



Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group Newsletter Issue 17, August 2015



Hill End 17 July 2015 (with thanks to Trevor Sherry)

Dear Hill Endites and Tambaroorians,

“The best snow for 30 years”...in the words of the locals who have reported that this year has been the coldest for some time. 2015 has been a spectacular one for interesting weather photos in Hill End. There are more snaps on the [Hill End Facebook page](#).

However the daffodils are bursting through the soil and snow and hopefully the weather will be a little warmer for our big Gathering there over the weekend of 25 – 27 September, but you never can tell. So pack the scarf and beanie, just in case.

Use this opportunity to visit the village and catch up with other descendants and perhaps even meet up new relatives. This is the 3rd time we have planned such an event and the response has been great in past so we are hoping that it will again be a good turnout.

Conveniently timed to be in the NSW school holidays and just the weekend before the October Long Weekend (and Markets in Hill End) we have a great line-up of activities planned that will suit all ages. There will be a town tour, a dinner and a trip to the Cemeteries at Tambaroora as well as displays in the Royal Hall and plenty of time to wander around to enjoy the place. Check out our program on page 15 of this newsletter.



Date for the Diary!

**Gathering Group
Reunion in Hill End
Weekend of 25-27
September, 2015
Everybody welcome.**



For those requiring transport, a coach will leave from Eddy Avenue Coach Terminal at Central Railway for Hill End on Friday 25th Sept at 10.30am, with pick-ups at Strathfield, and along the Great Western Highway, and returning on Sunday evening around 9pm. The coach will drop people at their chosen accommodation in Hill End and will be available during the weekend for transport around town. The departure time on Sunday will be around 3.30pm to allow us to travel in daylight as much as possible.

Those joining us for the weekend will be responsible for booking and paying for their own accommodation in Hill End and we have notified all the accommodation houses to expect bookings from our members. Hill End is becoming a popular destination these days, and as the number of beds in the village is limited please make your accommodation bookings as soon as possible to avoid disappointment and mention that you are part of the Gathering Group when doing so.



Accommodation options:

There are 3 options in Hill End

Hill End Lodge Motel: Phone (02) 6337 8200

Website - www.hillendlodge.com.au

Hill End Ranch: Phone (02) 6337 8224

Website - www.hillendranch.com.au

Royal Hotel: Phone (02) 6337-8261

Website - <http://www.hillendnsw.com.au/index.html>

National Parks & Wildlife Village Camping Ground:

Phone (02) 6337 8206 Website –

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks/>

(Bookings not necessary, limited powered sites available on a first come basis)

All the information you need for a great weekend, the program and booking details, are in the back section of this newsletter. Please complete your booking form and return it to Lorraine (by email or post) by 11 September to ensure your place in our activities. Contact details are on the form.

For those travelling independently there are a number of other options available for your visit to the area and you may well like to arrive early or stay a few days after the weekend to enjoy all the town has to offer, especially as it is school holidays. The Hill End Market will be on the Long Weekend, too, Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th October.

The Gathering Dinner will be held in the Royal Hall and we will be serving a mouth-watering 2 course meal. (Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements on the booking form). National Parks & Wildlife staff will be assisting with the Town Tour over the weekend and we are grateful for their support. A small charge will be made for the optional tours and bookings are preferred beforehand but latecomers may register and pay for these on Saturday morning, if places are still available. We will be setting up our headquarters at the Royal Hall for the weekend and all enquiries and bookings can be made there.

So, round up the family and join us for a great weekend in one of NSW’s most iconic and historical towns.



The Royal Hall & Hotel

This reunion will be a relaxed event and will allow plenty of time to enjoy the village and walk in your ancestors’ footsteps.

Condolences

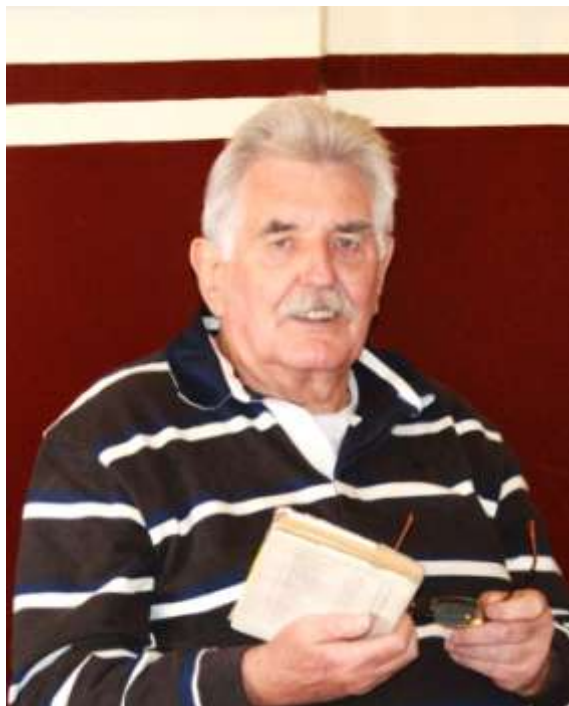
Vale, John Tutty - sadly missed

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of one of our volunteer workers, John Tutty, who passed away on 2nd April, after a brief illness caused by a brain tumour. Most of you will not have known John, partner to Jenny Tomlinson, a Hamilton descendant, however he joined our band of volunteers on his retirement a few years ago. Whilst he had no personal connection to Hill End ancestors he was a wonderful example of someone who was willing to support his partner in their interests.

John was a newcomer to family history and was just starting to really enjoy his new hobby, after his first love, bowls. Those who visited our Markets in Hill End will remember him as Jenny, the “Lemon Lady’s” helpmate. He has also helped Dennis at the Sausage Sizzle too.

John and Jenny have been closely involved in the NPWS family history digitization project over the past 3 years and also took on a project of digitizing and transcribing the comments on the back of the Holtermann prints held at the State Library. They have spent over 12 months recording this information at the State Library and the project will be finalized in John’s memory. With an analytical mind, he was able to envision what was needed to make this information accessible to the family history researcher and has left us with a legacy that will be completed in time.

