

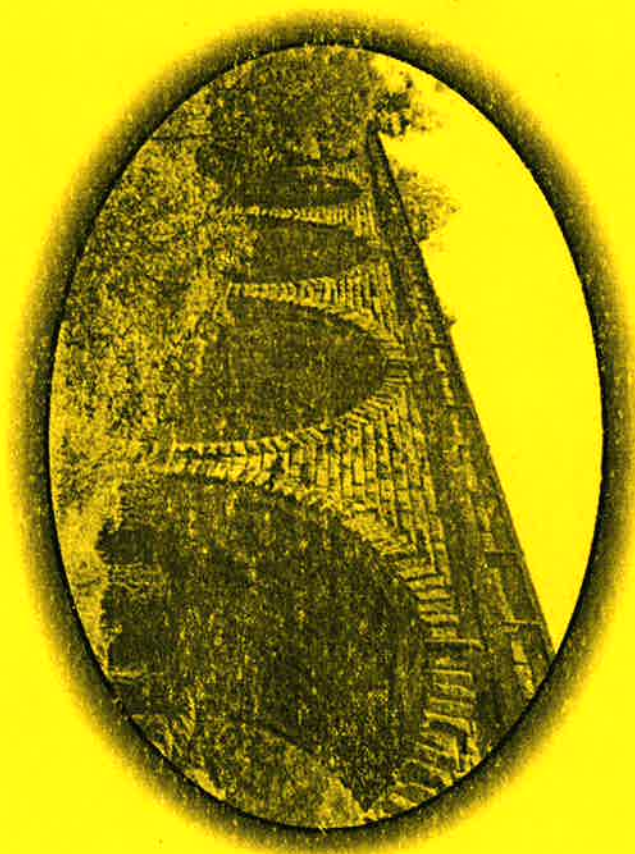
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Membership Fees – Due 1 July each year

Pensioners and school students: \$15.00

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Family: \$25.00

Meetings

Meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month at 9.30 am except for January.

Meetings are held on the first floor of Wollondilly Public Library, Menangle Street Picton.

RESEARCH ROOM

The Research Room is located on the first floor of Wollondilly Public Library, Menangle Street, Picton.

Opening Hours

On each Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm.

On the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 9.30 am to 12 Noon and at other times by appointment with the Librarian.

RESEARCH FEES

Members: Free

Non Members: \$10.00 per hour + photocopying
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Written Inquiries: \$20.00 + photocopying

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The Stonequary Journal
Journal of the Picton & District Historical and Family History Society Inc.

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Plea from the Editor

It is hard to get enough material to fill the journal, I'm asking please send anything big or small it doesn't have to be typed, I'll gladly include it if space permits. The idea of this journal is for our Members to enter their missing ancestors, also to include stories about them hoping, that someone else is connected to their family and that they may get in touch with them, as I'm finding in the next journal

The Editor

Presidents Report

Well we are nearly at the end of another year, our AGM is coming up on the 3rd September 2005, we welcome all our member's to join us. We are excited that we will be able to launch our newest book on this day, the book is called Along the Menangle Road by one of our members Ken Williams.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has given their time to help in the room and on field days for all their effort and support, and hope that we have just as much support in the coming year.

We have been flooded with research enquiries this year, and to see the look of excitement on the faces of these people when they find information that they didn't expect to find, it is so rewarding.

We have also had a nomination to make one of our members and Librarian Helen Hanger a life member.

Gail Hanger

AGM

All Welcome

Saturday 3rd September

Starting at 9.30 am

In the training rooms of Wollondilly Library

1st Floor

Menangle Street

Picton

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Coach House Chronicles

Lieut. General Sir Thomas Picton \$ 3.00

Harmony Homes \$ 5.00

Vault Hill Picton \$ 3.00

Tahmoor Post Office \$ 3.00

St Mary Towers \$ 5.00

Antonio Manolis \$ 3.00

Cemetery Transcripts

Bargo General Cemetery \$10.50 *only a few copies left*

Burial Records of St Marks Anglican Church Picton \$12.00 *Reprinted*

Redbank United Church A Pictorial View \$20.00

St Marks Anglican Picton Cemetery Transcripts \$15.50 *only a few copies left*

Upper Picton Cemetery \$20.00 *only a few copies left*

Thirlmere Cemetery \$20.00 *only a few copies left*

Stroll Through St Marks Churchyard \$ 8.00

Marriage Transcripts:

