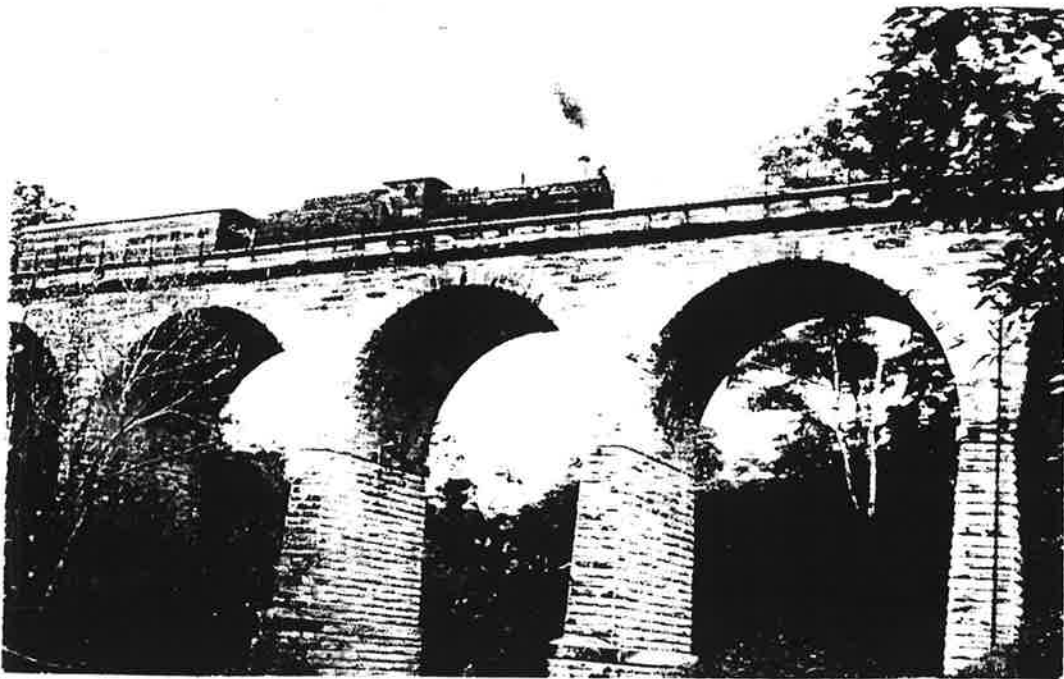


STONEQUARRY JOURNAL

DATE: DECEMBER 1998

VOLUME: 12

NUMBER: 4



• PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.

ISSN 1321 - 1439

**PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

COMMITTEE 1998-9

PRESIDENT:	MRS JUDY ARMSTRONG	02 46771586
VICE PRESIDENT:	MISS GAIL HANGER	02 46842179
SECRETARY:	MRS JAN ROSS	02 46771430
TREASURER:	MRS BETTY VILLY	
RESEARCH:	MRS DIANNE IRWIN	02 46771970
LIBRARIAN:	MR KEN FARRELL	02 46771396
ARCHIVIST:	MRS HELEN HANGER	02 46771276
PUBLIC OFFICER:	MR PETER MEYER	
PUBLICITY:	MRS ANGELIKA BURKE	02 46831248
JOURNAL COMMITTEE:	MRS ROBIN SLATTERY	02 46832347

Research: Written enquires: \$10.00, plus copying charges.

All Correspondence: The Secretary
 PO BOX 64
 PICTON. 2571

Library (Resource Centre) The Coach House
 Argyle Street
 PICTON. 2571

Enter by the Menangle Street Car Park at the rear of the National Bank

Hours: **Thursday** 10.00am to 2.00pm.
 Saturday 10.00am to 3.00pm.
 3rd Sunday of month 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Meetings: Second Monday of the Month, 7.30pm, at the Coach House, rear of National Aust. Bank.

Membership Fees: Pensioners - \$10.00. Single - \$15.00 Family - \$20.00
School Student Membership is invited - \$10.00 per annum.

