



Lithgow Pioneer Press



2024 YVONNE JENKINS MEMORIAL AWARD WINNER

Brian Wood was announced as the winner of the 2024 Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Essay Award at a presentation held at the Society's Research Centre in August 2024.. Brian was unable to attend the presentation, however he and his wife Helen and his sister Jeanette Hill recently visited the Resource Centre and he was presented with his Certificate. Brian also receives 12 months free membership of the Society as winner of the Award.

LITHGOW & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY

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OPENING HOURS: 11 am to 4 pm on Fridays and 2 pm to 5 pm on Tuesdays by appointment only. email: secretary.ldfhs@gmail.com

Access to Resource Centre: Members free, non-members \$20.

Ewen Smith Memorial Hall

43 Tank Street, Lithgow

Please address all mail to: PO Box 516 Lithgow, NSW 2790

Tel. (02) 6353 1089 (during opening hours)

Email: secretary.ldfhs@gmail.com

Committee of Management meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 2 pm.

Meeting dates: 18 Nov 2024, No meeting in December. 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 19 May, 16 Jun, 21 Jul, 18 Aug, 15 Sep, 20 Oct, 17 Nov 2025.

Members are welcome to attend or submit ideas for discussion.

FEES

MEMBERSHIP (1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025)

Membership yearly - 3 journals (mailed journals) \$45

- 3 journals (emailed journals) \$40

Membership from October 1st 2024 - 2 journals \$25 posted or by email \$20

RESEARCH:

Research fees: for non-members mail enquiries minimum 2 hours \$40

Members who live outside the Lithgow area can request 3 hours research by our Research Officer.

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2024 YVONNE JENKINS MEMORIAL ESSAY AWARD PRESENTATION.

The presentation of the 2024 Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Essay Awards was preceded by a highly entertaining talk by Fran Leighton, illustrating the joys of teaching by emphasising the amusing and at times hilarious moments she and other teachers have enjoyed in their 'School Days'.

Frances Leighton has been teaching officially since 1988, although she began earlier in 1984, when she was studying in Italy. Ironically, once she retired recently, she was declared a "Proficient Teacher" by NESA the newly introduced regulator of Education in Australia – a fact which she finds most amusing. Having taught thousands upon thousands of students in all manner of educational institutions (public, private, independent, Catholic, single-sex, co-educational, secondary and tertiary levels) she would rather be declared 'proficient' by her students, who are far more able to judge what makes a good teacher!

Nowadays, Frances occasionally tutors English HSC students and helps mark certain examinations each year. She reads copious amounts of books, on-line literature and enjoys pondering on the highlights of world literature today.



L&DFHS CHRISTMAS PARTY
MAMA SNOW'S @ TARANA
SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2024
12:30 PM
RSVP FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER

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CHRISTMAS BREAK

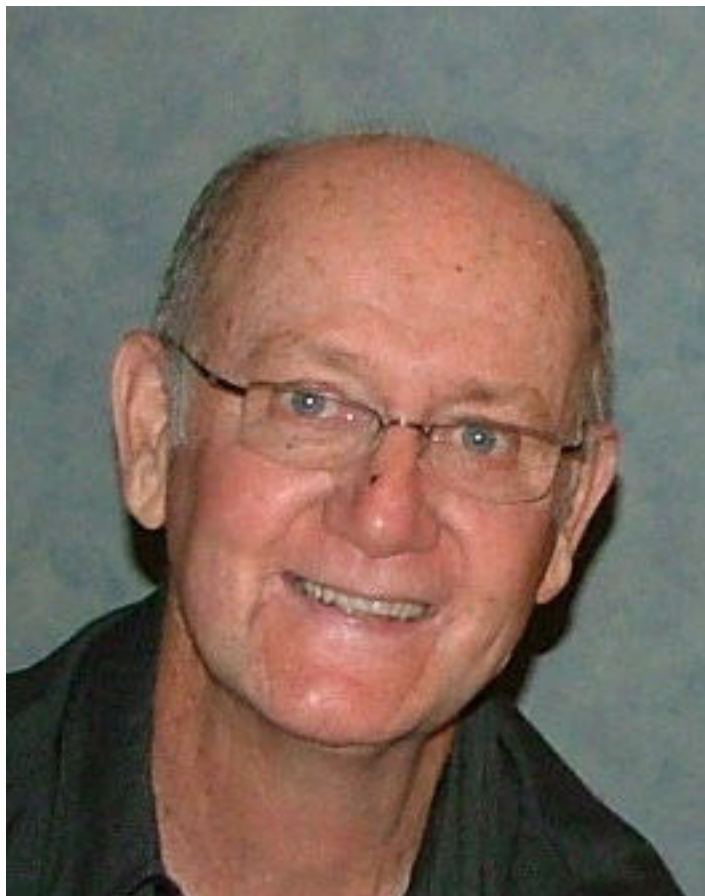
The Resource Centre will
be closing on Friday 13
December 2024 at 4 pm and re-
opening on Friday 10 January
2025 at 11 am.

