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The Stonequarry Journal



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Picton District Historical and Family History Society Inc.

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The society does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed or statements made by authors of papers in this journal.

Membership fees due 1 July each year

Pensioners & school students	\$15.00
Single	\$20.00
Family	\$25.00

Meetings

Meetings held at 9.30 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month except January, on the 1st floor of Wollondilly Public Library, Menangle St., Picton. The December meeting is held at one of the members' homes, at 11 a.m. followed by lunch.

The Annual General Meeting is held on the first Saturday in September, before the monthly meeting.

Research room

First floor Wollondilly Public Library, above entrance. 10 am to 3 pm each Thursday and Saturday mornings (except the first Saturday) **by appointment only**.

Research fees.

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Non members: \$10.00 + photocopying. Written or emailed enquiries: \$20.00 + photocopying.

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You may have noticed that the printing of the journal is darker than usual – it has been done on our new “Work Station”, an Epson printer/scanner/copier.

From the President

The year is half over and it will be Christmas again before we know it. The research team has been kept very busy with many and varied enquiries. We have people trying to put flesh on their ancestors' bones, with the different types of enquiries we have received lately.

I found myself wondering how my farming ancestors coped with the natural disasters of flood, fire and drought. How did the women of the family cope with being left on their own to deal with all manner of events, not counting childbirth, and deadly childhood accidents and diseases, while husbands were away.

The new TROVE website of newspapers has given an added dimension to my research in understanding what was happening in different areas, where my ancestors lived and left, and why. I have discovered one group left the South Coast because of a rabbit plague, but was North Queensland any better, I wonder.

The Society was saddened to hear of the death of esteemed past member Harry Hoare recently [see p.8]. Our sympathy to his wife and family – indeed to all our members who have lost loved one.

Until next time.

Gail Hanger

From the records - The Campbelltown Herald of 14th February 1880:

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE

PICTON

From our correspondent

I am glad to hear that you are getting on very well with the *Herald* ... Since Christmas we have had 3 railway station masters, and I believe we are going to have another one shortly. We have had some nice rain this last three days, which was badly wanted and it has put a different appearance on the place; it has left the roads very muddy. Our cricketers are going to Mittagong on Saturday to play a friendly game with their neighbours. Our bridge, which connects the town together, is in an unsafe condition, the flooring is loose and the timber underneath is rotten and will not hold a spike or nail. The Commercial Bank is going to move from the premises they now occupy they having sold it, and I believe that Host McKendrick, from the George Inn, is going to open it as an hotel. Mr. Norman, storekeeper, has built a new store, and removed into it, which is an improvement on the one he left, it being too small for his business. ... two horses were stolen, but recovered, one in Campbelltown. The English Circus performed here on Wednesday evening. There will be races at Burraborang on the 23rd instant.

This suggests that the *Herald* had just started publication; Picton's first newspaper *The Picton Argus* did not appear until 1885, followed soon afterwards by the *Campbelltown and Picton Penny Post*. Only one or two editions of the *Argus* survived for microfilming.

The bridge referred to was the precursor to the present Stonequarry Bridge, which wasn't built until 1899.

The Commercial Bank started business in Picton in 1877, originally in a room at the George Inn. By 1880 it took a room in Wendover House, Menangle Street, built by Arthur McQuiggan, and later the home of his son. John.W. McQuiggan, who married Alma James in 1888. John became Picton's first mayor in 1895, and both McQuiggans were heavily involved in local activities. Another site in Menangle, or Argyle, Street may have been used before the bank was built on the corner of Argyle and Menangle Streets in 1885. It was built by William Pritchard, builder and stonemason, who contributed several fine houses in Picton and nearby towns; he also served on the local council between 1895 and 1901.

Thomas McKendrick had the George Inn from 1873 to 1880 when he moved to the then Royal Hotel, when he changed the name to the Commercial, presuming the bank would follow him. The Commercial was demolished and replaced by the present Picton Hotel in 1939.

Henry Norman was born in England c. 1846, and married Frances Wellings in Camden in 1866. Their first 6 children were born in Camden, but they appear to have moved to Picton by 1878, where the last four children were registered. According to the surviving records, he applied for an auctioneers licence in March 1880, and he was listed in the Post Office Directory of that year as a storekeeper in

Menangle Street, though the above article suggests he had a store earlier than this. The new one was up near the Railway Station, as was mentioned in his advertisement in the *Picton Argus* in August 1886, where he sold "goods of the best quality, cheaper than any other store in town. Grocery, drapery and everything, cash". His last child was born in 1888, and Henry disappears from the records, and no death in Picton or nearby has been found – unfortunately Henry Norman is quite a common name. Mrs. Norman died in Sydney in 1919.