Marriage Records of St Marks Vol. 1 \$15.00

Marriage Records of St Marks Vol. 2 \$15.00

Marriage Records of St Marks Vol. 3 \$20.00 *J*

Old Recipe

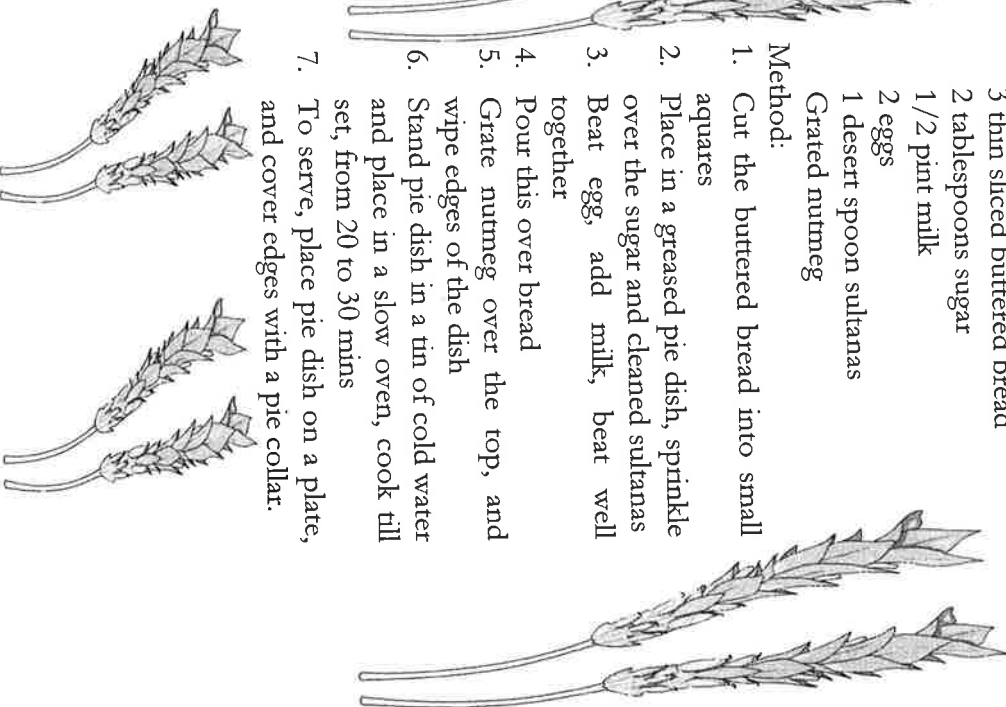
Bread and Butter Pudding

Ingredients:

- 3 thin sliced buttered bread
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 pint milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 desert spoon sultanas
- Grated nutmeg

Method:

1. Cut the buttered bread into small aquares
2. Place in a greased pie dish, sprinkle over the sugar and cleaned sultanas
3. Beat egg, add milk, beat well together
4. Pour this over bread
5. Grate nutmeg over the top, and wipe edges of the dish
6. Stand pie dish in a tin of cold water and place in a slow oven, cook till set, from 20 to 30 mins
7. To serve, place pie dish on a plate, and cover edges with a pie collar.



Vale

The Society was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of its most valuable members, Someone Else. Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill.

Else has been with the Society since its beginning: they did more than a normal person's share of work. Whenever there was a job to do, a committee to be chaired, a meeting to attend or a working bee, one name on everyone's lip: "Let Someone Else Do It" it was common knowledge that Someone Else was amongst the largest contributor of their time to the Society. Whenever there was a need for volunteers, everyone just assumed Someone Else would volunteer.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing super-human, but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone? We wonder what we are going to do.