We wish you a Happy
Christmas and success in all
your genealogy endeavours this
year.

LAWRENCE WILLIAM (LAURIE) COOK

20 March 1942 – 15 October 2024.

Laurie as he was known to his family and friends became interested in family history in the early 1980's when his father asked him to trace their mystery ancestor William Cook(e). The story passed down through the family was that he came to Australia under a different name, married a convict Irish woman named Mary Foy. No marriage was found of his marriage to Mary or a re-marriage, or of his death. The couple were the parents of two sons William James Cook, born 1842, and Edward Fitzgerald Cook, born 1845. Bill and Ned, as they were known, were road builders and built roads around the North Shore.



Laurie grew up in Naremburn, on Sydney's North Shore and attended the local St Joseph's College. He attended the Christian Brother College at Chatswood, leaving after Fourth Year (Year 11) and worked for his father as a bricklayer's labourer until he found employment as an assistant in a Derrins's grocery store at Chatswood.

It appears that Laurie's mother was instrumental in his joining the NSW Police Force, as she suggested an aptitude test, which indicated that this might be a good fit.

Writing his 'Member's profile' for this society's journal in 2006, Laurie described himself as "underweight (10 stone 2 pounds wringing wet- I needed an extra 5 pounds". Determination and time spend riding his bicycle to the gymnasium three nights a week to exercise, paid off.

By September 1958, he was accepted as a Police Cadet, working at Redfern Barracks, performing clerical duties in the Traffic Branch. Laurie learnt shorthand and typing, skills which he continued to

use for the rest of his life.

Laurie met his future wife Lorraine Mary Roberts through a common connection with the Boy Scout movement and the couple were married on 6 February 1965.

Prior to their marriage Laurie had been transferred to General Duties at Young Police Station. His next appointment was to the one-man station at Coramba, 15 kilometres from Coffs Harbour. It was at Coffs Harbour that Laurie and Lorraine's three sons were born – Glen in 1968, Adrian in 1970 and Keiran in 1976.

Promoted to the rank of Sergeant at Tenterfield in 1977, and then to Lithgow in 1980, where he eventually became Officer in Charge for a

period, before being transferred to Parramatta. It was during this time that Laurie's health deteriorated when was diagnosed with Lupus. Laurie was able to commute to and from Katoomba, performing office duties, before he was unable to continue and in 1994 was discharged as medically unfit.

In June 1986 Laurie joined the Lithgow & District Family Society, seeking information on that elusive William Cook(e). His membership number was 55, recognised as a Foundation Member of the Society, and was active within the society when work allowed.

Appointed Secretary of the society in 2001, he continued to hold this role or that of Treasurer, swapping with Margaret Buckley, until September 2019. During that time Laurie and Lorraine formed a lasting friendship with Margaret and John Buckley, and the foursome were the instigators of several fund-raising activities. Who can forget the function to launch the sale of bottles of clean-skin wines that were sold to raise funds for the

Society? (All done legally of course, as the former Licencing Sergeant knew the rules!)

Laurie continued his connection with the society after the couple moved to the Illawarra to be closer to family. Indexing had become his passion, and the society benefited from the hours he spent indexing books on our shelves that were not indexed. He also took photos of all the old corner shops/general stores in Lithgow valley, the foundation of a new project for 2025.

Another of the delights of family history is making family connections with someone who you don't expect. It was this case with Laurie and another member of the society. Both spent time in Willoughby as children, not knowing each other, and both were now living in Lithgow, only to discover that they have a somewhat distant family connection, and then referred to each other as "Cuz".

Laurie, we miss your smile, your quiet manner, and sense of humour, your integrity, your determination to overcome the challenges of your illness and your commitment to the society.

Rest in Peace.



Lawrence William Cook and Cuz' Marcia Jean Farr



SCHOOL REGISTERS & ADMINISTRATION FILES

- Brewongle – Admissions 1895 - 1966
- Capertee - Admissions 1911 - 1938; Punishment Book
- Cullen Bullen c1909 - 1938
- Georges Plains - Admissions 1923 - 1973
- Glen Davis - Admissions 1939 - 1961
- Lithgow Infants - Admissions 26 Feb 1945 - 1954, 1966 - 1981, 1981 - 1986
- Lithgow Public - Girls Admissions 1942 - 1960; Boys Admissions 1946 - 1961, Boys & Girls Admissions 1962 - 1982, 1983 - 1993, Punishment Book
- Lithgow High - Punishment Book
- Marrangaroo - Admissions - 1912 - 1982
- Meadow Flat - Admissions - 1919 - 1992
- Off Flats & Hampton – Administration files
- Peel – Admissions - 1877 - 1969
- Piper's Flat (Irondale) – Administration file
- Rydal - Admissions 1886 - 1968 & Visitor's book 1869 – 1927
- Sodwalls - Admissions 1947 - 1981
- South Bowenfels Public - Admissions: 1930 - 1963
- Sunny Corner - Admissions 1906 - 1956; 1953 - 1979
- Tarana – Admissions: 1924 - 1970
- Turlinjah - Admissions 1910 - 1962
- Tyldesley - Admissions 1924 - 1963
- Walang - Admissions 1896 - 1969
- Zig Zag Public – Admissions: 1908 – 1950; Punishment Book.

