



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

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*Woolooma Provisional Shire Council 1906*

*L-R F. A. Parbury, G. Eagar, L. E. Wiseman, H. L. White, W. E. Abbott*

## **Committee Elected in February 2024**

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

**Membership of the Society** – is open to everyone who is interested in Local or Family History. Subscriptions are \$20.00 for singles and \$35.00 joint membership (same address) per calendar year (January to December). Financial member's names are listed in the newsletter following the receipt of their payment. Your continuing subscription is important to us. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email and in colour just let us know.

**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 10 pages of photocopying and standard postage.

Please email the society at [sconehistorical@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sconehistorical@yahoo.com.au)

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

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

**Our Webpage can be found at:** [SconeHistorical.org.au](http://SconeHistorical.org.au)

### **Scone Historical Society banking details are –**

All payments either for Membership or Research can be paid by cash or by direct deposit into our Bank Account –

Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society

BSB: 932 000 Account: 787562

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

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

### **Publication**

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

### **Sense of Place Case**

The Historical Society has a small, interesting display of historical items pertaining to the Scone area at the Scone Library. Please take time to have a look when you are next at or near the library. It is changed regularly.

**Life Members:**

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

**Membership paid for 2024**    **Thank you for your support**

Woodlands, Mrs M  
Martel, Mrs J  
Brooker, Mr M  
Boroughs, Mr I  
Holswich, Mr J  
McNelis, Mr M New  
Williams, Ms F New  
Birch, Mrs E  
Duffin, Ms G New

Job, Mrs B  
Sneyd, Mr J  
Cook, Ms K  
Kelly, Mr J  
Anderson, Mrs N  
Logan, Mr I  
Palos, Ms D  
Muddle, Mr R  
McMahon, Mrs J New

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

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

**Tell us your story**

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

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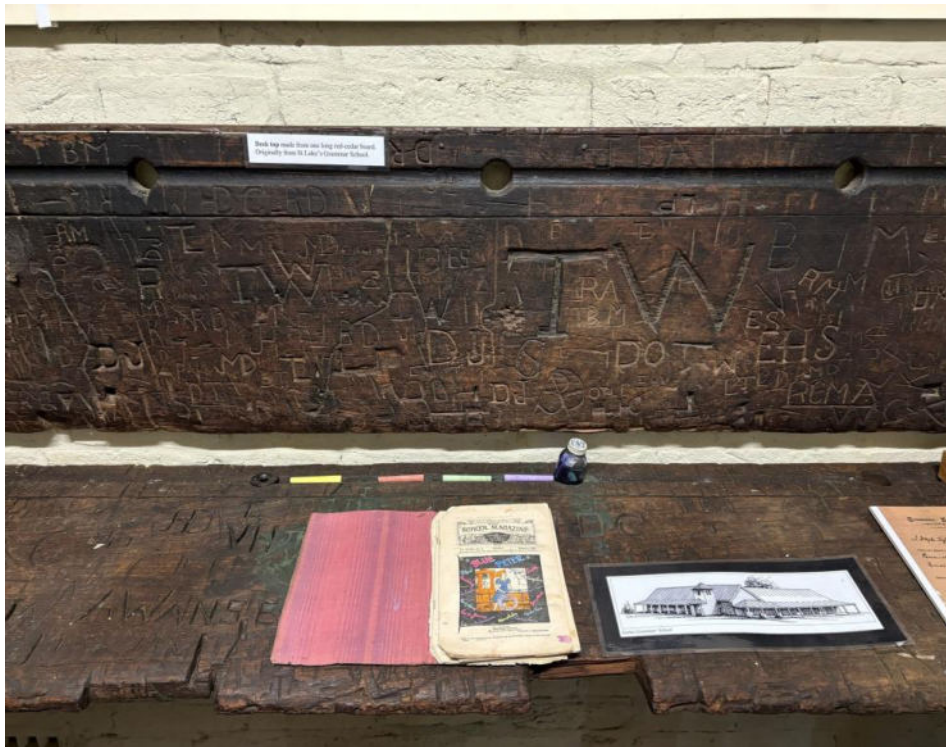


A grateful thank you to Glencore for the generous grant to purchase a computer and software to digitally store and display our dynamic pictures.  
Donations and bequests by members or others are always appreciated and welcome.