Our thoughts are with Jenny, and his family in New Zealand.



John Tutty – Volunteer extraordinaire



Our 2015 Gathering at Rhodes – Sat 7th March

This year we again had around 90 attending throughout the day. These are the ones who were around when the group photo was taken.

Once again it was lovely to see Bill & Betty Maris and family join us for the day. The weather was great and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces as well as new ones.

There were lots of resources, books, maps and hard copies of the material that had been prepared by the volunteers too.

Catch up with all the photos on the Gallery page on our website at [The 2015 Gathering at Rhodes](#)

Hopefully we will have just as many at Hill End over the weekend of 25 – 27 September.

Ian & Bill Maris, Doug Brodie, & Betty Maris



Long time no see....Doug Brodie Amanda Hinchcliffe Helen Wood and John Brodie talking old times

The following families were represented by their descendants:

Ackermann	Ettinger	McCarthy
Alder	Fitzgerald	Moloney
Baillie	Flynn	Northey
Bender	Galloway	Northey (store)
Bowman	Gard	Phillips
Brett	Garner	Porter
Brodie	Gaynon	Pymont
Bromley	Goodwin	Roberts
Carter	Holman	Ross
Channon	Holston/Hotson	Smith
Clark/e	Jenkyns	Starr
Clines	Latona	Thompson
Cullen	Lavender	Tippett
Dagger	Lawler	Walpole
Dalley	Lawson	Wardman
De La Torre	Lees	Warry
Dingle	Longmore	Willard
Ellis	Maris	Williams
English	Martin	Yates



Anzac Day Book Launch

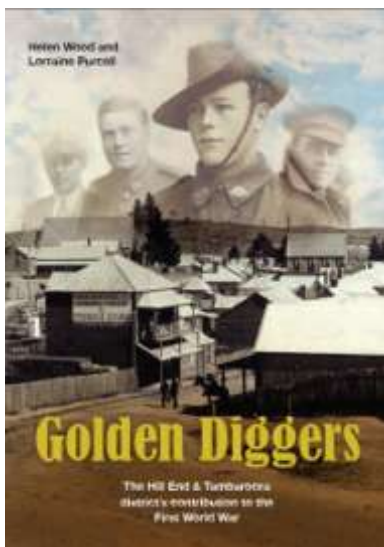
Golden Diggers. Hill End & Tambaroora district's contribution to the First World War.

The launch of our latest publication, *Golden Diggers*, was held in the Royal Hall before the Anzac Day Service. It took the form of a Morning Tea which allowed people to meet in a relaxed atmosphere to renew old friendships and recall memories of those who had served, which were dear to all. The Hall has stood for than 115 years, and has seen so many farewells and welcome homes to servicemen and women over two World Wars. The Hill End community rallied to send their boys and girls off to war and they were there to welcome them home on their return. Hence it was most appropriate the book be launched within the community that gave so much a hundred years ago.

The guests were welcomed by Lorraine Purcell, the convener of the Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group. This Group represents the descendants of people who have lived in Hill End or Tambaroora at some time, between the 1850s and the present day. She was also publisher and co-author with Helen Wood of *Golden Diggers*, who also joined in welcoming the visitor.

The local population was well represented and many people also travelled considerable distances to be present on the day. It was very moving to see those who have family connections to the names that were being honoured at this event, many of them being contributors, and descendants of those mentioned in the work.

Over a period of more than 5 years Helen painstakingly



researched the names and events which are included. The happenings that unfolded affected the servicemen and women but they were not the only ones. The War touched every family, from the very young to the very old. The enlistees were their fathers, sons, husbands, brothers and sisters. This

was a new generation. Nonetheless, mining was in their blood and as true Diggers those who enlisted had a real sense of obligation to serve their country.

What began as a quest to identify a photograph in in a family collection started Helen on this journey. The photo was of a proud family group sitting outside their house with their soldier sons taking pride of place. She was to discover that the unknown family in the photograph was not related to hers nor was it one of the

families finally listed in this book. It was of the Shipway family of Ultimo who had left Hill End in 1880. Their ties to the old gold town had remained strong, long into the war years, as had many other former Hill End families who had moved on. In the process of identifying the photograph she also identified the full names of the majority of those listed on the Hill End Public School Honor Board. This Honor Board records the names and fate of those students who volunteered to fight for Australia and the British Empire in the Great War, "For King and Country.

To be included in this homage to those who served, it was decided to embrace the servicemen and women who were born, grew up, went to school or who lived in the district in the decades surrounding the war.

The Home Front played just as significant role. Fundraising events were organized for various causes. The townsfolk gave generously. The school and the students played an important part, remembering those who had so recently sat in the classrooms, perhaps unaware to an extent of what events were unfolding, but who were looking for new adventures.

When it was known that the War Memorial was to be refurbished it was a natural progression to include the names of these servicemen and women on a plaque. Every name that now adorns the Memorial has a mention in "Golden Diggers".



For the book launch, the Hall was decorated in the manner that it may have looked one hundred years ago.

The magnificent Union Jack which adorned the stage was believed to have been made by Hannah Marshall, a Sunday School teacher and the spinster daughter of James Marshall and Sarah Adams, of *Craigmoor*. It was used in the Anglican Church for the Thanksgiving Service in Hill End in July 1919. It is a sobering thought that many of the families that looked on this flag ninety six years ago, were still waiting for family members to return from active service.

Let us say that, by retelling their stories we aim to honour and remember them all.....Lest we forget.

Copies of *Golden Diggers* can be ordered on our webpage at <http://heatgg.org.au/he/publications/golden-diggers/> or on the Order form at the back of this newsletter.

Golden Diggers – A Postscript

The following are just two of the fascinating stories that have arisen as a result of publishing *Golden Diggers*. As part of the preparation for the book we placed a list of the soldiers being researched on our website. Just a week after the book was unveiled in Hill End on Anzac Day we received an email from Ian Roofthoof in Belgium.

He was inquiring about Robert George Garner. He informed us that he had a photograph of Robert taken whilst he was a prisoner of war in Friedrichsfeld in Germany. This photo appeared in an album of photographs belonging to another POW, Frenchman, Emile Lansberg.