DELANEY RESEARCH REQUEST

I am looking for information about the descendants of Nicholas Delaney (convict Atlas 2, 1802) and Elizabeth Bayle/ Bayley (free settler Brothers 1807) particularly about their son James (1815 - 1898) and his wife Elizabeth Levers (1820 - unknown) and their children. I have Delaney Decades and A Rebel Hand which contain genealogies but no supporting evidence for details of James, Elizabeth and children.

Lorraine Stagg lstag3@gmail.com or by post
C/- LDFHS, PO Box 516, Lithgow NSW 2790

YVONNE JENKINS

MEMORIAL AWARD

2024 WINNING ESSAY

“SCHOOL DAYS”

By Brian Wood

I attended school for twelve diverse years. Sandwiched between two periods of servitude endured at denominational schools were four liberating years of State School education. These years were spent with the contrasting and exciting sensation of tearing along in the fresh air with the roof down, freed from a uniform and completely devoid of any reference to threats of divine retribution.

It's not every school where the presence of a brown snake in the playground was a regular occurrence nor the opportunity arose to stand side by side with the Principal, armed with a wet hessian bag, helping to fight a raging grass fire in a paddock beside the school – with no complaints being afterwards lodged by parents regarding fire-damaged clothing. Well, that was only the beginning of the excitement presented to me in the mid-fifties through attendance at Wallendbeen Public School, located in a village on the southwest slopes of NSW.

There were about sixty pupils at the K-6 school. The school had a teaching Principal, Mr James Peters, supported by a recent graduate teacher who taught the composite classes to grade three. The Principal's wife taught the girls sewing and cooking.



1953 - The Author is standing in the back row, fourth from the left.

I started at Wallendbeen in Third Class 1953 with teacher Miss Dewsbury, whose early gripe with me concerned my addressing her as ‘Sister’ instead of ‘Miss’ – a habit, so to speak, from my earlier days with the Josephite Nuns at St Michael's in beachside Thirroul, NSW. Still, we did eventually get my head right!



Wallendbeen Public School as it appeared up until the renovations commenced in the early 1960s.

The pupils were crammed into a two-roomed, brick and weatherboard classroom block with tall windows and high timbered ceilings. A large sliding wall and a double-sided fireplace subdivided the rooms, which became once again integrated when listening to ABC school radio broadcasts, and ‘crackly’ musical presentations played on a wind-up gramophone – which also broadcast to the playground for folk-dancing lessons.

The classroom desks were arranged in precisely filed rows, each consisting of two seat flaps and a common desktop with pencil grooves separating two ink wells. The boys in each class group were directed to sit in front of the girls, thereby avoiding temptations relating to girls’ plaits, ink-wells, and other creative opportunities presented by flowing tresses impinging onto the desk during arithmetic lessons!

Lesson topics were introduced on the blackboard and then practised in workbooks – we never noticed that we were a three-class composite.

Winters were punishing in Wallendbeen and every day for about three months each year, a wood fire was lit on both sides of the fireplace. It was the rotating responsibility of the fifth- and sixth-class boys to arrive early and start the fires – which were enthusiastically at blast-furnace temperature by the time the rest of the pupils arrived. The fact that the school building has lasted since

1885 remains an absolute miracle!

Writing with nibs and ink was introduced in fourth class, an event that every teacher and parent must have dreaded, through unintelligible writing, blue stains emblazoned on clothing and ink spills seeping into books and onto the floor. My handwriting is still largely illegible – whether that comes from those times or some later slackness problem is hard to say. The ink was supplied to schools as a powder that required mixing with water. Wisely or not, the task again became the responsibility of senior boys as a reward for virtuous classroom behaviour or superior academic performance – I usually aimed for the latter due to my extra-curricular conversation problems. The job was performed outside in large enamelled water basins recessed into the tank-stand and by the time the ink was made, the ink wells cleaned and refilled, it was easy to justify an absence from class for an entire afternoon – but not the residual mess.

There were no formal school sports days, nevertheless, during energetic recess breaks we soon developed skills sufficient to challenge contemporary heroes like Rosewall, Churchill or Harvey – albeit using our rules and mismatched equipment dating from our grandfathers' time. All the normal school games were played, fights were rare, competition was intense, and our shoes were quickly worn from the overused, gravelled playground. None of us wore hats, there was no tuckshop and the toilets were remotely located, resonating 'long drops'.

