

Stonequarry Journal

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Picton & District Historical
&
Family History Society Inc.

PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Saturday: 10 am to 3 pm

ENTER by Menangle Street carpark. (behind National Australia Bank)

MEETINGS:

Second Monday of each month in THE COMMUNITY ROOMS, SHIRE HALL,
MENANGLE STREET, PICTON. (excluding January)

MEMBERSHIP FEES - FROM 1ST JULY EACH YEAR:

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Firstly, a few things I should have mentioned in the December journal.

Have you noticed that The Journal has changed to the **STONEQUARRY JOURNAL**? Members felt that we needed a title which would give us more of an identity especially with other societies. The name Stonequarry Journal was voted the most popular when put to members at our November meeting.

A very successful tour of Picton and St Mary's Towers was enjoyed by members of the Royal Australian Historical Society at the end of November. We were delighted to welcome them to our area and show off some of our historic sites. A new Chronicle by Pat Shephard on St. Mary's Towers was available on the day.

To help offset the rising costs in publishing our journal, the Society has offered advertising space to a number of local businesses. Your support of those businesses will also be added support to your Society.

Thanks to Nicole Hanger, arrangements are well underway for our annual Arts & Craft Festival to be held in early August. A full list of the categories is published in this Journal. This year we have added Photography. Please contact Nicole for entry forms and/or offers of help.

On Easter Saturday there will be a 'Bollard & Related Family Reunion' held at the showground in Picton. A number of our members will be attending.

You will see by the list of 'Coming Events' that we have a very busy and interesting time ahead. Thanks for this goes to Peg Gard who has given a description of her work for the Society under the heading 'Dog's Body'. Peg is faithful, loving and hard working but she never bites or snarls! Please come along to some of the great events Peg has arranged for us.

Many of you were aware that our Honorary Member, Mr Bruce Knox, was very ill last year and spent some time in hospital. I am happy to report that he is now at home and looking terrific. Mr Knox has recently donated to the Society his bound copies of the Picton Post/Picton News covering the period 1969 to 1992 for which we are very grateful.

As reported in the December journal, we lost our good friend and member Reg Peisley who had been typing up the journal. The typing for this journal has been done by various members which is the reason we have so many different print styles. It may not look particularly good but many thanks to those members who have assisted.

Marlane Fairfax.

COMING EVENTS

- APRIL 12 GENERAL MEETING - SPEAKER JAN ROSS ON 'HARMONY HOME'.
- APRIL 17 AUCTION/GARAGE SALE AT COACH HOUSE COMMENCING AT 10 AM.
DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.
- MAY 1 VISIT TO 'HARMONY HOME' REMAINS, WITH PROFESSOR IAN JACK. MEET AT QUEEN VICTORIA HOSPITAL CARPARK AT 12 NOON AND BRING A PICNIC LUNCH.
- MAY 7 9.30AM MOTHER'S DAY STREET STALL AND RAFFLE IN PICTON.
HELP AND DONATIONS PLEASE!!!!
- MAY 10 GENERAL MEETING - SPEAKER FROM BURRAGORANG HERITAGE SOCIETY.
- MAY 11 12 NOON TO 3 PM VISIT TO 'SHINGLE HILL' WILTON, HOME OF HARRY AND LORNA HOARE. THIS IS A FUND RAISER. BRING A PICNIC LUNCH. TEA & COFFEE SUPPLIED PLUS LOTS OF FUN AND GOOD COMPANY. ENTRY FEE OF \$5.00.
- JUNE 14 GENERAL MEETING - 'SHOW & TELL' - MEMBERS TO GIVE 5 MINUTE TALKS.
- JUNE 25 STREET STALL
- JULY 12 GENERAL MEETING - SPEAKER - ERIC TURNER ON 'BEING A MILKBOY, HELPING DAD IN THE PICTON AREA'.
- JULY 18 VISIT TO ST. MARY'S TOWERS, DOUGLAS PARK. BRING A PICNIC LUNCH AND MEET AT THE TOWERS AT 12 NOON.
- AUGUST 6/7/8 ARTS & CRAFT FESTIVAL AT PICTON A H & I HALL,
SHOWGROUND.
- AUGUST 9 GENERAL MEETING - GUEST SPEAKER TO BE ARRANGED.
- SEPTEMBER 13 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- OCTOBER 11 GENERAL MEETING - SPEAKER, MARLANE FAIRFAX ON TAHMOOR HOUSE.
- NOVEMBER 8 GENERAL MEETING - SPEAKER, COLIN SPROULE ON ORCHARDS
- DECEMBER 13 CHRISTMAS PARTY.

RECIPROCAL RIGHTS WITH NEPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

Our Society has joined the Reciprocal user scheme with Nepean Family History Society. All members have to do is to present their current membership card for use of the library during normal opening hours.

The scheme will operate for a trial period of 12 months which commenced in January this year.

Nepean Family History Society Library hours:

Monday - Thursday 10 am to 2 pm

Thursday evenings 7 to 9 pm

Saturday afternoon 2 to 5 pm.

The address of the Library is: Old School Residence, Great Western Highway, Emu Plains. Tel: (047) 35 3798

ANDREW BYRNE: BY CHARLES H. BOWMAN GORMAN

Andrew Byrne was tried at Wicklow, Ireland, and sentenced to Life for his part in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. he arrived in the colony on 11/1/1800 on the transport ship "Minerva"

The "ticket of leave" system was introduced in 1801 by Governor Capt. Phillip Gidley King, who held this position from 28/9/1800 until 12/8/1806. This system was to provide a more flexible labour force. Convicts who were given a "ticket" were free to work on their own account but had to periodically report to a magistrate.

Andrew started selling firewood and on the 12 May, 1805, he brought property in O'Connell Street. He later sold part of his property on 17 September 1821 to Richard Archibald for £ 250.