Robert George Garner
(aka McAllister)

Apparently it was a habit that soldiers exchanged photos of themselves with their friends. So it is believed that Garner was a good friend of the French soldier. In further correspondence with Ian it appears that this is the only photograph of an Australian in the album.



Happily it was identifiable by the note on the back...and when Ian obtained Garner's service record from the AWM the physical description did indeed confirm that it was of Garner.

After an unsettled childhood, Garner's military career was also somewhat chequered. This started when he went AWOL in South Africa on the way to England, with the excuse that he "wanted to have a look around Cape Town". After the battle at Lagincourt in April 1917 Garner was reported missing and then confirmed as being a prisoner of war. He had been wounded in the legs and spent the remainder of the war as a POW and during this time the photo was taken in Friedrichsfeld. He was repatriated from Germany in November 1918 and returned to Australia in 1919.

Sadly this wonderful photo arrived too late to be included in the book and the only one that we, and the family, had was one taken many years later. However, we are pleased to say that we have now reunited the family with a copy of the photograph.

Ian was able to tell us that there were no other Australian soldiers appearing in the album so this was indeed a "long shot".

Gone but not forgotten...

One of our Brisbane Gathering Group members came across an article placed in the RSL News by Graham Orchard also of Brisbane, seeking information about a colourful character, Henry Henley who was born in Hill End. Graham was in possession of Henry's Bronze Star Medal and was seeking to return it to his descendants. It appears that Henry had three periods of service overseas during the course of the war.

On the first occasion he enlisted on 28 August 1914 giving his age as 36. He was actually 45. During his voyage to Egypt he slipped on the deck when getting out of his hammock and broke his collarbone. He did not fully recover and was diagnosed with chronic rheumatism, a condition that he had two years before enlistment. He was invalided back Australia, and discharged permanently unfit for service on 26 June 1915. He re-enlisted on 21 September 1915, and again embarked for Egypt where he was admitted to hospital for treatment of varicose veins in his leg, a pre-existing condition that he had for four years, but had become worse since his enlistment. He also had rheumatism pains and stiffness in his shoulder from his previous injury. Consequently he was again invalided to Australia, and again discharged permanently unfit.

Nine months later he re-enlisted again under the assumed name Henry Edwards. He also lowered his age, claimed that he was single and his next of kin (actually his wife) was instead his aunt. He embarked once more and made it as far as England where his true identity was discovered. Again he was admitted to hospital after sustaining an accidental injury to his left eye from a Lewis Gun. He left for France, but just twelve days later was returned to England. A subsequent medical inquiry recommended his return to Australia due to premature senility at age 49, also rheumatism in his legs and back and poor vision in his left eye. He again returned to Australia and for a 3rd time was discharged permanently unfit on 6 February 1919. He passed away in Brisbane in 1926.



Henry Henley's Medal

We are still seeking any connections to Henry's descendants, Bert & Maude, who would be quite elderly by now. We would love to pass Henry's medals back to them.

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Order your copy

of this publication *Golden Diggers* on the enclosed order form or on our webpage at

<http://heatgg.org.au/he/publications/golden-diggers/>

Hill End War Memorial Rededication

At the conclusion of the First World War and the return of the soldiers to Australia thoughts turned to commemorating the contribution that they had made in the service of their country.

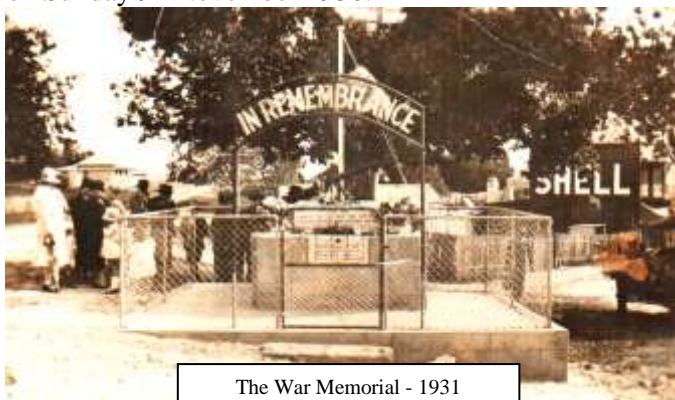
In 1920 the Hill End citizens formed a War Trophy Committee to devise the design and location of their War Memorial. The Turon Shire was responsible for procuring the gun from the State War Trophy Committee. As a result a German light machine gun, number 2163 which was captured by the 45th Battalion was allocated to the town.

Initially the gun was intended to be mounted with the Honor Board in the school; however the committee decided to erect a canopy at the junction of Clarke and Tambaroora Streets to house the gun on a concrete plinth. With the assistance of the Turon Shire, who allowed one of their employees, Mr. James Walpole, to build the foundations, this design was completed. Originally the Memorial had a corrugated iron roof over it and was commonly known as the "Gun House" by the locals.



The Gun House – 1921
(NPWS photo)

The War Memorial received its first renewal in 1930 when the roof was removed and a decorative wire fence and a wrought iron entrance gate were added as well as a curved arch with the words "In Remembrance" placed upon it in metal letters. This design was finally unveiled on Sunday 9th November 1930.



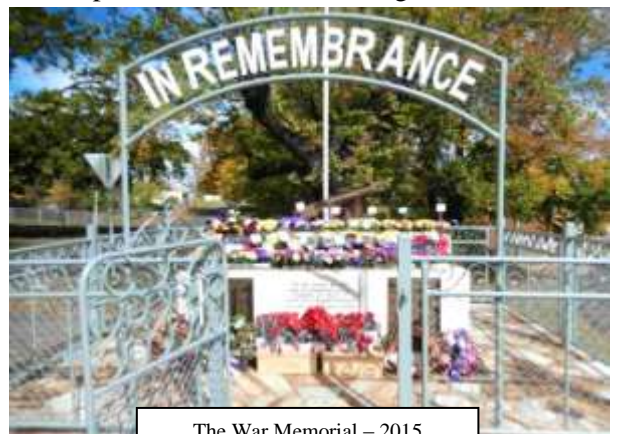
The War Memorial - 1931

At the unveiling it was noted that the Memorial would be standing long after the sons of the present generation had passed away and that it showed that the people of Hill End and district had not forgotten those who had sailed away and who had not returned. Mesdames Lawson and Trevena, as the only two mothers of local fallen men still

residing in the town, broke the flags covering the monument. The concrete base and the gun were draped with the Union Jack and the curved "In Remembrance" arch over the gateway with the Australian Ensign (Honor Flag of the Turon Shire) and the Blue Australian Ensign was rolled at half-mast on the flag-pole. The ladies very reverently drew the flags aside and broke the rolled flag. Councillor Hodge then declared the Memorial unveiled and he appealed to the public to keep the Memorial holy and sacred and to tell their children the true meaning of this "stone of remembrance".