The school's film projector was well used, regularly showing current Newsreels, special events like the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and the later Royal Visit – and a movie might be shown on rainy days. The school's library needs were fulfilled by the regular arrival of a large wooden box of books at the Wallendbeen railway station. As the son of the Wallendbeen Station Master, I was always first to relay the news to the Principal. Consequently, I assisted with retrieving the box in his new Morris Oxford motorcar and acquired first choice of borrowing the latest Biggles novel.

I look back in admiration of Mr Peters and his assistant at the seemingly endless and creative ways in which they stimulated our interest and engagement with learning, craft activities and physical well-being – at their subtle promotion of

excellence and responsibility – their innovative use of the limited facilities available in a semi-remote rural community suffering climatic extremes – and producing Awards nights that were legendary due to their meticulous amount of planning and practice – all occurring within a built environment similar to that described in John O'Brien's 'The Old Bush School', complete with the 'spider-haunted ceilings ... lined with darts of nibs and paper'.



Wallendbeen Public School as it appears in 2024.

My family moved from Wallendbeen in 1956 and my five high school years were spent at a De la Salle boys' school in Western Sydney. From the shock of the first day to the relief from the last day, separated by constant emotional challenges and a physically abusive environment, the contrast with my days at a small school in the country could not have been starker. The engagement skills required for learning and the joys from academic achievement I acquired within the relaxed environment at Wallendbeen PS, well-grounded me in achieving later success at University and an ongoing love of learning.

Wallendbeen Public School



"From Small Beginnings"
Established 1881

SCHOOL DAYS. 1946-1956

Entry in the Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award

as submitted by Rae Casey

My siblings and I all attended a Catholic Primary School called St. Mel's. From fourth class our brother went to a school for boys at Lewisham which was called St. Thomas'. The girls continued attending St. Mel's finishing in Third Year. We sat the Primary Final Exam in sixth class and then onto Years One, Two and Three. At the end of Year Three we sat The Intermediate Certificate.

At school we were taught English, Arithmetic, History, Geography, French, Painting, Sewing, Shorthand and Typing, Bookkeeping and Business Principles and Bible Studies. Casual Teachers came every week for Elocution, Dressmaking, Singing and Art. We also had Bjelke Petersen Physical Culture Instructors. Our sports were netball for the girls and rugby league for the boys. Every year we had competitions against other Catholic Schools. We also had ballroom dancing, and some had Irish Dancing Classes. We attended two school balls each year. One was a ball for the juniors who were little debutantes and so cute and the second one was for the seniors.

Whilst attending school we went to Mass each Friday and sang the prayers of the Mass in Latin. We competed in Eisteddfods' each year at the Sydney Town Hall and always came back with a prize. Before little and big lunchtimes we always said Grace before and Thank You afterwards.

Some memories of these days are our Physical Culture Programs and Roll Calls each morning before going to class and playing basketball each lunch time. A few more memories of school that come to mind are the smell of the kindergarten classroom. The first was a smell of a soiled nappy, ugh, the second being of very ripe bananas.

When I was in third class, I remember kissing a boy and having my long black plaits dipped into the ink wells by another.

Lessons for First Confession and First Holy Communion were given to us at school from a nun whom we adored. She was gentle and quietly spoken.

Singing lessons and not being able to hear my own voice so never knew how I sounded.

Painting lessons from an elderly man who taught

us to never put blue and green together except on the horizon.



Rae Casey receiving her certificate of participation from Fran Leighton, guest speaker at the presentation of the 2024 Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Essay Award

Shorthand and Typewriting lessons were in a separate little room with windows that faced the street and in the distance Canterbury Racecourse. Some days when the sister was not watching we would use binoculars to watch the races.

When we sat the Primary Final Exam, a priest supervised us and whilst he was in the room wrote a poem about us and included every child's name. I still have a copy of that poem today and read it whenever I am cleaning out my grandmother's travelling chest.

Our school uniform in winter consisted of a white shirt and blue tie, a bib and pleated navy-blue tunic to below the knees, a belt, brown stockings, and black lace up school shoes. During the summer, in our later years at school the uniform was a maroon tunic type dress with three pleats across our breasts. Beige collar and buttons a belt, beige stockings, and brown lace up school shoes. This uniform made us look bigger and bustier and was horrible. In the winter we also wore a navy-blue hat

with school emblem on the band and in summer a beige Panama hat with maroon band.

In Second Year, I became in trouble when the girls around me decided to throw spit balls at one another which had pins stuck in them so that whoever grabbed them would make the receiver shout. I was the recipient of one of these and yelled. The nun turned and asked who had yelled and all the girls around pointed at me. For punishment I was told to stand for the rest of the lesson. Whilst standing, I was looking out the window at the young priest who was saying his office. He waved at me, so I waved back. As I did so the nun saw me and asked what I was doing. When I told her she very quickly said "sit down".