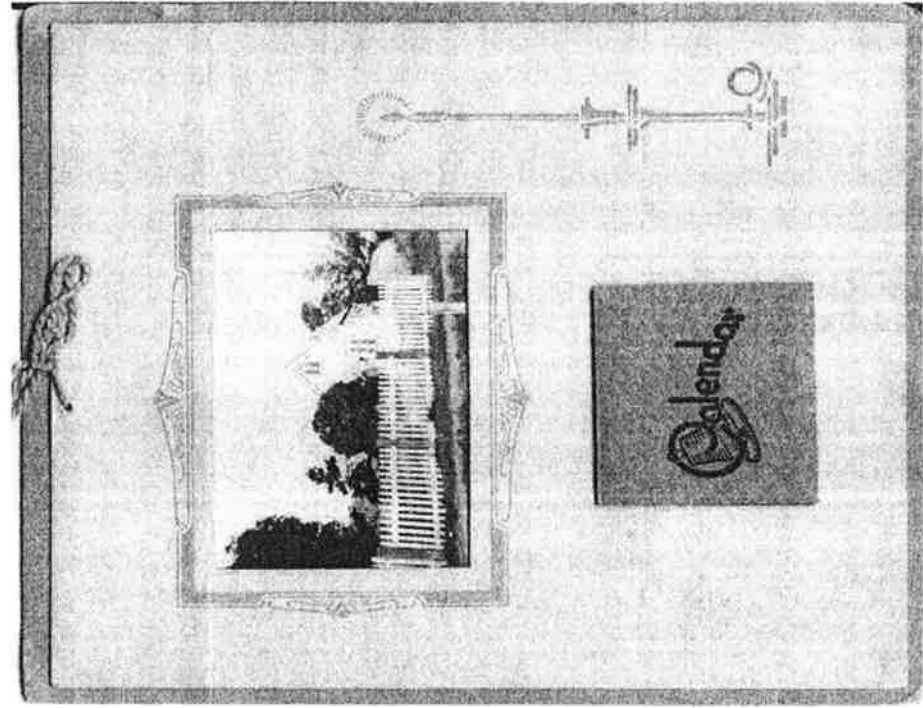
Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow but, who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked for help, remember we can't depend on Someone Else.

With thanks to the Wagga Wagga Family History Society

Anyone willing to fill in the position of Someone Else please come along to our AMG Saturday 3rd September 2005

The United Church Lumsdaine Street, Picton

Last year a request came into the Society from Denise Nash asking for information about Lawrence Nash, who was the Presbyterian minister in Picton in 1941 and 1942. Mrs Nash Included a copy of a 1937 calendar with a photo of the church, which then had a picket fence along Argyle Street.



A Very Happy Birthday to All from the Committee and Members
of the PDHFHS

JUNE

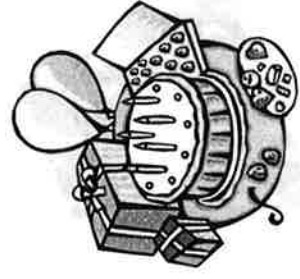
Steven Chalker
Ron Parker
Robert Slater
Faye Smith

JULY

Ron Callaway
Helen Hanger
Suzanne Jones

AUGUST

Sue Milne
Craig Pippen
Marie Austin



A Pictorial View

REDBANK UNITING
CHURCH

(Formerly Wesleyan Chapel)
2004

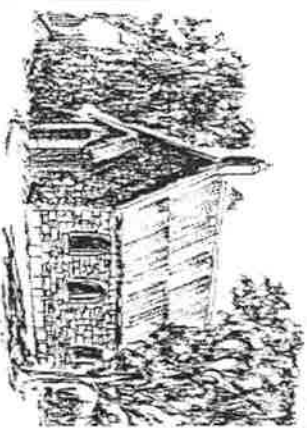


Illustration by Barry Saxton—Picton

**We have now
released our new updated
edition with photographs**

The Redbank Uniting Church
Cemetery Transcripts
2004

**This book has burials at
Redbank Uniting Church
Cemetery from 1853 until 2004**

You can get your copy of our new book from the Society rooms or by post.

Book can be ordered
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Book \$20.00 each + postage and handling \$5.00

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Goldsworthy-Andrews Family Reunion

Descendents of Louisa Goldsworthy & Robert Andrews are invited to a family reunion from 9.30 am, Sunday 11 September 2005 at St. Stephen's Anglican Church & hall at Newtown, NSW, with their families. Good facilities at historic St. Stephens are complemented by the Camperdown Memorial Rest Park (with playground) which surrounds it.

