# Wollondilly People

Picton District Historical and Family History Society Inc

July 2025

Thank you for your interest in our Digitisation Project.

# History

*Wollondilly People* is the result of the work of many people over many, many, hours since it was first proposed in May 2023.

Members of the Picton and District History and Family History Society had created a set of cards for individuals recording details from the original Court Registers of Births and Deaths held at Picton, New South Wales. A lack of physical space has meant that these cards have been stored remotely, access often proved difficult and many hours were spent trying to locate relevant records and establish relationships between individuals.

# Method

In order to make these and other records more easily accessible and more meaningful, they have been entered into genealogical software. *Wollondilly People* is a web-based database of these records and has allowed many of the records to be linked and family trees developed. Also included in *Wollondilly People BDM* are records from Church Marriage Registers and those from official birth, death and marriage records. Again, this has allowed further links to be created as often it is possible to establish connections from the extra information that is included in this documentation.

Newspapers, magazines and social media have been a valuable source of information, particularly death notices and obituaries. Regional newspapers often have articles covering births, anniversaries, engagements, baptisms and occasionally weddings. All of those that the Society, along with some members privately have collected, have been recorded in *Wollondilly People Acta Diurna*.

### Structure

We have decided to maintain these records in two trees

*Wollondilly People BDM* where the information has come from official sources and

*Wollondilly People Acta Diurna*\* where information has come from mostly newspapers and in the modern world, social media.

\*(The first obituaries were published in ancient Rome around 59 BCE on papyrus newspapers called Acta Diurna - Daily Events).

### Content

At this stage there are in excess of 45 000 records in both trees – and indeed the same person may be in both trees. Where this has been identified, we have created an association to alert the researcher. Sometimes the same person may appear in the same branch of the tree as there is not sufficient information at this stage to be able to positively identify them as the same individual.

As records are entered, you will find attached the original documentation of the source. This allows you to view the original documentation and extract other information that may not have been recorded in *Wollondilly People*.

Data entry is continuing as more information and records become available and we are hoping that all researchers will be able to gain valuable insight into the people of the Wollondilly Shire in New South Wales.

# **Updates**

Currently notices from The District Reporter, records from Wollondilly's Fallen (WW I records) and burial records from St Mark's, Picton are being entered.

We are also encouraging subscribers to *Wollondilly People* to share what information they have to help us build a better and more accurate record for the future.

## Access

*Wollondilly People* will be available from 1 July 2025 to all members of The Picton and District History and Family History Society on payment of a one-off fee to create a *Wollondilly People* account.

If you are not a member, please click on the following link to complete your membership application in order to register and gain access to *Wollondilly People*. You will need to submit the Membership Form plus the relevant fee for membership along with the \$25.00 fee for a *Wollondilly People* account.

# <u>Membership Application – Picton & District Historical and Family</u> <u>History Society Inc.</u>

There is a one-off fee of \$25.00 for members which remains current while ever your membership is current. This fee will give you access to all of the 46 000 plus records. Presently *Wollondilly People BDM* contains over 19 000 records of equivalent status to those available from Transcription Agents or Government Births, Deaths and Marriages Registries. It will also allow you to interact with, and assist in its further development.

If you require further information, please contact wollondillypeople@familyhistory.pictonheritage.org.au

