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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 at 10.30am. All are welcome. December Christmas function 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.

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Membership Fees:

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members

Welcome to another year. Let's hope it's a good one. Please ensure you are part of History Goulburn's 2024 by renewing your membership, which is now due.

Last year certainly ended on a high note with our – albeit brief – return to our home museum St Clair on the weekend of 18-19 November. It represented a pause of sorts in the ongoing conservation of St Clair. Hence, she was looking her age, but gracefully, and she was embellished with a very small number of items from our collection in each of her 12 rooms.

There were 284 members of the public – local, national and international – who came to see St Clair for its first public opening since 2017. Their response was unanimously positive. Certainly, it helped that the weather was perfect – but there was no denying the sense that St Clair was breathing again and relishing it. People appreciated the opportunity to view her with so much space to experience her nooks and crannies, as well as her quiet elegance.

The so-called soft opening enabled people to see the complexities of conserving a 180-year old building, and to appreciate the commitment of Goulburn Mulwaree Council to save St Clair for posterity. Visitors – and all of us welcoming them – valued the document GMC's Sarah Ruberto prepared that explained the work that has been done on St Clair. And, of course, it was Sarah who facilitated the success of the weekend opening.

Now we await the upcoming work on Stage 2 of St Clair's conservation and hope we may be back with her – at least in a small way – in the near future

Jennifer Lamb

Correction

An article in the November 2023 edition of the "Argyle Bulletin" no. 98, page 15, states that Private Charles Leary was born at Gundagai. This is incorrect. The Leary family lived at Third Creek at that time, and his birth was registered at Crookwell in 1899 (Birth Certificate No. 29965/1899). Thankyou to Veronica Burns for pointing out the error.

Identities

Up-To-Date Establishment

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 31 May 1921

Fronting the post-office, and almost in the centre of the block, is Golding's new jewellery establishment, the last word in shop architecture, and a beautiful addition to Goulburn's main thoroughfare. The front a gleaming area of plate glass, measuring 33ft 5 inches, all under one span, the windows being semi-inland, deep, and lined with polished Pacific oak. Above the windows, which are framed in tiles, are attractively designed lead lights, the whole being lavishly lit inside and out with the latest electric lamps. Add to these a wealth of silver and gold ware displayed to the best advantage, and the result is one of the finest shop fronts in the state. Mr. Golding opened the new shop on Monday morning.

Australian Bushranger Gilberts Ghost as written by William Jobie Dunn

The Valley Homestead, Warn Family Crookwell

I have compiled this story by means of my late mother's research, Grace Ellen Dunn, nee (Dewick) and stories told to me at a young age by my late grandmother, Iris JOYCE Dunn nee (Warn).

This is a story concerning the ghosts of John Gilbert and a thoroughbred stallion called Waverly.

In 1837 Crown Land was offered for sale and John Warn Snr, (my Fourth Great Grandfather) bought a section of 788 acres near Crookwell for 433 pounds calling it the James Valley Farm but shown on the Parish map as Berrima

THE LANDS Advertised in the *Gazette* by the Notices dated 3rd January, and 14th March, 1837, have, with the exception of lots 2, 3, 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25, been sold to the undermentioned Parties by Auction, on 12th and 13th April last, and the price affixed to each respectively has been received.

LOTS.	COUNTY.	EXTENT.			PURCHASERS.	PRICE.		
		A.	R.	P.		£	s.	d.
1	Northumberland	598	0	0	Alexander Walker Scott	149	10	0
2	ditto	50	0	0	Not measured			
3	ditto	6	0	0	ditto			
4	Murray	640	0	0	William Rutledge	160	0	0
5	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
6	Northumberland	40	0	0	Not measured			
7	ditto	50	0	0	ditto			
8	Argyle	602	0	0	William Bradley	173	0	0
9	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
10	Murray	700	0	0	William Guise	175	0	0
11	Wellington	1064	0	0	William Cummings	266	0	0
12	Cook	40	0	0	Not measured			
13	King	788	0	0	John Warne	433	8	0
14	Brisbane	900	0	0	Not measured			
15	ditto	640	0	0	ditto			
16	ditto	640	0	0	ditto			
17	Northumberland	960	0	0	Richard Jones	240	0	0
18	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
19	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
20	Bligh	900	0	0	Not measured			
21	ditto	800	0	0	ditto			
22	Bligh	800	0	0	ditto			
23	Roxburgh	991	0	0	William Cummings	247	15	0
24	Brisbane	800	0	0	Not measured			
25	Northumberland	200	0	0	ditto			
26	Macquarie	1110	0	0	Charles Steele	1110	0	0
SALE ON THE 13th.								
1 and 2	King	863	0	0	William Henry Yaldwin	215	15	0
3	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
4	ditto	640	0	0	ditto	160	0	0
						4130	8	0
<i>By His Excellency's Command, E. DEAS THOMSON.</i>								