On 15th February 1806, other members of the Byrne family arrived on board the "Tellicherry" from Cork, like Andrew, for their parts in the Irish Rebellion, but unlike Andrew, they came as exiles, not convicts. Among them was Hugh Byrne, the No.1 Lieutenant to Michael Dwyer, known as the Great Chief of Wicklow, who was also on board. Their names appear on an obelisk in Sydney's Waverley Cemetery. Governor King received a letter from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland referring to Dwyer, Hugh Byrne and three other men "who were engaged in treasonable practices and who have requested to be allowed to banish themselves for Life to New South Wales to avoid being brought to trial." Further in the letter, he writes, "that any further indulgence is to be earned by their behaviour of which there has been no reason to complain during the Time of their confinement here." Although not happy that they were not to be held under the usual restrictions of convicts, King replied on 22nd February, 1806, that "I have clearly explained to them the footing they are on: and on their promises of their being circumspect in their Conduct and not giving cause for Complaint, I have allowed them to become Settlers with the Encouragement generally given to free Settlers from England." Dwyer brought his wife and two of his children with him and Hugh also brought his wife and three children.

Francis Plowden, writing a history of Ireland published in 1811, says the Government gave each of the 5 men £100 "either to indemnify them for their confinement, or for their having consented to transport themselves to Botany Bay. The 100 acre grant given to each of the five in the district of Cabramatta is dated May 1809, but that they took immediate possession is clear from the report in the Muster of 1806. More can be read about these men, and many of the Byrne family settled in the Campbelltown area.

On the 6th September 1809, Colonel William Paterson (Administrator 9/1/1809 - 31/12/1809) granted Andrew 30 acres of land at Botany, which he was to call " Macquarie Sea View", but Andrew did not take possession until 1847.

Andrew was pardoned on 31st January 1811 by Colonel (later Major-General) Lachlan Macquarie, Governor 1/1/1810 - 1/12/1821. On 10th September 1812, Andrew married Mary Lewin at St. Phillips, Sydney. They already had three children: Thomas (c.1802), Owen (c.1804) and John (c.1808). Unhappily, Mary died in 1815. Andrew married again, to Maria Best (who came, free, on the Wanstead) at the St. Phillips church, Sydney, on 28th May 1816, and they had 11 children born from 1817, of whom we know that 3 died in infancy.

Now selling lime as well as firewood, in 1817 and 1818, Andrew received a bond for securing with J.Jones a payment of Tolls from Parramatta to Windsor. Andrew prospered and in the "General Muster & Land & Stock Muster of N.S.W. 1822" he, Maria and 3 children - Hannah (c.1821), William Andrew (c.1819) and Mary (c.1821) were listed at Appin with Andrew's occupation as Farmer. He is also reported to have been clearing timber from his property and selling it to the police barracks.

In 1825, Andrew applied to D. Wentworth and paid £210 to start a dairy on his own land at what is now known as Darling Harbour, and leading from George Street to the water and including the wharves. As there was no dairy at this time, the wife of the Chief Of Police kept a cow and sold to the public.

Andrew built a 2 storey brick home on his property which was now known as "Byrne's Bush" and was close to the beach at Botany on which stands the Commonwealth Wool Stores. Andrew's home stood until 1970, when it had to make way for the Botany Beach highway to the shipping terminal.

Andrew and Maria reared a big family whose descendants are now living in many parts of Australia and New Zealand.

Andrew died in 1863 at the age of 83 years and this is only part of his life's story. He also owned a lot of land in the Illawarra District on the South Coast, which included half of what is now the Royal National Park, Marley Beach, Era Beach, Appin Way Camden, Parish of Bulga and Parish of Wilton. There has always been some confusion about his real age, but on his marriage certificate in 1816 it states his age as 40 years. Some other members of the family may be able to add more information to this story of Andrew Byrne.



ANDREW BYRNE

117 ARGYLE STREET, PICTON.

R A I N E A N D H O R N E

R E A L E S T A T E A G E N T S .

Prior to the turn of the century it was reasonably common to see the date of construction incorporated into the facade of large buildings and government offices. It was not until after Federation that Australians became more conscious of proclaiming their national identity that the permanent dating of buildings, large or small, private or government became more fashionable. This building bears the date 1903.

The land which initially included the allotments from the corner of Menangle Street West, being Lot 1, Lot 2 and Lot 20 of Section 2, was originally part of a grant to Henry Colden Antill in 1822. Transactions relating to Lots 2 and 20, Section 2 were for land purchased at auction in 1842 by John George Gatty for 55 pounds. (1). This parcel of land was mortgaged to George Beresford Christmas in 1857, (2) and conveyed to George McQuiggin in 1870 (3) following the death of G.B. Christmas. John Wright McQuiggin purchased adjoining land (part of lots 1 and 2, Section 2) in 1886 from A.J. Lowe (4). In May 1886, William Pritchard a painter, and John Charles Edwards, an engine driver acquired Part Lot 1, Section 2 for 490.17.6. (5) On 22 March 1899 Edwards sold his half of Part Lot 1, Section 2 to William Pritchard for 290 pounds. (6)

At this stage, William Pritchard was considered a builder of some repute. He specialised in monuments of marble, granite or free stone and provided a choice of 300 different designs from which to select. He made cast and wrought iron tomb railings as well as renovating old stones and cutting the inscriptions in any cemetery. In a photo of **117 Argyle Street** which was taken prior to 1938, there was an ornate balcony on the upper level.

Pritchard was responsible for a number of the more elaborate and unique constructions in the area, namely the Commercial Bank (National Australia Bank), Stratford House at Tahmoor, The Creamery (1900), The Reservoir (1899) and the fine brick residences which still stand at the northern end of **Argyle Street**. These three late Victorian style homes which were erected in the 1890s for William Apps were subsequently auctioned as part of his estate in 1912. **Number 55, Argyle Street** which is now known as 'MACQUARIE COTTAGE' (the Medical Centre) was originally called 'RATHLUBA'. Next door at **Number 53, 'HILLVIEW'** has been lovingly renovated.