Louisa Goldsworthy of Redruth, Cornwall, arrived in Brisbane June 1874 marrying Robert Andrews (of Wigan, Lancashire) in Brisbane later that year. (Louise travelled under her mother's maiden name, Andrew.) Only four of their children survived infancy. The descendants of *Lillian* & William Andrew, & *Lillian* & Alfred Morris, Rose & James Weir, Violet & Albert Smylie, & Harold & Pearl Andrews will gather en masse for the first time.

Louisa's brothers also eventually settled in Australia. Warmly invited to this gathering are descendants of John & Ann Goldsworthy, *James* & Priscilla Goldsworthy & *James* & Kate Goldsworthy), & David & Jessie Goldsworthy. Inquiries to June Cashman, 02 4821 0483, or check out our website,

<http://www.davidcashman.com/goldsworthy/%2Dandrews/>



Tea towel

For SALE

One of the Towels can be seen in the Picton and District Historical and Family History Society



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handling \$3.50

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Amount of Tea Towels

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PDHFHS YAHOO! GROUP

By Debbie Hayes (member and Group Moderator)

A Yahoo! Group exclusively for members of this Society is now successfully up and running. Members who have not been invited to join the Group are encouraged to do so.

Members may view existing messages or post their own messages, to which other members may provide answers. It is a form of online Q & A. Messages may simply be questions requiring answers.

Or they may be information; for example, a member may have found an Internet site which the feel may be of interest to other members of the Group and post the URL of that newly discovered site for all to see.

Photo's may be posted in the hope that someone may be able to identify the location or participants in that photograph or simply for the photograph's intrinsic interest alone.

Other features available on the Group site include the ability to Chat online (using Yahoo! Messenger). If you go online and see a smiley face next to another member's name and it is shown as online, you may contact them and chat by typing to each other.

There is also the ability to access posted files, which may be useful to members. Other features are Links, Polls and a listing of members of the Group.

Joining the Group

In order to join the PDHFHS Yahoo! Group, you need to be a member or a friend of a member, or a local resident and you need to be invited to join the Group by the Moderator of this site (me). Send you email address and I will arrange for an invitation to be sent to you. My email address is pdhfhfs@hotmail.com.

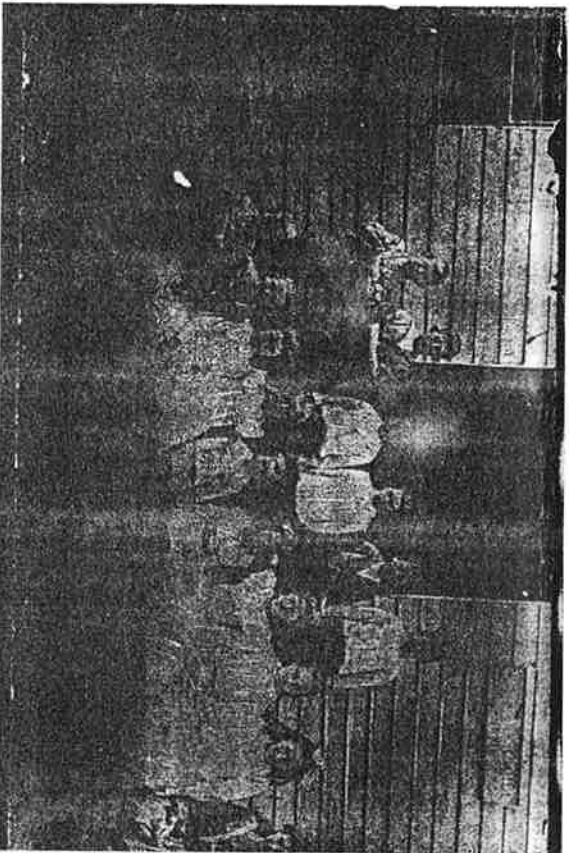
A pre-approved invitation will be sent to your email address and you then have seven days to reply before the invitation expires. During the joining process, you will be asked to provide a Yahoo! ID and a Password. Both are required for future access to the Yahoo! Group Site.

supplied by the teacher.

