



Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group Newsletter

Issue 14, January 2014



Dear Hill Endians and Tambaroorians,

We have once again confirmed our booking for the Annual Reunion at Rhodes Park at Concord, for Saturday 1 March 2014. This will be our 6th year at this venue so we are well on the way to perpetuating the tradition at this venue. For those who have not been able to join us in the past we hope that you can make it a date to come along and catch up with the descendants of your ancestors' neighbours and maybe even find some new "cousins"!

We would like to encourage families to gather together their various branches and make the first Saturday in March a special family reunion day. Assemble your extended family together to remember the contribution that your ancestors made to the life of Hill End & Tambaroora. Some of your family may not even realize the connections that they have to the place. Ask them if they have any memorabilia, photos, or stories that they would like to share with the rest of the family. Come along and see if you can link up with other families who might share a common ancestor.

So many times we hear the phrase "We only ever meet at funerals"...so take this opportunity to send out the call to those family members who you have not seen for a while and encourage them to meet up at Rhodes. It is in a fairly central location, close to public transport, parking, toilets, and has a large shelter shed. The event is on, no matter what the weather.

All the details you need to know are at the end of this newsletter and you can just print out the page to pass on to others.

We have booked the venue and the large shelter shed for the whole day so arrive from 10am onwards and stay as long as you like. Bring your picnic lunch and fold up seats if coming by car. This will ensure that there is

plenty of seating for those who need to use public transport.

We will have a large selection of resources on display, that have been added to in the past year by our hard working volunteers and this will be an opportunity to see the copies of the original documents that they have had to work with.

Don't forget to bring copies of your research along to share with others – you may find even more distant cousins! There are picnic tables where you can set out your photos and items of interest and if the weather is fine we can spill out onto the surrounding grassed area. BYO everything and the kettle will be on the boil for those requiring tea & coffee making facilities. The nearby Kokoda Café can also supply your lunchtime needs if you want to take the easy way out!

Once again we will also have a small selection of 2nd hand books relating to Hill End and family history research available for purchase. Now is your chance to pick up a bargain before we put them on the website for sale.

Due to the popularity of our website we have "collected" more than 70 new members who have responded through our "Contact us" page. It would be great to see some of those new faces at Rhodes and to welcome them to the Group.

SPECIAL REMINDER

Our Gathering in March will be the final date for collecting material for our forthcoming publication on the WW1 soldiers of the Hill End district.

We need to start collating all the information already supplied. If you have anything to contribute then please bring it along or contact us ASAP so that we can include your contributions.



Condolences

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of the following gentlemen who passed away recently.

Local Hill End identity, Norm "Skippy" Bennett passed away in November.

Les O'Neill, (90) of Graceville East, in Queensland. Les was connected to the Blair/Anderson family and was a recent convert to researching his family history.

Les Wardman passed away 30 November and will always be remembered as a friendly, fiery representative of the people. Many will remember him addressing our 2012 Gathering regarding the proposed Pioneer Wall in Hill End. Sadly he did not live to see its completion however we are still working on the proposal. Les succumbed to a short illness aged 93.

As a former Bathurst City mayor Les was one of the longest serving Bathurst City Councillors, having been first elected to Bathurst City Council in 1965, and he remained on council until March 2004.

He was described by one of his fellow aldermen as "feisty, but also friendly, amusing and a great storyteller". He was well respected and had a wonderful knowledge of western NSW and was closely involved with the Cobb and Co committee.

Mr Wardman is survived by his wife Betty, with whom he celebrated 60 years of marriage last year.



Les & Betty Wardman (from the *Western Advocate* by Jo Johnson)



Right:: The mail coach leaving Hill End in the eighties. The tail of the near-side leader is in the possession of Mr. William Maloney, veteran coachman, who treasured it as a memento of a grand horse.



In honour of Les's interest in the old coaching days it seems appropriate to include in this issue the following article by J. McMenamain which is reprinted from *The Land* of Friday 18 January 1935.

Veteran Coachman's Memories of the Roaring Days - MR. WILLIAM MALONEY.

Bathurst, the home of the pioneers of the West, knows many interesting figures, but "Bill" Maloney, who was associated with Cobb and Co. in the old coaching days, is one of the most picturesque of them all.

Now seventy years of age, he was born on the outskirts of Bathurst, at Glanmire, on April 1, 1865. His father kept a wayside inn there for some time. A couple of years later, when the gold diggings at Sofala and Hill End were booming, Bill Maloney, Senr., transferred to Tambaroora, near Hill End, and took control of a hotel in conjunction with a butchery business.