The Memorial has undergone a number of alterations since 1930. Over the years further tablets were added to commemorate the residents of the district who served during later conflicts. In 1952 a plaque was added to commemorate the fallen in WW2 and similar plaques were then added after the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

The Memorial was again refurbished in 1989 by the Hill End Progress Association with the support of community. The plinth was brick veneered and a slate surface was added to the top and the surrounding pathway. It is believed that the slate may have come from the Mudgee area. The curved arch was replaced with a simple level arch over a new gate.



The War Memorial – 2015

In 2015, for the Centenary of Anzac, the Memorial once again underwent a renewal, to restore it closer to the original design. Under the guidance of Hill End War Memorial subcommittee of the Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association the fence and curved archway was reconstructed, the original gate was restored and plaques bearing the names of those from the district, who enlisted to serve their country in the First World War, were added. It was rededicated at the Anzac Day Service on 25th April 2015.

One of the prevalent folk tales associated with the machine gun on the plinth is that it is placed in such a fashion that the barrel is pointed directly towards a particular location in town, known as Germantown...

Our photographer, Di Greenhaw was there to record the Anzac Service and the book launch. Her striking photographs of the day's activities can be seen at <http://au.blurb.com/b/6261429-anzac-day-hill-end-2015> where copies are available for purchase.

What goes around, comes around: A meeting at sea

There were many stories concerning Hannah Maclurcan, one of Australia's original "Celebrity Chefs" from Tambaroora. Hannah is the "subject" of a Long Lunch in Hill End on 5th September and Karen Bates and other researchers have unearthed many tales concerning her life. Karen has provided us with this one:

The glow from the chandelier illuminated the stranger as he stood on the outside steps of the Hotel. Glancing at his ticket to the Crown-Street Woman's Hospital charity event he remembered the morning headline. "State Government has engaged all of the Wentworth Hotel for the accommodation of Prince of Wales and his suite". It wasn't Prince Edward that occupied the stranger's mind this March evening of 1920, but it was instead the hotel proprietor, Hannah Maclurcan. Visions of the night they met twenty five years ago filled his mind as women dressed in ball gowns, led by men in white dinner jackets, swept him along and up the stairs.

A low hum of excitement filled the grand entrance as the paying guests moved further into the ballroom, leaving the stranger to take note of the Georgian decor. Corinthian columns stood either side of doorways leading from the Wentworth's foyer. Large ornamental vases filled with roses rested on pillars. His roving eyes followed a tiny, well dressed lady as she descended the magnificent stairway. She paused at its carved newel post to view her guests. Lifting the hem of her black ball gown she stepped down and moved across the main floor, elegantly greeting patrons as she mingled. One guest however stood firm. He smiled politely as their gaze met across the oversized initials stamped into the highly polished marble floor. The stranger thought the round rimmed glasses made her eyes appear larger. They both stood on the outer rim of the two interlinked letters 'H. W.' as if separated by an ocean. The stranger mused at the letters and thought "Ah, the Hotel Wentworth".

The warming smile on the stranger's face as he looked up raised a tingle in Hannah's heart. She touched the milky pearls resting on her neck as if they helped her to remember. Her thoughts worked overtime. Who was this stranger, where had I seen him before? Was it at another charity function perhaps, maybe the one for the children's charity last month? There had been so many charities in the last nineteen years of owning the Wentworth. Her memory failed her.

The stranger approached, he could see she struggled to remember. "Are you wearing any more flannel shirts" he said boldly. Hannah frowned at first, then her brown eyes widened and sparkled. Music from the ballroom faded as images from that month in 1895 came flooding back.

She remembered the five days which led to their meeting. The early morning sun was blazing as usual. Hannah climbed into the waiting buggy with the help of her husband who grasped the morning paper. The headlines for Monday 28th January 1895, like the day,

were uneventful. The horse bucked and shuffled when her husband hoisted several bags into the back of the buggy. "Do be careful with my luggage Donald, there's nothing worse than travelling on board ship with tattered suitcases."

"You're only going to Brisbane for a week my love, why would you possibly want all this clothing," he said, climbing in beside Hannah and placing his arm around her shoulder. "It is January," he added further, "and after all, we do live in the tropics; I would have thought some light clothing would have sufficed such a trip." Hannah buttoned the open neck on Donald's crisp white shirt and wished he had worn a tie.

"Yes my dear, I know that's what you thought. Anyway father wants me to look at a couple of hotels while I'm there, and of course I'll have to dine out every night to sample the culinary delights."

"More hotels!"

"It's called progress, Donald."

"Look at what we own here in Townsville." He pointed "The Queens Hotel! Grandest hotel in all of Queensland. It is just as popular as the *Criterion* we just sold. When people discover we are the proprietors, business increases." He took Hannah's hand. "Remember what one reporter said, and I quote: '*We have nothing to learn in the art of making a hotel comfortable.*' Unquote... Is not that enough?"

"Yes dear," she said adjusting her vintage coin bangle. Her eyes lifted. "That journalist *also* referred to me as your *help mate*."

"Mmm." Donald tried to steer Hannah away from the topic. "Well, don't forget you are writing a cookery book as well, my love."

"HELP MATE!" Hannah sniffed. The horse flinched. "I'm the one who learned the business thoroughly, starting with cooking lessons in the kitchen and eventually graduating to management. Sixteen I was...and he calls me your *help mate*!"