The worst memories I had was after I had gone through puberty and not knowing when and where my period would begin and then not being prepared for the situation. I remember the nuns being very kind at this time and would send us to a small room near the classrooms where we could clean up.



Rae (RHS) and her two sisters.

As young children we always walked to school. The four of us would trudge about one and a half miles up our street which was hilly and across Canterbury Road and down another hill to our school at Campsie. In later years we would catch the 492 buses to and from school. Our brother would catch the same bus going in the opposite direction to Lewisham. I was very frightened of dogs when I was little and on our way to school every day there was a great Alsatian Dog who was always out on the footpath. I would cross the road whenever I saw him, and he would also cross. I proceeded this way until the corner of the block where he lived then he would just go home.



Rae (middle) and her two sisters.

I had my last day at school on my Birthday and sat for the Intermediate Certificate on that day. I was given my Certificate around two weeks later by the nun who taught us with her comment "I don't know how you did this Miss but Congratulations."

During my school years I had many friends who are still part of my life today. We have attended school reunions at Dooleys Catholic Club at Lidcombe each year and truly have had a great time and relived some great memories. I have lost some good friends over the last few years but still remember them and what they meant to me. I will remember them until my dying day arrives.

“ELEVEN - SEVENTY - FOUR”

by C C Singleton

(Extracted from the Australian Historical Society
Bulletin No 258 - April 1959)

Steam working over the Blue Mountains ceased on 9 June 1957, with the completion of the electrification to Lithgow, and the working condition of the engine crews over this section have changed for the better.

In the steam days, to get from Enfield or Penrith to Lithgow with an engine in good condition was hard enough, but with a bad steamer, the engine crew worked doubly hard. Such an engine and notoriously so, was No 1174 (old TF-class 2-8-0 “Consolidation” goods engine) which had the inevitable but thoroughly justified reputation of being the worst of that troublesome class, and the 190 members of which were, at one time, known to the running staff as the “Terrible Failures”, after their introduction in 1912. It should be mentioned, however, that, with new standard boiler and later improvements, No 1174 (now No 5461 under the 1924 numbering scheme) became a respectable member of the steam locomotive stock of the New South Wales Railways.



Frank Brown, fireman and ultimately, driver for many years, penned some verses, which are most descriptive of the struggle up the big climb, with its ruling grade of 1 in 33, with this particular engine and the time is now deemed suitable to reprint them for the benefit of members. The first, “The Fireman’s Lament”, deals with Mr Brown’s experiences in the pre-World War I period and is reprinted from a copy in my possession. It typifies the chagrin and hostility of the engine crews when rostered to work this erstwhile notorious locomotive.

THE FIREMAN’S LAMENT

When you’re signing on at Enfield
And they meet you at the door,
And they tell you that your engine
Is 1174.

You hear the driver grumble,
But you hear the fireman roar,
When they look at the repair book,
For 1174.

Elements, valves and pistons,
Burnt-off smoke box door,
Engine steaming very badly,
It’s 1174.

I Don’t know why they run her,
But the ‘heads’ know what is best,
And there’s a spell if you’re behind her,
When she’s running on the West.

If they put her on a North job,
You can always safely bet,
You’ll see her in the siding ,
At Wyong or Morriset.

By this number I am haunted
And each day more and more,
It doesn’t matter what I do,
It’s 1174.

Last night my wife she said to me,
“Oh dear, your hands look sore”;
I said “Yes, I’ve been to Lithgow,
On 1174”.

She brought me soap to wash them with,
The best she could procure,
It is called 4711,
Not 1174.



Thought I'd try my luck in Tatt's
As I'd often done before,
The winning prize was 75,
And I held 74.

Disgusted I enlisted,
And went to that awful war,
My regimental number
Was 1174,

Engaged in one great battle,
They were dropping us by the score,
The dead and wounded numbered
Just 1174.

And when the war had ended,
I came back to work once more,
And went 99 to Lithgow,
On 1174.

∞ ∞ ∞



Engine 1174 (renamed 5461) is on static display at the Valley Heights Railway Museum.

Photos from the collection of John Hurst.

FRANK BROWN

Frank Brown, born 14 Sept 1899, commenced work with NSW Government Railways on 1 March 1924 as a cleaner at Armidale.

He was transferred to Temora in September 1921, then to Tenterfield and Cowra before returning to Armidale in March 1923. Promoted to Fireman in February 1926, Frank worked out of Armidale and was promoted to Driver in November 1943.