117 Argyle Street is the site which William Pritchard purchased for 290 pounds in 1899 which was conveyed to Caroline Ivy Wonson in July 1903 for 3400 pounds. Obviously Pritchard had erected the building before selling it to Caroline Wonson.

Caroline, the wife of Charles Henry Wonson and daughter of Elizabeth Hewitt had benefitted from the estate of James Tyson, who having not married, died intestate leaving properties all over eastern Australia. As daughter of James' sister who had died in 1888 she inherited a substantial amount of money which she received in varying sums between 1900 and 1908.

Caroline invested in real estate and leased the premises to G.S. DALTON, a Chemist, on 1 September 1903. Initially the lease was for seven years, with a yearly rent of 65 pounds which was to be paid in monthly instalments of £5/8/8/. The first payment was made on 1 October 1903.

Chemists who followed were, Thornley, Uren, J. Baker (1927), N. Harvey and J.B. Clarke (1929-1960). The premises then housed a mixed business which was conducted by Don and Laura Turner. The next tenants were the Mallory family who had a fruit and vegetable shop. At that time there were two such shops in Picton.

Sometime after 1984, Mr John Atkins extended his bakery shop from **NUMBER 115** and partially demolished a wall between the two shops. When John closed his business, Mrs Hazel Willgoose transferred her fabric shop from across the road to **NUMBER 117**. During her tenancy there was a fire in the upstairs flat which resulted in considerable damage both to the flat and to the downstairs premises.

Prior to Mr Doug and Mrs Desma Tudor's purchase of the building no major internal structural alterations had been implemented only an addition and basic repairs. At some stage there has been an extension to the rear section of the building which has also provided internal access to the upper level. Although crudely constructed fine examples of locally quarried sandstone blocks form a rear wall which has been partially hidden by the 1989 additions to **NUMBER 115**.

During the last few years, the building has been systematically renovated, particularly the ground floor rear section which has been modified to provide extra office space for **RAINE and HORNE**. The upper level is used for residential purposes. Incorporated into the archway of the upstairs hall are two sculpted facial figures. These are similar, but not identical to those which decorate the Eastern window of St Mark's Church, Picton. It is said that these sculptures were supposed to protect the building from evil spirits.

117 ARGYLE STREET is one of the many buildings which enhance the heritage value of **PICTON**.

REFERENCES.

PRIMARY SOURCES.

Registers, New South Wales Government, Land Titles Office.

1. Number 495, Book 24.

2. Number 495, Book 51.

3. Number 582, Book 122.

4. Number 787, Book 335.

5. Number 281, Book 339.

6. Number 715, Book 410.

Newspaper. Picton Post and Advocate.

Jan Ross, Picton. March 1993.

THE PEISLEY FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO SHARE REG'S LAST
ARTICLE WITH YOU.
CRICKET

This magnificent game was at one time my one consuming desire. I was fortunate enough to play for Western Suburbs District Cricket Club from 1936 through to 1958.

I feel very strongly about the reasons people no longer go to watch. As Sir Donald Bradman stated only this week we must bring back eight ball overs. Geoff Lawson replied the so called fast bowlers would be slowing down towards the end of the over and they would be unable to bowl the number of overs which they are currently doing. Lawson fortunately is now retired as he had reached the stage of running faster than he bowled, well, it seemed like that. Six balls in five minutes. You cannot honestly expect the paying public to shell out hard earned money to watch these very much underworked athletes put on an act of which Robert Redford would be ashamed.

These people have the temerity to break records which were made when the game of cricket was played just as hard as it is today without resorting to the foul play which seems to have become part and parcel of all sport today. Watch the West Indies quick bowlers, the number of balls bowled deliberately to hit the batsmen is more than in the bodyline series of 1932. Merv Hughes also falls into this class. Take away bumpers and balls allowed to pass to the keeper and your estimate of 450 balls per day becomes almost laughable. For a batsman to score at a run a minute is virtually impossible because of the slowness of play and thanks to the media making such a mouthful of the speed of the bowlers. Have a look at the number of times the wicketkeeper takes the ball on the bounce or at least well below the level of his waist.

Please don't insult my intelligence by saying these overweight prima donnas are faster than Lillee, Thompson, Lindwall, Miller, Davidson, Hogg and many more.

Not so very long back I heard Tony Greig, one time English Captain make a complete ass of himself by stating he had never really seen a leg spinner operate. Shades of Clarrie Grimmett, Richie Benaud, did you bite your tongue Richie, Bill O'Reilly, Bert Ironmonger. These are just a few of the really greats who used brain instead of brawn to get opposing batsmen out. How often do these fast bowlers hit the stumps. Not very often against batsmen who aren't scared.

The advent of one day cricket did little to improve the game. I watch the good batsmen lose a lot of their real ability by being forced to play ridiculous shots because the openers are too slow. It is only recently they have learned to take the short runs and which has made Australia one of the leaders again. Greg Chappell had a bad run of outs which would not have occurred normally. When commencing his innings he constantly hit across the line because he was forced to do this in the mad chase for runs. Steve Waugh, another in the same category. This season, 1992-93, sees Waugh again with a straight bat and scoring runs.

I would like to draw a comparison which a few years ago would have been laughable. Test cricket rules today state that 90 overs are to be bowled per day. 6 ball overs, therefore a total of 540 in 6 hours. A game of lawn bowls comprising four a side over 25 ends has

each bowler delivering 50 bowls per game. This is $8 * 50 = 400$ and invariably the game is completed in less than 4 hours. 100 bowls per hour and the game is considered too slow to get a following on television. At least the bowls are delivered with an intention of winning the game and not as in cricket where a bumper is bowled two feet above the batsmens head and the never to be forgotten talkers on television, Ian Chappell, Bill Lawrie and Tony Greig will all say "thats a good ball". If you scare easily, yes, it is. Why with all the padding and helmets that are in use, one must get the impression that the scoring of runs is of secondary importance.