"And" added Donald, "you are raising four children."

"I know, dear." She kissed him on the cheek. "Now" she added, shading her eyes from the sun's rays to enable her to see the docks, "I can see the smoke rising from here. Let us go, I do not wish to view the stern of the *Leura* from the wharf as it steams down the river." Donald sighed as he cracked the whip, and with one crack they headed for the docks.

All 1186 tons of the *Leura* sat at the wharf. Smoke from its coal furnaces drifted out its 10ft high funnel. Dark clouds quickly formed. Hannah and Donald remained on the dock, saving their farewells until Hannah's luggage was safely on board. "Oh, Donald, look! What fine horses they are," Hannah said, watching a man walk them into the cargo hold. A gentleman standing beside Hannah turned to her and answered before Donald could speak. "Best horses in Queensland, taking them to Sydney to race." The man took his hat off and introduced himself. "Robert C Ramsay."

Hannah tilted her head to acknowledge the man.

Donald held his hand out to shake that of the gentleman.

"Their names?" inquired Hannah.

"The chestnut is Echo and the black thoroughbred is Ventriloquist. Beautiful, aren't they?"

"Extremely." Hannah stood admiring the horses until they disappeared through the cargo hold.

"Hannah, my love," said Donald, breaking the silence. "I will say goodbye. I have a meeting with the bank manager."

"Oh, yes." She turned back to the gentleman. "Enjoy your trip to Sydney, Mr Ramsay." He nodded, and replacing his hat, headed off to ensure the horses were safely stabled.

Donald kissed Hannah on the cheek. "I'll see you in a week," said Hannah.

"Yes. Safe journey my love." He glanced up at the darkening sky, then gave a warm smile to Hannah and left the wharf. After boarding the ship Hannah went straight to her cabin to rest as the *Leura* sailed out into the open sea.

After calling at Keppel Bay to take more passengers on board, the vessel left at 11.15am under the command of Captain Joy and set out for Brisbane. Hannah changed for lunch. When off Breakfast Spit near Bundaberg the Chief Officer raised the alarm. "Captain! Sir!"

"Yes."

"Sir the barometer has just fallen to 29"75in., and the wind is blowing from the south-east."

"Thank you. Keep me informed."

Shortly after the Chief Officer again alerted Captain Joy to the wind change. Now the heading was west-south-west, and the wind had increased to a terrible gale.

"Head the *Leura* out to sea," ordered Captain Joy.

In the dining room, passengers fell against tables and held on to doorways as they left for the safety of their cabins. Hannah looked concerned. Being the wife an ex-Master Mariner of the British India Steamship Company she knew what this wind change could mean...

Back at the Wentworth Hannah saw change in the stranger's face. She knew he was remembering the events of those days where they all thought they would perish in the cyclone. Several newspapers recounted the story...*The Leura continued through the eye of the gale until 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. For fifty-two hours the vessels drifted under sail and steam down the coast. Immense seas swept over the decks, and all the while the hatches were loosely battened down. The chief officer and three sailors were engaged in bending some new bails to the mast when a terrible wave broke over the vessel. It swept a heavy hencoop from its lashings and, carrying it with immense force along the deck, dashed it through the weather screen. The chief officer*

and the sailors were all carried off their feet, and the hencoop struck the former on the head. He was very seriously knocked about, and those who witnessed the occurrence stated it was almost a miracle that he escaped with his life. The sailors were also injured painfully, and all four had to have their injuries dressed at the hospital yesterday. The chief officer being disabled, it of course meant a great additional strain on Captain Joy, who throughout the whole time could not take any repose. The weather screen at the entrance of the saloon was carried away, the house over the steering gear was swept overboard, the other end of the saloon skylight was smashed in, and a great deal of deck cargo broke adrift. To make matters worse coal began to run out. In order that he might not be absolutely without coal, the captain had all the spare timber on board broken up and used for fuel. As supplies on board was running out, no assistance could be rendered in that way.

The weather eventually cleared and the Leura safely anchored in Moreton Bay at daylight, only to be met by the steamship Derwent which had been sent out by the owners with coal and provisions.

At the storm's height the stranger went into the saloon, and found Hannah sitting on the floor, awash in a foot of water. She was shivering. "Are you not wearing cotton next to your skin," he asked.

"Yes," replied Hannah, but with all her luggage packed away, she had nothing warmer.

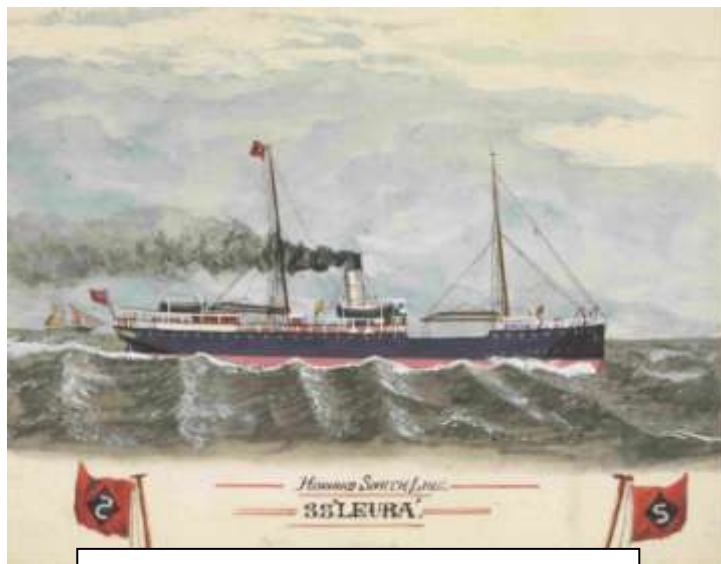
"You wait there, I'll get you something," said the stranger. He threaded his way back to his own cabin

by means of the life-liner.

Eventually he made his way back with one of his own huge flannel shirts, not too clean at that but it was no time for niceties. "Now you put that on," he ordered and held his big mackintosh in front of Hannah while she changed. When they reached Brisbane Hannah was suffering from exposure, and the doctor told her that the old flannel shirt had probably saved her life.