National Library of Australia

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230669973>

John Gilbert was a bushranger who rode with the notorious Darkie Gardiner, Ben Hall, John Dunn and John O'Meally who pillaged Central New South Wales until they were caught or killed. On the night of January 6, 1864 John Gilbert, accompanied by Dunn and Hall approached a homestead in the Crookwell area called "The Valley". The Valley was then owned by Henry Warn, (my Third Great Grandfather) who was a grazier and horse breeder whom Gilbert knew well, having worked

for Warn as a horse breaker 12 months earlier. Warn was well known to have one of the best horse studs in the colony, having imported Arab stock to achieve the blood lines. Gilbert was a good judge of horses and among the collection of horse studs a particular horse called Waverly caught his attention knowing that it was an excellent animal that he wanted. This was Warn's pride and joy.

On that night the Warn family was having supper when the door flew open and they were confronted by pistols and told to "bail up". To Warn's amazement he recognized Gilbert as he had worked for him before and promptly demanded an explanation. Gilbert told the Warn family that they had no intention of harming them but the trappers had been pushing us and our horses are exhausted as we and all we want is to swap our horses for fresh ones, only a few. Warn's heart sunk as he knew what Gilbert wanted, Waverly. There was nothing Henry could do as Gilbert was insistent. Gilbert promised that it was only for a short time and that he would return Waverly fit and well as I only need the horse for a short period of time. Putting his disappointment aside and the promise Gilbert had made to him he invited the bushrangers to supper and bedding for the night which was in the hay loft above the stables and leaving the next morning to visit a squatter named Faithfull who resided in Goulburn. The bush telegraph had informed Gilbert that Faithfull had possession of imported breech loading rifles which were much more superior firearms of their time.

After bailing up the Faithfull homestead they were informed that the two young sons had taken the rifles turkey shooting on the plains so Gilbert, Hall and Dunn tracked the boys down and approached the wagon they were travelling in. The Faithfull boys recognized them and used the wagon as cover opening fire on them as they approached. Gilbert and Dunn attacked at a full gallop but the boys having superior fire power made Dunn pull back. Gilbert pulled up and took aim at William Faithfull who had turned his back and as Gilbert took the shot Waverly reared up and took the bullet to the back of his head killing him instantly, Gilbert was thrown from Waverly and managed to quickly recover to refuge behind a fence post. Ben Hall braved further firing and was able to rescue Gilbert from harm.

On May 13, 1864, Gilbert and Dunn were sheltering from the Police with Dunns cousin, Kelly who they trusted. Kelly resided at John Dunns Grandfathers property at Murrumburrah near Binalong. Gilbert woke at dawn and strolled to the front door only to see police verging towards the dwelling. Both bushrangers escaped out a window and ran down to Billabong Creek to flee into the bush only to be noticed by one of constables who raised the alarm. Dunn made a run for it as Gilbert took aim at Constable John Bright, he fired twice but the gun misfired, little did he know that the night before while they were sleeping Kelly had dampened their cartridges. While the bushrangers slept, Kelly went to the police at Binalong to inform them that Gilbert and Dunn were hiding there as he wanted to collect the reward money that was offered for the apprehension of the bushrangers. A volley of shots rang out and Gilbert laid dead as Dunn escaped. On that night 100 miles away at the Valley farm, Jim who was eldest of the Warn boys was heading towards the stables to attend to his chores of watering the stud horses. While attending to the horses Jim could hear sloshing from one of the water troughs nearby. Glancing towards the trough he could see a man and a horse, he didn't think much of it believing that it was a neighbour attending to his horse before entering the house. He waited for the stranger to finished and then followed him into the stables and as Jim entered the door way the man and horse were nowhere to be seen. Jim called out to the man that there was a candle there and carried on with his chores. Realising that the stranger had not lit the candle he decided to light it himself as the horses were thrashing about and unsettled. Jim held the candle up