These days I am living out of Sydney and do not get to see the games at the S.C.G. live. However, I do see them on TV in full when televised and it has now become difficult to watch for any length of time because the repetition of comment by the people employed does nothing to help the game. If the ball is hit a foot in the air there is an inane shout "It's in the air" even if it is not within cooe of a fieldsman. Another stupid comment is 'he's in a catching position'. I have always believed all eleven players were supposed to be placed in catching positions.

THE HAPPY OLD MALE

DID YOU KNOW?

Compiled by Nancy Peisley.

J.R. Duigan made the first powered flight in Australa. The aircraft flew a distance of almost 8 meters in 1909 - 1910.

Melbourne Cup was instituted by the Jockey Club in 1861. November at Flemington Race Course Victoria.

The first ocean-going steamer built in Australia in 1831. This vessel "William the Fourth" was destined to thirty (30) years of service by carrying coal and general cargo between Newcastle and Sydney.

In 1905-1906 Central Railway Station was opened in Sydney N.S.W.

1911 Australasian Antarctic Expedition departed under the leadership of Dr. Douglas Mawson. A meteorological station and wireless link on Macquarie Island was established.

1974, The controversial painting "Blue Poles" by Jackson Pollock, was purchased by the Federal Labor Government for \$1.3 million.

1976, Sir Douglas Nicolls became Governor of South Australia. He was the first Aboriginal to hold such a position.

Thirlmere :a place of interest and peacefulness and splendid for a family picnic.

A weekend visit would be full. First the Railway Museum, Barbour St. - this will take several hours to explore.

A swim in the Lakes, reached from Slades Street off Barbour Street.

See our Public School, now over a hundred years old, and today a splendid place to see with its gardens and pleasant grounds. Its motto is " Show Respect ".

Picnic in the Lin Gordon Reserve or Thirlmere Park near the tennis courts.

Thirlmere is part of the historic Loop Line, which connected the nearby villages with Picton Railway Station.

Recently the Huff 'n' Puff races - 4k and 8ks, and Steam train rides in 3801 brought many visitors to our lovely village.

WHY NOT COME SOON YOURSELF?



THIRLMERE FOOTBALL TEAM CALLED WOOD + BUGS.

In 1911 with team colours blue & white Thirlmere travelled to Camden by train for the Sherwin Cup. Several of the best players were away timber cutting and the team was made up of wags of the town who talked for a long time of having a right royal time. The barrackers too, had the same idea. They were defeated by 8 pts. Then the fun started at the hotel at Camden. The team and barrackers on both sides had their hair shaved, moustaches removed as dares & bets. On their return John Davis walked past his family at the station. They didn't recognise him and the children cried "who's that stranger kissing mum?"

1911 at the ASSEMBLY HALL THIRLMERE.

BACK-J.Chalker-H.Pickard-W.Malcolm-C.Welsh-R.Davis Row 2-G.Hartigan Bill Dowling Row3-G.Rutter-J.Davis-Dick Hambridge-Bert Hambridge -J.Dowling:FrontRow-Alf Davis-Dick Davis-H.Latta-R.Cash.

Our thanks to Stephen Chalker for submitting these articles and the loan of these treasured photographs.

TAHMOOR'S FIRST LAND DEVELOPER - SAMUEL EMMETT

If you look for a reference to Tahmoor in relation to white settlement prior to 1916 I doubt very much that you will find one. That does not mean that Tahmoor did not exist, it was just known by other names. The history of white settlement in Tahmoor dates back to 1822 but until 1916 had been known as Bargo, Myrtle Creek, Cordeaux or just lumped in with Picton.

In 1916 the permanent population of Tahmoor, made up of primary producers and orchardists was small and scattered. The Public School had closed in 1904 due to a lack in the number of school aged children and the Post Office, established in 1892 under the name Cordeaux, had also ceased operations many years before.(1)

The building of the southern railway deviation brought the railway to the area and was of obvious benefit to the locals both in terms of improved marketing facilities and as an encouragement for new settlement. It also presented the perfect opportunity for development on a large scale.

Samuel Emmett was born in Victoria in 1863, his working career included the railway, shearing, droving, and horse breaking in Queensland, the NSW Police Force and a wood coal and milk business in Summer Hill. In the late 1890's Sam farmed in the Hilltop district before moving to this area in the early 1900's. (2)

Sam recognised the potential of the railway coming to Tahmoor and together with a partner, Austin Chapman, he formed the company Land Limited. The Company purchased a couple of hundred acres of land which was subdivided into some 600 blocks and forms what is today the township of Tahmoor west of Remembrance Drive. (3)

The first subdivision was advertised as 'The Katoomba of the South' with the first blocks being sold at an auction on 7 April 1917. (4) The advertising for this sale always amuses me. Compare today's land advertising showing tarred roads, beautiful gardens, etc., to this:

Tahmoor ! For the Last Time of Saying it--
THIS ROAD LEADS TO TAHMOOR.



**STOP AT TAHMOOR, 2 P.M., SATURDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1917,
AND YOU WILL MAKE MONEY THAT DAY.**

Sam's choice of names for many of the streets of Tahmoor was not very original. Obviously he was keen on Sydney as we have Castlereagh, Market, Hunter, York, King, Pitt, Park and George Streets. Original names are:

Emmett - named for his own family
Larkin - a local auctioneer, Willie Larkin
Chapman - Sam's partner
Milne - Chief Railway Commissioner
Fraser - Deputy Chief Railway Commissioner
Patterson - local landholder
Bradbury - local landholder, Justice of the Peace and owner of Tahmoor House, then called 'Leigham Holme'.
Mr Bradbury always stated his address as 'Leigham Holme, Picton'.
Short - because the street is only short!!(?)