A light touch on the stranger's elbow brought him back to reality and the Wentworth foyer. Hannah squeezed his arm. The stranger knew how grateful Hannah was and he knew in his mind that he could have had the whole Wentworth Hotel for a sovereign.

This story has combined fact with fiction and acknowledges the events that transpired on board the Leura between Hannah Maclurcan and Mr John McKenzie Corby as told by him to "The Melbourne Age". Mr John McKenzie Corby, in the mid-1920, had recently retired from the position of Secretary of the Victorian District of the Marine Engineers Institute after 30 years' service, was formerly at sea as chief engineer.



Howard Smith Line S.S. "Leura" [art original] by Green
(State Library of Victoria)

Royal Hall Photo Preservation Fund raffle

As we have previously mentioned, any profits from Hannah's Long Lunch will be going towards the preservation of the original portrait photographs in the Royal Hall. This collection was in care of the Progress Association and it has been recognized that a considerable amount of work needs to be done on it to keep it preserved.

To help raise some funds towards this project, we will be holding a raffle at the Gathering in Hill End in September and the first prize is a beautiful painting of an old Hill End cottage by Betty Maris which has been donated by the Maris family. Tickets will be on sale, \$2 each or 3 for \$5.



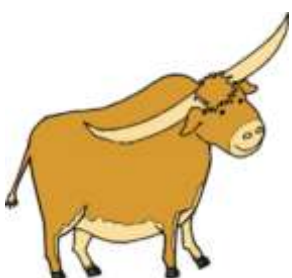
To allow our members who won't be at the Gathering to participate in the raffle and to make it easy for our members who do not have computers etc, we are happy to receive payment by cheque or postage stamps in exchange for tickets. We will ensure that the equivalent amount of cash will then be placed in the Fund.

A book of 10 stamps (\$7 less 1 for postage to us) will get you 8 tickets in the raffle. We will write out the tickets and make sure they go in the barrel. We are happy to post the tickets back to you or to save postage we can keep them here and phone you through your numbers. Just drop us a line with the stamps giving us your preferred contact details.

A load of bull?

Thanks to Ray Samuel for the following yarn:

Edward Phillips (Barney) raised long horn steers cattle next to the "Welcome Inn" at Avisford, as well. One of these steers used to pull his cart to Mudgee and back. It was a very long journey in those days. He would leave Mudgee in the afternoon and return in the dark. The roads were only bush tracks at that time and full of pot holes. The steer and Barney could not see very well in the dark so Barney would attach two lanterns to the steer's horns to light the way.



Tambaroora Gets a Telephone.

Mr. W. M. Fleming, M.P., has received from the Deputy Postmaster-General the following letter: "Sir,—With reference to the petition dated the 17th January last, forwarded by you from Messrs. James M. O'Donnell, Thos. Toohey, I. Le Messurier and other residents of Tambaroora and district, for the establishment of telephonic communication between Hill End and Tambaroora, I have to intimate that formal approval has been given for the erection of a telephone line between the places named, and the work will be carried out as soon as the opportunity offers."

Mudgee Guardian and North-Western Representative
Monday 11 May 1914



10 reasons that you know you've been hit with the genealogy bug

1. When introducing someone you say, "This is my sister's grandmother's father's son."
2. You are more interested in what happened in 1815 than in 2015.
3. A perfect vacation includes trips to cemeteries, archives, libraries or an ancestor's hometown.
4. Your doctor asks about your family background and you reply, "how many generations back?"
5. You explore unusual, non-related family names for fun, as well as your own family names.
6. You know more about your ancestors than your oldest relatives who knew them.
7. You thrive on finding an old family heirloom and learning about its history.
8. If you could have any tech gadget, it would be a time machine to go back and meet your ancestors.
9. You've called in sick because you woke up late after a research all-nighter.
10. You named your kids in alphabetical order to make indexing easier.

The Loyal United Miners' Lodge No 47

It wouldn't be a newsletter without a list of names! Whilst browsing through the National Parks & Wildlife Visitors' Centre I happened upon a wooden board displaying the names of past grands of the [Manchester Unity] Loyal United Miners' Lodge No 47.

The lodge was a form of insurance against hurt and poverty in the community. It supported the workers and if anyone was sick their situation would be discussed and if they were eligible for benefits then payment was arranged. If a member had died, a funeral payment was made to the next of kin. They would arrange for their own doctors who were prepared to accept what the lodge could pay. The community members would contribute when they could and in turn they would be helped by everyone else when they needed assistance.

The following is the list of names of past grands that appears on this board. Maybe one of your ancestors led this group in their community work?

John Cocks	Edward Gustafson	W.E.Bradstreet
Joseph Jeffrie	Benjamin Carver	A.R.Pymont
B.O.Holtermann	Robert Northey	P.Plummer
Thomas Everett*	C.M.Gustafson	A.W.Marshall
Michael Moriarty	M. Ackermann	C.J.Risby
Joseph A Burgess	J.K. Foster	A.E.Cook
Matthew Prideaux	John Longmore jnr	E. Goodwin
John Ross#	J.J. Ackermann	C.Hamilton
Joseph Longton	C. Denman	J.J.Robertson
John Longmore	H.Ackermann	A.W.Longmore
James K Northey	G. Pymont	H. Carl
Alex Ross	H.Marshall	A.Manolato
John Flynn	C.H.Bosenberg	W.Payne
Grif. Williams	James Longmore	W.Lyle
	A.J.Meynink	



*Mr Everett & #Mr John Ross in their Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Manchester Unity (IOOFMU) regalia.
Holtermann Collection

State Library of NSW Digital order nos : a2824024 & a2823421

Prefab housing? – Definitely not new.



A corrugated iron cottage with shop counter on the goldfields
(SLNSW Holtermann collection Digital Order No. a2823034)

The following item in the *Maitland Mercury* of 28 Sept 1872 provides an interesting insight....

PORTABLE HOUSES. -We notice that our enterprising townsman Mr S. Bertles is engaging in an undertaking which although at present only in its infancy is not unlikely to expand to very considerable dimensions - the manufacture of portable houses, for use on stations, on diggings, and elsewhere.