At that time the diggings at Hill End and Sofala were a hive of industry, more than 20,000 persons being scattered along the banks of the picturesque Turon River seeking the elusive metal. The rough track from Hill End to Bathurst was dotted with bullock and horse teams carrying provisions to the mining centres. It was a common sight to see twenty teams, with sixteen bullocks in each team, on the road at the one time.

In 1869 Maloney, Senr., inaugurated a four-horse coach to run daily from Hill End to Sofala, where it connected up with Cobb and Co., which continued the journey to Bathurst. James Rutherford, the last remaining partner of the original Cobb and Co., was the proprietor at this time.

It was in 1877 at the age of twelve years, that young "Bill" who had itched to feel the sway of the old coach beneath him, made his first trip in complete control. That was the commencement of a remarkable career - one of thirty-six years' continued coach driving, broken only by three months' absence during the whole period.

The coach used to leave Hill End at 4 a.m. each day and arrive at Sofala at 9 a.m., a distance of 33 miles. The run from there to Bathurst was controlled by Cobb and Co., but later on "Bill" Maloney took over this part of the journey and ran a through service to Bathurst daily. The trip took twelve hours.

All the horses used were sure footed thoroughbreds. The roads were rough and travelling hard, and fresh steeds had to be made available at Sofala and Wyagdon—a further fifteen miles on.

During the thirty-four years that the old coachman was on the track he saw many changes brought about in the Bathurst district. He witnessed many an exciting incident, and his anecdotes have a rare flavour much sought after by present-day Bathurstians.

One day when the coach was nearing Sofala some escaped convicts "stuck it up." One of the occupants, an Irish schoolmaster from Tambaroora, was wearing the old fashioned double-breasted pants to hide his money.

The rangers looted the coach of its valuables and, coming upon a case of gin, caused great consternation by forcing every occupant—women included—to imbibe to such an extent that they all became drunk. The prodding of the fat and excited old schoolmaster in the stomach with the barrel of a gun was a humorous spectacle to the driver. The Irishman afterwards explained that he was that frightened that he could see the bullet shining down the barrel.

During his long spell on the road the veteran coachman declared that he carried many thousands of pounds worth of gold for private persons, and not once did he suffer a loss.

Many and varied were the type of passenger he transported - judges, parliamentarians, barristers, journalists, diggers and hundreds of Chinamen, with their peculiar pigtails, on their way to try their luck at the diggings.

When the latter became settled on the gold fields opium smoking was rife. They also used to smoke a tobacco resembling stringy bark in appearance, which they called "sugee."

In the early 'eighties there were over a score of hotels on the Turon, including a few sly grogs and private stills. One particular still at Wyagdon produced such good rum that a mug could be drunk without any ill effects. It was worth 5/- a gallon.

In 1911, due to the introduction of cheaper and faster motor power, "Bill" Maloney, after having served thirty four years on the road between Hill End and Bathurst, was compelled to withdraw his old coach.

Cobb and Co., with whom he and his father before him were so intimately associated, were likewise going off the road.

Though his long experience on the road had not proved profitable from a monetary point of view, "Bill" Maloney's love for the game was so great that he returned to the road shortly afterwards, and during the period 1911-13 drove private coaches on six different

routes;—Port Macquarie to Kempsey, Moree to Mungindi, Barraba to Bingara, Quirindi to Rockgidgiel, Muswellbrook to Merriwa, and Moree to Bullahra.

To commemorate his remarkable record, residents of the Bathurst district presented the sturdy old coachman with a framed testimonial and silver-handled coaching whip.

According to poet and journalist Will Carter, Billy Maloney was a most original type of man. He possessed a ready Irish wit and could entertain his passengers with his racy stories of the bush. He composed the following song when Cobb & Co. crossed his track, and this he loved to sing on the box while his neddies rattled over the roads.

LOOK HERE, COBB & CO.

Now, look here, Cobb and Co.,
A lesson take from me;
If you meet me on the track,
Don't you make too free.
For, if you do, you'll surely rue,
You think you do it fine,
But I'm a tip-and-slasher
Of the Tambaroora line.

It was straining at the collars, then break neck round the bend,
Where far below, smoke spiralled from the shanties of Hill End.
With here a broken axle and here a trace to mend.

Then let 'em rip for Bathurst, with zapping whip a' crack
Placed with a driver's cunning, just above the leader's back,
As mail was tossed to diggers beside the dusty track.

And then the hell of winter, with brakes and chains applied,
Tho lock the coach-wheels as it slid around the mountain side;
Four braced back in the breeching straps to check the dangerous slide.

I can hold and steer them,
And drive them to and fro,
With ribbons well in hand, me boys,
I'm bound to make them go.
With me foot well on the brake, lads,
I'm sure to make them shine,
For I'm the tip-and-slasher
Of the Tambaroora line.



