



ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024



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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY WARNING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this newsletter contains images and names of deceased persons

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2024.

In this newsletter you will find an array of interesting information on current research being undertaken and updates on ongoing projects. Thank you to all who have shared their research and stories with us. If you have anything you would like to share with us in future newsletters, please get in touch.

Included in this newsletter is research on one of Oranges private hospitals, “Wanganui” which provided essential maternity services to the women of Orange. One of Orange’s many successful sporting identities, George Bonnor who went on to play cricket for Australia is highlighted as well as some interesting information on The Old Wellington Inn at Guyong.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge the valuable contributions that our volunteers have made over the year. Projects being undertaken by our volunteers include researching soldiers from the local area, indexing newspapers, updating cemetery records and answering research enquiries. These efforts are much appreciated and do not go unnoticed. If you have spare time and would be interested in volunteering, please let us know.

I would like to wish all of our members and readers a safe and happy festive season and look forward to hearing about your research and discoveries in 2025.

Ruth Bingham - Local Studies Librarian

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UPDATE ON FORGOTTEN DIGGERS PROJECT

Hard to believe the year is nearly ended, the older one gets the faster they seem to go!

Firstly, the project of placing the remaining headstones on Forgotten Diggers in Orange Cemetery is still ongoing. We were hoping to have a service around Remembrance Day this year but due to the heavy workload of the monumental masons this has been moved to March. Hopefully I can update this further in the next newsletter.

For the Royalists – did you see King Charles and Queen Camilla on their recent visit to Canberra? They placed poppies next to two of our WWI Diggers at the War Memorial. [Private William Punch \(No 5435\)](#), an Indigenous soldier who died of pneumonia endocarditis in England in 1916 was the recipient of the King's poppy. Prior to his death he had been hospitalized twice with wounds and once for Trench Foot.



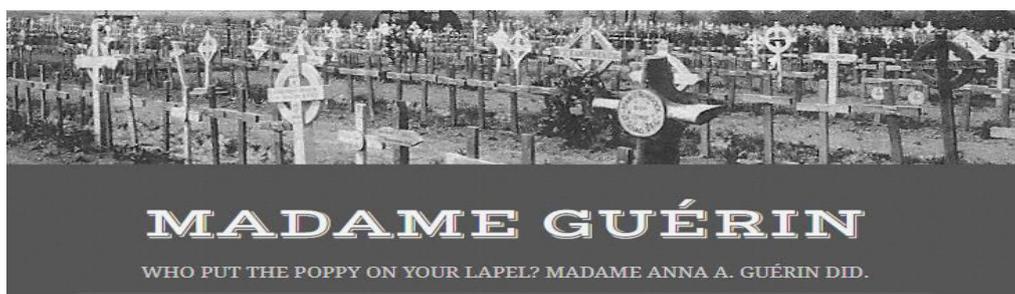
Private William Joseph Punch 5435
Photograph Courtesy Australian War Memorial

Queen Camilla placed her poppy next to the name of Private [William James “Bill” Johnson \(No 3827\)](#). He formed part of the 2nd Infantry Battalion and died of wounds in France on the 30th July 1916. He also had a connection with Orange. His parents moved here just after his birth in Yass in 1867. His war record indicates he trained as a coachbuilder in Orange under Michael Kinealy. Prior to his enlistment he was the Mayor of Auburn. Further information can be accessed on the [Orange Wiki page](#):



William James ('Bill') Johnson 3827
Photograph Courtesy Orange Wiki

Ever wondered why we wear poppies on Remembrance Day? Of course, they are the symbol of our commemoration of the war dead but “Miss” Google also says that Moira Michael began the practice of wearing a poppy in 1918 when she read the McCrae’s poem “In Flanders Fields”.



There is a book online about Madam Anna Guerin who the author states should get star billing for this practice. <https://poppyladymadameguerin.wordpress.com/> I will let you decide.

Stay safe over the Christmas break

Sharon Jameson
Researcher – Orange Family History Group

STOP PRESS ...

After more than 5 years of research and work to have headstones installed for the Forgotten Diggers in Orange cemetery today (28 Nov 2024) marked the installation of the first headstone for Gunner Herbert Kidd. Another 9 of his comrades will be installed over the next couple of days weather permitting. Thanks must go to Cadia Mines, Orange Ex-Services Club, Department of Veteran Affairs, Forgotten Diggers, Sub Branch of Orange RSL, McMurtries stonemasons Orange and Orange City Council for making it possible.

Herbert Kidd died as a result of a road accident in Orange in 1929. From the *Orange Leader* dated 1 Feb 1929 page 8:



“After suffering from the results of extensive injuries, sustained last New Year's Eve, when he was run over by a motor car, in Summer Street, Mr. Herbert Kidd, aged 46, died at the Orange Hospital, on Wednesday. His injuries included a broken spine, two fractured ribs, a fractured skull, and a broken arm, yet, despite these, he was possessed of his full mentality during the period of detention at the hospital.



Deceased was a widower, and seldom remained in any one centre for more than a few months. He served with the A.I.F. during practically the whole of the war and was finally sent home suffering from a severe wound.

He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Kidd, of Lucknow, at which centre he resided with his parents until about 12 years old. He commenced his roving life at an early age and was not well known in Orange. Mr. W. Kidd (Hurlstone Park) is a brother, and Mrs. M. Winkler, of Redfern, a sister. Nurse Kidd, of McLachlan Street, is a sister-in-law.”

Herbert was born in Lucknow in 1882. He was the son of William Kidd and Mary Hennessy. A blacksmith by trade he enlisted in Sydney on the 26 April 1916 and then embarked HMAT *Mashobra* on the 14 September 1916 and marched into No 3 Camp Parkhouse England 2 November 1915 for further training. A gunner, he formed part of the 4th Division Ammunition Column was sent to France on 31st March 1917, returning to England 20 January 1918 with a heart disorder and classified medically unfit. He returned to Australia via *Dunvegan Castle* in March 1918 and was discharged medically unfit.

Herbert married Mary Follington in Sydney in 1918. She passed away in 1919. There was no issue from the marriage.

WANGANUI PRIVATE HOSPITAL ORANGE

One of our researchers was asked to provide some information on Wanganui Private Hospital that was located in Sale Street Orange in 1940's. She found some interesting information.

Leader (Orange NSW 1899 – 1945): Wednesday 28 February 1940. Page 2 'WANGANUI HOSPITAL' AT NEW ADDRESS

Owing to forwarding practice Sister O'Brien of "Wanganui" private hospital has transferred from 90 William Street to 16 Sale Street. The premises to which Sister O'Brien has moved to are of the most modern in Orange and is only a short distance from Summer Street in Sale Street. The sister has also found it necessary to increase her staff, and besides a night nurse, she has secured the assistance of Sister Connolly, who has had extensive experience in all branches of nursing.

Leader (Orange, NSW : 1899 - 1945) Friday 1 Mar 1940 Page 2 Advertising



SISTER O'BRIEN
WANGANUI PRIVATE HOSPITAL
HAS removed from 90 William Street
to new premises,
16 SALE STREE, Opposite Oddfellows'
Hall.

Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW : 1945 - 1954) Fri 6 Aug 1948 Page 2 HELPED AT BIRTH OF 4,000 BABIES

After assisting to bring more than 4,000 babies into the world during the 15 years she has conducted Wanganui Hospital, Sister M O'Brien is about to retire.

Sister O'Brien hopes that she will be able to close the hospital at the end of August. After years of arduous work, the sister justifiably feels that she deserves a rest.

Last year 265 babies – one each day – were born at Wanganui Hospital. "This was a record for all the years I have nursed in Orange" she said. "Already this year, 200 babies have been born at the hospital".

BAD OLD DAYS

"It is up to younger women to take over responsibilities in the maternity hospitals now" Sister O'Brien said yesterday. Nursing conditions, she said had improved out of sight since the early days of her own training. Conditions should continue to improve, too she added.

"In my day, we had to pay £60 entrance fee to a hospital, and after working at least 12 hours a day, were not paid any wage at all". The sister said that she had been waiting for an opportunity to close her hospital for some time.

NEW HOSPITALS

For some years she had found it absolutely necessary to keep open, owing to the acute shortage of maternity hospitals in Orange. "Now, with the opening of the Base Hospital Unit and Kallara, I feel that I can close down without inconvenience to mothers in Orange and other places." During her 15 years at Wanganui, Sister O'Brien has worked up a practice which has included many patients as far west as Bourke and Broken Hill. Sister will make her home in Sydney after her retirement.

Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW : 1945 - 1954) Wednesday 1 Sep 1948: Page 8 LAST BABY BORN AT WANGANUI

Wanganui Hospital this week is caring for the last of more than 4,000 babies to have been born within its wards. Sister M. O'Brien is closing the hospital, after practising in Orange for 15 years, "

The last baby to be born in the hospital was John Lyall Sullivan, first child of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sullivan. He arrived on August 26. The baby is the grandson of Mr. Jim Sullivan, postmaster at Cargo.

After a sale of hospital equipment within the next fortnight, Sister O'Brien will leave for Sydney to make her home at Kingsgrove. Last year 365 babies—one for each day of the year were born at Wanganui Hospital.

More than 200, however, had already been born at Wanganui this year, and this would have set a higher record had the hospital remained open until the end of 1948.

Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW : 1945 - 1954) Tue 7 Sep 1948 Page 6 TEENAGERS' PARTY - FIFTY GUESTS

Fifty teenagers were guests at a gay party at Wanganui hospital on Thursday night, when, for the first time for many years, song and laughter resounded through the wards. The hospital has been closed, and Sister O'Brien and Mrs. Sammy Eggleston hosted this bright party in honor of two students of St. Vincent's College, Potts Point, Gretel Falconer and Bidy Eggleston, who are home on holidays.

Fires and huge bowls of Iceland poppies and stocks turned the wards into hospitable reception rooms, where the young people danced, played games and took part in community singing.

Robin Richards, of Potts Point, and Helen Gerathy, of Waverley, were visiting guests with Shirley Thomas, of Haberfeld, who with her parents has been a guest at the Hotel Canobolas.

The young clear voices of Shirley and Bidy, who sang several songs, were acclaimed by all the guests.

Others who took part in the musical programme were Mrs. Eggleston, Mrs. V. Hill, Miss Elizabeth Dalton and Mr; Jack Flood, of Carcoar.

Central Western Daily - 1/10/1955: page 2 - Obituary - Sister M.E. O'Brien.

The death occurred in Sydney recently of Mrs (Sister) Marcella Esther O'Brien at the age of 60 years. Sister O'Brien was well known in Orange where she conducted Wanganui Private Hospital in Sale Street for ten years. Five years ago she retired to make her home in Kingswood (Sydney). Mrs O'Brien whose husband predeceased her is survived by three brothers. Her funeral took place on Wednesday following a Requiem Mass at the Church of Our Lady of Fatima, Kingsgrove. Her remains were interred in Randwick cemetery.

BIG NEWS!!!

CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY 1945 -1954: SOON TO BE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON TROVE

Did you know that a limited number of editions of *Central Western Daily* will be becoming available for you to view on TROVE?

Digitisation covers the period from 1945 to 1954.

Not all newspapers in this period have been loaded to TROVE yet, so keep checking as they are slowly added over the next few months.

Funding for the digitisation of *Central Western Daily* 1945-1954 was proudly contributed by Central West Libraries.

[Central Western Daily \(Orange, NSW : 1945 - 1954\) - Trove](#)

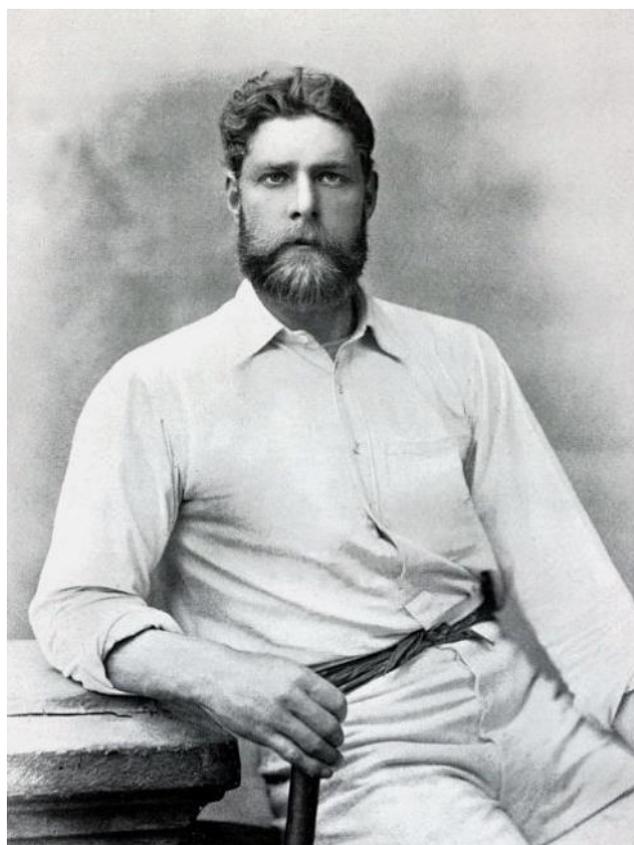
The mighty George Bonnor: the biggest hitter in Australian cricket

Article by Jonathan Roe

With the spring now upon us and football seasons coming to a close, sporting minds across the country are turning their thoughts to cricket. This week, Orange City Life looks back at the colourful career of big-hitting Orange cricket identity George Bonnor for whom the Orange District Cricket Club's Bonnor Cup is named.

While the annals of Australian cricket are filled with the names of many talented players, there are few in the latter decades of the 19th century whose reputations shine as bright as that of George John Bonnor.

Statisticians looking at the bare numbers of his cricketing career might easily overlook Bonnor, but in real life that was much harder to do. At 6 foot 6 inches, Bonnor was a giant man for his day. By all accounts he was a striking figure, handsome and an extraordinary all-round athlete, and none were quicker to say so than Bonnor himself.



George Bonnor - Circa 1895

Born in Bathurst in 1855, Bonnor moved to Orange in 1887, where he worked as a produce buyer and storekeeper and was a stalwart of the Orange District Cricket Association.

He had begun playing club cricket in Sydney in the late 1870s and went on to represent both Victoria and NSW at the state level.

Bonnor's international debut came in England in 1880, and his selection may have had just as much to do with showmanship as his cricketing prowess. His size, handsome features, athleticism and big-hitting ability made him a popular figure with the English cricketing public and earned him nicknames such as 'The Colonial Hercules' and 'Bonnor the Basher'.

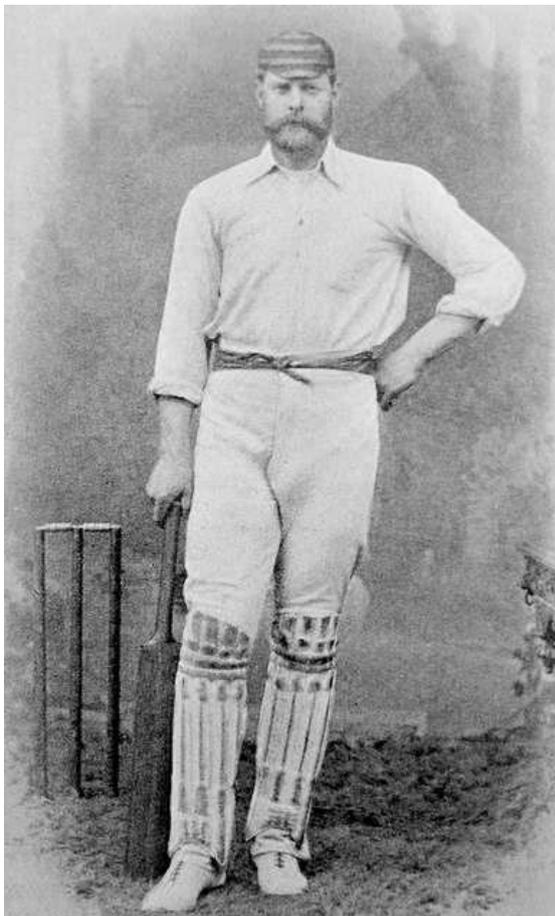
"The mighty Bonnor, immensely tall, with golden hair and beard... this superb figure, like a god from another planet," recalled the essayist and playwright E.V. Lucas in 1925.

Orange's own famous literary son Banjo Paterson had this to say of 'The Bathurst Giant': "A very picturesque personality, a beautifully built man who could run a hundred yards in 10.25 sec. He played a good game of billiards and he could throw a cricket ball 120 yards. Bonnor despised all bowlers and, while he was in, he never scored less than a run a minute off his own bat."

On paper, Bonnor's batting career was unremarkable, but as a hitter of the ball, he was legendary.

Famously, in his first appearance at The Oval in 1880, Bonnor hit a ball so high that by the time it was caught on the boundary by G.F. Grace, he had almost completed his third run.

Another time at The Oval, he is said to have hit a ball into the office of the Surrey Cricket Club secretary, knocking keys from his hand and smashing a framed photograph mounted on the wall. Then there is the story of him splintering a sightboard at Plymouth with a succession of hits over the bowler's head.



George John Bonnor

At the Sydney Cricket Ground, Bonnor hit a ball over the Members' Pavilion and into a hansom cab waiting at the rank behind. And in Melbourne, he is remembered for supposedly smashing the pavilion clock and hitting a six out of the ground that was measured at 164 yards. One of Bonnor's most spoken of innings came about in 1882 at Scarborough when Australia played the English club, I Zingari. The Englishmen batted first and scored 341. In return, the Australians managed just 146, forcing the follow-on. Bonnor came in to bat and made 122 not out off 156 balls. He made 20 runs off one over in just four balls.

"It was like eleven sheep trying to stop the cannon shots of the batsman," wrote one of the English players after the match.

In total, Bonnor played 17 test matches for Australia, touring England five times, and was a member of the 1882 side that defeated England at The Oval and gave birth to 'The Ashes' cricket series.

As a fielder, Bonnor was regarded as one of the best men in the slips in every Test team he played in. He was particularly noted for his ability to throw a cricket ball over 100 yards and regularly did so. There is an oft-repeated tale of Bonnor winning a £100 wager after throwing a ball just shy of 120 yards.

But of all his admirers, there was no one more enamoured with the prowess of George Bonnor than George Bonnor himself.



1886 Australian Cricket Team

Once asked who were the three greatest cricketers in the world, Bonnor is said to have given it some thought before replying, “Well, there’s W.G. Grace, there’s Billy Murdoch, and it’s not for me to say who the other is.”