The Society has a photo of "Mr. H. Norman's 'Glenview Stores', possibly identified as such by Mr. Bruce Knox, but donated by Marlane Fairfax. The building dates from 1879, and demolished in 1978, and looks very similar to the old house/shop at 216 Menangle Street, though the latter has only two front windows and one door.



Early Sporting Events – Cricket.

You may remember that back in 2009 the Society was given the opportunity to copy several cricket score books, held by the Baxter family. The first of these covered matches in 1883, 1884 and 1885, and I began looking for more newspaper accounts of sporting events. Sadly there are very few 1880s newspapers from Camden or Campbelltown, much less Picton, the earliest being an edition of the *Campbelltown Herald* in 1880 (see above).

On February 16th, 1881 the *Herald* reported on a Mittagong –Bowral match, and then one between Picton and Bargo:

Picton Cricket Club v. Bargo Cricket Club

A cricket match was played at Picton on Saturday last between the 1st eleven of Bargo and 2nd eleven of Picton, which resulted in an easy win for the latter, through the good

bowling of Messrs. H. McInnes and W. Woodward, the latter doing the hat trick – 3 wickets for 3 balls.

Bargo 1st innings

T. Johnson		b Woodward	1
R. Carter	c Jas Gillard	b McInnes	4
W. Capon		b McInnes	1
J. Ashcroft	h.o.w.	b Woodward	0
T. Ashcroft		b Woodward	1
J. Ditrish		b Woodward	0
D. Real		b McInnes	6
Kenith	c &	b Woodward	0
H. Blatch	c. Jas Gillard	b Woodward	0
T. Varly		b Woodward	6
R. Blatch	not out		1
		Sundries	9
		Total	29

Picton 1st innings

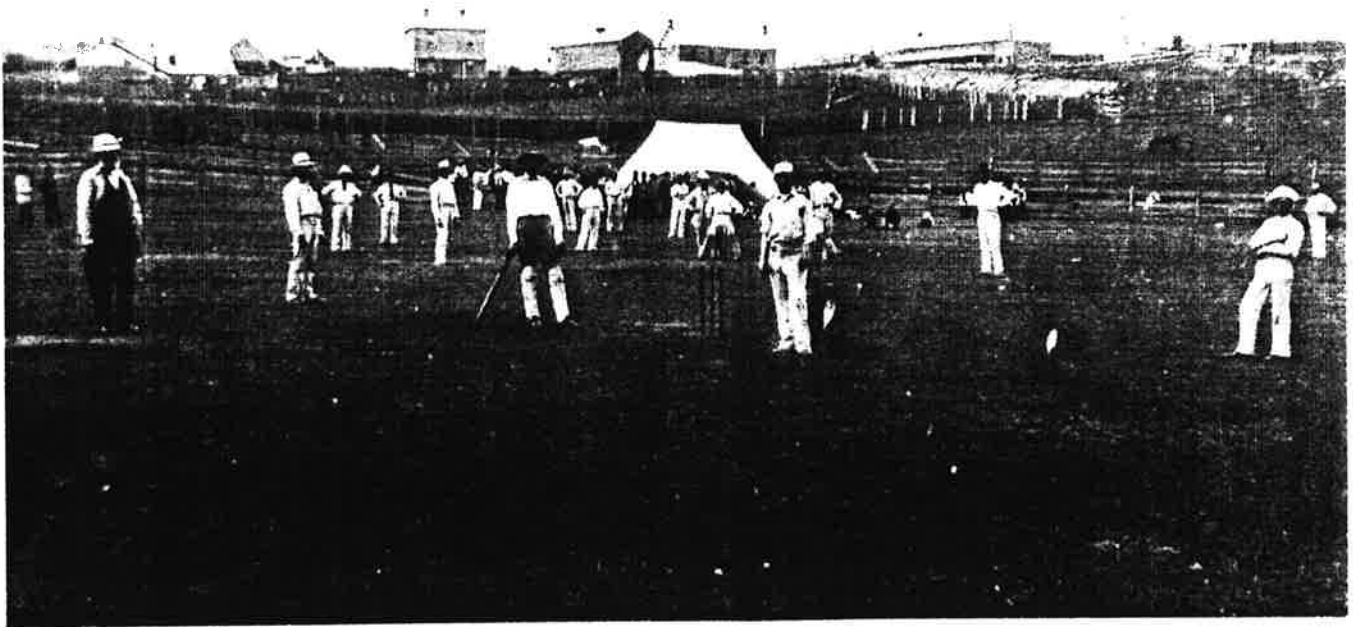
A Spring		b Ashcroft	4
J. Cracknell	c Kenith	b Capon	2
E. Webster		b Capon	3
J. Reaves		b Ashcroft	1
A Still		b Ashcroft	0
H. McInnes		b Capon	0
W. Cracknell	c Varly	b Ashcroft	7
John Gillard	not out		8
H. Sell		b Capon	7
J. Gillard		b Capon	0
W. Woodward		b Ashcroft	1
		Sundries	18
		Total	51