Frank's NSWGR employment records states he was working as 4th class chargeman in 1944, promoted to 3rd Class in Temora in June 1945 and 2nd class chargeman in Lithgow in May 1946. Promoted to 1st Class chargeman on a salary of £554 per annum in September 1948, Frank was transferred to Enfield in 1949.

On 15 December 1954 he was appointed Shed Chargeman Special Class at Enfield in the Mechanical Branch. His salary of £610 per annum was above award and increased to £780 per annum on 13 December 1959. Frank Brown retired on 12 July 1960.

Frank Married Clara Muriel Carr in 1926. The marriage was registered in Ballina. The couple were the parents of a daughter Phyllis. From the electoral rolls It appears that the couple's home base was Armidale. In 1949 they were living at "Orana". 17 Atkinson Street, Lithgow, moving to Punchbowl soon afterwards.



Clara Brown died on 22 January 1976 and Frank died on 23 June 1977. Both are buried in Woronora Cemetery.

Post script: We are unable to find a record that Frank Brown joined the AIF. A little poetic licence?

HENRY MANION & WILLIAM LATTER

Compiled from information received from Olwyn (nee Latter) Blaker and Susan (nee Manion) Gay and other sources.

Henry Manion and his two brothers, Michael and Frederick, arrived in Australia in 1912.

The boys were the grandsons of Patrick Manion and his wife, Bridget nee Glynn of Tagheen, Mayo Co, Ireland.

The Manion and Glynn farming families were severely affected by the failure of the potato crops, and Patrick and Bridget's parents travelled to England to make a better life for themselves and their family. Patrick was a Tinsmith by trade, fabricating his tinware and selling it as a hawker.

Patrick and Bridget's son, Patrick Junior, was born on 3 June 1847 in Manchester.

Patrick Junior married Elizabeth Parry in Llanelli, and the family lived in a crofter cottage at Llangwrfon, Wales. They were the parents of eight children:

Rosina (1882-1942). m: William Latter; Michael 1889-1934, Henry b: 20 March 1890 - 1972; Frederick b 1896; Mary 1879: Sam Driver; Kate m: ? George; Bessie m: ? Williams and Hester m: Thomas Evans.

Rosina married William Latter and the couple were the parents of three children: William (Bill) 1904-1975, Elizabeth b: 1908 and Frank b: 1926-1956.

Patrick and Elizabeth's three sons emigrated to Australia before the beginning of the Great War 1914-1919.

Michael Manion, the eldest son, born in Aberystwith, Cardiganshire, Wales enlisted in the AIF on 5 July 1915, at Liverpool, aged 25 years 5 months.

#2166 Private Michael Manion served with the 17th Battalion in France. He received gunshot wounds to his left hand, and was transferred to 2nd Northern General Hospital in England. Discharged from hospital, Michael embarked from Plymouth per A32 *Themistocles*, disembarking in Sydney and was discharged on 23 August 1917 as medically unfit.

Michael received a pension of thirty shillings a week on his discharge.

He took up a soldier's settlement block (Farm 787) at Yenda, NSW. Michael died in Queensland in 1934.



2166 Private Michael Manion—17th Battalion

Frederick Manion, the youngest son of Patrick and Elizabeth, enlisted in the AIF on 22 December 1914, at Liverpool NSW, stating that he was 21 years and 8 months, despite that fact that he was only 18 years old.

#877 Trooper Frederick Manion served with the 6th Light Horse Regiment in Gallipoli from 6 August 1915. He was wounded ("shrapnel, thigh, serious") at Anzac Cove on 18 November 1915.

Frederick's brother, Henry Manion, then living at Mount Nicholas, East Coast, Tasmania received a letter stating that Frederick died on 26 November 1915 from shock after the amputation of his leg at 1st Australian General Hospital, Heliopolis, Egypt.

Frederick was buried in the New Protestant Cemetery, Old Cairo.

Henry Manion, Frederick's brother, enlisted in the AIF in Hobart, Tasmania on 10 January 1916, stating he was born at Llangwyrfer, Cardiganshire, Wales, and currently employed as a miner. His records notes that he was aged 23 years 10 months and a member of the St Mary's Rifle Club.

#22333 Gunner Henry Manion served with the 8th Field Artillery Brigade in France.

In February 1919, Henry was granted leave and travelled back to Wales. Henry married Margaret

Edwards of Nantymoel, on the 19 February 1919 at the Tabernacle Chapel, Bridgend, Glamorgan. He rejoined his unit on 27 February 1919.

Henry received his discharge papers 11 July 1919 in London and returned to Nantymoel.

Henry and Margaret were the parents of three children, all born in Nantymoel – Eldred b 1921, Cyril b 1922 and Beryl b 1926.

As conditions in Wales deteriorated after the war, Henry had visions of returning to Australia again, so he arranged for Bill Latter, to travel to Yenda, NSW to stay with Michael Manion

In 1924 Bill found life on Michael Manion's farm at Yenda a disappointment so he walked and worked from farm to farm from Yenda to Lithgow. Lithgow at this time had become home for many Welsh families.