As another newspaper account recalled: “According to the mighty smiter [Bonnor], he was the best boxer, best runner, best footballer, the biggest hitter, the best singer, and the longest cricket ball thrower ever born in New South Wales.”

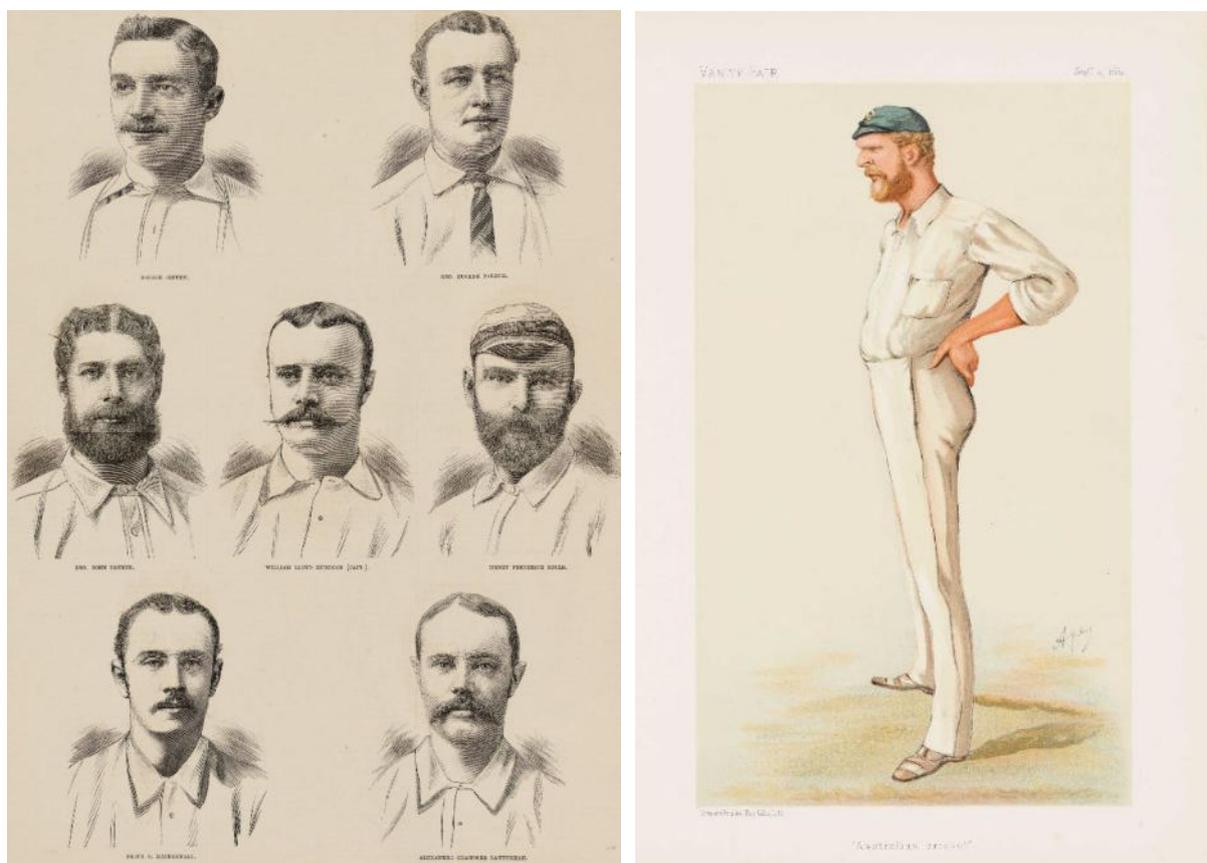
There are numerous stories of Bonnor relaying to anyone who would listen the times he had brought himself to tears with his own wonderful singing.

“As he sang on and forgot all about the time, he was surprised to see that the sky had suddenly become black,” wrote one friend, recalling a Bonnor tale. “Fearful of being caught in one of those terrible Orange thunderstorms ‘Bon’ jumped up in alarm, only to discover what he had imagined were black and threatening rain clouds were millions upon millions of birds who had darkened the sky for miles round as they hovered in the air listening spellbound to the sweet songster below.”

On another occasion, during an argument over who was the fastest bowler that ever lived, Bonnor declared that he bowled at least five yards faster than the legendary Australian quick, Fred ‘The Demon Bowler’ Spofforth, whose name had been put forth.

“I was the fastest bowler that ever lived,” Bonnor said, regaling a group of young players with tales of his cricketing feats. “And so great was my pace that in a match at Orange after sending down one of my fastest deliveries, which I knew would be snicked in the slips, as I bowled for it, I ran down the pitch, chased the ball after it had been played, and caught it at deep slip.

“I could not do it always,” he added modestly, “but that day I could do anything.” Despite this high opinion of himself and the seemingly endless tall stories, Bonnor was well-liked by his peers. “Those who knew him best liked him most,” wrote English sports writer and one-time editor of *The Athletic News*, James Catton. “They knew at heart he was not a braggart... Bonnor used to talk in this pompous and grandiose style, but he was not 17 stone weight of conceit. “It was his way, and he never deceived his friends, who just laughed at his self-laudation, which was not founded in vice.”



Australian Cricket (George John Bonnor)
Published in 'Vanity Fair' 1884

Indeed, the *Orange Leader* recalls admiringly an incident in which Bonnor, who had been dismissed in a local match for 25, later refused to accept a toast made to him as the team's highest scorer of the day. “I can't claim that honour, gentlemen, as Mr Durnford has 22 runs to his credit, and was not out,” he said.

Of the many feats attributed to Bonnor, he can lay claim to what was possibly the biggest six ever hit in cricket history. Opening the batting for Orange against Bathurst at Wade

Park one Saturday, Bonnor let the first two balls pass, before sending the third soaring high in the direction of the railway goods shed. A search party failed to locate the ball, so another was found, and the match resumed. Three days later, on Tuesday morning, Bonnor's six finally fell to earth when the porter in charge of the goods shed at Bourke removed the tarpaulin from the railway truck that had carried the stowaway ball 500 kilometres from Orange.

George Bonnor died at his brother's home in east Orange on June 27, 1912, aged 57. He is buried in the Baptist section of the Orange Cemetery.

Article by Jonathan Roe
Reprinted courtesy of Orange City Life Magazine

Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW : 1945 - 1954) Tuesday 2 Mar 1948 Page 4

SWING INTO ROLLING RHYTHM NOW !
SKATE FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS ON AUSTRALIA'S ONLY SPRUNG STEEL FLOOR.

Daily at 2.30 and 7.30 p.m.
4 Sessions Saturday, 10 a.m.,
1.30 p.m., 5.30 p.m. and
7.30 p.m.

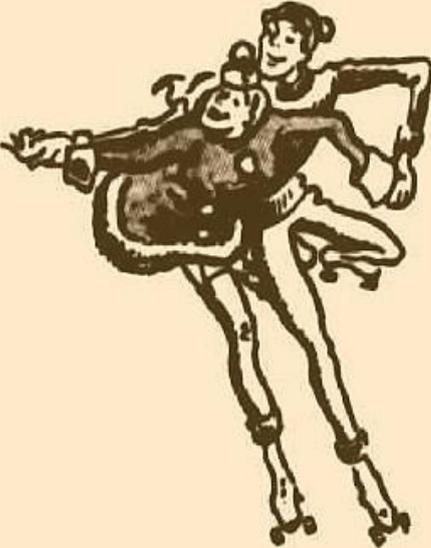
PRICES:

DAY SESSIONS
Children under 14 ... 11½d
Adults 1/11

NIGHT SESSIONS 2/7
(All Including Tax).

**Special Children's After-School
Session, 3.30 to 5 p.m., 9d.**

**GOOD MUSIC AND SKATES.
NOVELTIES NIGHTLY.**



Location : LAURIE'S GROUND, Opposite Baths.

NEWSPAPERS

Western Advocate (Orange) - 5/3/1898: Fire in East Orange.

A five roomed weatherboard cottage belonging to Mr Dan Carty, Nathan Street, East Orange was totally destroyed by fire on Tuesday night. The outbreak occurred at about 9.30 so far as we can gather, in Mrs Carty's bedroom and in a very short time, the whole of the premises was in flames. Mrs Carty had fallen asleep, leaving the candle alight, and awoke to find her room in a blaze, how directly caused she cannot say. Messrs Day; Kirby and others were promptly on the scene and managed to save a sewing machine; clock; clothes and some small articles but nothing of much value was rescued. The family escaped with but little more than they had on them. Mr Carty had some money on the premises, but all traces of that soon vanished. What was notable in connection with the fire and what much surprised Mr Carty, who remained in his shop, near the Bathurst Road railway gates for some time, quite ignorant of the destruction of his home, was the fact that no alarm was given in Orange nor the fire bell rung. Not until some people came to warn him was he aware, that his house was blazing. People stood about the streets of Orange conjecturing where the fire was, some imagining, in the absence of any alarm, that it was of no consequence. The only water about the premises was contained in tanks, though there was a well near at hand.

Central Western Daily - 7/1/1953: Obituary - Mr L.H. Abrahams.