## **SOCIETY ACTIVITY AND NEWS**

Most of this section for this edition of the Newsletter is news rather than activity. Now that we are into the winter months our usual activity has been curtailed a little owing to volunteers being unwell or caring for loved ones.

In our last Newsletter I indicated that we had been successful in being nominated to participate in a Museum Activation Pilot Project being administered by Arts Upper Hunter. Six artists lodged expressions of interest in developing a work of art inspired by an item in our Museum collection. We had some input into assessing the applications, but the independent panel formed by Arts Upper Hunter had the final say. We were pleased to hear that the panel had chosen Sophie Cox's application which was one of the applications that we had assessed highly. Sophie's concept is to work on producing textile items based on the two old cedar desktops that came from the St Luke's Grammar School and donated to the Museum by St Luke's Parochial Council in July 1967. These desktops (see photo below) are covered in the carved initials of individuals who had access to them, whether it was the students plus some others or just students we are not sure, anyway, whoever did it provided an impressive display of the vandalism of a couple good pieces of wood.

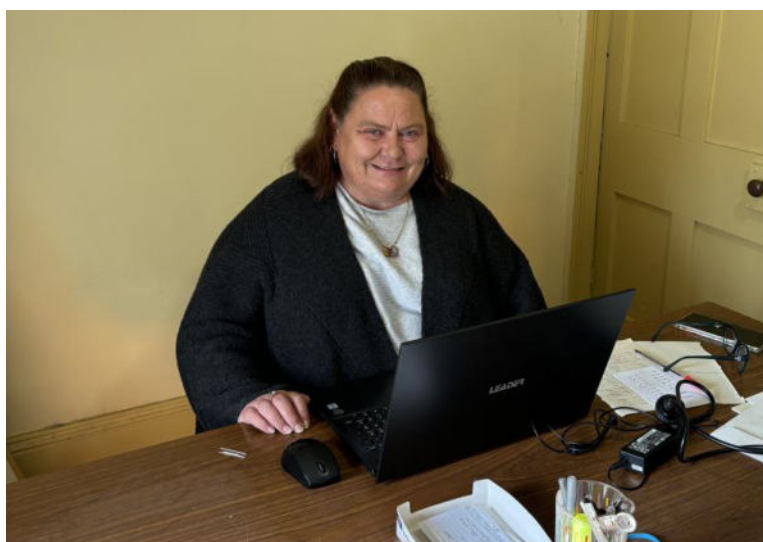


Also in our last Newsletter we announced that Bengalla mine had provided the extra money needed to purchase the display case for the dress uniform and hat of Major Frederick Nigel Parbury (see more about him in the 'History in the Museum' section below). The display case arrived all in one piece and required some very careful manoeuvring (including the removal of a door and some grill gate hinges) to get it through the narrow gateway and doorways and into the Gray Room. The conservation work on the uniform has been completed and paid for with the help of an anonymous donation. The uniform, hat and Major Parbury's medals are now on display in Gray Room. We are feeling very chuffed about this and encourage all our members to pay us a visit to view this new display.

Other grants that we have received since the beginning of this year include: Volunteers Grant from the Federal Government via our local Federal MP, Mr Barnaby Joyce; Glencore mine; and, two from Australian Museums and Galleries. The grants from the Federal Government and Glencore have been used to update our computer technology. One of the grants from AMAgA called 'Lights on, Doors open' was to help with some of our operating costs, such as, electricity bills and fees for our website and photo copier. The other AMAg grant was a volunteer grant which we've used to purchase items that our volunteers need in the conservation of the items in our collection.