to see what the disturbance was only to be confronted by spooked, sweaty horses. Jim was about half way down the stables and realized that Waverly's stall was occupied and had not been occupied since he was stolen. Jim presumed that the stranger had stabled his horse there and was rubbing it down. Jim called out to the stranger why didn't you light the candle. The stranger replied it's me Johnny Gilbert. I brought back Waverly as I promised your old man. Jim thought that Gilbert brought back a replacement horse as he knew Waverly was dead but as he got closer, he saw Waverly's circle brand mark "W" on his neck. Jim became very unsettled and felt that something was very wrong and shivered as he looked at Gilbert. It was Gilbert all right although he looked very pale and drawn as if he had been riding for days. As Gilbert mounted Waverly he smiled at Jim then rode past him in silence leaving behind a clammy coldness as Jim noticed a glimpse of a silhouetted appearance of Gilbert and Waverly leaving the stable. At this moment the other horses in the stables escaped their stalls in the stable by smashing through the barriers keeping them in and ran for open grounds. The family hearing all of the commotion coming from the stables came running out and dashed to the stables, as they entered the stables Jim told them, "I just saw Gilberts Ghost". Jims's father replied that's impossible as Henry knew that Gilbert had held up the Campbell's place at Bungonia three days ago but Jim again responded, "I tell you it was Gilberts Ghost" I saw him leaving on Waverly and he told me that he was returning the horse as promised. As you can imagine," it was a very restless night in the Warn's household".

Three days later they heard that Gilbert had been betrayed at Binalong and had been shot dead. His body was on display outside the Binalong Police Station. Hearing this the Warn's family were convinced that Gilbert had kept his promise to return Waverly. Since that day, May 13, 1864, many sightings have been reported of seeing Gilberts ghost roaming his old stamping grounds by the public including people held in high credibility.



Ruins of Warn Stable

By Di Smith

Sir William McKell's links to Goulburn

Roger Bayley © 2024.

Sir William McKell was a towering figure in the first half of the twentieth century, rising from poverty to the highest office in the land. He served as Premier of New South Wales during the darkest days of the Second World War, and as Governor-General from 1947-53.

He was born at Pambula in 1891, and was raised by a single mother in the slums of Redfern. His mother scrubbed and sewed to pay the rent. The story of how he left school at 13 to help feed his family, formed an apprentice-boilermakers union at 17, and joined the Labor Party to improve conditions for the poor, is inspiring.



William McKell, circa 1926. The wig and robes were presented to him at the Redfern Town Hall by his constituents on the occasion of being admitted to the Bar. It was a stunning achievement for a man who had left school at 13, and he became known for representing the poor against avaricious landlords.

(Image from the Labor Daily donated by the McKell family).

Billy McKell still found time to play grade football for Balmain and strap on the boxing gloves. When he was appointed Minister for Justice in 1926, he was challenged by the New South Wales Middleweight Champion to a charity bout, and gave a good account of himself.

He served as the Member for Redfern for 29 years and the Premier for seven. His legacy was an impressive record of social reform and development.

As a politician he had inspired unity, and for that reason he was asked to serve as Governor General. After a stellar career he was knighted in 1952 and retired from public life in 1953.

Recently some of our volunteers, updating the catalogue of items donated by the McKell family, asked “What did Sir William McKell have to do with Goulburn?” Ironically, the question was asked at the Goulburn Worker’s Club, just a stone’s throw from McKell Place.

Sir William answered that question in an interview for the “Goulburn Post” in 1977; “my mother was born at Murrays Flats over 130 years ago, and when she died at the age of 91, she was buried at the General Cemetery in Goulburn.” She died at St. John of God Hospital just days before her son was knighted by the King.

She was Martha Shepherd, daughter of a Marulan butcher. The family is well-known in the district, and Shepherd Street in Goulburn is named after them.

In 1890 she married Robert Pollock McKell at Goulburn. He was an itinerant gold prospector who made a living as a butcher or a barman when pickings were slim. They were at the Pambula “rush” when young Billy was born a year later. The births of their next three children were registered at Candelo.

They left the south coast in 1899 and their whereabouts over the next few years are unclear. Family legend suggests that they lived for a while at the booming mining town of Mount Costigan, not far from Peelwood, where Billy attended school.