The death occurred at Orange Base Hospital on January 2 of Mr Leslie Herbert Abrahams at the aged of 64 years. Mr Abrahams was a native of Goulburn and had been a resident of Orange for about 25 years where he had been engaged for some years as an engine driver. He is survived by his widow two daughters and two sons Mrs Gray, Mrs Sampson and Jack and Ken Abraham. There are nine grandchildren. The remains were laid to rest in the Church of England portion of the Orange cemetery.

Central Western Daily - 16/1/1961: Death of Red Cross Worker.

One of the longest serving members of Orange Red Cross Mrs Lillian May Lane, of Clinton Street, died at Orange on Saturday, aged 84. She had been in ill health for some time. Mrs Lane came to Orange in 1901 after her marriage to the late Leslie Allen Lane a solicitor in Orange for many years. She was foundation member of Orange Red Cross, which was formed in the First World War. Later she became a vice president. She held this post for about 20 years and in 1955 became a patroness of the organisation. Mrs Lane was also a foundation member of the old Orange Golf Club. She is survived by a daughter, Miss Hazel Lane, of Orange. Her husband and son Cleland predeceased her. The funeral will leave for Canobolas Crematorium after a service at Holy Trinity Today (Monday).

Central Western Daily - 28/4/1961: Death of Mr W. Ainsley.

A man who came to Australia from England in one of the old combined steam sailing ships many years ago died in the Orange Base Hospital yesterday. He was Mr William Arthur Ainsley 92. Since his wife died in 1933 Mr Ainsley had lived with a son-in-law and daughter Mr & Mrs Harold Hawke of "Luxulyan" Canobolas. As a boy in England he could remember the first electric lights being turned on in Manchester. He was 14 years old when he came to Australia and joined in the gold rush at Kalgoorlie West Australia. Mr Ainsley was a jeweler and engraver and after practicing his trade in Sydney came to Orange in 1927. He had a shop in Summer St. He retired from business life about 25 years ago. He leaves two daughters and one son. They are Marjorie (Mrs Hawke); Lillian (Mrs Barnes, McLachlan Street, Orange) and Robert (Kempsey). He was an enthusiastic member of Lodge Canobolas and had been a past Masonic Master before coming to Orange. For many years he had held the position of Lodge Chaplain and only recently had Grand Lodge honours conferred on him. Bowler Mr Ainsley was one of the most popular and well-known members of Orange City Bowling Club and one of the early bowlers when the club first started in Robertson Park. After a service at Holy Trinity Church of England today he will be buried in the Church of England portion of the Orange Cemetery. There will be a special Lodge of Sorrow in the Masonic Temple.

Goulburn Evening Post - 22/1/1962: Obituary - Mrs A.H. Yates.

The death occurred recently at Orange Base Hospital of Mrs Ada Harriett Yates late of Treweeke St., East Orange at the age of 88. Mrs Yates lived in Goulburn and district for many years before going to reside at Orange about three years ago. Mrs Yates had enjoyed comparatively good health until the shock of the sudden death of her elder daughter Edna just before Christmas. Deceased is survived by her widow Mr Sid Yates, sons Foster Scott (Orange); Sid and Bill Scott (Goulburn) Arthur Yates (Fremantle .W..A.) and a daughter Eva (Mrs Les Cocks, of Orange). There are also 20 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Central Western Daily - 26/11/1964: Obituary - Her father built Croagh Patrick.

Death ends link with city's early days. The last surviving member of one of Orange's oldest pioneering families Mrs Muriel Mackenzie died early yesterday. Mrs Mackenzie was a daughter of the man who built "Croagh Patrick" the late Mr Edwin Hirst Lane and Mrs Lane. The Lane family called the home "Llanello" but when it was sold to the Roman Catholic Church for an orphanage it was re-named "Croagh Patrick". Mrs Mackenzie had not been well for some time. Two weeks ago she was admitted to Orange Base Hospital, where she died suddenly at 3am yesterday. Her husband Mr Hector Mackenzie has been a patient in Orange Base Hospital for the last four weeks and is still very ill. The late Mr E.H. Lane lived at "Wembangalong" at Dubbo, until coming to Orange many years ago with his family. While "Llanello" was being built the family lived temporarily in Sale Street, where Mrs Mackenzie was born. She spent her childhood at "Llanello" and remained in Orange the rest of her life. Mrs Mackenzie is the last surviving member of a large family. A brother the late Mr Les Lane was a well-known Orange solicitor. She married Orange surveyor Mr Hector Mackenzie now retired who built "Delvine" on Racecourse Road. They later sold "Delvine" and have lived for many years in Anson Street. Mrs Mackenzie is

survived by her husband and two children a daughter Jill; Mrs Dan Barnett of Sale Street and one son Dr John Mackenzie of Blacktown and their children. After a service at Holy Trinity Church of England she will be buried in the Church of England portion of Orange cemetery.

Central Western Daily - 25/11/1966: Obituary - Gus Madden.

A well known and respected Orange citizen Mr Gus Madden died in Orange Base Hospital on November 18 after a short illness. Mr Madden was 69. He was born and educated at Borenore where he spent his early life as a shearer. He married Mary Schmich also of Borenore and they spent most of their married life in Orange. He was one of Borenore's leading cricketers for many years and maintained this interest until his death. He was also a very keen Rugby League fan. For the past 40 years Mr Madden was employed by the PMG department as a linesman and was held in high esteem by his workmates. He retired five years ago. He is survived by his wife Mary Louise, sons Reg, Gus, Kevin, Noel, Frank and Brian all of Orange and Max of Newcastle, daughters Thelma (Mrs McFadden, of St Marys) Pat (Mrs Fitzgerald) Min (Mrs Skaines) Marie (Mrs Thompson) and Norman (Mrs Thornberry) all of Orange, 37 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters Mary (Mrs Clark of Cudal) and Mrs G. Shepherd (of Newcastle). A service officiated by Father O'Brien and assisted by Monsignors Sheahan and O'Doherty, was held at St. Joseph's Church on Saturday. The church was packed to capacity and the staff of the PMG formed a guard of honor at the church and graveside.

Wellington Times - 9/8/1967: Obituary - Mr Arthur George Stratford.

The sudden death occurred on July 27, at his residence 322 Pacific Highway, Hornsby of a former Wellington district resident Mr Arthur George Stratford husband of Frances and father of Francine and George. There are four grandchildren. Deceased was a native of Lithgow and in his youth was a well-known motor bike rider and worked for P and R Williams, A.J.S. Agents, Sydney. With Stuart Williams he was selected to represent Australia in the classic Tourist Trophy Race on the Isle of Man. Unfortunately, he was injured in the trials and did not contest the finals. In Orange Mr Stratford had his own motor bike business in partnership with Mr Doug Lemon. Afterwards he lived at Mumbil and also at Dripstone for a time. Later he moved to Hornsby, Mr Jim Petersen (now of Geurie) were joint proprietors of a garage at Artarmon. He enlisted in the army in World War II and rose to the rank of Captain (Field Repair Unit). He served mainly in the North Pacific islands - New Guinea across to the Solomons. After the war he was with Butler Bros and later took a position with Kauri Timber Co, Waitara. In recent times he had retired because of indifferent health. His wife was nee Frances Althofer, of Dripstone. The funeral left St. Peter's Church of England, Hornsby, on Saturday July 29 after a service, for the Northern Suburbs Crematorium. Officers and Brethren of Lodge Werona attend the funeral and relatives from Wellington were among the mourners - Mr & Mrs Peter Althofer; Mr & Mrs W. Philipson; Messrs John and George Philipson and Mr G.W. Althofer.

Canowindra Star - 3/6/1970: Woman finds ringed bird.

A former Cowra woman, Mrs Kaye Smith of Gwynneville was searching for shells and cuttlefish for her pet budgerigar, at Bass Point, when she came across a dead bird. A close look at the bird, a giant petrel revealed a ring on its leg with a message "Inform British Museum, London .S.W. 7". Mrs Smith contacted the Museum authorities, and in due course received a reply from the ringing section of the British Trust for Ornithology at Beech Grove, Tring, Hertfordshire. From Signy Island. Mrs Smith was told the bird, was still in the nestling stage, was originally ringed in March 1969 at Signy Island (off South Orkney Island) which is a U.K. base in Antarctica. The trust also included some information about its work, explaining that ringing commonly known as banding is a method by which bird migration and length of life is studied. Only small proportion of ringed birds are found after they migrate and every recovery or information on where they have been seen again, is of great value to ornithologists. Mrs Smith is the daughter of Mr & Mrs K.C. Hesse, of Bartlett St., Cowra.

A RECORD HARD TO MATCH MRS KIRK WAS A WORKING BUTCHER FOR 22 YEARS

Central Western Daily – 17 January 1979: Page 9

The night she made 800 sausages all on her own is something Mrs Agnes Kirk talks about with pride. This is understandable, as there aren't many women who can claim to be butchers.

Mrs Kirk is a diminutive 94 year old who is spending two months at the Hotel Canobolas to escape the heat of Coonamble.

She is the most-sprightly 94 year old around, and never misses a trick. She is more mentally alert than many younger people and says it's because she's never tasted alcohol. Her doctor told her that as alcohol dulls the brain, she says.

Mrs Kirk says she has had a lovely life. Her marriage lasted 61 years and she and her husband George celebrated both golden (50 years) and diamond (60 years) wedding anniversaries.