We have also received some good news in relation to our proposed new storage shed which will be located behind the Old Kitchen which was the original kitchen for the Sergeant's Residence (now called the Research Centre). We have been successful in our application for a Certificate of Construction for the shed and we are in the process of organising the construction of the shed through Great Value Garages at Tamworth who use local builders. Funds for the new shed are from a grant that we received from the State Government at the beginning of 2023. The remainder of the funds from this grant are to go towards the restoration of some of the exterior brickwork on the three heritage buildings on our site. All to be completed by November 2025.

More good news is that Melissa, one of our volunteers, has after many hours of persistence finished entering all of the existing archive collection catalogue index cards onto a database. This is a major achievement as it involved making over 53,000 entries. This has been a huge job, and one which we thought we'd never be able to achieve, but thanks to Mark Walmsley, who scanned the cards, and Melissa who built the database it's been done! Photo of Melissa pleased that it's done!



Carolyn Carter – Editor

## **OAMs and AMs and MBEs and even KCMGs**

We were very pleased to hear that two members of our local community, Mr Charles Cooke and Mr John Brooks, had been awarded the OAM in the King's Birthday Honour List recently. It got us thinking about other members in our community who had received Honours in the past, and we thought that we would make mention of some of these very worthy recipients in our Newsletter. We know that this is not a complete list and hope that we are not causing any hurt by leaving out other recipients who are/were no less worthy.



**Sir Alister McMullin KCMG** was appointed a Knight Commander of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in June 1957. The KCMG order was founded by George IV in 1818 when acting as Prince Regent and was originally awarded to those holding high positions in the Mediterranean, this was later extended to those holding high offices or performing great non-military service to the UK or the Commonwealth. Sir Alister was born at Rouchel in 1900, he worked on his father's property then in 1928 purchased 'Yarramoor'. He was greatly involved in the local community serving on the Upper Hunter Shire and PP Board, Scott Memorial Hospital Board and the Ambulance Committee. He enlisted in the AIF July 1940 and served in the RAAF. After WWII he married Thelma Smith and in 1956 they moved to St Aubin's stud where they bred cattle. He was elected as a Liberal Party senator in 1951 and became Chairman of the Senate in 1956 and remained in that position until 1971 when he retired from the Senate. Sir Alister was heavily involved in many aspects of parliamentary and government work. He was always ready to support and participate in many local activities and events and continued to hold interests in his grazing properties and other local businesses. He was elected as the first Chancellor of the University of Newcastle in 1966-77. He died in 1984 at Scone.

**Dr Walter Pye MBE** was born at Parramatta in 1905. He was educated at Kings School, Parramatta and graduated from Sydney University with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in 1928. In 1930 he went to Edinburgh, Scotland to do further study and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1931. After few more years of study in the UK he returned to Australia and commenced a medical practice in Scone in 1934. He married Gwendolyn Yeager in 1937. Not only did Dr Pye build up a strong medical practice providing excellent medical service to the Scone and Upper Hunter, but he was also immersed in the life of the town and community and a leader who looked to the future as well as engaging with the present. Audrey Entwistle, in her book *Dr Walter Osmond Pye 1905 – 1994 a Celebration*, describes him Scone's 'Man of the Century.' His legacy lives on to this day in, among other things, the Scone aged care facility which he founded as the Upper Hunter Village Association (which became Strathearn Aged Care and now Hammond Care); and, in Scone War Memorial Aerodrome which was opened in 1963. These two facilities are rarely, if ever, seen today in towns the size of Scone. He was awarded the Medal of the British Empire (MBE) in Queen's Birthday honours list in 1973 for "Services to the community, especially Medicine." He died at Scone in early 1994.