Charles de Boos and Hill End – Tambaroora, 1857-1872 by Peter Crabb

Gold took up much space in Australian colonial newspapers from the early 1850s through to the 1870s. Many country newspapers owed their existence to gold, with their births and deaths associated very closely with the gold rushes. For newspapers in the major cities, especially Sydney and Melbourne, as well as some of the provincial towns, such as Bathurst and Ballarat, gold was “gold”, in terms of news material and especially the associated advertising for everything related to mining and miners. The city papers sourced some of their material, especially that of a simple factual nature, from the many country papers that were published on or near the goldfields. Much more, however, was written by reporters employed by the city papers.

Who were these reporters? There were no names on newspaper columns in those days (that is a relatively recent innovation), and as a consequence, few are known by name. At the heads of their columns, they were variously termed ‘Our Correspondent’, ‘Our Special Reporter’, ‘Our Gold Fields Reporter’, ‘Our Special Commissioner’, and occasionally, ‘Our Special Gold Fields Commissioner’. Among the few that are known was Charles de Boos (1819-1900), who led a very active life as a reporter, novelist, satirist, and mining warden (among other things). He worked for *The Argus* in Melbourne from 1850 to 1855, his work including reporting on the gold rushes at what are now Ballarat, Castlemaine, and Bendigo, and later on mining in the Ovens Valley. From late 1856 to 1872, he worked for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Whilst his main task was reporting on debates in the New South Wales Parliament, he reported extensively on gold mining in the Colony, visiting all of the mining areas, often more than once.

Among these places was Hill End – Tambaroora, which he visited and wrote about on at least five occasions, in 1857, 1865, 1870, 1871, and 1872. There are indications that he was also there in 1860, as in one of his 1870 reports, he comments on “my second visit ten years ago” and “my subsequent trips in that direction” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, August 8, 1870, page 4). Unfortunately, no reports of an 1860 visit, or any between then and 1870, have been found. His 1872 visit seems to have been one of his last trips to a goldfield as a reporter.

Charles de Boos’s first visit to Tambaroora was in mid-1857, and he wrote about it in his series, ‘The Gold-Fields of New South Wales’. It was far from the easiest place to get to, given the nature of the topography and the tracks. The eighteen mile journey from Louisa was on horseback and at times on foot, in the interests of his horse. “The appearance of the country gives every token of its having been long and populous settled upon as a

gold-field. The timber has been cleared away on every side, but during the temporary desertion of the locality a thick growth of saplings has succeeded”. The area had been “without rain for many months,” and in the absence of water for the mining operations, there was only limited reward for those who were working. But they were getting ready for the rains, and many believed they were “on the tail end of the run of gold, and that by following it up some rich hauls [would] be made”. This was in spite of all the complaints being made about the new Gold-fields Management Act.

The district was very scattered, with small settlements at Lower Pyramul, Lower Turon, Macquarie, Great and Little Bald Hills, Dirt Hole, and Oppussum Creek, as well as Tambaroora. In total, there were some 2,000 people, including 1,250 diggers. There was a large number of Chinese diggers, especially at Dirt Hole. de Boos was complimentary of their industriousness and peaceful behaviour, the only criticism being that they paid no licence fees for their opium-smoking rooms! Tambaroora Creek was the largest settlement, with “some 40 or 50 dwellings, all substantially built, the majority being neatly whitewashed in front, and having well-kept gardens at the back, in which not only vegetables, but flowers and trees are being cultivated”.



Woman in front of house called Goudhurst Place, Hill End-Tambaroora showing the well worked front “cabbage garden”. This is possibly Mrs Charlotte Doust (nee Clarke) who married James Doust in Dec 1872. Holtermann collection at SLNSW ON 4 Box 10 No 70109

As well as the Commissioner’s Camp, there were the Episcopalian, Presbyterian and Catholic churches (though ministers’ visits “were few and very far between”) and six public houses. It seems to have been a peaceful, law-abiding community. It was a matter of regret that there was no school or school-master, especially given that the whole district was “exceedingly prolific in children”; in Tambaroora, “a horseman must go at a walk, or he is sure to run over a child or a pig, these two, being apparently the staple commodities of the place”.

