identified as being suitable due to its proximity to the railway line.

When comparing [two photographs of the building taken at different dates] it is viewed in the later photo that there are an additional three high windows positioned on the Bulk Store on the northern side of the building. A piece of iron was located on demolition of the building in 2007 with an inscription date 16/12/11 from the supplier in Forest Lodge, Sydney. It is thought that perhaps the shed was in fact extended in 1911 due to the growing success of M Campbell and Co. and the growing demand for supplies in Scone and the surrounding areas.

The positioning of the Bulk Store was significant with the length of the shed running at a 90-degree angle to the railway tracks, with the end of the shed facing the railway line for easy access. This site was especially useful to be used for bulk storage due to its location situated beside the railway line which was the main method of sourcing supplies for M Campbell and Co. over the years.

Supplies would come into Morpeth by steam ship from Sydney and then be transported by rail up the Hunter Valley, stopping at Scone to unload supplies. This large shed, known as the Bulk Store, consisted of a large timber and iron shed with a hardwood timber flooring on a brick foundation. It had a landing and overhead gantry crane on the railway line side (eastern side) which enabled heavy packs to be lifted from train carriage to inside the shed. There was also another gantry crane located on the western end of the shed to lift heavy objects onto vehicles or trucks.

It is also documented that due to the scale of the building, the Campbell's Bulk Store periodically acted as a storage facility during desperate times. A waterside workers' strike in

late 1909 halted the loading of ships and caused a backlog of wool in NSW. Campbell offered to rent out their Bulk Store, which could hold up to 500 bales, to sheep graziers to store their valuable wool. This may help to explain why Leonard Eipper's wagon of wool was pictured outside the Bulk Store instead of the freight loading platform on the opposite side of the railway line.

The Bulk Store consisted of a trolley rail running the entire length of the building, allowing for goods to be easily moved from train carriages and stored within the large shed. In the early 1950s, Mr Ray Garland remembers as a seven year old child driving to Scone from Moonan Flat with his father Roy, in their Austin track to collect farm supplies from the Bulk Store, and a highlight for him as a child was riding the trolley which ran on rails through the centre of the building. He remembers the inside of the Bulk Store shed having sections or bays on either side which contained various items and the trolley about the size of a kitchen table carrying Garland supplies while Ray as a seven year old sat on board enjoying the ride. There was a set of scales in the centre which was used to weigh all the produce.

In addition to the Bulk Store, another large shed was constructed later on the western side of the site, closer to Guernsey. This second shed was built in what is thought about 1942, as an army storage facility during World War II. At this time, the Australian Army identified Scone as a desirable location to build storage sheds and they resumed any vacant blocks of land within Scone and built these sheds to store various items such as tyres, clothing and vehicle parts etc. There were eleven army storage shed around Scone known as the 8th Base Ordnance Camp and 102 Reserve Transport Unit, only a couple of these remain in existence today.

When the war ended and the Army left Scone, M Campbell and Co. utilised this shed on the 40-42 Guernsey Street site to become a hardware centre, stocking supplies such as timber, fibro cement sheeting, Masonite, plumbing items, bolts, screws, nails, cement, paint, and a range of various tools including electrical tools.

Mr Logan can recall that at one point, M Campbell and Co. had three trucks delivering produce to the Upper Hunter district. Below is a photo taken in 1953 of six workers from the Guernsey Street site standing next to the Bulk Store in front of two of the three delivery trucks in use at this time. These trucks were used to deliver goods from all the M Campbell and Co. sites across Scone and were garaged overnight in the front shed, which was once the Army storage shed.



Mr Ray Garland remembers a particular item purchased for farms in the 1950s were large amounts of fencing supplies such as steel posts due to the wool boom and farmers having a stronger cash supply to replace or renew fencing. These steel posts were made by BHP in Newcastle and transported by rail to the Campbell's Bulk Store. He remembers once visiting Scone for supplies and seeing extremely large piles of posts piled outside the front of the building, and returning a couple of weeks later to see that all the posts had been sold, and M Campbell and Co. were awaiting more supplies to arrive by rail.

There was also a petrol bowser located on the western side of the Bulk Store as you drove onto the site.