So all my school days were spent under her guidance and she suddenly retired and left Bargo. One morning when we arrived at school she was gone without a word to anyone. We were without a teacher for a long time.

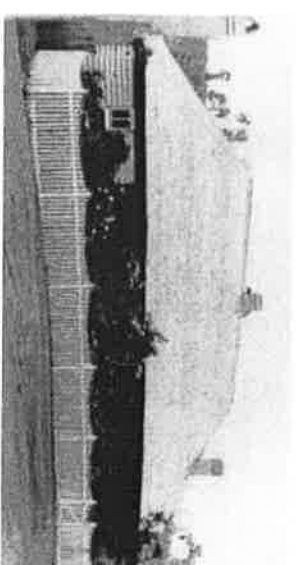
The three young ones (Margaret and Mary (Twins) and John) went to 'Back Road' school in Arina Road where an elderly teacher taught the little flock, she was Mrs. Mitchell and so was a good across the bush, so our father and older brother blazed a track for all the children to follow, about six used to walk over every day, so the Bargo school was re-opened and another teacher appointed, the school grew, other teachers came and gradually the school was moved and a bigger school was built. I don't know where our school ended up, but I think it is still at Yerrinbool.

Below: Photograph of Bargo School Children
from Pictorial History of Bargo Public School 1869-1988



Tahmoor House

By Kate Holmes



Society members have been concerned to see the unkempt appearance of Tahmoor House, at Tahmoor—the oldest still inhabited building in this part of Wollondilly Shire. Jan Ross's article in the District Reporter on July 1st 2005 shows the overgrown garden in May; by the end of July it was much worse. Fortunately, the long grass on the front nature strip had now been mown, and it is hoped that this means someone will be living in the house very soon.

The Society has a copy of a report on Tahmoor House, researched and written by Marlane Fairfax in 1993. This includes detailed records of land ownership from 1822 when the first grants in what is now the Picton-Tahmoor district were recorded. The initial 50 acre grant to Edward Doyle in November suggests there may have been a building on the site, probably a simple slab hut. He sold the land to William Klensendorff in March 1824 at three times the going rate, which suggests that 'there were some improvements,'¹ possibly the beginnings of a more substantial building. Hume and Hovell 'stayed at Klensendorff's house' in October of that year, on their way south, again suggesting the original section of the house was habitable. Other evidence shows that he was employing stonemasons and sawyers in 1825, and he was running a 'Public House'; an 1862 plan shows extensive outbuildings, but it seems that the building now known as Tahmoor House was begun in the mid 1820s² and extended in the 1830s.

There were a number of licensees in the next forty years, including Ralph Hush who first used the name Traveller's Inn, and James Crispe, famous for his good manners, capture of convicts, and later connection with the George Inn, Picton. With the building of the railway line to Mittagong via Thirlmere by 1867, the now Pastoral Hotel's John Gray became insolvent in 1869; from 1870 the inn became a residence. The McInnes family rented the house in the 1870s, and then it was bought by George Bradbury who lived there for forty years. He sold to developers in 1920, and the land was subdivided as Tahmoor Park Estate. Various owners since then have used, slightly abused, and sometimes repaired and restored this very handsome early Colonial Georgian building. The original floor plan has been slightly changed, little of the internal fittings have survived, but the wooden shingles remain under the relatively recent corrugated iron roof (which replaced an intermediate tin roof).

It would be an enormous blow to the cultural heritage of Wollondilly Shire if this building was to suffer the same fate as Abbotsford House, Picton. This house, also Colonial Georgian in style, was begun about the same time, in the 1820s, after the land was granted to George Harper in 1822. The original section may have been built, or at least begun, by 1827, when Harper returned to England, married, and bought his wife back to the site. The two wings may have been added during the 1830s as the family grew.³ The original grant was later farmed by a number of tenants, including the Fairley family still in the district, and was owned by one of the pioneering Antill family from 1865. By the 1950s, when the land was subdivided and sold, the house was in poor repair, and no longer occupied. In 1980 Abbotsford was listed on the Register of The National Estate (as Tahmoor House is), but continued neglect, and two fires left the house in ruins—as it remains. Again, the Society holds two folders containing a detailed assessment, and various documents, from 1983, for those wanting more information.