William Latter married Margaret A S Trotman c 1926. The marriage was registered at Lithgow.

In 1926 Henry and Margaret MANION and their three children, left Nantymoel, Wales and sailed on the *Hermiones* to join Bill Latter in Lithgow, NSW.

Lithgow was to become the family home for many years, as the family settled in McKellar's Paddock, and found work in the Steelworks.

A daughter Olwen was born to Bill and Margaret Latter in Lithgow in 1928 Lithgow.

It was in 1930 that the Hoskins Bros finally closed the Steelworks at Lithgow and Bill Latter and Henry Manion became unemployed like most others during the Depression.

What ingenuity the men had, after experiencing hard times before! Henry and Bill found a coal seam to pick so there were no heating or cooking worries for the neighbours. Henry's garden, which was his great joy, provided enough fruit and vegetables for the family. Bill was doing part-time work at Corderoy's Farm, Hartley Vale and was paid in meat and milk and with Margaret at the sewing machine everyone was well dressed, recycling clothing to make 'new' clothes. In her later life, Olwen commented that she was lucky to have such resourceful parents.

Seven years later, Henry found work at the Lithgow Small Arms Factory and stayed until his retirement. (Eldred, Cyril and Beryl grew up in Lithgow).

Henry Manion was a member of Lithgow group of



Henry Manion and his brother, 877 Trooper Frederick Manion.
(Photograph taken in Tasmania)

Toc H in 1940.

In 1933 Hoskins Bros sent for Bill Latter to work at their Port Kembla Steelworks so after selling up the McKellar's Paddock home, the Latter/Trotter family - Bill, Margaret, William (Billy) and Olwen left for Fairy Meadow, Wollongong.

William Latter died on 14 May 1975.

Henry Manion died in 1972, and Margaret died in 1974.

Eldred Manion (1921-1967)

Eldred worked in the Bren section at a Small Arms Factory before enlisting in the RAAF Sunderland Squad. After training in Canada, the Squad was based in Plymouth, England and engaged in the Battle of Britain.

In 1943 Sergeant E M Manion of Lithgow, was reported as a member of the Sunderland crew which picked up two survivors from a Liberator Bomber, which crashed into the sea after an attack by five Junkers. The crew had drifted without food or water for six days.

Eldred's mother was quoted as saying that she was "overjoyed at the news, particularly as she has not had a letter from her son for six weeks".

After discharge Eldred became a Sales Manager of Vegetable Oils at Marrickville. Eldred, known as Alf, married Avis Burn of Bega and died in 1967 aged 45 years. They had one daughter Susan.

Avis and Susan left Hurstville for Gosford and a new life for themselves after Alf's death.

Susan married Jeff Gay in 1985. They have two daughters, Angharad and Rhiannon.

Cyril Manion (1922-1938)

Cyril was one of eighteen students attending Lithgow Intermediate High School who were awarded a Hoskins Memorial Library Institute Scholarship in 1937. In 1939 he represented Lithgow Junior Farmer's Club at the Royal Agricultural Show in Sydney.

Cyril was killed on 3 February 1940 while out on a shooting trip at Lyle's (sic) Crossing with two friends, when a .22 calibre rifle accidentally discharged, and the bullet struck him in the chest. He died instantly.

He was buried in the Baptist portion of the Lithgow Cemetery.

Cyril's parents donated a watercolour by Australian Artist Lister Lister to perpetuate his memory, and in appreciation of the support given to them by staff and pupils at the time.

Beryl Manion (1926-2009)

Beryl was born in 1926 and married Steve Langsford at Lithgow. They had two sons, John born in 1961 and Brian in 1962. Brian married Monica Blaney, and they have a daughter Eve, born in 1984. John married Junko Kato at Alice Springs in 1988 and died the same year.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

1/24 George DONALD, Stonemason, at Hill End.

8/24 Exact location of Robert TOSHACK'S grave in Portland.

11/24 CORDEROY and Bowenfels National School.

14/24 Micheal RYAN and Mary NILAN.

15/24 WILKINS, JENKINS.

16/24 ARMSTRONG, Sunny Corner.

17/24 FAVORITO, SPANO, IENNA.

18/24 Robert, Andrew and Samuel PITT.

19/24 Researching Family in Lithgow and Aboriginal connections.

21/24 Catholic School at Hartley. PHILLIPS Family. Shamrock Inn.

25/24 John BLACKMAN.

26/24 Robert LAWSON.

27/24 Coorwull Academy.

28/24 William MATTHEWS.

30/24 Researching grandfather, accident in Inch Street and shop in Main Street

31/24 Thomas RICHARDS.

34/24 Searching relatives of Private G. HORTON (MORTON).