Monica Croke, in her book “Hotels, Inns and Shanties of the Upper Lachlan Shire”, states that Billy’s grandfather (Robert Pollock McKell senior), held the license for the Mount Costigan Hotel from 1889 to 1891. He then took up the Royal Hotel at nearby Burruga, and left Robert McKell junior to run the Mount Costigan Hotel and a butcher’s shop.

It was here that young Billy would have met his uncles, some of whom were champion boxers, and absorbed the rudiments of community service from his grandfather, a leader in the small town.

By 1901 the mineral boom was over, the pub had closed, and the town was in decline. In the census that year a Robert Pollock McKell is shown as residing there in a household of ten, but there is no way of knowing if this was Robert Junior or Robert Senior. The town had only 18 residences, a store, and a school.

Soon after that the Robert McKell disappeared to the West Australian goldfields. Martha moved to Redfern with her four children, but she always maintained her links with Goulburn.

In 1933 Billy McKell bought a run-down property on the Bungonia Road. He had an eye to a future beyond politics, and wanted to experiment with methods of remediating the land. This passion led

to his first act as State Premier when he set up the World's first Ministry for Conservation, which he later described as his greatest achievement.

"When I bought it, it was called Frog's Hole but that didn't seem so good and I changed it to 'Kulathirrie', the Aboriginal name for frog."¹

He later purchased another property on the Windellama Road called "Newacres". Both properties are still held by his descendants.

Sir William and Lady McKell retired to the farm in 1953, with their family. Their grandchildren attended school in Goulburn and excelled at sport.

Garry White remembers attending a rugby league game on a freezing July day in 1952, while McKell was still Governor General. Young Billy McKell was a star of the Goulburn team in a match against a touring West Australian side. Sir William was to kick off. The stately Rolls Royce glided silently on to the field, the chauffeur opened the rear door with grave dignity, and the great man alighted. He gave the ball a mighty kick, acknowledged the crowd with a dignified lift of his hand, and returned to his leather and walnut cocoon. But the limousine "failed to proceed" and had to be pushed off the field by the footballers.

In later years Lady McKell developed a medical condition that was exacerbated by cold weather so they moved to Sydney, leaving the properties to be managed by their children and grandchildren, but Sir William returned as often as he could to potter about on the farm. He passed away in 1985.

More than 160 items, known as "The McKell Gift", were donated to the Goulburn and District Historical Society.

Other members of the McKell family have also called Goulburn home. Sir William's brother, Lance, was a popular manager at Kenmore Hospital from 1951 to 1963.

But the member of the family that left the most tangible legacy in Goulburn was Lady Minnie McKell, an active member of the Sydney Day Nursery Association, which had been set up to care for the children of working mothers. A committee was set up to build such a facility in Goulburn, and Lady McKell set out to help raise the funds. Her efforts were very successful and in 1954 the building was opened by her husband, in what is now known as McKell Place. Descendants of the silver birch trees that they planted can still be seen near the entrance.

¹ Goulburn Post 12/12/1977

Historic Home

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 11 August 1921

Hurstville Changes Hands

"Bulwarra," formerly "Hurstville," the beautiful old home which was purchased by the late Mr. William Nicholson, has again changed hands. Mrs. Nicholson finding that the house was too large for her small family, recently bought "Hiawatha," Hurst-street, Mr. Menzies' late home, and has now sold "Bulwarra" to Mr. Bracher, who has acquired the news agency formerly conducted by Faulkner and Co.

"Old Hurstville," as it is fondly styled by old residents of Goulburn, was built many years ago by the Rev. Benjamin Hurst, minister in charge of the Goulburn Methodist circuit. For some years Dr. Sly conducted a college at Hurstville. Originally the house stood in more extensive grounds, and when the land was subdivided "Hurst-street" came into being, taking its name from the mansion.

Later the name was changed by Mr. R. E. Conolly to “Bulwarra.” The Hurstville garden has always been an attraction, especially since Mr. Hartmann has been in charge of it.

“A Burglar Trap”

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 6 September 1921.

Shoots the Wrong Man Strange Gun Accident

There is one man in Goulburn who no longer believes in setting ingenious traps for burglars and that is Mr. W. S. Wright, of near Towrang, who early on Sunday morning was shot in the legs by his own gun, and who is now a patient in St. John’s Hospital, wounded, but fortunately not seriously.