They had no children, just themselves, and both worked hard all their lives. She still retains her soft north of England accent. She was born in Kendal, Westmoreland, and went to live and work in Lancashire which, she infers, was something of a 'comedown' after Westmoreland. As a Lancashire mill girl she worked as a weaver and earned 30/- a week, working 10 hours a day finishing at midday Saturdays. At night she studied the piano and cooking at the British Continuation Classes. She met her husband, who came from Derbyshire, in a little country lane and there and then decided to marry him.

WILD

He decided to come out to Australia to his mother's relatives Mr and Mrs Thomas Tym at Coonamble. She came out too, but decided Coonamble was a 'wild sort of place' and refused to marry and live there. So they went up the North Coast to a place called Kendall of all things! It was there they opened their first butcher shop, later moving to Sydney to open their second shop at Marrickville.

Came the war and George lost his help, so Mrs Kirk rolled up her sleeves and worked in the shop learning the trade. She made all the sausages, did all the selling, skinned and trimmed the bones, and bought at the abattoirs. She worked 12 hours a day and loved it she says. This went on for more than 22 years, but she finally told George that she wanted to retire. She wanted to be a lady, put on her hat, and go for a walk. George agreed and retire they did.

MOVED

He died about five years ago and, as he had expressed a wish to be buried in Coonamble, she left Sydney and went to live in Coonamble – to be near George. She never had arthritis, no surgery at all, and only been in hospital once. That was for a rest.

She sits at the piano in the the Canobolas ballroom and plays all the old tunes. People come in to hear her, and the men in the tap-room pause and listen. She's a happy little soul and can't tell you too often that she's had a lovely life.



Photograph: Mrs Agness Kirk
at the Hotel Canobolas piano

- Lorna McLean
- Central Western Daily

BLOOMFIELD HOSPITAL ORANGE – LOOKING FOR PHOTOGRAPHS, OBJECTS, STORIES OR MEMORIES - 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY NOVEMBER 2025

Do you have photos, objects, stories or memories of Bloomfield that you could share with Orange Regional Museum? Next year will mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of Bloomfield Hospital on 6 November 1925.

Orange Regional Museum are working on a new exhibition about the history of Bloomfield Hospital. It is planned to open in November 2025 to commemorate the centenary. They would love to hear from anybody who may have any original photographs, patient-made items, staff memorabilia or plans of the Bloomfield site or building.



Photographs: Gift of Patricia O'Connell, Orange Regional Museum Collection

The photographs above show Sister Mary Bates, a nurse at Bloomfield Hospital in the 1930s-1950s. They were donated to the Orange Regional Museum by Mary's niece Patricia O'Connell in 2020. Patricia also donated Sister Mary Bate's white nurses veil and a tablecloth embroidered by patients from Bloomfield.

Head to the [Orange Regional Museum facebook page](#) for more information, give them a call on (02) 6393 8444, or send an email museum@orange.nsw.gov.au

They would love to hear from you!

PIE PEDLAR'S PASSING

Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW: 1945 – 1954) Thursday 6 December 1951, page 9

The pedlar of pies has passed peacefully away, and by his passing a definite link with Orange of the twenties has been broken.

Jack Lippold was a very familiar, and exceedingly welcome, figure in the town, now city, when Orange was but a shadow of its present-day pompous importance.

Small in stature, a trifle shuffling in gait, but the possessor of a peculiarly penetrating voice, fashioned for his calling. Above the din in raucous voiced football crowds, when the games were played on League Park, and on a bitterly cold day, it was like sweet music to hear Jack Lippold's "Hot pies! Hot pies! Pasties or fruit-". He was a most important figure in the scheme of things in those days. Those hot pies were like manna in the wilderness to frigid football fans.

And in the steely, moonlight brightness of a freezing Orange night, the unobtrusive figure of the little manufacturer of meat pies, all piping hot, would come shuffling along and patrons, on the qui vive for him, would quickly clean the tray of tasty pastry, plus the minced contents.

When the mid-summer sun came along with its roasting breath, and the population perspired and gasped, the same petite pedlar would amble along, but with a changed trade slogan, "Ice cream! Ice cream! Ice blocks!"

Jack Lippold to the rescue once again.

In the early days he had a partner named Dallas. Trade became so brisk, in both seasons, that the firm decided on increased mobility.

That business expansion resulted in the very familiar small creamy and exceedingly docile pony, with a compact little go-cart to match.

Trades flourished exceedingly. Then Dallas died rather suddenly. That was a tragic blow to old Jack (he always seemed to be pushing sixty) and though he carried on, was never really the same.

The now silent partner had been his mate. Somewhere in 1946 the cosy little cream turn-out disappeared; and the familiar cry of the pedlar was not heard. Jack Lippold was ill, very ill. He rallied at intervals, but not sufficiently to deal anymore in his edible wares. A few days ago he went the way of his old partner, peacefully and painlessly. Many will feel a real wrench at his passing; this small quaint little figure who became a real and much sought after identity in the more prosaic and picturesque period of this city of ours.

THE CADIA IRON ORE MINE ACCIDENT OF 10 MARCH 1921

On 10 March 1921, an explosion at the Cadia Iron Duke Mine killed nine men out of a total workforce of 160. The following day the *Leader* declared: “*The calamity is at once the greatest and saddest that has ever occurred in the Orange district.*” The youngest victim was just 17, and the oldest 65.

The Newmont Corporation currently manages one of the Australia’s largest gold and copper operations at Cadia, however Cadia has a long history of mining dating back to the 1840s.

In 1901 geological surveyor Mr J B Jaquet described the iron ore deposit at Cadia as the most extensive in New South Wales, containing an estimated 36,000,000 tons of iron ore. Several years later G & C Hoskins Ltd signed a sub-lease with the Cadia Copper Mining and Smelting Company to extract the ore. In 1919 the 18.5km long Iron Duke Railway line linking the quarry to an exchange siding at Spring Hill was opened. The ore was then transported along the main western line to Hoskins’ blast furnace at Lithgow.

In addition to conveying iron ore the line also transported grain, wool and general merchandise, heralding a period of growth in the district. By 1921 some 160 men were employed at the Iron Duke quarries.

The Iron Duke Mountain consisted of a series of open cuts connected by a zig-zag dray track to transport the ore to the bottom of the hill for shipment. On the afternoon of Thursday, 10 March 1921, about 30 men were working on the top quarry, located some 152 metres above the base of the mountain. Some six metres above them William Taylor and his assistant Charlie Bruce were preparing a hole for blasting purposes. This involved drilling a six-metre-deep hole, one deep enough to hold 68kg of dynamite. Once the explosive had been inserted it was customary to leave a wooden tamping rod in the hole for half an hour to test for any stray fragments of burning fuse.

Soon after 2pm Taylor had completed his test and was in the act of putting in the charge, his assistant having left to procure the necessary tamping for sealing it up. Before he returned there was a terrific explosion, and up to 500 tons of debris engulfed those working below. This was followed by a deafening silence, after which men came running from all directions and began the arduous attempt to liberate their co-workers.

Within minutes Stanley Jenkins was rescued. Although alive, Stanley died as they lay him down. Not long afterwards the bodies of McKeon, Johnson and Campbell were recovered, but the task became more difficult as the work progressed, as boulders weighing several tons had to be contended with. Lengths of strong rope were secured to the boulders, and from 40 to 50 men at a time strained to shift them. Gradually the bodies of Burns, Bright, Moore and Miles were retrieved. By nightfall the last victim – Christie - had been retrieved.

Dr C B ('Jack') Howse arrived on the scene at 3.30pm and organised for the victim's bodies to be taken to Earl's Hall at the nearby Cadia township. The victims were:

- **Stanley Jenkins (17)**, a native of Cadia, died just three months before his 18th birthday. According to a co-worker Stanley died while attempting to save his horse. He was well-known in the town and deeply mourned by his family and old schoolmates.
- **Patrick McKeon (65)**, a native of Oberon, was a well-known and respected resident of Orange. He worked periodically at Cadia, only resuming work there the previous week.
- **Richard Johnson (45)**, of Leichhardt, had been employed just three months earlier. He was a reliable employee, reserved in disposition, and of diligent habits. He left a wife and four children aged 12, 15, 18 and 20. Johnson's body was retrieved by his sister, who took it to Rookwood cemetery for interment.
- **John Herbert Kable (59)**, aka John Campbell, of Rylstone, was a single man described as having "a roving disposition." Kable's body was taken to Bathurst for interment by family.
- **Henry Burns (53)** was a widower with a kind, and generous disposition, who cared for his aged mother at Budge's Terrace, East Orange.
- **Phillip Bright (56)**, a native of Goulburn, had lived in Orange for 13 years. He was a shearer and a drover who worked intermittently at Cadia, having commenced there six weeks ago. Besides a widow he left four children, the youngest being just two years old.
- **Charles Moore (54)** spent his early years at Bodangora. He had worked as a miner at Cadia, Stuart Town and Grenfell. He was a prominent member of the local Salvation Army, and for some time acted as their drummer. He left a wife and four children; another son – William - was killed in action in WWI.
- **John William Miles (59)**, a very well-known resident of East Orange, had been working at Cadia for two years. He left a widow and four children, aged 12, 14, 18, and 20.
- **George Christie (52)** was born in Scotland. He was a man of temperate and thrifty nature and is believed to have left considerable savings. Police were unable to locate any relatives in Australia.