Park Street has no park but Sam claimed that his original intention was to donate six acres of land for that purpose however on complaints from neighbouring landholders, he decided to sell the land instead. A Park Avenue was created on the eastern side of Remembrance Drive when land was subdivided in 1921. A move by the local P & C Association to change the name of Park Street and a few others to avoid confusion, brought a fiery exchange of 'Letters to the Editor' in the Picton Post. Sam's claim was disputed, stating that he withdrew the offer to donate the land without reason. (5). Tahmoor still has Park Street and Park Avenue.

Sam lobbied for the re-establishment of a Post Office and the retention of the school which had been opened for the education of the children of the railway workers. With the support of the community he was successful in both. The Post Office opened in 1916 with Sam's wife as Post Mistress and the school retained and renamed Tahmoor in 1917. (6)

Public affairs were of great interest to Sam who served as a Councillor on Wollondilly Shire from 1931 to 1934. (7) His obituary states that he also served on Nattai Shire Council (changed to Mittagong in 1949), was a member of the Nationalist Council and Senior Vice President of the Country Party. Sam was also a prominent breeder and owner of Saanen goats. (8)

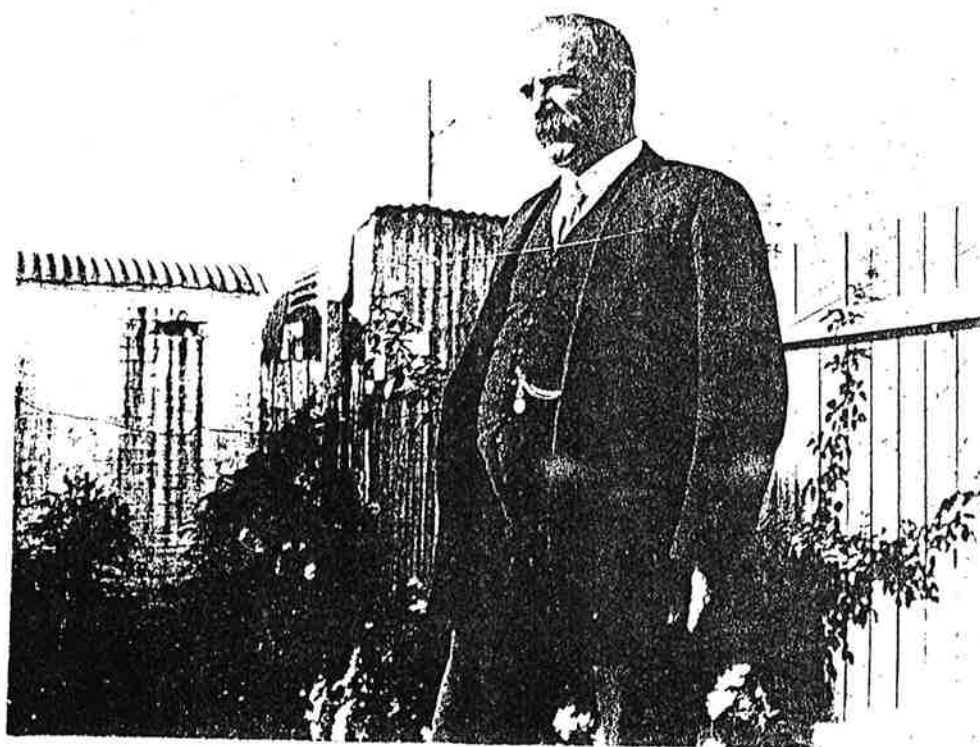
Sam died in September 1949 at the age of 87 years. A memorial to Sam in the form of double gates to the childrens playground in Tahmoor was erected in 1954. (9) A small plaque attached to one of the the brick piers declares that the gates were erected by Mrs E H Emmett. Some years ago, a council worker found the plaque in one of Council's workshops and re-erected it. The council worker was Frank Dwyer, one of Sam's grandsons. (10)

Sam married twice and had five children. Some of his grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren still reside in this area. One granddaughter, Kath Sheedy, is a member of our Society.

Marlane Fairfax
April 1993.

Sources:

1. NSW State Archives, Department of Education file - Myrtle Creek and Australian Archives - Cordeaux Post Office file.
2. Picton Post, 29 September 1949, Obituary of Samuel Emmett
3. Ibid. and Land Titles Office of NSW.
4. Land Sale Brochure, 'Tahmoor Railway Station Estate', copy held by Picton & District Historical & Family History Society Inc.
5. Picton Post, Letter to the Editor, 24 May 1939 from Sam Emmett and 31 May 1939 from A G Miller.
6. Australian Archives, Tahmoor Post Office file and NSW State Archives, Department of Education file - Bargo Bridge Camp and Tahmoor.
7. Wright, G. A History of Local Government in the Wollondilly Shire 1895 to 1988, Wollondilly Shire Council, 1988.
8. Op.cit. Picton Post 29 September 1949
9. Tahmoor Progress Association Minute Book for years 1952-1954, held by Picton & District Historical & Family History Society Inc.
10. Conversation between Frank Dwyer of Shoalhaven and M Fairfax, March 1992.



SAMUEL EMMETT

USING LAND RECORDS AND NEWSPAPERS TO INTERPRET LOCAL HISTORY

With the advent of the photocopying machine and its subsequent introduction into the workplace, the task of historical research became far less laborious. Until that time, dedicated researchers would spend endless hours seated in public libraries and government repositories painstakingly transcribing details from historical records and creating copious piles of paperwork.

While today the cost of photocopying may in some instances be quite expensive, it is with the utmost confidence, that the researcher can systematically scrutinise an exact replica of a document without fear of misleading transcription errors. Apart from avoiding the many hours of tedious handwriting, additional benefits gained are that the researcher is able to peruse the document at his or her leisure, as well as in his or her own environment.

Details gleaned from obsolete, official documents such as **land records** and information extracted from **old newspapers** can often be quite revealing.