Mr. Wright who lives in a small house in the bush not far from the old stockade, had for some time feared that his house might sooner or later be raided by burglars. Accordingly he fixed up a “burglar trap,” which consisted of a shotgun fixed to an upright in the front room, a string and pulley being arranged in such a way as to fire the gun at the door when it was opened. The string was tied to the door knob, and this precluded any use of the door by any but unauthorised or unwelcome visitors, Mr. Wright used the back door.

Saturday night he spent at a dance and after the festivities occupied some hours in conversation with neighbours, so that it was not until daylight that he reached his home. Forgetting all about his trap he partly opened his front door, when the trap at once acted, the gun exploding and sending a charge through the lower panel. Many of the pellets remained in the wood, but others passed through and lodged in Mr. Wrights legs, inflicting several nasty wounds.

He was able to attract the attention of some passers-by and was brought into Goulburn and admitted to St. John’s hospital, where his injuries were attended to. He is now reported to be recovering, and is regarded as extremely fortunate, as had the door not stopped the charge to a great extent he would probably have been fatally injured.

Kenmore’s Lethal Chamber

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 11 January 1921.

Extraordinary Occurrence Deadly Gas

There is in existence at Kenmore a lethal chamber of guaranteed efficiency. It came into existence in an extraordinary way. Last week an employee was instructed to sink some holes near the two silos to drain water from the silage. When he got down about 10 feet he felt a little dizzy. He came to the surface and sat on the bank until he felt better. Then he went below again, but the ill effects were more quickly noticeable than before, and the employee wisely concluded that the job was not a safe one. Another man was called and went down, and his report was that conditions were decidedly bad.

A doctor was informed, and he was of the opinion that there was an emanation from the silo of marsh gas. The effects of the gas were tried on three cats. The first was soon dead, the second expired in about 10 seconds, and the third only lasted about five seconds. Flies were killed in myriads. A piece of rag saturated with kerosene was set alight and dropped into the hole. The flames were immediately extinguished. Next morning the gas, which had no smell, was effective as on the first day. It only operates for about three feet from the bottom of the hole.

Those who own silos should be warned by his occurrence, and be very careful when putting in drains. It seems probable that the Kenmore workman tapped a “well” of gas under the silo, the heavy and poisonous vapour having evidently settled into the interstices of the ground beneath.

Red Floor Opened

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 15 November 1927

Goulburn's latest dancing novelty – The red Floor opened last night and gives promise of providing a most popular form of summer diversion. Despite the cool weather over 150 couples attended, the open air dancing proving thoroughly enjoyable. The floor is of large dimensions 95ft by 50ft, and is of concrete composition.

The floor was a surprise to the large body of dancers, who found it smooth and remarkably fast. Red, white and blue streamers suspended from a wire network above the floor made effective decorations; jazz caps worn by the dancers adding to the gay scene. An orchestra of six players dispersed delightful music and will be enlarged to seven players during this week, the following programme having been arranged – Monday: Jazz; Wednesday: old time dancing; Friday: Jazz. Supper will be served at future dances.

The City Band was present last night and gave a number of selections. A flashlight photograph was taken in celebration of the opening night. The floor is situated at the corner of Cowper and Clinton Streets and was made possible through the enterprise of Mr. N. R. Gillman.

Identities

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 7 March 1911.

Mr. Charles Joseph Jones, who had been recently caretaker of the Goulburn golf links, died at his residence in Emma-street, Eastgrove, on Monday morning, at the age of 68 years. The immediate cause of death was heart failure following on a complication. Many years ago the deceased had a blacksmith's shop where the Salvation Army Barracks now stand. He was twice married and leaves two sons and three daughters by the first marriage, and a son and daughter by the second.

Mr. John William Hawkins, son of the late Zachariah Hawkins (an ex-Mayor of the city), died last Monday evening at the residence of Mrs. Jones, Mulwaree-street. The late Mr. J. W Hawkins was born in Tasmania on the 12 May 1831, and therefore was nearly 80 years of age. The cause of death was senile decay and heart failure. Deceased was an old identity of the city, and was one time well-known as a water carrier. During the past fortnight his mind reverted to events of fifty years ago, and he could speak of them quite clearly. Occasionally in the last days he would launch out into recitations of the old school type. He had been blind for nearly 30 years and bedridden for the last ten months. He had suffered greatly from kidney trouble since November, but all pain ceased a fortnight ago. He had been tendered during the last nine years by Mrs Jones, of Mulwaree-street, wife of ex-Ganger Jones.