Contents:

1. Presidents AGM Report
2. New Accessions in the Library
3. Research Enquires
4. Bulletins, Journals, Magazines and Newsletters.
5. cont. of above
5. Picton & District Historical & Family History Members interest Directory
(Please fill out and send)
- 6, 7, 8, 9. Recollection of the History of Yanderra by Arnold Ashton - Part One
10. "The Bullockies Track" by Chas. McAlister
10. "Australia in 1898 at a glance ... 100 years ago From: "Australia Through Time"
11. Letters from my Father
12. Christmas Party information

Changed meetings. Meetings of the Picton and District Historical and Family History Society Inc. will be held on the second Monday of each month (except January, or when the Monday is a public holiday) at 7.30pm at the Coach House at the rear of the National Australia Bank in Menangle street, Picton.

Wollondilly and District Historical and Family History Society Inc.

PRESIDENTS REPORT - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

14TH SEPTEMBER, 1998.

Members of the Society have been busy throughout the year - homes, families, careers, university studies, community involvement, illnesses claiming our time and energy. I would like to thank all those members who have given their time and expertise so willingly to get the jobs done - from duty roster, answering research inquires, attending meetings, making display boards, "finding out" information and collating articles to organising cemetery working parties. Members attended functions, seminars, conferences, lectures, NSW AFHS conference, prepared and presented displays at venues. Well done!

The Executive (Council) has again been a very supportive group, aiming to encourage activities within our Society which would achieve our objectives to: encourage the study of and promote an awareness of history - both in Wollondilly district and beyond; promote compilation of authentic records; acquire objects and material deemed by committee as having a bearing on Australian history; promote interchange of information among members; print, publish, circulate publications etc; communicate with other societies and provide social intercourse for members.

I would like to thank our Secretary, Angelika Burke for her hard work; our Treasurer, Jan Ross; Librarian, Helen Hanger; Archivist Ken Farrell and Vice-President, Gail Hanger and Research Officer Dianne Irwin (who was crushed by the weight of enquires - especially when the filing cabinet fell on top of her!)

Special words of thanks must go to Ted Alderson who took on the responsible job of Journal Editor.

I would like to thank, on behalf of the Society, all those members who quietly and unobtrusively give of their time to do a myriad of tasks that sometimes go unnoticed. Some members who do not get out to night meetings, give hours of their time to maintain and improve our repository for history - making sure that tomorrow's students, families and seekers of family and historical knowledge, will have an opportunity to do so, right here in Wollondilly. Thank you, all.

Judy Armstrong

President.

NEW ACCESSIONS IN THE LIBRARY

- The Bollards - Relatives of Redbank Upper Picton.
Pre 1900. Their Lives & Times as Contained in Court Records.
Compiled by John & Brian Bollard and donated by them.
- From Sails to Atoms - First 50 years of Sutherland Shire 1970
- 50 Famous Australians. By Professor G V Portus
- Life in the Burrarorang. By Jim Barrett. Donated by John Ruffels
- History of Henry & Mary Hanger. Donated by Gail Hanger
- Ben Hall the Bushranger (1947) by Frank Clune
- The Life & Times of Captain John Piper (1939) by M. Barrard Eldershaw
- The History of Railways 1855 - 1955
- Highway Robbery Underarm's. Personal Recollections - Jack Bradshaw
- Restoring Old Australian Houses - Buildings 1975
- Broken Hill 1883 -1895, 1894 - 1914, 1940 - 1973 (3 volumes) (1979) by RHB Kearns
- Silverton a Brief History by RHB Kearns
- Historical Geography of Australasia. by JD Rogers (1928)
- Arthur J McHugh - St John's Church, Campbelltown. 1931 - 1954. by Marie Holmes
donated by Campbelltown & Airs H.S.
- Beautiful Bundanoon
- Bargo Public School 1994
- Earth Battle. by Dorothy Cottrell
- Back to Bellambi - Corrimal 1980. by Syd Long
- Picton Regional Sewerage Scheme. EIS Volumes 1 & 2