**Dr Judy White PhD, AM** was born Judith Crossing in Sydney and grew up in the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney. In 1956 she graduated from Sydney University with a degree Bachelor of Economics. In the same year she married Micheal White and moved to live at 'Belltrees' where they raised seven children. Judy became very actively engaged in researching the history of 'Belltrees' which had been in the White family since the 1830s and also the local history in general. She has written and published at least eleven books using her own publishing banner 'The Seven Press.' She also pursued academic study and achieved Master of Letters through the University of New England in 1984, and a Doctorate in Philosophy through Newcastle University in 2002. She was also awarded an honorary Master of Arts by the University of Newcastle in 1988. In 2014 Judy was named the winner of the Newcastle University Alumni Award. Judy has played an enormous role in the large number of organisations including: the Hunter Valley Research Foundation; the Hunter Institute of Technology, the Hunter Economic Development Corporation; the University of Newcastle Foundation; and Library and Archives of the NSW Royal Agricultural Society. In June 1998, Judy was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the General Division for services to Australian history, to the arts, to rural sector, the advancement of women, to the rural sector and to the economic development of the Hunter region. Judy still lives at 'Belltrees'.

**Barry Rose OAM** came to Scone with his family in 1950 when his family purchased the property 'Camyr Allyn'. In a news item published in The Scone Advocate in 2002 he is reported to have said "he has only had one occupation – horse training. All the other stuff, he said, was just for fun." He was elected to Scone Council in 1987 and immediately became Deputy President and became Mayor in 1990. Barry joined the Muswellbrook Harness Racing Club and over the years took on various office bearer positions across the racing industry, including Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the NSW Harness Racing Authority, a Board member of the NSW TAB, and the President of Committee of Country Racing Associations. Barry was also a very well known professional musician "playing the piano for jazz bands and dance bands for around 20 years" in our area. Awarded OAM in 2002 for services to the community, local government and Standardbred racing. He died at the age of 73 in January 2009.

**Dr Bill Howey OAM** born in Northumberland, England and grew up on a mixed farming property, after completing his primary school education at the local school he went to boarding school at Ackworth School West Yorkshire for his secondary education. He then studied veterinary science at Edinburgh University for five years. Upon graduation Bill worked as a veterinarian in North West Ireland. In 1967 he saw an advertisement in the British Veterinary Record for an assistant to work with Murray Bain in Scone. Bill had attended a presentation by Murray Bain at the 1965 British Veterinary Association Conference which aroused his interest in the Horse Capital of Australia. He answered the advertisement and arrived in Australia in 1967 and joined the veterinary practice that had been set up in Scone by Murray Bain. In 1975 he married Sarah and they have a son and a daughter plus grandchildren. In 1977 Bill joined John Morgan and Nairn Fraser to establish the Morgan, Howey, Fraser Veterinary partnership now called the Scone Equine Hospital. Bill continued to work with this practice for the next 20 years, and then branched into teaching in the TAFE system and lecturing at Sydney University where he helped establish Continuing Veterinary Education. Bill has been extensively involved in a variety of local organisation over the years. These included: President of the Scone Race Club 1978-1984 now life member; life member of the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association; the Equine Veterinarians of Australia; the Australian and NZ College of Veterinary Science; honorary member of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW; VIP of the Upper Hunter Horse Festival; board member of Upper Hunter Village Association (later known as Strathearn Aged Care). He was key driver of the establishment of the Hunter Valley Equine Research Centre. Bill also served as Councillor on the Upper Hunter Shire Council helped to introduce junior soccer to Scone, was active in junior cricket, swimming, pony club, and ADFAS. Bill has written several books on the equine and racing industry and local history. Bill was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to veterinary science and veterinary practise in June, 2018. Bill (not so quietly 'retired') lives in Scone with his wife Sarah.