On Friday Orange undertaker Frank Ford, assisted by driver Thomas Linn, transported the seven remaining bodies to Orange for burial the following day. It had been proposed to hold a combined funeral service at Orange Cemetery and inter the men side by side in a mass grave, however the men's families did not agree to this proposal.

At 11am on Saturday 12 March George Christie's funeral left Holy Trinity Church with a solitary sulky in attendance, as the miners from Cadia were yet to arrive. By 2pm the miners had arrived, and the funerals of Moore and Jenkins left the Salvation Army Hall in Peisley Street, led by the Army Band, and attended by a procession of over 50 vehicles.

Then, moving at regular intervals from different churches and residences, the funerals of Henry Burns, Patrick McKeon, Phillip Bright, and John Miles followed, all attended by big trains of mourners.

According to the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 14 March 1921:

The gloom cast over Orange by the disaster was accentuated yesterday when for the greater part of the day the corteges passed through the streets of the town to the cemetery. Business was practically suspended, and great crowds of people, standing bare-headed, lined the route to the graveside...

The scene at the cemetery was a remarkable one. Surrounding the graves were immense crowds of sorrowing people - relatives, friends, and comrades. The officiating clergymen recited their respective burial services. Many of the relatives found the ordeal too much for them, and collapsed.

The funerals were also attended by Mr Charles Hoskins, representing the Hoskins Iron and Steel Works, Mr G Bodkin, secretary of the AWU, Railway Workers' Branch, Mr T Hobbs and Mr R Berecny, Cadia Quarry manager and overseer respectively. Mr Bodkin, secretary of the union to which the men belonged, promised immediate assistance to the victims' dependents.

The following Thursday an inquest was held at the Millthorpe Court House. The Coroner, Mr C E Hayes, found that the deaths of the nine men had been caused by a premature explosion, which occurred accidentally; that all reasonable care had been taken, and no blame was attachable to anyone.

In late 1928 G & C Hoskins Ltd relocated the blast furnace from Lithgow to Port Kembla, signalling the ending of iron ore mining at Cadia. The transfer to Port Kembla put 200 men out of work at Cadia. The Iron Duke quarries reopened in late 1942 to supply iron ore during wartime shortages. Mining of iron ore at Cadia finally came to an end in mid-1945.

Of the seven miners buried in Orange Cemetery on 12 March 1921 only John Miles and Henry Burns have memorials.



The passage of time has taken its toll on Henry's headstone, which is now barely legible.



In Loving Remembrance Of
 My dear son
 HENRY BURNS
 Killed at Cadia disaster
 March 10th 1921
 Aged 53 years

Only a memory of bygone days
 A sign for a face unseen
 And a constant thought that
 God alone knows best what
 Might have been

Trudi Mayfield
 Heritage Research Librarian
 Orange City Library

LOCAL HISTORIAN ROBERT BARTLETT LAUNCHES HIS LATEST BOOK *EARLY INNS, HOTELS AND PUBS OF ORANGE NSW*

Local Orange historian Robert Bartlett launched his latest book *Early Inns, Hotels and Pubs of Orange NSW* before a large crowd of well-wishers at Orange City Library on Tuesday 19 November 2024 at 5.30pm.

Former Orange Mayor Jason Hamling, who wrote the foreword to the book, officially launched it to loud applause and spoke about Robert's passion for history - especially Orange history and his dedication to photography and research.



Author Robert Bartlett with former Mayor Jason Hamling



(Back) Phillip & Margaret Schwebel, Jasmine Vidler, (Front) Karen Kloosterman & Elisabeth Edwards



John Betts and Michael

Robert thanked a long list of many people who assisted him with producing the book including his family. He then answered audience questions including about his unpublished books, the detailed work required on one of the “crazed” photographs included in the book, the lengthy research process and how many pubs are mentioned in the book. His answer was: "Not telling - buy the book!"

This publication is about the early inns and hotels of Orange including locations, publicans and other relevant details from 1837 to 1920.

The book is filled with historic photographs, maps, lists of licensees, information and newspaper articles. It is the culmination of several years of research incorporating the stories of publicans, buildings and licences.

One of the earliest inns was licensed by John Peisley in 1838 called the Coach and Horses, and by 1880 Orange had 33 hotels.

Hotels covered in the book include the Limerick Arms, Gladstone, Golden Fleece, Morning Star, Oriental, Prince of Wales, Victoria, Standard, Telegraph, Terminus and many, many more.

Family historians will love the book for its index of publican names from the early days and it will become a valuable reference book.

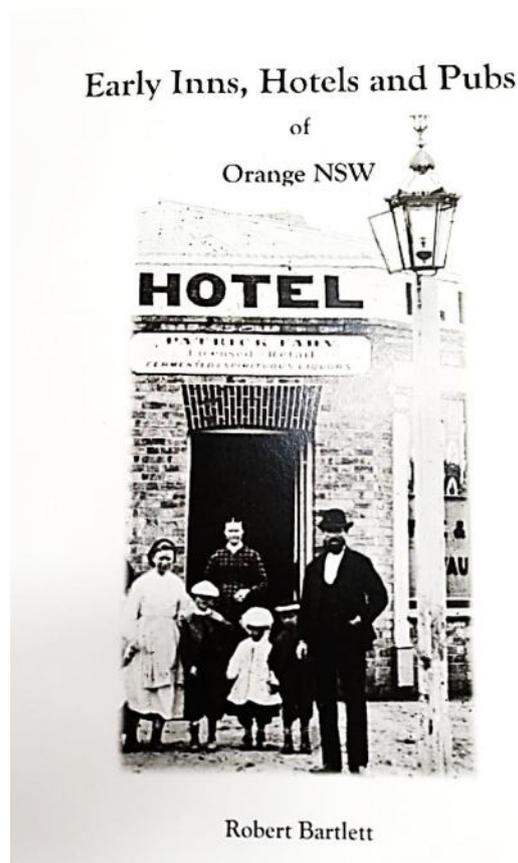
The book is unique as each entry follows the licence through its various name changes over the years.

Robert has always been interested in history about the local area from farming, goldfields to buildings and followed this up with a keen interest in photography.

This is Robert’s fourth published book. His previously published books are:

- *Orange and District – A History in Pictures* (1994),
- *First Gold – A History of Australia’s First Goldfield, Orange NSW* (1999),
- *Orange and District – A History in Pictures 2* (2018).

There is only a limited print run of *Early Inns, Hotels and Pubs of Orange NSW*. Copies are available for purchase from the Gladstone Hotel in Orange, Orange Camera House and the Orange Visitors Information Centre.



CONDELL FAMILY – PLAQUES AT ORANGE CEMETERY

While checking the Orange Cemetery I found three plaques on the grave of Thomas Macartney Condell who died 8/2/1936. I have since found some interesting information on each of them.

PLAQUE 1

“Ethel May B.E.M. at 95 died 11/12/1988 adored wife mother and friend”

Victoria B.D.M. - Oates Ethel May (Father George Seymour Mother Edith Hughes - Born Bathurst - died Wheelers Hill) age 95 years.

Central Western Daily - 13/12/1988: page 18: Deaths - Oates Ethel May B.E.M. Formerly of Orange, died peacefully in her 96th year in Melbourne on the 11/12/1988. Loved wife of Thomas Macartney Condell (deceased) and Thomas Henry Oates (deceased) both of Orange. Devoted mother of Morna Sturrock; Charles and David Condell. Privately cremated December 13. Thanksgiving service St John's Anglican Church, Camberwell (Vic) Thursday December 15.

PLAQUE 2

“In memory of Phillip David Macartney Condell Born 22nd March 1931 - Died 16th November 2015. Father of Catherine & Thomas. Grandfather of Alastair, Meredith & Liam. Rest in peace David”.

The Age Melbourne - Death notice 19/11/2015 - Condell Phillip David Macartney (David) 22.3.1931 - 16.11.2015.

Adored son of Ethel and Thomas, stepson of Thomas Oakes, loving brother to Morna, Charles (dec) and Derek (dec). Much loved father of Cathy and Tom, father-in-law to Cherie, grandfather of Alastair, Meredith and Liam. Passed away peacefully at home, Waverley Valley Aged Care where he was truly happy.

PLAQUE 3

"In memory of Charles Macartney Condell. Born 2nd May 1927, Died 14th October 2003 Father of Derek, Stephen and Bruce. Grandfather of Portia. May you rest in peace".

Newcastle Herald -22/11/2003 - death notice 22/11/2003.

Edith Morna Sturrock AM - (nee Condell) - 5/3/1925 - 29/6/2018

Journalist, embroider, author, Christian. Loved wife of William Edgar Sturrock. Mother of David, Andre, Robert & Elisabeth. Daughter of Ethel May Oates (nee Seymour; Condell) (dec) & Thomas Macartney Condell (dec). God is holding you in peace.

[Waverley Patchworks Inc](#) - posted 5/3/2016 - Photo of Edith Morna Sturrock.

The Patron of Waverley Patchworkers has recently celebrated her birthday and members Lois and Jeanette paid her a visit as she is no longer able to come to our meetings, much as she would love to. Morna was presented with a bouquet of

flowers from the group to mark the occasion.