In the second innings, Bargo scored only 13 runs, despite having one of their heavy hitters in the first inning, Mr. Varly, opening with Mr. Carter; J. Ashcroft top scored with 5. Picton won by an innings and nine runs. Some of the names have interesting spellings: Ditrish might be Deitrich, while Kenith could be Kenneth, either a first or surname.

The earliest cricket match from the score books was held at Picton on May 24th 1883, against the Independent Cricket Club. The Picton team was made up of T. Bell, F. Skellett, D. Ray, H. McInnes, A. Chiddy, J. Warters, W. Campbell, C.E. Fowler, G. Bell, W. Capon and J.M. Antill, scoring 38 in the first innings and 54 in the second. The Independents scored 19 and 17, so it was a resounding success for Picton. A copy of the Picton 2nd innings is reproduced on the next page (reduced in size), the pencil recording being slightly clearer than that for the first innings. Does anyone have any idea where the Independent team came from? It is clear from later entries in the score books that as well as playing local teams, there were occasional matches against Sydney clubs. A check of all the surviving newspapers/microfilms will take time – lots of it.

years. (It was only in 1898 that the decision was made to use this area as park; it was proclaimed in 1900, and officially opened in 1902). The flat playing ground seems to correspond quite closely to the present oval, but it is difficult to see any of the railway station buildings because of the verdant tree growth, both along the edge of the Park, and in Webster Street. From left to right, the buildings shown in the photograph are (probably):

Jarvisfield Store, house?, 2 storey Stationmaster's Residence, 2 storey terrace (3 houses) replaced by Fur & Feather Factory, now Vaby's restaurant; the Railway Institute (demolished) the Railway Station, and on the right possibly some houses in Campbell Street (though most of these seem to have been built in the 1890s onwards).



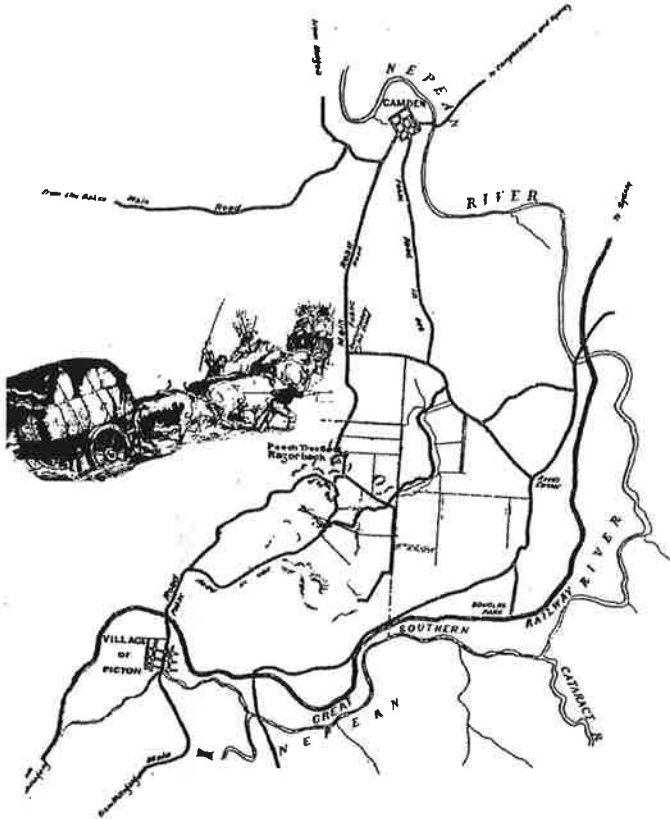
And of course there is no sign of Webster Street. The following information has been given to the Society by Betty Villy. The area was part of Section 6, much of which was subdivided by John Macquarie Antill for the railway construction in 1862. George Webster was the manager of the Commercial Bank from 1880 to 1884, and he bought lots 1 and 2 in 1884, for £100. Betty noted that there may already been a track used during the construction of the Stonequarry Viaduct in the 1860s, which became Webster Street (apparently named soon after his purchase).