To be continued next Newsletter.

HISTORY IN THE MUSEUM

The photograph below is of cedar sideboard bought by Harry Tanner at a sale at 'Turanville' following the death of Thomas Cook in 1912. The sideboard was brought from England by Thomas Cook. It was donated by Mrs H Tanner to the Scone History Museum in 1963. Thomas Cook's writing case can be seen below the shelf on the left hand side.



Thomas Cook 1834 – 1912

Thomas Cook the oldest son of Samuel and Elizabeth (nee Dangar) was born in Hamilton, Canada in September 1834. Samuel and Elizabeth were encouraged to move to Australia by Elizabeth's brothers, Henry, William and Thomas Dangar, and they arrived in Australia in 1837. Samuel "joined the squatting race to the north, first as station superintendent for Henry Dangar but quite soon on his own account." (P.11 Gray, N). In the early years after their arrival, Elizabeth Cook lived at 'Turanville', then owned by her brother William Dangar. For a few years it meant that Samuel and Elizabeth were apart for long periods of time. So that they could be together, in about 1844 Samuel exchanged his 'Thalaba Creek' run with 18,000 acres of Henry Dangar's 'Moonbi station and the Cooks made their permanent home at 'Nemingah' just north of Tamworth.



Portrait of Thomas Cook by Conrad Wagner 1890

In 1854, Thomas Cook took on the management of William Dangar's properties of 'Turanville' and his stock runs on the Namoi and Barwon. Thomas Cook made 'Turanville' his home and continued to manage his uncle's properties until 1863, when William Dangar (having returned to England in 1857) arranged for Thomas to lease 'Turanville' and the stock runs for 2,000 pounds per year. In 1868 William Dangar died leaving 'Turanville' to Thomas Cook, who also inherited the stock runs on the Namoi and the Barwon.

In 1867, Thomas married Charlotte Sibly whose family came from St Neots, Cornwall as did the Dangars. Thomas and Charlotte did not have any children, but they were very heavily involved in local activities and hosted many family members over the years. In particular they looked after the children of Elizabeth and Thomas Duckworth after the death of their mother in 1885 at the age of forty. Elizabeth was Thomas Cook's only sister.

Thomas was a successful land owner continuing his uncle's beef production, importing Shorthorn bulls from England in 1878 and 1885. He also bred horses described as "thoroughbred, crossbred and English roadsters." At first his horses were sold annually "probably at Maitland yards," then from 1893 to 1909 horse sales were held at 'Turanville.

Thomas Cook was a very generous philanthropist in the local district. He was heavily involved in and supported St Luke's Church, Scone School of Arts, Aberdeen School of Arts, Scone Hospital, Scone Jockey Club, Scone Cricket Club, Scone Town Band, the Musical and Dramatic Society, and tree planting. He donated the Federation (also known as the Cook) Fountain to mark the establishment of the Federation of Australia in 1901. Initially, this fountain stood in the middle of the intersection of Kelly and Liverpool Streets, Scone, it is now in Rotary's Heritage Park on the corner of Gundy Road and Kelly Street.

Charlotte Cook died in 1903 after suffering poor health for some years. Thomas Cook died of pneumonia on 13th July 1912. "The Revd Phillip Norman of St Andrew's Church spoke of the man he had known intimately for twenty years: '...A striking figure, and a kindly and generous soul, has passed away from among us. We shall miss him greatly. The whole town and neighbouring towns will miss him; the hospital will miss him; the School of Arts will miss him; the children, the poor and troops of friends will miss him.'" The 16th July, 1912 edition of *The Scone Advocate* stated "In the field of sport, he was ever a leading supporter of our race, cricket, polo, football, athletic, military and other clubs, none of which ever appealed to him in vain...up to the last he was as keenly anxious to help any deserving cause – from his purse if he could not do it in any other way." Both Thomas and Charlotte are buried in the family vault at St Luke's, Scone.

(Information on Thomas Cook and quotations from 'Thomas Cook of Turanville' by Nancy Gray, Scone Historical Monograph No. 5 1977)

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All the volunteers would like to wish our members a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year