The full article and photograph can be found by following the link below:
<https://waverleypatchworkers.com.au/2016/03/a-visit-with-morna-sturrock-am/>
and here: <https://waverleypatchworkers.com.au/about-2/patron/>

The heart quilt given to Morna by Waverley Patchworkers in 2010 is kept on a stool next the couch ready for afternoon naps. Moran asked for help sorting the contents of a large hat box. Out came amazing Goldwork samplers and Lace pieces mainly made by Ethel Oates, Morna's mother and sometime teacher. A book cover worked by Morna in silver and gold was *not very well made* according to her mother, the fabric was too slippery, not suitable for the task.

In the early 1950's Morna went to London for work, she was a journalist, and she and her mother shared digs. Morna attended night classes at the Royal School of Needlework for four years and her mother was so interested in the exercises she enrolled as a day student. According to Morna it was a most interesting time to be at the school, the King had died and all the regalia for the new Queen was being made. It was here she developed her passion for Jacobean Embroidery. While most of the work on her walls is by other embroiderers, right next to the front door is this favorite piece worked by Morna.

International Women's Day 8/3/2012 - Morna Sturrock (web-site).

[*The Age Melbourne*](#) - 3/10/2018 - Sturrock Morna (A.M.)

Read tribute here: <https://tributes.theage.com.au/obituaries/125651/morna-sturrock/>

The Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) bids fond farewell to a former Victorian and National Secretary of the 1970s. Morna rejoined the association on her election to Waverley Council in 1984; She subsequently completed a B.A. thesis on the history of Victoria's Women Councilors.

[*The Age Melbourne*](#) - 10/10/2018 - Sturrock Morna AM.

Waverley Historical Society (Vic) mourns the passing of their esteemed patron Morna Sturrock AM who was a foundation member and will be remembered for her outstanding contribution to the society.

<https://www.legacy.com/au/obituaries/theage-au/name/morna-sturrock-obituary?id=43506068>

Trailblazing journalist conquered many career challenge - Obituary Morna Sturrock By Meredith Fuller - First published *The Age* November 5, 2018

Read the full article by following the link below:

<https://meredithfuller.com.au/trailblazing-journalist-conquered-many-career-challenges/>

Carol - Volunteer Researcher – Orange Family History Group

INQUIRY - OLD WELLINGTON INN AT GUYONG

We recently received an inquiry looking for the exact location of the Old Wellington Inn, which was located on the Wellington Road at Guyong. Our keen researchers found the following information:

Information from *The Glint of Gold* by Kerrin Cook: Page 4

... Hargraves intended going to Coombing, near Carcoar to visit Thomas Icely, but became lost. However, he met Icely at Kings Plains. Icely was on his way to Sydney so was unable to offer Hargraves hospitality, but suggested instead that he visit an Inn at Guyong, run by Mrs Lister, whose son, John had found some gold on Lewis Ponds Creek, below the Cornish Settlement.

He therefore proceeded to Guyong (between Bathurst and Orange), and found the Wellington Inn, run by Mrs Lister, who turned out to be the widow of Captain Lister, under whom Hargraves had served many years previously as a cabin boy. The remains of this inn are in the grounds of Godolphin at Guyong.



The Wellington Inn, Guyong

The site of Mrs. Lister's Wellington Inn on the south-west bank of a branch of Lewis Ponds Creek. An artist's impression of what the inn might have looked like in 1851, superimposed on a recent photograph. Also shown are the well and stables.

(Courtesy Trevor Weeber)

Photograph above is from book *First Gold*, By Robert Bartlett

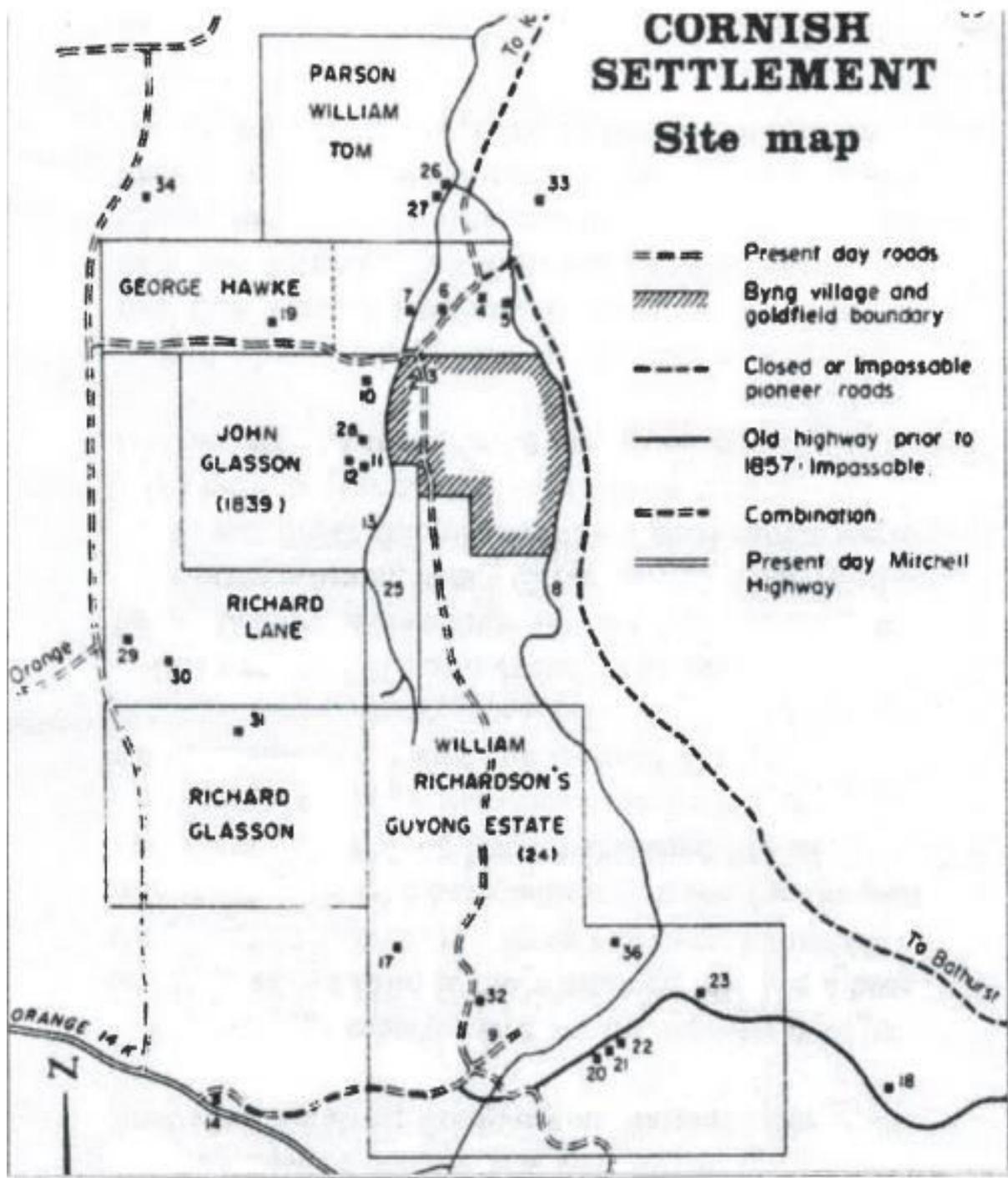


Image from *The Cornish settlement* text by John Rule ; drawings by Liina Truu
Page 58

1. Byng Village Reserve - Surveyed 1852
2. Present Byng Wesleyan Chapel - Opened 1873
3. Byng Pioneer Cemetery
4. Bookanan - Home of John Glasson
5. Carangarra Smelter & Payhouse Sites
6. Original Byng Church Site & Memorial - 1842 to 1873
7. Bethel Rock - First outdoor Church Services held here in 1829
8. Lewis Ponds Creek - Named after Richard Lewis, a member of Surveyor Evan's party when area first explored in 1813
9. Private Road
10. Site of Joseph Glasson's "Cottage of Content"
11. Carangarra Mines
12. "Willow Cottage"
13. Sheep Station or Back Creek
14. West Guyong Methodist Church
15. East Guyong School
16. East Guyong Church and Cemetery
17. Diamond Hill Mine Site
18. Luck's Hill - Named after Publican George Luck who took out the original licence for Lister's Wellington Inn. Bathurst - Wellington mail coach robbed here on June 27th 1849. On August 23rd 1850, Richard Glasson and Henry Peffler also robbed
19. Pendarves - Originally half of Glasson's Grant
20. Site of Guyong Blacksmith's Shop
21. Old Guyong Post Office Site
22. Methodist Church Site - Circa 1857
23. Kyongs or Wellington Inn from 1838. Attacked by bushrangers in November 1839 and Publican Luck's wife shot dead. Hargraves visited here on February 10th 1851, on his way to Wellington to find a goldfield.
24. Guyong Estate - Originally G T Palmer's centre station (prior to 1829) on Ticket of Occupancy. Granted to William Richardson who sold it to Surveyor John Nicholson in 1835.
25. Richard Lane's Mine Sites
26. Original Springfield Site - Stone quarried here for Byng's two Churches, Bookanan and New Springfield
27. New Springfield - Commenced 1847
28. Knob Cooner Mine

Image from *The Cornish settlement* text by John Rule ; drawings by Liina Truu
Page 59

THE OLD ORANGE TANNERY

W Folster's Articles— compiled by his grandson Paul Weathersten— page 152

Alas no evidences remain today of the once thriving tannery which was located on the Glenroy estate.