One of **PICTON'S** inn-jokes concerns a plaque which states that the **GEORGE IV INN** was built in **1819**. This tablet was attached to the building in 1923 by a previous owner, W.W. WARR. Those who are conversant with the European settlement of this area, are aware that in 1819 there were no buildings in Picton which was then known as **STONEQUARRY**. The establishment was not even the first licensed premises in the area. However in 1993, it certainly can claim to be the oldest standing pub in the district having had a continuous license since **1839**.

LAND RECORDS.

The facts relating to the 'George IV Inn', PICTON, highlight differing interpretations of old records. All historical publications correctly state that the inn was built in **1839**, but it is with other pertinent details that the confusion reigns. All articles maintain that the hotel was built on ground belonging to George Harper of Abbotsford. Some also infer that George Harper was responsible for its erection and others support the theory that the inn was originally named the 'George Inn' after a well-known coaching inn at Cupar, Scotland which was said to be known to the Harper family.

Using land records, it can be shown that **HARPER** never owned nor leased the land from the original grantee **KARL LUDVIG (Charles Louis) RUMKER**.

'1-2 November 1827. STARGARD. 1000 acres. Lease for 1 year. Charles Louis RUMKER to Henry Gratton DOUGLASS and Richard JONES.
Both Douglass and Rumker residing in N.S.W. end of 1827-1828.

15 September 1836. 2000 acres. Release of Equity of Redemption.

Henry G. DOUGLASS to Charles
Louis RUMKER.
DOUGLASS residing Haute de Grace
Kingdom of France.
Doctor in Medicine.
Charles Louis RUMKER residing in
Hamburgh.
Astronomer.

14 September 1844. STARGARD 1000 acres. Release, Charles Louis RUMKER to
Grant of 7 Dec 1828 1000 acres. William LUMSDAINE of Camden.
Grant of 28 Nov 1833 200 acres.

19 September 1865. STARGARD 2200 acres. Reverend William LUMSDAINE.
Application for Real Property Act.
Including **George IV**.
Tenants:-

Messrs T.A. HILDER (Innkeeper)
John NEWLAND (Farmer)
John TURNER (Farmer)
Samuel POLLACK (Farmer)
Alors STRABAN (Farmer)

Adjoining Lands:-

Messrs R. SHERWOOD
W. JONES
S. KING
T. KEIGHRAN
E. SELMES
A. McQUIGAN
Mrs CONNELLAN
T. RATCLIFFE

That piece of land containing Two hundred acres more or less situated
in the County of Camden and District of Picton aforesaid commencing on
the Nepean river and bounded on the North by a line bearing West fifty
seven chains to the Argyle Road on the West by that Road to Myrtle
Rivulet on the south by Myrtle Rivulet to its confluence with the
Nepean Rivulet and on the East by the Nepean River to the commencing
point which said last mentioned parcel of land was granted by the
Crown to the said Charles Louis RUMKER DATED on twenty
eighth day of November One thousand eight hundred and thirty three
Together with the messuage dwellinghouse or Inn known by the sign of
'THE GEORGE INN' and all other buildings erected on the land
hereinbefore described or on some part thereof'

Therefore the land upon which the **'GEORGE IV INN'** is built was never
owned by George Harper. It as part of the grant originally known as
'STARGARD'. There is no documentary evidence to prove that Harper was
even associated with the building of the inn.

Furthermore, perhaps early researchers misinterpreted a newspaper
advertisement of 1840 in which **'The TOWNSHIP of STONEQUARRY'** was
announced for sale. This is **NOT** the same land that was subdivided by
Henry Colden Antill.

NEWSPAPERS.

Newspapers are a wonderful source for both local and family history. Letters to the editor, reports of meetings, itemised accounts of social events and articles of topical interest, plus advertisements and announcements, all provide a wealth of information.

Combining information extracted from land records and old newspapers with the knowledge of a local area, the researcher can be reasonably assured of drawing the correct conclusion.

The following advertisement appeared in several editions of the "AUSTRALIAN" newspaper from March to August 1840.

FORTY-FIVE BUILDING ALLOTMENTS OF LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF STONEQUARRY

Mr S. LYONS.

Is instructed to offer to Public Auction, on a day which will be named in future advertisements.

Forty-Five Building Allotments in the Township of Stonequarry, County of Camden, varying in contents from half to one acre of Ground, situated on Mr Harper's estate, on the south side of the Stonequarry Bridge.

This very improving property is well worthy public notice, as from its superior advantages it must shortly rise into considerable importance.

The main road to Argyle runs through the Township and joins the Menangle road at Stonequarry Bridge, which occasions a great thoroughfare, and these allotments are laid down on either side of the road, which therefore will be immediately in the Main street.

Three reserves of Land have been offered for the erection of Episcopalian, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian places of Worship, and Her Majesty's Gaol is situated within one hundred yards of the Township, on Major Antill's property, at whose residence the Court is held. That the value of this location is beginning to be appreciated is shown by the erection of a capital Inn, with extensive stabling, now let to Mr Dunsdon, formerly of George-street, Sydney which is a superior building and replete with every convenience. Various tradesmen have also located themselves on and near the Township, and it is now giving evidence that the foundation is laid of a large and prosperous Town.

There is an abundance of excellent Stone for building purposes which is a great advantage, as dwellings are much in request and yielding to the Builder a very handsome return on his capital invested, a sure to prove a profitable speculation.

Situated twelve miles from the Cowpasture Bridge, seventeen miles

from Campbelltown, and twenty-eight miles from Liverpool, no situation could be more happily chosen for a Township, having the benefit of a never-failing supply of Water from the Creek with a most excellent road over the Razorback Mountain.

A Plan of the Property is in progress of preparation and will be shortly submitted to the inspection of the Public at the Temporary Rooms of the Auctioneer George-street.

Terms at time of Sale.

INTERPRETATION.

The advertisement capitalises on the existing facilities of the town. It promotes the value of the location not the actual sites for sale. The allotments are not necessarily in the main road (Great South Road) to Argyle but were probably in the soon to be created Main street of the new township. The only item in dispute is in the first paragraph of the advertisement. Harper's estate which is still known as 'Abbotsford' did not lie south of the Stonequarry Bridge.