To lose one such property was unfortunate; to lose two would be disastrous. Tahmoor House is listed on the Local Environment Plan, and every effort should be made to ensure that the Wollondilly Council

The following article was given to the Society by Mrs. Margaret Sleeman, niece of Anne Mary Ellen Hogan. Anne Hogan was born 12 October 1900, daughter of Thomas and Ann Hogan of Bargo. Anne lived at the family property 'Claremont', Bargo until June 1926. Her reminiscences were written between 1978 and 1987. Anne died in September 1988. The following part of her reminiscences related to her school days at Bargo.

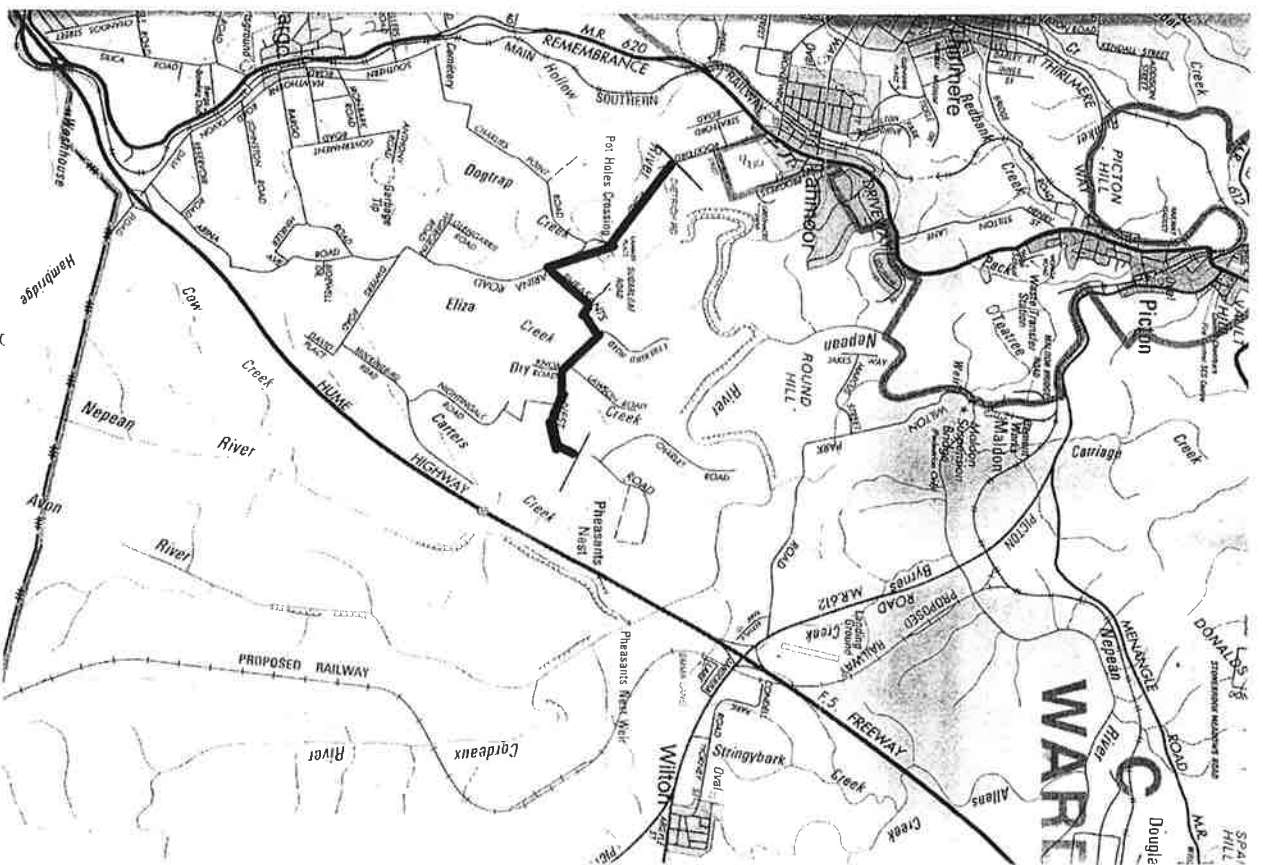
Reminiscences of school days

By Anne Mary Ellen Hogan

School was about a mile from home. It was only one big room with a porch verandah on one side and there were about 20 to 30 children in attendance while I was at school. That was as big as it got. Our one teacher was Miss Ellen O'Donovan, a grand teacher, did her best to teach all the different ages and at night she often taught the grown up men, who had missed out when they were children, often because there was no school or teacher available and as they grew up they felt the need of education even to be able to read and write.