Two of these houses, in course of construction, may now be seen in Mr Bertles timber yard Bulwer street West Maitland. One is a two-roomed cottage. 34 feet by 11 feet, and 9 feet in height to the wall plate with a window in each room, and a fire place in the sitting room. The other house consists of a single room 10 feet by 12 feet, and also 9 feet in height. The framework of these buildings is of hard wood, the sides and roof of galvanized iron, and the floor and lining of the sides is pine. Every beam, plank, and piece of iron is marked and numbered, and constructed so as to fit accurately, requiring only to be fastened with a few screws, and so easy of management that two men can put up one of the double houses, all complete, in the course of a day The principle, of course, is capable of indefinite expansion and Mr Bertles would be able to make houses of this kind with as many rooms as might be desired.

The fire places are entirely of galvanized iron with an iron hearth so as to prevent anything like danger from fire. One advantage connected with these portable houses is that they require no trouble with foundations They can, if desired be placed on piles to any height thought necessary, but with a level site they would do just as well upon the ground itself. The convenience of these habitations is so obvious that no doubt there will be a great demand for them among miners and others whose sojourn in one place is not likely to be long enough to warrant the erection of a permanent building, their low price, portability, and facile construction will also recommend them for use on stations in the interior.



Possibly one of these iron buildings still standing on the road to Mudgee...

Hill End Historic Buildings Open Days

At a meeting held earlier this year it was decided to disband the Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association as there were no nominations for the office bearer positions. However, the Open Day event will continue, under the umbrella of the Hill End Arts Council. The next Open Day will be held on Sunday 25 October 2015.



This is a rare chance to view the historic buildings of the town, from humble miners' cottages and the old churches to artist's cottages and La Paloma pottery studio. Local guides will be available to answer your questions about each location.



For the first time in many years the Hill End Court House was open for inspection on the last Open Day. (With thanks to Will English and Family)

Bookings for Open Days are advisable and can be made by ringing Ross on (02) 63378306.

Our October Long Weekend Market in the Royal Hall

On the Long Weekend 3rd & 4th October the Royal Hall Community Market will again be in full swing. If you come for the Reunion then stay a while, enjoy the peace and quiet during the week and then front up for the for some retail therapy at the Market on the Long Weekend.

We're always on the lookout for new stallholders so if you are looking for a fun weekend with the incentive of making "a bit on the side" then phone Lorraine on 02 95870352 or [email us](mailto:lorraine@hillendarts.com.au) for more details.

Funds raised by our stall at the Markets are used to pay for resources used by Daphne at Hill End Family History and the Gathering Group to assist people in researching their ancestors.



It has allowed us to maintain a subscription to Ancestry.com and also purchase books and materials held by larger institutions such as the State Library of NSW and State Archives.

Seeking Martin or Hancock family members

After 30 years of research and writing Joyce O'Farrell has published her family history 'Further than the eye can see'. It is the family history of the O'Farrell & Corlis family from around the Turon River and Capertee area. She has contacted us with the following proposal:

I was wondering if you know of any relatives who were connected to Laurence and Elizabeth Martin from the Sofala area back in 1850-1880. Their son John Martin married Ellen Hussey, who was a relative of our family. John and Ellen's daughter, Bridget Martin was married to Lieutenant Peter Joseph Hancock who died with Lieutenant Harry (Breaker) Morant in 1902.

The reason for seeking the Martin/Hancock family is that Joyce has some really beautiful old sepia studio photos (which are in the book) and she would now like to pass these photos over to the appropriate family members.

If you are connected to these families Joyce can be contacted at

Joyce O'Farrell

2A Victory Street, PENRITH NSW 2750

Phone: 0247210175 or joyceofarrell@bigpond.com.au



Our new resources

Some of our recent purchases with this funding from the Markets have included a digital version of the NSW Government Gazettes 1832 –1885. These have been great sources of additional information, helping us put "flesh on the bones" of our research, so to speak.

We have also had the opportunity to purchase a number of publications to add to our reference library too. These include "Further than the eye can see – The O'Farrell & Corlis Families (from around the Turon River and Capertee area.)" by Eileen Joyce O'Farrell, and "Over Cherry Tree Hill, 150 years of Pioneer Settlement" by Margaret Piddington, "John Vane, Biography of a bushranger", by Craig Bratby and "Treasures of Cadia, 100 years of memories about life in the Cadia district", and a "History of the Lower Turon, Box Ridge & Quartz Ridge, Turondale" by Patsy Moppett, all of which have references to extended families of Hill End.

We are happy to make these available to anyone who wishes to use them in their research. Just contact Lorraine to make arrangements.

Before the Times



We have always been led to believe that there were only 2 newspapers in the Hill End & Tambaroora area during the early days. However Brian Hodge mentioned the first one to appear, *The Western Goldfields Chronicle*, in his book, "Frontiers of Gold".

First produced in February 1861, the establishment of a newspaper was a sign of confidence in the goldfields.

Sadly there are no known issues remaining of this possibly very short lived publication. We are aware of the rarity of the *Hill End & Tambaroora Times* (only 9 known issues) and the *Observer* (no known issues) but whatever happened to the *Chronicle*?

The most we know of it is the following small article in the Bathurst Free Press of 13 Feb 1861.

NEW JOURNAL.—We have before us a copy of the first number of a new (we presume weekly) Journal under the name of *The Western Gold Fields Chronicle*, published at Tambaroora. When the progressive character of the Western gold-fields is considered, it is surprising that such a publication had not an earlier commencement; and we hope the present enterprise will be successful. The issue makes no reference to the line of politics it means to pursue; but those who are acquainted with the opinions of the "Mudgee Newspaper," the proprietor of which is also the publisher of *The Western Gold Fields Chronicle*, will not need to be told that it will advocate liberal views. It is published on Thursdays, price one shilling. It is a very favourable specimen of type and workmanship.



[Did someone have me in mind when they sent this to me for the newsletter.....?? Lorraine]

What have our volunteers been up to?