Her efforts were untiring, and friends of the patient speak of her as sister, mother, and nurse combined. Mr. Hawkins is survived by one brother, George, who lives in Queensland, and three sisters, Mesdames Wickner, Neate, and Wright, who reside in Sydney.

Deceased was a charter member of Belmore Lodge, having joined the Order on August 12, 1872, and continued a member up to the time of his death. He bore his affliction of blindness and his long period of suffering without a murmur, enduring with fortitude to the end.

There are many who will miss poor blind John. The remains were interred in the old Church of England Cemetery this afternoon, the Rev. A. H. Tolhurst officiating.

Goulburn Identity

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 16 December 1927.

Nonagenarian's Death

An intensely interesting personality and one who had been identified with the life of NSW for 86 years was removed by the death yesterday afternoon by the death of Mrs. Mary Millane, aged 91.

The old lady who had endeared herself to all who knew her, died at her residence, 74 Victoria Street, Goulburn. For the last two months she had been confined to her bed.

Despite her great age, she possessed a keen memory and could recount a wealth of reminiscences dating back over three quarters of a century, when she, with her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs Anthony Glennan, set out from Circular Quay, Sydney, in a bullock wagon.

Arriving in the Monaro, the family settled on Mr. Campbell's "Quedong" station, where they remained for many years, later going to Tirranna, where Mr. Glennan secured an engagement on the Gibson estate. Here Mrs. Millane received her schooling. The family stayed at Tirranna for many years.

After her marriage, Mrs. Millane and her husband, the late Mr. John Millane started farming and grazing at Wheeo. A time was spent at Bogolong, in the Grenfell district, where Mr. Millane managed the hotel for Mr. Gibson, of Tirranna. While at Bogolong she came in direct contact with the notorious Gardiner gang of bushrangers, who held up two coaches at the hotel door. After robbing the passengers Gardiner ordered drinks and was served by Mrs. Millane.

Both Mr and Mrs Millane were well known in the Goulburn district. The former was a pioneer mail contractor, running between Goulburn, Tarlo, Inveralochy and Binda. On taking up residence in Goulburn he was for many years in the occupation of street-lamp lighter, when gas formed the only means of illuminating the city. Mr. Millane predeceased his wife by about 28 years.

Mrs. Millane was a native of County Kerry, Ireland. She is survived by four sons and four daughters, two sons having predeceased her. The sons are: Messrs Peter (Hurlstone Park), Michael (Goulburn), Thomas and Patrick Joseph Millane (Sydney). The daughters are: Mesdames K Trevaskis (North Sydney), E. Coy (Dulwich Hill), L. Bateman (Goulburn) and S. Hebblewhite (Newcastle). There are 36 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren.

The funeral will take place at 1 o'clock this afternoon and will proceed to the Catholic cemetery, Kenmore.

Improving Market Street

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 18 August 1921.

Soldiers' Club Building

The work of remodelling the old Protestant Hall in Market-street, the building which has been acquired by the trustees of the Goulburn Soldiers' Club, is being rapidly proceeded with and already the old but stout fabric presents an improved appearance. New entrances and enlarged window-openings have been pierced in the walls and bricklayers and carpenters are so altering the interior that the habitués would scarcely recognise it. Enough progress has been made to indicate the new club building will be an ornament to the city.

The workmen engaged in cutting away the walls, where necessary, state that the original job was one which reflects credit on the builders of the early days of Goulburn. The mortar has set as hard as concrete and the bricks are as sound as the day they were taken from the kiln. Cracks are non-existent, and though the remodelling will necessitate considerable alteration, the building looks likely to weather many a decade before further repairs are necessary.

The Protestant Hall is one of the oldest buildings in Goulburn. At one time it was practically the centre of the city's activities, for within the walls the municipal council sat, while next door stood the post-office. Opposite, what was originally "Market Square" stood the first courthouse, lock-up, and jail, and in the square itself (Belmore Gardens) the first settlers gathered to transact business. Under the new regime the old building will take on a new lease of life, but to old residents it will still be "the Protestant Hall" redolent with many memories of the past.