RESEARCH ENQUIRES

FRATUS	of Buxton
SKEERES	of Redbank
"SOPHIENBOURGH"	???????
EVANS	Abbotsford
TOOVEY	Picton & Burragorang
WOODWARD	Menangle Street, Picton
CLARK	Razorback
DARBY	East Bargo
ACKROYD	East Bargo
SELMES	Picton
WEBB, Matthew	Appin
ROSE, Thomas	Appin
KNIGHT	Picton
HILTON	Picton/Camden
CRACKNELL	Picton
McKAY, Joseph	Post Master

Information of any kind re the above names, please contact the Research Officer
Dianne Irwin (02) 461970

Bulletins, Journals, Magazines and Newsletters.Family History (F) Family and Historical (FH) Historical - (H) Museum - (M)

England (F)	Family Tree Magazine Voyages of the Ships of Hell Second Fleet	July
Illawarra (F)	Illawarra Branches (includes request for pre-1860 Residents)	September 1998
Patrick Plains (F) P.R.O. Victoria	Proactive Goldrush Index	September
Shoalhaven (F)	Time Traveller Personal Notices - Shoalhaven & Nowra News April-May 1961	September
Blue Mountains (H)	The Explorers' Tree Corridor of Oaks - Faulconbridge Tuberculosis Treatment on the Blue Mountains	August 1998
Campbelltown (F)	Ghost Busters Information for Pioneer Register Secret Voyage of Lt Cook - London Gazette - 19 Aug 1768	November 1998
Campbelltown & Airds (H)	Grist Mills John Vardy & his Descendants Charles & Mary Huckstepp Jasper Hansen St Elmo 1st Campbelltown Boy Scouts	August 1988
Clan Cameron Aust. (F) Clan Cameron NSW (F)	(Donated by Edna Townsend)	Vol 19: 1 & 4 Vol 20: 1 - 4 Nos 28, 39 & 44
Martin (F)	Delichon Urbica (The House Martin) (Donated by Edna Townsend)	July 1997 Jan & Jul 1998
Geelong (F)	The Pivot Tree (Donated by Edna Townsend)	July 1997 Oct 1997 Jan 1998 April 1998 July 1998

National Trust	Reflections Varroville - Campbelltown (Donated by Edna Townsend)	5. Summer Nos 29, 33, 46, 73 81, 84.
Port Phillip Pioneers (F)	(Donated by Edna Townsend)	News: 90, 100, 102-5
SAG	Descent (Donated by Edna Townsend)	June 1995 June 1996 Sept 1996 Dec 1996 June 1997 Sept 1997 March 1998 June 1998
Scottish Australian Heritage C.	(Donated by Edna Townsend)	July 1998
Ulster Link (F) Victoria (F)	(Donated by Edna Townsend) Ancestor (Donated by Edna Townsend)	Oct/Nov 1984 Vol 23, No 4 Vol 24, Nos 2 & 3

**PICTON AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC
MEMBERS INTEREST DIRECTORY 1998**

Members are invited to submit names for the 1998 Directory.
There is no charge for including names and no limit on the number submitted
it would be appreciated if could return your completed forms
to the Coach House or post to the Society at P.O. Box 64 Picton NSW 2571

MEMBERS NAME _____ **MEMBERSHIP NUMBER** _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME	TOWN	COUNTY STATE	COUNTRY	TIME PERIOD

RECOLLECTION OF THE HISTORY OF YANDERRA

By Arnold Ashton

Part One.

Yanderra came into existence as a settlement approximately in early 1929, when Arthur Rickards Real Estate Company acquired 200 acres, originally a Crown Land Grant from the Mellor Brothers. This was subdivided and named Yanderra Estate. The Company provided amenities, such as building a railway station, public tennis court, swimming pool, constructing and naming roads, also providing the land for a sports ground.

My parents purchased LOT 149, Yanderra Road, late 1929 and we moved from Belmore to reside there in 1930. I was seven years old and have a clear recollection of those early days.

At that date there were less than ten (10) families as original residents, namely: Harry Smith, Arthur Tompkins, Bill Morgan, Ern Keating, Isiah France, George McKellar, Albert Mellor and Oriel Ashton's families.

Within five years followed:- Judds, Steve Watson, Bassett snr., W. Brereton snr., Arthur Brereton, Cyril Bowker, P. Bowker, Tompkins, Turner, Stan Murray, Alf Williams, P. Wiffin, Al McNinch, Gibbs, W. Devlin, W. Ashton, Miss Spratt.