Just a selection of some of our volunteers' work over the past few months. These items slotted to eventually appear on our website.

The Bathurst Free Press & Mining Journal (1850-1860) – Location index.

This privately published book by Lynne Foley was prepared long before Trove. She has extracted the Births, Deaths, Marriages, Funerals, Selected Notices and Inquests from the above newspaper and whilst the names were indexed Annette Sheen has now indexed it by location as well. A great resource as many of these items are before registration was compulsory and so it provides another access point to these early records.

More Chinese ancestors

Verna Little continues to work on her Chinese research and is now consolidating the Chinese Naturalization Records with Joan Reese's Colonial Secretary's Correspondence.

This will eventually be a great help to all Chinese researchers, not just those in the Hill End area.

Check out the database at <https://arrow.latrobe.edu.au/store/3/4/5/5/1/public/FMPro9351.html>



The Registers of auriferous (gold) leases, 1874-1953



This index of 53,076 entries covers gold lease records during the period 1874-1928. It was compiled by "Teapot Genies" Mrs Kaye Vernon and Mrs Billie Jacobson (their website is at www.teapotgenealogy.com) and is published on the State Records website at [Registers of auriferous](#)

[gold leases 1874-1928](#)

The index records name of the lease holder, lease number, date of application, location, remarks, series number, reel/item number, and surveyor's name. In certain cases the registers do not show any further information than what is recorded in the index.

Contact details for the Gathering Group

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Website: www.heatgg.org.au



Hill End & Tamaroora 25-27 Sept 2015 Reunion Program & Booking sheet

Friday 25th Sept

Arrive in your own time if travelling by your own transport.

Our coach will leave Eddy Avenue Coach Terminal at Central Railway at 10.30am. Cost is \$85. Please book and pay by 11 Sept 2015. (Booking details overleaf) Please contact Lorraine by phone (02 95870252 or 0408117784) if you require a pickup at Strathfield or along the Great Western Highway. Lunch (at own expense) will be at Lithgow Workers Club along the way. Coach will arrive in Hill End around 4pm. Dinner will be as your own arrangements; Light meals are available at the Royal Hotel, The Café at the Hill End Lodge Motel or Hill End General Store.

Saturday 26th Sept

Hill End

9.30am onwards: Register at the Royal Hall and browse the family history material which will be available throughout the day. **Late arrivals can pay here for tours etc.**

Check out the portrait display in the Hall.

Visit the NPWS Museum and Jean Bellette Gallery at the Visitors Centre. (old Hill End Hospital)

11am: The coach will take those without transport up to Bald Hill Lookout and Merlin's lookout for an overview of Hill End

Lunch at your own time

2pm: Coach & Walking Town Tour with Sandra Thompson, NPWS Discovery Ranger (price \$20) Booking details overleaf.

6.30pm: Pre Dinner Drinks (BYO) at the Hall which will be the venue for our dinner which will commence at 7pm. Dinner will be a 2 course country style meal catered for by local (ex Hosies) cooks Sue & Steve Rattray. Vegetarian option available – just let us know. You are then free to enjoy the company of friends or relatives (or both!) in the Hall for the rest of the evening.

Bookings for the dinner are essential, so we know how many to cater for. Booking details on overleaf.

Sunday 27th Sept

Tamaroora

9.30am: Depart Royal Hall and head to Tamaroora, about 10 mins away, to meet up with caretaker, Ted Abbott at the Tamaroora General Cemetery. Those interested in the Catholic Cemetery can make their way there as well. There is no charge for this activity but people are asked to make a small donation to Ted.

10.30am: A coach & walking tour along the main street of Tamaroora where we can look at the old Holtermann photographs and imagine how the place looked 140 years ago. Coach will return to Hill End at 12.30pm.

Lunch at your own time

Sunday afternoon

Free time after lunch for those who wish to visit

- Bald Hill Mine tour (Bookings essential, at the Royal Hall)
- Ackerman Cottage (visit in your own time)
- Malcolm Drinkwater's museum History Hill, located about 1km out on the Bathurst Road.
- Ted Abbott will also be available to take people gold panning. (Bookings essential, at the Royal Hall)

Each of these activities attracts a small fee which is payable at the venue.

3.30pm: The coach will leave to return to Sydney, with a meal stop at Lithgow Workers Club, arriving back at Central around 9pm, traffic permitting.



Hill End Reunion 25 – 27 Sept 2015 Booking Form
Please complete with payment & return by 11 Sept.

Names: (Please print)

Address

City..... **State**..... **Postcode**.....

Home Phone..... **Mobile Phone**

Email (Print)

Hill End family names of interest.....

(Please tick)

I/We will be arranging own transport or I/We will require transport on the coach below)

I have booked my accommodation at

I will be camping or staying with friends/family

I would like to book for the following activities during the 2015 Hill End Reunion.

This booking form **MUST** be completed and returned with the full payment by 11th September to ensure a place.

No of participants	Activity	Amount	Total
	Return Coach trip to Hill End Departing Sydney 10.30am on Friday 25 th Sept and returning to Sydney arriving around 9pm Sunday 27 th Sept. Refunds can only be made after 11 th Sept if we are able to fill your vacancy	\$85 per head	
	Hill End Town Tour Departing the Royal Hall at 2pm on Saturday 26 th Sept.	\$20 per head	
	Royal Hall Dinner Dinner served at 7pm - a 2 course country style meal catered for by local (ex Hosies) cooks Sue & Steve Rattray.	\$30 per head	
Total			

Late bookings for the Tour & Dinner will only be taken on the actual weekend, if space available.

[] I enclose a cheque/money order made out to the
Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register Account for a total of \$.....

OR

[] I have made a direct bank deposit of \$.....into the

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group Bank Account.

Commonwealth Bank Account Name: Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register Account
BSB: 062190 **Account No:** 10281615

Please use your surname as a reference number when depositing your money into our account and email us at heatgg@yahoo.com.au (or post this form) with your details.

Please post your booking form to
Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group
12 Grantham St Carlton NSW 2218
All enquiries to Lorraine on 02 9587 0352 or 0408 117 784
Or email : heatgg@yahoo.com.au