45/24 Looking for Liza Lucy FITZSIMMONS lost in the bush around Capertee 1901-1917 and found by an Aboriginal tracker. 46/24 William SLATTERY

47/24 MARCELLA Family.

48/24 POWER, EDWARD and NASH.

49/24 Mary MAXWELL m Thomas BROWN 1838

50/24 William CORDEROY of South Bowenfels.

51/24 Coorwull School sporting house names - BRACEY, NEWHAM FINLAY and COATES

52/24 Olive Maud COOK lived in Newnes and Wolgan valley as a child looking for further information.

54/24 Descendant of James WALKER through the ARCHER Family.

55/24 Henry DELANEY.

56/24 BELL Family – Ivan and Benjamin

61/24 "Blink Bonnie" and Meadow Flat.

63/24 Richard Francis QUINSEY of Bowenfels and One Tree Hill between 1871 and 1880s. Land records.

64/24 Thomas RICKARD and May BURGESS

- children, Lithgow Cemetery
- 70/24 James DELANEY
- 71/24 Zig – Zag re information about Church. Church. Was in Hay Street. Now demolished.
- 72/24 Pierce COLLITS Information given to us.
- 73/24 Seeking history of the property “Abbotsbury or “Farnham” as it was first known.
- 74/24 Portland District War Memorial. Seeking information on dedication.
- 75/24 Olive Nellie HOLLANDS, adopted by WITHERSPOON.
- 76/24 William BUTLER, Station Master and Mary BEASLEY, 6 children.
- 77/24 Thomas and James LEWIS buried in same grave. Were they brothers?
- 78/24 Clarence Deviation and navvies.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

- A2 Father Browne’s Australia - Images From Irelands Master Photographer (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- A2 History of Australian Bushranging. Vol. 1 (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- A2 A Real Flash Cove - The Story of The Bushranger John Gilbert. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- A2 Ned Kelly In Pictures
- B/BRA Don Bradman
- B/DEL Delaney Decades - Descendants of Nicholas & Elizabeth 2017 - Updated Edition (donated by Lynne Stagg)
- B/JAC Jackson, Brogan & Horan Families
- B/MUL The Track Maker - The Life & Works of Peter Mulheran. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- B/WHI Whitty Families - Cover & Bird
- C2845 St. John The Evangelist Church Wallerawang Baptisms 1844-1977 Burials 1885-1978
- C2848 Round Swamp - Barnaby Family Cemetery. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- C2790 Lithgow Mercury Deaths Vol 10. (compiled & indexed by Tracey Reed)
- P2000 The History of the Garrison Church- Holy Trinity at Miller’s Point. (donated by Helen Tracy)
- P2040 Callan Park - Hospital For The Insane. (donated by Helen Tracy)
- P2526 The Mt. Kembla Disaster. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- P2570 Shack Country And The Old Burratorang. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- P2570 The History of Burratorang Valley From The Records. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- P2733 Lapstone Zig Zag Railway. (donated by Terry Fitzpatrick)
- P2780 Yerranderie. (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)
- P2782 Wentworth Falls 1813-2013 - A Short Bicentennial History. (donated by Terry Fitzpatrick)
- P2790-B The History of the Lithgow Valley Film Society 21st Anniversary Nov 2023. (donated by Eleanor Martin)

P2790-C L.D.F.H.S.Inc. Annual Reports 2023-2024

P2790-H Nomination of Hartley Valley for Inclusion in the National Heritage List Nov 2012
(donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790 H Enterprising Migrants - An Irish Family in Australia (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790-J Jenolan Caves - A Correct & Faithful Account of a Journey to the "Fish River Caves" by the
Pickwick Corresponding Club in 1886 (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790-R Byways of Steam No 32 . (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790-R Cox's Road Dreaming - Guide Book (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790-R Journal of a Tour of Discovery Across The Blue Mountains 1813 (donated by Terry
Fitzpatrick)

P2790-R Footsteps in Time - A Road Across the Mountains (donated by Terry Fitzpatrick)

P2790-S Oil Shale Operations in NSW (Includes Lithgow District) (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2790-T Opening of Lithgow Telephone Exchange 30.10.1954 Photos & Newspaper Clippings

P2790-T Telephone Directory 063 - 2023-24

P2795 100 Heritage Homes of Bathurst & District Vol 4 (written & donated by Lee Steele)

P2804 Canowindra & District Churches - A Pictorial History (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2804 Canowindra Celebrates Its 100 Years 1839-1939 (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

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P2845 Wallerawang Churches

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P2850 The Hill End Story - Hill End-Tamboroora Goldfield Books 1&2 (donated by Lynda
Lovegrove)

P2850 The Hill End Story - Memories & Vignettes Book 3 donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2850 Hill End Goldfield - Gold & Relic Sites (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)

P2850 Major Controversies of the Australian Goldrush (donated by Lynda Lovegrove)