Also there were quite a few families know as 'weekenders', these included:

Ttegilgas, Stones, Harveys, Chambers, Ellis, Gibbs, Henness, (Urlick).

From 1935 - 1940 families who settled in Yanderra included: O'Keefe, Dunn.

Whitehead, Jenkins, Barras, Bolands, Streeter, Ward, Hall, Woodford, Kirwood, Miss Hill.

The Log-Cabin road house changed ownership a number of times from 1929-1940.

The original owner was Harry Smith, then Arthur Rush, Peter Belairs, Mrs. Brennan and Aub Brook also Greaves.

Prior to the opening of Yanderra School, we children, Daphne and Lionel Thompkins, Fred Wiffin, Oriel Arnold, June Ashton, Anne, Phyllis, Doris, Dorothy, and Thelma Bowker, Jean & Doris Turner, Jack Brereton, walked to Bargo school and returned each day. On the way to school, we passed the site of a small mining venture, namely, The Silica Sand Mining, a company formed by Mr. Norm Bennett a well known identity from Bargo. The industry covered several acres and included a large concrete walled Dam. Plus a number of smaller concrete washing tanks, also a large washing plant, which had an endless conveyor belt with small buckets, these buckets collected the washed sand from the final washing tank, emptied the sand through screens, stockpiled the sand, where it dried a brilliant white. The raw material was dug from the surrounding area and transported to the plant by means of small rail tracks and hand pushed dump trucks, similar to those used in coal mining, in the early days.

These activities were fascinating, to us school kids and often caused our late arrival to school where we were welcomed with a regular dose of the cane. I might add that most of us went bare footed summer and winter, not by desire but through lack of shoes.

7.
Yanderra during the depression era, became a fairly close knit community, probably due to the equal financial standing and the lack of material possessions. This caused the whole community to create ways of entertainment, such as parties, dances, and sporting activities, we even boasted a very good cricket team, which competed against the teams from surrounding areas.

There were a number of interesting characters in Yanderra in the early years, perhaps the most colourful was a tall distinguished Irishman named Hugh McNeish, he was an eccentric, perhaps even mad, most of the time, he built a small two storied weather-boards house, actually one room on top of the other, which was located almost opposite our property on Yanderra Road, this piece of ground was the driest stoniest ground in the Yanderra estate and here he tried to grow potatoes.

He collected countless stones on the property and built walls all around the house, similar I believe to the Irish country side. He also decided to start poultry farming but couldn't understand why the chickens were dying, he told us he was feeding them on sausages and food better than he was having himself. Also to keep them warm he placed them in a jam tin attached to a stick and held them over the fire, which seemed to liven them up for a short time. Old Mac as he was known, became weak depressed and in poor health, so my mother would send him an evening meal, with my brother and I. In his saner moments he told us that he came from a wealthy family in Ireland. He was educated and trained as a Doctor of medicine, he had been in South Africa during the Boer War, and had travelled to a number of countries and then was in Hobart where he had been attacked, robbed and thrown into the harbour to drown. This experience was the cause of his mental problems, and though his family made contact with him at Yanderra and begged him to return home where a title and a large inheritance awaited him, He told us that he didn't trust his relatives, so he wouldn't return to Ireland. Shortly after this he died, and we were able to verify by letters and photos left lying around, all that he told us was true and we learnt that the State Government had buried him as a pauper and collected his inheritance, some 36,000 pounds, at that time a considerable fortune.

Another character was Laurie MORRIS, he didn't own any property but lived with any family who would have him, mainly with Al WILLIAM'S family, he claimed to have had stage experience under the stage name of PROFESSOR STOLLERING, his main act was to go into a trance when blindfolded, then he could find things that were lost, some say he could find things before they were lost. However I have seen him leading a number of men, while blindfolded, through the bush searching for a lost survey peg, unfortunately without much success. On another occasion he was clearing some ground, when I met him on my way home from school, he told me that he was sure he had been bitten by a snake, which was most unlikely as it was the middle of winter at the time, however he was still sure it was a snake and hurried off to see BILL FRANCE, who was capable of fixing anything, or so he told us. We heard that BILL FRANCE had a bottle of brandy, purely for medicinal purposes. Now Mr. FRANCE knew that he had to keep Laurie awake, so he kept him walking around and to further ensure he didn't go to sleep he gave him repeated sips of brandy, thus when the bottle was empty it was realised the spirit must have neutralised the snake venom, so Laurie survived, but he left Yanderra shortly after.