WAS IT A PRINTER'S ERROR or DID IT REALLY MEAN TO IMPLY THAT ACCESS TO THE ESTATE WAS FROM THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE STONEQUARRY BRIDGE?

There is no evidence that this sale ever eventuated. The **TOWNSHIP OF STONEQUARRY** was never formed. **George Harper** died in March 1841. The **'GEORGE IV INN'** was never part of Harper's Estate, **ABBOTSFORD** and **George Harper** never owned the land upon which the building was erected. There is no reason to even connect Harper with its construction.

It was in the same year (1841) that **Henry Colden Antill** subdivided portion of his estate known as **'JARVISFIELD'** and formed the **'PRIVATE TOWNSHIP OF PICTON'**. This second subdivision is virtually today's Central Business District of **PICTON**.

Old newspapers and a selection of obsolete land records may be viewed at **THE PICTON RESOURCE CENTRE**, located in **THE COACH HOUSE**, which is the headquarters of the **PICTON and DISTRICT HISTORICAL and FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

NEWSPAPERS.

Australian, Sydney.

PRIMARY RESOURCE RECORDS.

Primary Application Number PA 1041. Originally executed by the
Land Titles Office of New South Wales.

Jan Ross, Picton. March 1993.

BOOK REVIEW

The Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations has released two publications in recent months.

The first is a NATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING ARRIVALS. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, by Andrew G. Peake. This book lists the various shipping records that are available and where they may be found, for New Zealand and each of the states of Australia. Both Primary and Secondary sources are listed. Cost is \$7, plus \$1 postage.

The second publication is the "AFFHO Directory of Genealogical Organisations in Australasia - 1992 Edition", which lists names of numerous Genealogical Societies and provides details of membership fees, research facilities, etc. Cost \$15. Both publications are available from: AFFHO. C/- Richmond Villa. 120 Kent Street, Sydney. 2000.

NEW ITEMS IN THE LIBRARY

South Australian Military Volunteers for 1885.
(by Andrew & Sandra Twining)

Index of Names (taken from the) Federal Directory of
Newcastle & District 1901.
(by Andrew & Sandra Twining)

Echoes Through the Mist, A History of the Avoca District.
(Berrima Historical Society)

A Century of Progress 1882 - 1982, Campbelltown.

Australia's 100 Years of National Parks.

The Rose Family of the Bellona, Australian Free
Settlement Begins, 16 January 1793.

AFFHO Directory of Genealogical Organisations in Australasia
(Edited by Heather E. Garnsey & Martyn C.H. Killion)

NSW Court Records, Index Pre 1900, Picton Bench Books,
Volume 1, 1829 - 1832.
(compiled by Liz Vincent)

Members Interest Directory, Central Coast Family History
Group, 1993.

Index to Land Tax Register, 1906.
(by Jan Ross)

Petition (indexed) Franchise 1848, Landholders & Residents.
(by Jan Ross)

St. Mary's Towers - Douglas Park, Nepean Towers,
Wilton - East Bargo, Park Hall - East Bargo.
(by Patricia Shephard).

PICTON AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL
AND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
PRESENTS

THE
STONEQUARRY
FESTIVAL OF
ARTS & CRAFTS
1993

A.H. & I. HALL, MENANGLE STREET PICTON

OPENING AND PRESENTATION

FRIDAY 6TH AUGUST, 8.00 PM

GENERAL EXHIBITION: SATURDAY - 7TH AUGUST - 10 AM - 4 PM
SUNDAY - 8TH AUGUST - 10 AM - 3 PM.

ARTS AND CRAFTS CATEGORIES

ART SECTION:

1. TRADITIONAL OIL
2. LOCAL SCENE (ANY MEDIUM)
(MUST BE A SCENE WITHIN THE WOLLONDILLY SHIRE)
3. WATER COLOUR
4. DRAWING (ANY MEDIUM)
5. JUNIOR ART - ANY MEDIUM
AGES 5 - 8 (A)
9 - 12 (B)
SCHOOL YEARS 7 - 8 (C)
9 - 10 (D)
11 - 12 (E)

CRAFT SECTION:

6. HAND PAINTED PORCELAIN
7. POTTERY
- 8A. CERAMICS - STAINS
- 8B. CERAMICS - GLAZE
9. FOLK ART
- 10A. HAND SPUN ARTICLE
- 10B. WEAVING
11. PATCHWORK: (A) HAND PIECED OR APPLIQUE
(B) MACHINE PIECED OR APPLIQUE
12. NEEDLEWORK
13. TAPESTRY
14. MISCELLANEOUS - OTHER TYPES OF CRAFT NOT MENTIONED.*
15. JUNIOR CRAFT (13-17 YEARS)
16. JUNIOR CRAFT (12 YEARS AND UNDER)
17. PHOTOGRAPHY - (A) BLACK & WHITE - LOCAL SCENE (WOLLONDILLY SHIRE)
(B) BLACK & WHITE - PORTRAIT
(C) COLOUR - LOCAL SCENE (WOLLONDILLY SHIRE)
(D) COLOUR - PORTRAIT
18. ITEMS FOR SALE - NOT FOR JUDGING.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND ENTRY FORMS, CONTACT:
NICOLE HANGER - TEL: (046)810470 (CO-ORDINATOR)
GAIL HANGER - TEL: (046)842179 (SECRETARY)

DOG'S BODY

JOBS TO BE DONE AT OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

- Always keep the biscuit jar full, milk in the fridge and sugar ant-free. Then wash up in hot water and lots of suds afterwards.
- Filing the journals into their respective folders and replacing on the library shelf.
- Writing out index cards and then filing them into existing files.
- Showing visitors over our premises - always proudly !
- Watering the garden. Pruning those creeping sprouts coming up between the paving bricks.
- Checking that the rose is kept pruned and the plants removed and planted in the annual garden.
- Seeing that the two goldfish still live in the small lily pond, one of our treasures. This pond is cut out of piece of sandstone used long ago by the local blacksmith to cool irons.
- Emptying the garbage bags and putting in fresh ones.
- Each month arranging a Guest Speaker, collecting the key to the Community Hall, setting out the chairs, seeing that supper is ready, the urn filled and switched on. Returning the key to the Council the next day.