Mr. Webster soon had the land surveyed and subdivided, with several block being sold in 1885. Griffen Brookes, who farmed at Razorback bought lots 8 & 9 for £170, Hector McInnes, a fireman, bought lot 4 for £17, Teresa Hill (who later married Joseph Corbett, blacksmith) bought lot 5 for £6. Lot 6 was bought by Charles Tildesley, engine driver from 1872 to 1906, for £46; while George Blatch junior, also an engine driver, bought lot 3 for £35. Francis John Woodward, a fireman, bought lot 7 for £160; this is now No.10 Webster Street. The wide variation in prices suggests that there were buildings of some sort on half the blocks, presumably built in 1884 and 1885 before the lots were sold. The location was a very handy one for the four railway workers.

Recent Local Publication – Betty Villy's *The Old Razorback Road*

The Old Razorback Road

Life on the Great South Road between
Camden and Picton 1830 – 1930



Elizabeth Villy

This excellent book was launched back in April, during Heritage Week.

While it is based around the old Razorback Road, Betty's research has led her into producing a history of the Camden and Picton areas, packed with fascinating stories about the people and events in the wider area, as well as those connected to the road.

Betty previously provided half the chapters for our own *Chronicles of the Early Cowpastures and Stonequarry*, as well as research material for our archives.

Thoroughly recommended

The Society has some copies for sale at \$30, although the postage is high at \$8.

Can You Help?

A request has come to us via the Family History Association, and perhaps there is someone out there who might be interested.

Gary McLeod is an artist and PhD student in the UK, and his project is to re-photograph the voyage of HMS Challenger, which visited Australia in 1874 as part of a global trip. Some 500 photographs were taken during the voyage, some of them around Sydney, Melbourne and Cape York. Gary is now looking for volunteers who would search out the locations and re-photograph them from the same position.

You will need a digital camera, and check out his website at www.snschallenger.org to see some of the original photos and see what is needed.

While this sounds like a really interesting project, I know how difficult it is to reproduce old photos of Picton because of tree growth and new buildings, so the environs of Melbourne and Sydney would be even more of a challenge.

Vale – Harry Hoare 1914-2011

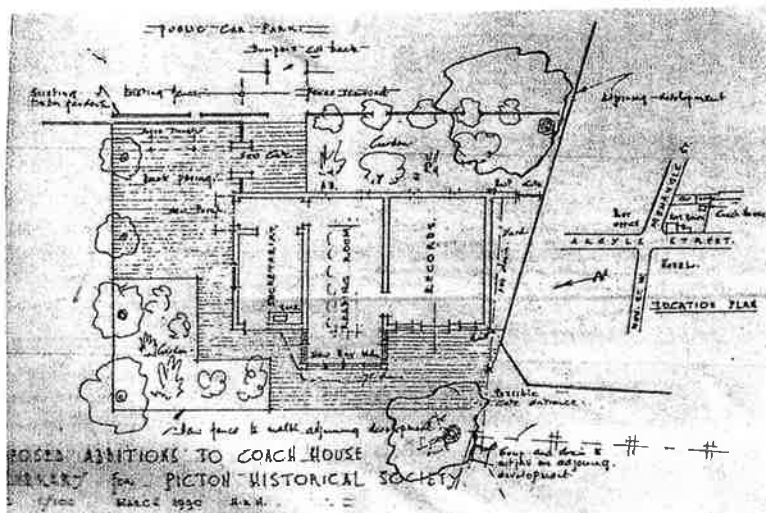
Harry and his wife Lorna were foundation members of the Picton & District Historical & Family History Society, attending the preliminary meeting in March 1987 along with their son Rod and his family. The Hoares had moved to Shingle Hill, Wilton on Harry's retirement in 1977, and I am indebted to the obituary in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of May 30, for details of his earlier life. Another major source was the *Picton News* of February 6, 1991.