During the early years of the depression there were a number of men who were single and could be termed drifters or wanderers, they were not swagmen, but would attach themselves to any family who could accommodate them, with some food and shelter. In return they would perform various work, these men were from all walks of life and had interesting backgrounds no doubt, but were not always anxious to discuss their past lives.

BILL BARNES was such a man, he lived first with the FRANCE family he was a pleasant old Englishman, who had spent a considerable time in the British Army in India. He was a volunteer postman, for Yanderra Road, his daily routine being to walk to the Log-Cabin, at that time the Post Office and store, also the central meeting place for the residents of Yanderra. He collected and delivered mail and papers for the residents of Yanderra Road, a task he cheerfully performed, always singing and whistling and he was much appreciated, this he continued to do for many years until his death from old age.

There were younger men such as JACK BROWN who stayed with the THOMPSONS, he claimed to have been educated as a doctor, but was forced onto the Dole and Relief work during the depression, he stayed about a year and was last heard of in New Guinea.

FRED SAUNDERS stayed with my family for a short time, then moved on and we last saw him working as a circus hand, at Bargo some years later.

PETER GASSIER was an immigrant from Russia, he was in Yanderra in the 1930's, working for MR. URLICK a Yugoslav Miner from Broken Hill, Mr. Urlick was a land speculator who bought numerous blocks of land here and employed Peter as a fencer. Now to the permanent residents:- As mentioned earlier, my parents, ORIEL and ROSE ASHTON settled in Yanderra in 1930. My father having served in the Navy decided to try Poultry farming, with no practical experience and the depression at its worst, he had no success in the venture, so was forced to try other activities. Their children, the eldest son Oriel, myself Arnold, sister June and brother Trevor, he was born January 1931 at Picton, so was probably the first child born to parents living at Yanderra. My father died in 1944, after serving overseas in the R.A.N. from 1939 - 1941. My mother continued to reside here until her death in 1967. Then my wife and I and our children, have continued to live here until the present time, making an unbroken family residency of 54 years the longest of any family in Yanderra.

There are only three other families with members still living in Yanderra. MRS. ANNE BASSETT Lot 3,4,5. Her parents Mr. & Mrs. W. BRERETON were early residents, also her late husband ALF BASSETT, was an early resident of Yanderra. Anne's brothers ARTHUR & GEORGE with their families lived here in the early 1930's. ANNE and ALF BASSETT have two sons, THOMAS & ROBERT. Robert and his family also, are still residents in Yanderra.

Mrs ADA MCGREGOR, with her parents MR & MRS. BARRASS were originally week-enders to Yanderra from 1934 to 1945, then they settled permanently, so are therefore classed as early residents, and with Ada's husband SANDY and son ROBERT.

The TOMPKINS family settled here in 1929 originally lived at Lot 15, then were granted a Crown Lease of approximately 50 acres, which was located outside the original Yanderra Estate, on the opposite side of Chandos Road, and fronting the Hume Highway, the family left Yanderra about 1938.

HARRY SMITH, the original owner and builder of the Log Cabin Roadhouse; settled here in 1929, however he sold that business in the early 1930's and also took up a lease of approximately 50 acres adjoining the TOMPKIN lease bounded by Chandos Road and Carlisle Street. HARRY SMITH was a good farmer and hard worker, he cleared and cultivated about 10 acres of his lease, and like all the early settlers this was done mostly by hand, the only mechanical aids then were a Trewella Tree puller, mattock, shovel, axe, crowbar, and cross cut saw. He used gorse and plough for cultivation and produced some of the best crops seen in the district including prize winning exhibits in the local shows. He left about 1935 and was last heard of rice growing, in the Riverina area.