Controlled by Messrs. Bowen Bros this industrial unit obtained its peak production in the middle 'nineties'.

In addition to the manufacture of footwear, leggings, harness parts and the like, the firm explored considerable quantities of leather. Throughout the day numbers of vehicles, laden with hides and skin, stood outside the factory. Thousands upon thousands of kangaroo, wallaby and opossum skins were purchased, as well as the major production of the hides of the immediate district. The subjoined remarks, compiled in 1896 will give a graphic idea of the industry, which was a substantia as et to the Orange district:-

They began their operations by purchasing the hides and skins procurable locally, as well as those obtained from any part of the Orange district, and when the local supply is not adequate to their extensive requirements, they go farther afield and purchase all they can get in other directions. The curious visitor can see at Messrs. Bowen's tannery the several processes of tanning hides and skins from first to last. He can see the hides or skins soaked in lime pits, the flesh scraped or peeled off them, the hair or wool removed, etc. He can see the hides steeped in the colouring liquor and placed in alternate layers of tanbark, and in other essential stages in tanning needless to particularise in this article. He learns, amongst other things, that it takes from four to five months to transform a green hide or skin into useful marketable leather and make it fit for use in the turning out of a useful and durable boot or shoe. He can interest himself, if he likes, in the arts of stuffing blacking, or colouring hides and skins, and in giving them a smooth surface, glossy appearance and lustrous polish. He can educate himself in the several kinds of leather made at Bowen's tannery, and learn the difference between sole, and tweed, and kap, and calf and kangaroo leather, and other varieties known to experts, and which need not be set for the here. Amongst other things which we can not refer to in detail, it is worth recording that the bark of the beautiful Australian mimosa plays a large part in the manufacture of the superior leather which Messrs. Bowen Bro turn out in such quantities and sell or transfer into boots and shoes. This bark is stripped from the wattle tree of the district, and costs the firm 50 to 60/- per ton, according to quality. This bark has to be ground or rather rent, into small shreds by a machine driven by steam, which travels at the rate of some 4,000 revolutions per minute or more, making a hum not unlike that produced by a rapid whirling circular saw. Two steam engines are used, one of the tanning operations and another to drive the several machines and contrivance used in boot making. Our first visit was to the 'clicking' shop, where the leather is cut up into every necessary shape and size possible to imagine for a boot or shoe, with a facility, prevision, and rapidity only attainable by trained experts. We saw there a bewildering variety of uppers for men's laceups, women's laceups, youths and boy's laceups, girls' laceups, and for tiny boots and shoes not much bigger than a work man's thumb. The room set

apart for closing uppers was probably the most interesting department in the factory. This work was done by women and girls, the healthiness of their occupation being exemplified in their wholesome looks, bright and even brilliant complexions, rivalling in their hue the apple, the ripe peach or the red red rose. It would not perhaps, be amiss for those young persons who artificially cultivate the pink and damask cheek to discard the rouge and by upper-closing at Bowen's boot factory. The upper closing is done by sewing machine set in motion by revolving shafts and pulleys driven by steam power, so that all the women have to do is to hold the uppers in their places and guide the needles in the direction required. The machine used for joining the edges of uppers not wanted to overlap seemed a most ingenious contrivance. The needle worked in a zig-zag fashion, the stitch resembling what used to be called 'herringbone' sewing and was remarkably strong and tenacious. There were nine or ten different machines all driven by steam power; all that the girls had to do was to put their fee on the treadles to set the needles going. Eyelet holes were punched and fixed at amazing speed, and buttons stamped on to the boot uppers with incredible facility and firmness. A pleasing feature of the work done by the upper-closers was that it was neither laborious, fatiguing nor unbecoming to those called the weaker sex. The department of the 'makers' was not the least interesting department of the factory. There were several men in this room, who unlike the 'snobs' of our youthful recollection, stood up to their word instead of doing it in a bent and sitting posture. These men were as busy as nailers, studding, pegging or riveting boots or shoes, working with as much precision as if they were mechanical automata actuated by a common impulse and controlled by a common motive. The novelty of their method of working was that they utilised their mouths almost as much as their hands in their work.

BOOTS !
BOOTS !
BOOTS.

The Cheapest are Those that
Wear the Best,
**CONSEQUENTLY THOSE MANU-
FACTURED BY**

BOWEN BROS.
OF ORANGE,

And Bearing their Registered Trade
Mark, are undoubtedly
**THE VERY BEST VALUE IN
-- THE MARKET.--**

Advertisement - *Molong Argus*
Friday 3 February 1899: Page 7

Their mouths were magazines, so to speak, from which they drew forth the pegs, rivets or brads used in tightening their work together. As an American would say, they hurried at this place and fooled no time away in debating politics, exciting the suspicion that most of the men were in piecework, and that the more work they got through the bigger the prospective cheque would be on pay day. The room containing the finishing machines excited our special attention. Here we saw a contrivance formed like the bottom of a boot which at one cut shaped out a sole, and perfectly as it could be fashioned by the most expert hand, the knife used cutting the pressed and hardened leather as easily as if it was of wax or cheese. Here also was the 'Lightning' heeling machine, which at a single blow or impact drove as many nails as were required to securely fasten the heel to the bottom of the boot or shoe. There was another device

which drove the springs in faster than one could count or guess it. Then there was the paring machine, which hemmed like a peg top and the cutters of which made some 6,000 revolutions a minute, and which made the rims even enough and smooth enough for ironing blacking, polishing, or burnishing etc. There was also the newly invented machine for sewing strongly together the sides of boots, at a speed unbelievable until actually seen and verified. We must not forget that there were also contrivances for rubbing the tan surface off the soles and giving them that white appearance which makes the new boot more presentable to the eye of the purchaser. We had almost forgotten to mention the room where the stronger kinds of workmen's boots were finished off, and where they were literally shod with iron and so tipped and heeled with steel that they seemed intended to last for a decade or for a generation, or during one's ordinary span of life. The most indifferent observer could see that Messer's Bowen Bros, allowed no slop work to be done in their factory, and that their great aim and object was strong, durable, thorough workmanship, and the very best material possible. They seemed to make every description of boot or shoe that civilised man or woman, boy, girl, or infant could possibly need. There were the strongest kinds of working boots such as navvies' watertights, miner's ironclad, watertight bluchers, and other working boots too numerous to mention. There were also walking and working boots and shoes of lighter make for ordinary use. In ladies' and children's work there are infinite variety, from the strongest to the lightest kinds, all well-made and neatly finished."

When functioning this industry gave employment to about 80 persons. The completed plant was capable of turning out 3,000 pairs of footwear per week, articles superior to any made elsewhere.



Workers scraping hides around a lime pit – Orange Tannery - Circa 1870
Photograph from *Orange and District, A history in pictures* by Robert Bartlett
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DEATH OF MR. JOHN HERRICK, SEN.

THE father of Mr. George Herrick, of Molong, died in Orange on the 30th March last. Mr. Herrick, sen., was 79 years of age. He was born in Bandon, county Cork, Ireland, 1820, where his father was a large land holder. Mr. Herrick came to this colony in about the year 1843, bringing with him his young wife. After living a short while in Sydney he took the position of overseer on Wargoola station, on the Belubula river; and then proceeded to Canowindra. Afterwards he conducted a butchering business in Orange, and later on kept hotels in Orange, Summer Hill, and Ploughman's Creek. Subsequently, Mr. Herrick was a Government contractor, in which capacity he erected several bridges between Orange and Bourke, and did a great deal of work on various Western roads. This led to his appointment as inspector of works in the Works Department, and for several years he was a highly esteemed officer therein. After this Mr. Herrick resided in Nyngan for several years, where he supervised the erection of the town hall, hospital, and many other large buildings, but his health breaking down, he returned to end his days in Orange; where, we regret to hear, his wife, at the advanced age of 77 years, is in a very low condition, consequent upon the shock caused by her husband's death. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Father Ryan, Orange, and Rev. Father Tracey, Nyngan; and the remains were laid to rest in Roman Catholic cemetery, Orange. Mr. Herrick leaves a grown up family of four sons and two daughters, namely:—Mr. John Herrick, Trangie; Mr. Stephen Herrick; Alderman H. Herrick, J.P., Nyngan; Mr. George Herrick, Molong; Mrs. James Lessells, Orange; and Mrs. J. P. Gallagher, Perth.

JOIN OUR GROUP

Do you live locally and have a keen interest in family history research?

We are looking for new members to join the Orange Family History Group. Our group meets upstairs in the Orange City Library on the third Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm, except December. Everyone is most welcome.

We publish a newsletter three times a year.

We encourage our members to help others in their family history discoveries – by assisting people undertake research; helping with indexing projects and many more initiatives that we have planned!

The Genealogy collection at the [Orange City Library](#). has some great resources! [Click here to search our catalogue.](#) or head to the Central West Libraries Website cwl.nsw.gov.au

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR ANCESTORS?

Are you looking for information on your ancestors who lived in or around the Orange area?

Why not contact our group to see what information we may be able to help you with.

The Research Officer
Orange Family History Group
PO Box 35
ORANGE NSW 2800
or
email: familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au



Wishing you a
MERRY CHRISTMAS

joy in family history
JOY MURRIN
family history services

Last day for ordering this year
will be Monday 16 December
Express orders to 19 December

**20 December 2024 - Office
closes for holidays
to Monday 20 January 2025**

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