Henry Roland Hoare was born in Islington, London on January 5, 1914 the son of Henry and Ida (Cox). Although he wanted to be an architect, the family could not afford this, and he became a quantity surveyor instead, which led to working as a building surveyor in Norwich. Here he met Lorna Criddle in 1939, and with the onset of World War II, they married that same year. Harry worked on various projects during the war, including the "Mulberry harbours" so crucial to the D-Day landings. Immediately after the war he was involved in repairing many of the historic London churches, before in 1951 coming out to Sydney and setting up an office for the Parkinson company; he later worked for Hornibrooks. One newspaper clipping (from 1991) in our files suggests that he only expected to be here for 3 months! Instead he was involved with managing stages II and III of the Opera House, supervised the relocation of Richmond Villa, worked on the Archives Office in The Rocks and supervised the extensions to the NSW Parliament House in the 1970s.

While Harry was busy improving his herd of Murray Grey cattle at Shingle Hill, his great interest in heritage buildings was to be put to good use in Picton. In 1987 he became manager of the Village Square project, which aimed to beautify the area between the shops on the west side of Argyle Street, and St. Mark's church. This is an area of historic interest, being the site of the first timber lockup (1829-1847) and the brick Larkin steam mill built in 1847 and finally demolished in 1926. New walkways, a handsome rotunda, and restoration of the north bank of Stonequarry Creek were the result, although rather under-utilised now.

In 1990 the Society was looking for a home, and although there had been some suggestion that the little coach house (built as part of the CBC bank in 1885) was a possible space, it was only now that everything came together. Harry drew up the plans for the restoration work, and there seems to be no doubt that his expertise was a major component in getting the work done. With the help of a heritage grant, fundraising by the Society including running the Stonequarry Arts & Crafts Festival for several years, plus the volunteer labour from members, the Coach House was officially opened on Australia Day, 1991 – and Harry Hoare was named Citizen of the Year, being nominated by the Society.

Harry's plans for the Coach House, and hard at work on the restoration – building the new bay window.



Harry served as President of the Society in 1989/90 and he and Lorna were members until 1994. They moved out of the area when farming became too much, retiring for a second time to Camden.

Harry's other activities included involvement with the Picton Tidy Town Committee, the Wollondilly Garden Club, and as a trustee of the Maldon Suspension Bridge. The latter had been built in 1903, and closed to vehicle traffic in 1980, with the Trust set up in 1981; the bridge is now closed.

Our librarian, Helen Hanger is exceptionally good at noticing the death notices, especially of members, and sent a card to Lorna on behalf of the Society. We have had a thank you card in reply, with Lorna saying how much Harry had enjoyed his involvement with the Society. It should be noted that Lorna was very involved with all these activities too.

Items of Interest - Publications from other sources

Do you have Irish ancestors? Cora Num has a new book *Irish Research on the Internet*, which explains "what is available, how to find it, and how best to use it". We have an email from her, giving some details (i.e. the book is \$12 + \$2 postage), or you can check her website for more: www.coraweb.com.au/irishdetails.htm.

Taree Family History Inc has a CD *Taree & District Burials*, including many unmarked gravesites and previously unknown burials in the Taree and Manning Valley area. It costs \$50, but the project is ongoing. Further details in our space at the Library. Other CDs from them include *WT Howard's Funeral Directors, Taree* – over 10,000 burials, and the *Manning & Camden Haven Publication Index* which lists wherever a surname or first name appears in any printed publication for the above areas – 57,347 entries. (As one who is trying to index the local Picton papers, I am in awe!)

Robert Llewellyn Tyler, born in Wales, as an historian taught in America, Japan and Argentina, before coming to Melbourne in 1997 and studied the Welsh immigrants in the Ballarat/Sebastopol district of Victoria. No price given, you will have to email the publishers or Amazon (see below).