The other 50 acre lease taken up at the same time, by the WILLIAMS family parents of ALF WILLIAMS (who lived at Lot 127) and is bounded by Carlisle Street and Silica Road. (However these roads were not known by these names in the early days and were little more than bush tracks.) The WILLIAMS family left about 1939.

Another family who lived outside the original estate were the THOMPSONS, they resided a few hundred yards north on the Hume Highway, Mr. Thompson his son Jim and daughter Mrs. Anne GAZZARD. lived at the same address until recent years and now lives at Bowral.

The KEATINGS lived at Lot 2, for a few years, but both Mr. and Mrs. died in the early 1930's and their original house no longer exists.

Mr. and Mrs. W. BRERETON snr. lived at Lot 4, they were the parents of Mrs. Anne BASSETT and their property is now part of her property, where she still resides.

Both the smaller log cabins on Lots 13 and 206 although they were built in 1919, as spec buildings, neither had permanent residents until after the war. They were owned by people who may have used them as holiday houses.

Lot 182 was also one of the first houses built. The first owner was a builder named NICHOLS who was involved with building of a number of early houses. He was not there long and people named JUDD lived there for a number of years, and the place has changed owners many times since then.

Lot 183 was the residence of the GIBB family originally used as a weekender, Mr. and Mrs. and two sons, ELMO and COLVIN, later Elmo married, took over the property and raised a large family residing there until the 1950's. The house no longer stands.

Lot 184 people named ELLIS were never permanent residents, they were related to the GIBBS, and were regular visitors for many years, the house no longer stands.

Lot 193 the BASSETTS snr. family lived there for many years. In the early days, Mr. and Mrs. Alf, Bill, and Elsie. All except Alf left, Yanderra 1950.

Lots 46-47. The original residents were a family named WATSON. Mr. Steve Watson was an American by birth and (still retained an accent). He lived with his wife and son and were well known residents here until about 1937. The house no longer exists.

Lots 76 People named CHAMBERS were weekenders, but were regular visitors over a period of about ten years..... (To be continued.)

THE BULLOCKIES TRACK, BERRIMA TO SYDNEY, 1850

"Lockyersleigh, Paddy's River, Black Bob's creek, the head of Mittagong Range, Chalker's Flat, the Bargo Hotel, the foot of Razorback, then on to the Cowpastures Bridge. Our ninth camp would often be at the crossroads ---- some four miles from Liverpool. The publican at the crossroads was a Mr. Martin whose better half was alleged to be the prettiest woman in all Australia ---- that is to say, the carriers thought so; for though we had other work to do than forming mutual admiration societies we had the true Australian appreciation of Beauty's form divine "And though our musical education had been neglected there were amongst the old carriers singers who, metaphorically, could move the soul of a crocodile. Such songs as *The Old Bark Hut*, *The Old Bullock Dray*, *The Stockman's Last Bed*, *Black-eyed Susan* and *The Wild Colonial Boy* were the chief classics known to the platform of the campfire."

by Chas. McAlister taken from *The Big Treasury of Australian Folk Lore*
compiled by A.K. Macdougall

****oOo****

AUSTRALIA IN 1898 at a glance ... 100 years ago

Taken from: *Australia Through time*

- 1st February:** The Agricultural Gazette of NSW pays tribute to William Farrer for his practical experiments in wheat-growing, especially in eradicating wheat-rust.
- 17th February:** Australia's colonial premiers send their condolences to the US President regarding the loss of the warship *Maine* in Havana Harbour.
- 1st March:** The Sydney - Condobolin rail-line is completed in NSW.
- 25th March:** Angry independent miners mob WA Premier John Forrest at Kalgoorlie to protest against the 10-foot depth limit imposed on their prospecting.
- March:** The steamer *Etona* is built at Milang SA, and bought by Church of England missionaries.
- March:** Kanakas working on Queensland's sugar plantations form a field labourers union.
- 13th April:** T.J. Byrnes becomes Queensland's Premier.
- 22nd May:** The remains of Michael Dwyer, the Wicklow rebel chieftain, are exhumed from the Devonshire Street Cemetery and re-interred in Waverley Cemetery.
- May:** The Salvation Army film *Our Social Triumphs* premieres in Melbourne.
- 4th June:** Women are allowed to vote only in SA concerning the draft federal constitution.
- 27th July:** Death duties are introduced in NSW.
- 30th September:** Samuel James Way becomes Administrator of SA.
- September:** WA's first commercial butter factory opens at Busselton.
- 1st October:** J.R. Dickson becomes Premier of Queensland after the death of Thomas Byrnes.
- 17th October:** The Zoological Gardens open in Perth, WA.
- 28th October:** WA introduces an *Early Closing Act* restricting shopping hours.