THE FOLLOWING HAS ABSOLUTELY NO RELEVANCE TO THE ABOVE!!

AN INFALLIBLE RECEIPT FOR THE BITE OF A MAD DOG

Take one ounce of the best dragon's blood; of Spanish brown, one ounce and a half; of box-leaves, dried, pounded, and sifted through a fine sieve, five ounces; mix these together, and take it in the following manner: to a man or a woman, in the morning fasting, one large table-spoonful in a little gruel, white-wine whey, or warm ale. To children a quantity in proportion to their age. Observe to refrain from any food for three hours after taking.

To a horse or cow, two spoonfuls in warm water, or mixed in butter.

To a hog, one spoonful and a half.

To a dog, one spoonful.

The above medicine should be taken, by each, three mornings successively, as soon after being bit as possible.

From 'The New Female Instructor or Young Woman's Guide to Domestic Happiness', first published 1834.



MENANGLE STREET,
PICTON 2571 NSW.
phone: (046) 77-1441



PICTON VILLAGE MOTEL & RESTAURANT 11

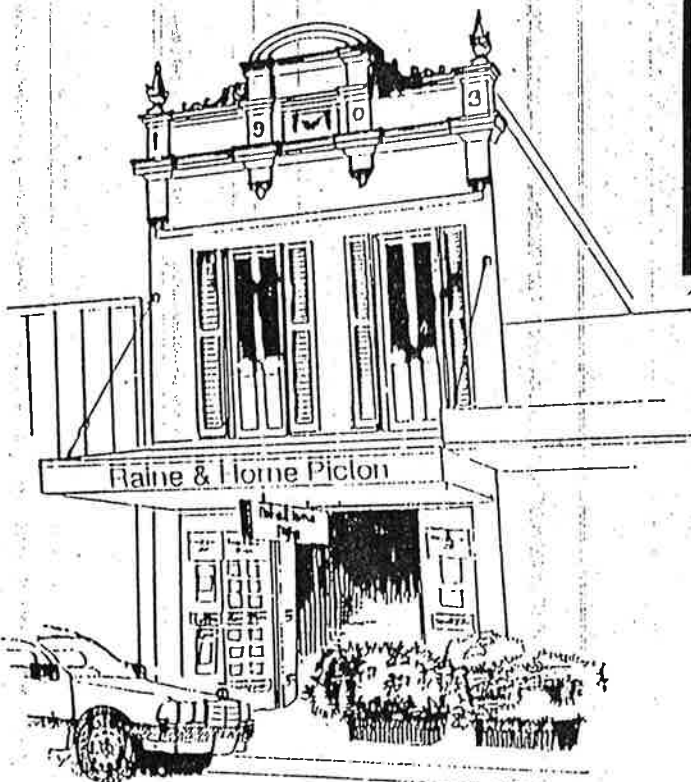
(on 5 Acres) — Award Winning Gardens (Wollondilly Shire 1991 & 1992)

- MODERN LUXURY SUITES
- LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
- SITUATED IN THE HEART OF "Steam Train Country"
- WEDDING RECEPTIONS FOR 130 GUESTS

Call your Hosts Julie & Jim Lamb

77 2121

Hume Highway, Picton (overlooking Golf Course)



Raine & Horne Picton

117 Argyle Street, Picton NSW 2571. Telephone: (046) 77 2165

"PUTTING PEOPLE & PROPERTIES TOGETHER"

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY:

PEEPS AT PICTON'S PAST by F B Knox	\$5.00
MEMBERS INTEREST DIRECTORY	2.00
BARGO GENERAL CEMETERY TRANSCRIPT	10.50
UPPER PICTON GENERAL CEMETERY TRANSCRIPT	20.00
REDBANK UNITING (FORMERLY WESLYAN) GRAVEYARD TRANSCRIPT	10.50
ST MARK'S ANGLICAN PICTON GRAVEYARD TRANSCRIPT	15.50
THIRLMERE GENERAL CEMETERY TRANSCRIPT	20.00

COACH HOUSE CHRONICLES

NO. 1 RAILWAY PRECINCT RAMBLE (Picton) by Jan Ross	5.00
NO. 2 WILTON-EAST BARGO. A Brief History by Pat Shephard	3.00
NO. 3 LIEUT. GENERAL SIR THOMAS PICTON K.G.C.B. by Cynthia Collison	2.00
NO. 4 VAULT HILL (Picton) by Jan Ross	2.00
NO. 5 HARMONY HOME (Picton-Thirlmere) by Jan Ross	4.00
NO. 6 IT HAS NO DEFINITE NAME - A POSTAL HISTORY OF TAHMOOR 1892-1916, by Marlane Fairfax	2.00
NO. 7 ANTONIO MANOLIS, THE FIRST GREEK & ATHENIAN BORN SETTLER IN NSW, by Jan Ross	2.00
NO. 8 PICTON COURT HOUSE & LOCK UP, by Jan Ross	2.00
NO. 9 ST MARY'S TOWERS - DOUGLAS PARK. NEPEAN TOWERS - WILTON, EAST BARGO. PARK HALL - EAST BARGO. by Patricia Shephard	5.00

OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE:

THIRLMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL 1888-1988	5.00
HISTORY OF THE FORBIDDEN LAND - Wollondilly Shire Council	5.00
THE TRAIL BOSS. THE FAIRLEY FAMILY AND PICTON HISTORY, by Joan Brown	12.00
CHRONICLES OF APPIN NSW, by Syd Percival	8.00