Our school days were happy days and out teacher boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Dymond and on Friday, she would go to Sydney on the afternoon train from Picton Lakes Station and she would come back on Sunday, so it was part of our pleasure to take a small can of milk to the school on Sunday morning for Miss O'Donovan, as apparently she spent all day at the school, tending her flower garden, which she loved and kept beautiful and of course who ever came with the can of milk, was amply rewarded with sweets and pastry from Sydney and so it was no effort to walk a mile with the can of milk. She didn't go to Sydney every weekend. She used to get our mother to dress a couple of fowls for her to take to her nephew James in North Sydney.

A highlight of our school year was 24th May; Empire Day, was spent with foot races etc. at night we had a bonfire and crockers



sees that it is protected and cherished, as Abbotsford House was not.

¹ Fairfax, M. Stage One Conservation Plan for Tahnmoor House, Remembrance Drive, Tahnmoor NSW, May 1993

² Ross, Jan. The Hume and Hovell Expedition—The Local Connection, in The District Reporter, 13.8.2004

³ Ross, Jan. Series of articles on Abbotsford in The District Reporter, 16.4.2004—7.5.2004

Tahnmoor House is listed on the Register of The National Estate in 1978, but some of the historical information on the Australian Heritage Commission Web page is incorrect.

“Members”

HELP NEEDED

The Society attends a number of Public Event Days, where we sell our publications and tea towels, and try to put up some sort of displays. We have relatively few active members, so any **HELP** in organizing the displays, or taking a turn at the display/table would be a great help.

We attend Australia Day, the Heritage Picnic Day in April and Shire Day in October and try to get to the Thirlmere Steam Festival in March. We are trying to organise the same display for the January, March and April Days, and possibly for the October one.

Ideas for displays, help in preparing them, and/or short sessions on the days would help.

Historical knowledge is not necessary, as we can note any questions for additional research, or check the information we have for the sale. Remember, the more workers we can call on, the easier it becomes for us all.

Please get in touch with the secretary if you are interested in helping

Thanks

Timber Bridges

By Claire Bell (Member)

What charisma wooden bridges held for my brother and I in our youth. One could hide under the rickety logs and never be found.... Unless you sneezed because of sifting dust, or got the giggles! Every Saturday morning it was such fun to hide under the bridge while the only two cars in the district clattered into town. It was a great place to light up our dried corn silk smokes with Federal matches pinched from the shelf above the fuel stove.

Climbing over rocky ledges, dainty bush orchids and native bluebells brightened the drab eucalyptus scrub. Shoals of mosquito fish and tadpoles flourished in small pools after rain and sometimes there was green slime to hurl at each other. Snakes and lizards soon got out of our way. Once after a flood a drowned wooly sheep drifted under the bridge. We gave it a good shove with a stick to speed the smelly thing away from our bridge.

During my childhood there were three timber road bridges, one sawn plank footbridge and two level crossings between home (Pheasants Nest) and Tahmoor, our postal address. There was no mail delivery those days.

One level crossing spanned "The Potholes" on Bargo River. The other crossed a creek which drained into Nepean River. They both flooded when heavy rain fell.

The bridge over rugged 'Dry Creek' was constructed of round poles which rattled alarmingly. Horses were spooked by the gaps between the logs. We had to dismount and lead our horses across the bridge. When dad saw a rotten log, he and my brothers took the cross-cut saw and felled a suitable pole nearby and repaired the bridge.

Pheasants Nest was home to twenty six people including children so the local council did not consider it important enough to keep roads or bridges in good repair.