Frank G. Jenkins.

20th. September, 97.

Dear Rob and Biggles,

Well, it has happened again. I know you are not going to believe me, but my shopping expeditions are full of adventure. Normally, I try to tell of the amusing things that occur, but this story I will leave for you to judge, and depending on your sense of humour, you can decide if it is humorous or sad.

When I had completed my usual shopping, and as I was passing the bottle shop, I decided to pop in and purchase a cask of Morris Oak Cask Port, [Purely for medicinal purposes, you understand.]

As I was selecting my purchase, I noticed a lady with a trolley standing in the arcade outside the shop, waving and pointing in my direction. Now, I had fallen for this before today, so before I made a fool of myself again, I looked around to see if there were anyone behind me but there was no one there. It must be me, so I looked at her again, and decided the face was familiar, but who is it.

I took my time getting to the checkout, while I put the grey matter into second gear [it doesn't have a top these days.] and by the time I had paid for my medicine, a farthing had dropped. Ah, yes, when we used to go for dinner at the Noosa Hotel, we had met them and became sort of friendly, and had actually visited her and husband, who, I remembered had a drinking problem, but for the life of me I could not recall any names.

She was waiting for me as I left the shop and so I went over to her and said hello, how are you, and all the usual pleasantries, and she asked me where I was living now and what was I doing with myself and so forth and so on. At the same time, I am racking my brain trying to remember her name, and her husbands name, so that I can enquire after him.

This idle chatter went on for several minutes, and suddenly, the full penny dropped. She had not asked about Del, who she knew better than me, and I realised she was in the same boat as I was. She could not remember our names, and could not ask, as I couldn't.

So we carried on for a few more minutes, and as we were quickly running out of conversation, and I was trying to figure out how to get out of the situation, she decided to give me some information.

" Bill has died " she said. Ah, ha. Yes, that's his name. Bill. I remember it now, but what is her name?

" Oh dear, I am so sorry " I said, " how long ago did it happen?" With that, she glanced at her watch, and said " A bit over two hours ago, at one o'clock "

Now, I ask you, where do you go from here? I reciprocated by telling her that Del had also passed away, made a few nice farewell remarks, and while she pushed her trolley off, I made a hasty retreat to my car, and home to have a dose of medicine

Frank..

STONEQUARRY JOURNAL

PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL
& FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
DECEMBER 1998 ISSN 1321 - 1493

The John Ruffels History Prize for 1998 was awarded to two students at the annual Picton High School Awards Presentation. The recipients are Sylvia Arzey, Year 10 and Julia Ware, Year 11.

Mr John Ruffels, a former student of Picton High School and member of the Picton and District Historical and Family History Society, initially donated funds in 1996 to encourage students to develop their interest in the research of local history.

OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISING RAFFLE FOR THE YEAR WILL BE DRAWN AT OUR FEBRUARY MEETING.
THE PRIZE IS A TIMBER FRAMED PHOTOGRAPH (40 X 50cm) OF THE STONEQUARRY VIADUCT Ca 1880

Picton & District Historical & Family History Society is having a Christmas Party in lieu of the December Meeting. It will be held on Sunday 13 December at 2:00pm at the Coach House. All are welcome to attend.

Also please be advised the Resource Centre at the Coach House will be closed between 19 December to 13 January 1999. Our first business meeting for 1999 will be held Monday 8 February at 7:30pm. For Further inquiries please phone 46 831248 Mrs A Burke - Publicity Officer.