Charles de Boos second known reports on Tambaroora – Hill End date from September, 1865. They were contained in three articles in his first series of “Random Notes by a Wandering Reporter” for the *Sydney Morning*

Herald. This time, he travelled from Ophir, and parts of the 24 miles of tracks were “about the worst I have ever travelled”. The district’s population was smaller than on his 1857 visit, but over the years gold production has been good, peaking at nearly 23,000 ozs. in 1862, most of it alluvial. He came first to “the southern end of the Tambaroora gold field, at what is now termed Hill-end”. He writes of the Bald Hills Creek and the problems there (“This creek has the most evil reputation amongst the miners”) and the new Catherine Reef. Then it is on to Tambaroora, its gold mines and related mining activities, especially Golden Gully, which had provided “an almost fabulous amount of gold”. Among his detailed accounts, he comments on the negative impacts of adjoining mining operations when adequate drainage work is not undertaken and the inadequacy of the goldfield regulations to deal with them. Tambaroora was a larger place than in 1857, with “about a couple of hundred houses, some of them very good brick buildings”. Many of the still “clean and neat” dwellings had a “flower garden in front of them” and a vegetable garden at the rear. There was also a National school, police barracks, court house, electric telegraph office, a hospital largely supported by voluntary contributions, and a dam for domestic water supply.



Teacher with schoolgirl group, Tambaroora Public School
Holtermann collection at SLNSW ON 4 Box 12 No 80027

In the third of the three articles, de Boos described Tambaroora as “a kind of centre for Chinese communication”. He wrote at some length of the Chinese population, its joss houses, and some of the cultural practices of “this curious people”. He was extremely praiseworthy of the Tambaroora people in their relations with the Chinese people (there was no mention of problems that had occurred in previous years). In recounting the care given to a sick Chinese miner, he wrote: “This is the way the men of Tambaroora act towards a man like themselves, though he chances to be born in China.” This was in marked contrast to the way the Chinese were treated at Lambing Flat, about which his comments were scathing.

[This article will be concluded in the next issue of the newsletter, due out in September. Ed.]

The Bridle Track...not the first time it has been a bone of contention.

At a recent Bathurst Council meeting in Hill End questions were asked about the future of the Bridle Track and if it would ever be reopened. Unfortunately no definitive response was forthcoming as it seems that the whole area around Monaghans Bluff is very unstable and would require a large amount of financial input to make it safe. This is the latest chapter in the saga of the Bridle track; however it is by no means the first time it has caused controversy as a report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Saturday 4 November 1876 indicated. Apparently back then the locals expressed great interest concerning the survey and construction of the best track into Hill End. Their correspondent passed on the following intelligence:

“The proposed excursion along the Bridle Track route, as now being surveyed, came off last week, and was made into a very enjoyable picnic, Mr Beyers, chairman of the committee and Mayor of this place having prepared a surprise in the shape of a luncheon and supper with champagne, etc.

The committee met Mr Cambridge, the surveyor, at the Root Hog, and proceeded on to his camp where, as the day was fairly advanced the luncheon was dispatched. The party then followed the line as far as Native Dog Creek, a point some distance beyond that at present reached by the survey. It follows the Macquarie at a little above high-water mark generally and will be an almost level road, no gradient at present laid out exceeding 1 in 24. The party passed two very nasty places first along the rapids, nearly in front of Allen’s Nuggetty, which some may remember, and next a sheer wall of rock a short distance ahead of Monaghan’s but besides these there appears to be little but sideling work.

The distance from the Oriental Battery to Foote’s, on the Winburndale, will be 15 miles. The party returned to Bragg’s, on the Lower Turon, where the supper was prepared. A variety of toasts were drunk, but all the speakers contained their remarks almost entirely to the Bridle Track Road. It was evident from the speeches that all were not in favour of the route now being surveyed and various arguments were advanced by the objectors which I may briefly summarise thus:

A) It is a dangerous one, having precipices on either side in places, with no escape from a falling rock on one hand or a frightened horse on the other, to which it may be answered, that the same objection applies to parts of the road that must be passed whether the present surveyed line be taken from Bragg’s to Foote’s or the Bridle Track be followed.

B) That it is longer - a doubtful statement, as to make the present Bridle Track available for traffic a certain gradient must not be exceeded, to preserve which, zig-zags must be made.

C) That it will be of no use for driving cattle along, as it would be dangerous to meet them both for riders and drivers, in the narrow places. To this it is answered that very few, if any, cattle come or are likely to come that way, and that if they do it would be better to drive them along the Bridle Track proper, where they could feed. They do not want a macadamized road to travel on.



The Bridle Track

The idea of these gentlemen seems to be that the present track, which in places ascends and descends hills, where a merciful rider would relieve his horse by walking, can, by a small outlay for cleaning and levelling along the sidelings, be made practicable for vehicles. No doubt it could be traversed by light buggies if the occupants did not object to get out and walk a good part of the way. But what would be the use of such a road? Teamsters would not follow it, nor anybody else in a hurry, and a few heavy rains would cut it to pieces. We want a permanent road along which mails and heavy materials, machinery, &c. can be brought. We want a reduction in the cost of cartage which lays a tax of from £10 to £12 per ton on all we obtain from Sydney. We want to break the almost monopoly prices that obtain for hay, corn, chaff, flour, potatoes, and such like goods, by bringing us within easy reach of their producers .