The next bridge crossed Eliza Creek. It was of sawn ironbark timber and had side rails. An elderly returned serviceman cut his throat on Eliza Creek Bridge and died there and then. My parents had the

only telephone in the area so important tasks like reporting this dreadful one fell to them.

After the police took the poor man away, dad spread sand over the blood. Even so the horses would snort and shy away from the bridge for months afterwards.

The tragic event stayed with us children, however it didn't stop us from climbing under the bridge where we imagined blood dripping through thick spider webs. We saw the grizzly ghost of Mr. X. staggering with his half severed head. That ghost kept us entertained for years.

Dogtrap bridge was a plank bridge with railings. It stood at the junction of Charley Point Road and Rockford Road. It was a longer, smoother bridge but even so, the Army had a drama there shortly before World War 2 ended in 1945. An army aircraft was being transported from Albury to Richmond by low-loader and truck. Because of the narrow Bargo River Bridge on the Hume Highway it was decided to divert via Dogtrap Bridge. All went well until the crucial moment when the load could not fit on the bridge. Sappers cleared trees and scrub slightly downstream and another attempt was made with no success. Finally a bulldozer was bought in to form a rough track and tow the huge load down one side of the gully and struggle up to the road. The whole operation took three days. Tahmoor School wondered why the kids from Pheasants Nest were very late that week! Somehow their push bikes would not fit across the bridge either. It was great fun to retrace the rough track for weeks afterwards and added to the kudos of our wooden bridges.

A four-plank walking bridge supported by solid hand-hewn square stones spanned 'The Potholes'. Many a nasty splinter had to be extracted from young feet during the years before the footbridge was finally swept away by floods.

These clanking, rickety bridges and the surrounding bush were great places for adventurous country kids to explore, learn bush-craft, develop a love of nature....and hide.

Incidentally, my brother and I never fell prey to cigarettes. Perhaps we had enough of running eyes, coughing fits and singed hair in our corn silk days under the bridge.....

We have just released our New Book

Along the Menangle Road

This book is A Concise History of the Land Grants on the Menangle Road

You are able to get your copy of our new book from the Society rooms or by post.

Book can be ordered

Please send your order and payment to:

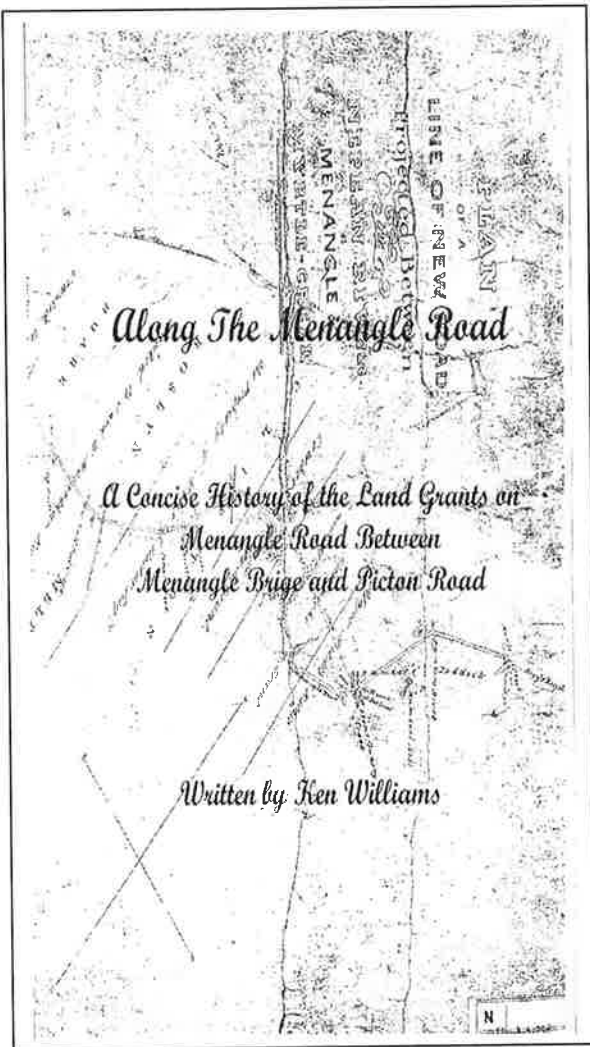
The Secretary,
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