**Jim Clarke OAM** was born in Scone and was educated at Scone Public School (Scone Rural School as it was known) and after he left school he worked in father's grocery store which was known as Clarke's situated in Kelly Street. He also managed his father's grocery shop at Willow Tree. In 1952 Jim and his two brothers, Craig and Joe, opened a furniture shop in Kelly Street which was located where the Reject Shop is now situated. They ran this shop for 35 years and Jim retired from work in 1987. Over the years Jim was at the forefront of many community organisations and endeavours. He was a Charter member of Scone Lions Club which was active in a variety of town projects over the year, including the building of the Scone War Memorial Swimming Pool. He was also a foundation member of the Upper Hunter Village Association and turned the first sod for Strathearn with Dr Pye and served on the Board for many years culminating in cutting the ribbon for the opening of the new aged care home on Gundy Road in 2016. Jim was also involved in junior league and athletics. Jim

never really retired, he was described in The Scone Advocate as “the odd job man many frail or housebound people rely on to take them shopping, pick up a loaf of bread or maybe clean leaves out of the guttering.” In January 2006, Jim was awarded an OAM for his service to the community. Jim continued to serve our community almost to the time of his death at the age of 90 in June 2017.

**Liz Foote OAM** moved to Scone with her husband, Les, in 1963. Upon retiring from nursing, Liz commenced volunteering with a variety of local organisations. Her first volunteering experience was with the Red Cross working in the canteen at the Scone Saleyards. This led to working in the Scone Red Cross Shop for many years. In 1997 Liz started volunteering for Transcare, this involved taking people shopping, to appointments or out of town. Liz also volunteered with FamilyInsight visiting a family each week to provide support and assist with looking after children. She volunteered for Meals on Wheels, collected money for the Heart Foundation, and participated in Clean Up Australia Day. She was a committee member of Scone District Cancer Support and attended the Scone Men’s Cancer Support Group. In 2009 Liz was awarded the Upper Hunter Shire Citizen of the year and overall Hunter McLoughlin Memorial Citizen of the Year. Liz was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in June 2010 for services to the Scone community. Liz now lives at Hammond Care at Scone.

## **HISTORY IN THE MUSEUM**

Our History in the Museum for this edition is our new exhibit, the military dress jacket and hat and military medals of Major Frederick Nigel Parbury. We have also purchased a special display case for the exhibit which was purchased with a grant from Dept. of Veteran Affairs and a donation from Bengalla mine. Please see the photo below.





Major Frederick Parbury was the eldest son of Frederick Augustus Parbury of 'Invermien' and 'Satur.' He was born at 'Invermien', Scone 13<sup>th</sup> May 1879. He was educated at the Kings' School Parrmatta. He joined the Royal Australian Artillery in 1899, but later, through an Imperial Commission offered to Australians, joined the Royal Field Artillery in 1901. In August 1902, he went to South Africa as the Second Lieutenant attached to the 20<sup>th</sup> Battery and served in the Boer War until the cessation of hostilities receiving the South African Medal with five clasps. In 1905, he went as Lieutenant with the Battery to India where he was promoted to Captain in January, 1911. In 1912 he married Julia Harriot in Sydney and his son was born in 1913. In September, 1914 he left India to serve in WWI in France on the Western Front near La Bassee. In January, 1915 he was promoted to Major. He was killed by a bursting shell in his observing station May 9<sup>th</sup> 1915 and was buried in Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery Souchez, which is 3.5 kilometres north of Arras.



Photo of Major Parbury

Major Parbury's father, Frederick Augustus, purchased 'Invermien' from William Little in 1878. He also own 'Satur'. In 1881 he sold 'Invermien' to James Henry Doyle. He served on the Woolooma Provisional Council in 1906 (see front cover). There is a memorial plaque in St Luke's church, Scone, dedicated to him, his eldest daughter Helen Margaret Laura who died at the age of 10, and his eldest son, Major Frederick Nigel Parbury.

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Satur House c 1888  
Mr & Mrs F. A. Parbury on verandah  
Their daughters Doris and Nancy with Margaret McDonald of The Cuan

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