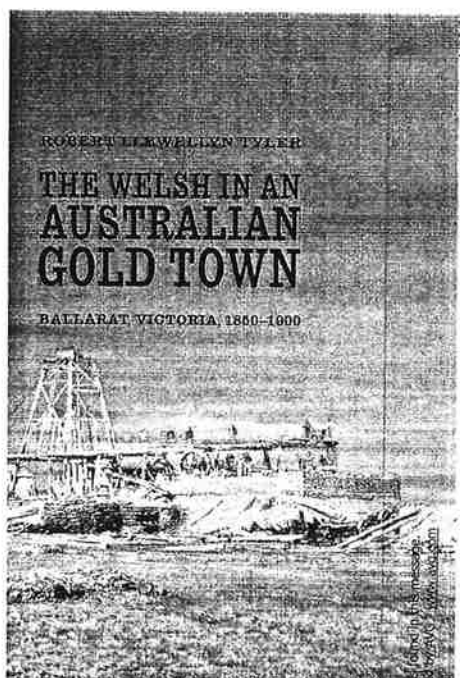
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Jim Smith of Wentworth Falls has sent us a brochure on his publications. He has two new books, one is *the Six Foot Track: Journeys 1887-2000* which is an updated edition of his 1985 book on the track, *From Katoomba to Jenolan Caves*. The second is *Gungarlook*, about the Riley family in the Burragorang Valley; Jim wrote *Aborigines of the Burragorang Valley* in 1991, which had a little on the Riley family, but a descendant, Ivy Brookman, who had lived at Gungarlook farm, started writing to Jim about her family, and this second book is the result. Ivy is the great-granddaughter of George Riley who was one of the first Aboriginal people to vote in NSW elections, and was involved in one of the first Aboriginal land claims in the State; he died in 1906. Jim has other books on the Blue Mountains so if anyone is interested, we can give or send out a copy of the brochure.

The Society has bought both books on the Aborigines of the Burragorang Valley, and they can be seen in our space at the Library.

Coming Events:

Campbelltown District Family History Society Inc is having its 2011 Seminar on Saturday 17th September 2011 from 9 till 4 at St Peter's Anglican Church Hall, Cordeaux Street Campbelltown. There will be three main speakers: Angela Phippen, Jeff McGill and Ralph Harwkins. Registration fee of \$25 includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, and registrations close on 31st August. Forms available here, at the Family History Room in Campbelltown Library, or via the website www.cdfhs.org.au.

Underwood Reunion

This will be held on Saturday 15th October 2011 at St. Jude's Church of England, 106 Avoca Street Randwick, from 11 a.m. Bring your own picnic lunch, and there will be speakers in the afternoon.

The reunion will commemorate the arrival of James Underwood on the *Admiral Barrington* on 16 October 1791. His descendants, and those of his brothers Joseph and William, are invited to attend; the location was chosen because James' son Richard is buried in the church cemetery, as are some of the family of his brother Thomas. There are spacious grounds as well as the church, cemetery and a new hall. Entry is by a gold coin or small donation; bring a copy of your family tree and wear a name tag with your ancestor's name on it.

To register, or make further enquiries, contact Liz Parkinson, P.O. Box 157 Terrigal NSW 2260 or email liz@net2net.net.au.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Cemetery Transcripts

Bargo Cemetery Memorials (2010)	\$25.00 + \$5 p&p
Burial records of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Picton	12.00 “
Redbank Uniting Church – A Pictorial view	20.00 “

Upper Picton General Cemetery	20.00 “
Thirlmere	20.00 “

(These two are the original 1980s compilations, and are now more-or-less out of print, i.e. can be photocopied as requested, but not an easy task. We want to update them, but in a different format, not necessarily with individual photographs, which will take some time).

Marriage Transcripts

St. Mark's Anglican Church - Vol.1	\$15.00 + \$5 p&p
St. Mark's Anglican Church - Vol.2	15.00 “
St. Mark's Anglican Church – Vol.3	20.00 + \$10 p&p
Set of three volumes	50.00 + \$15 p&p

Other Publications

Along the Menangle Road (2 nd Illustrated edition)	\$15.00 + \$5 p&p
Chronicles of the Early Cowpastures and Stonequarry 1820-1850 Volume I	20.00 + \$5 p&p

Tea Towel	\$10.00
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Other publications available through us:

The History of the Picton District Agricultural Horticultural and Industrial Society Inc, by Jan Ross & Jan Wilton	\$15.00 + \$3.00 p&p
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The Old Razorback Schoolhouse 1882-1899, by Elizabeth Villy	\$12.50 + \$3.00 p&p
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The new book from Elizabeth Villy:

The Old Razorback Road Life on the Great South Road between Camden and Picton 1830-1930	\$30.00 + \$8.00 p&p
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A Brief History of Couridjah in the Wollondilly Shire, by Karyn Chalk	\$15.00 + \$3.00 p&p
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