The concluding remarks of Mr Cambridge were quite to the point. He stated that Government officials who had devoted their lives to the study of road making, whose business it was, had been carefully over both routes, and it was reasonable to suppose they were better judges of which was the more suitable than men who had little given or no thought to the matter. As far as I have yet seen it is evident that the road as at present laid out is the proper one, fulfilling all the requirements of a permanent line of traffic, and I may add that its whole length from the Winburndale will be a panorama of romantic scenery.”

A Brain Teaser – Hill End style

In 1878 the “Pastime column” of the *Australian Town & Country Journal* was very popular. A number of puzzles were regularly posted and the readers were able to write in with their solutions, with the results appearing a few weeks later. It appears that there were at least 2 very keen contributors to this column from Hill End who regularly participated. One was “Schoolboy” and the other was “J.B.C.” Both posed puzzles and replied with solutions. These word games were the forerunner of the modern crossword which was only “invented” in 1913. Can anyone claim either of these word gymnasts amongst their ancestors?

In the meantime, try one out for yourself. The following “Enigma” was posed by “School Boy” so it can’t be all that hard! It will take a bit of working out (OK, I admit I had to look at the solution to make sense of it...) See if you can solve it! The solution is on page 15 of this newsletter.

Enigma

By School Boy (Hill End)

I am a word of 13 letters. My 3, 9, 13 is a boy’s name. My 1, 12, 4, 10 is principal. My 5, 11, 10 is a number. My 1, 6,8,4,5 is to deserve. My 3, 11, 1, 4 signifies half. My 13, 2, 12, 7 is not far. My 9, 3, 12 is a female name. My 13, 9, 8, 7, 12, 10 is the name of a river. My 1, 9, 13 is an island. My 4, 10, 3, 4, 9, 13 is the name of an ocean. My 10, 4, 13, 6 is a number. And my whole will name a sea.

A rose by any other name...

would be a Holtermann’s Gold.



A few years ago I was alerted to the existence of a variety of rose called “Holtermann’s Gold’ when I visited Edith Arnold (a Kerr descendant) in Perth. I had put it on my “must get” list and last July as I was passing Swane’s Nursery I called in and managed to purchase one.

Now my idea of gardening is to plant it and if it grows survives then it can stay!

Well, so far so good and just before Christmas I was rewarded with 3 beautiful golden blooms and since then it has continued to supply me with single long stemmed flowers. I just had to share my success with you!

Lorraine

The Sporting Life

We hear so much about how hard the miners and pioneers of Hill End and Tambaroora worked to make a living...but “all work and no play” was not a maxim that the ancestors strictly adhered to.

Recreational activities feature largely in the press of the day and covered a wide range of skills. As early as 12 June 1852 the *Bathurst Free Press* reported that the “monotony of the digging life has been relieved here by a race meeting which took place last week. The sports were kept up for three days, the middle day being devoted to cricket. Mr Burton, the equestrian, managed to win most of the prizes, none of our digger’s horses being able to *foot it* with his well selected stud.” The correspondent went on to say that he had great pleasure in stating that it all went off in the most orderly manner, and reflected great credit on the public and promoters of the sport.

In our research over the past 12 months or so we have come across many instances of sporting activities and prowess, some just local and others reaching international proportions. After putting out the feelers in our last newsletter issue seeking family memories of their ancestors sporting ability we heard from a number of our members who can lay claim to connections to a variety of sports. Some were very active sportsmen and others were involved in an administrative way, all contributing to the sporting life. Space in this issue will only allow us to record the proficiency of our early settlers but it is well known that sporting pursuits continued well into the 1950s and 1960s when the Annual Sports Days were held.

Bruce Goodwin, in his book, *Gold & People*, devotes a whole chapter to it in the 1930s and Harry Hodge also treats the subject well in his *Hill End Story, Book 1*.

A few of our members let us know about their sporting ancestors including Stephen Ellis who recounted that both sides of his Ellis & Longmore families were very active in the local sports and competed in tennis, pushbike racing, football, competitive shooting, cricket and Angus was even known to have played golf on the Post Office Flat.

Chris Hodge reported that her ancestor Arthur Henry (aka Henry) Allsopp was involved in cricket and softball teams and in his early years of cricket he was in the same team with Sir Donald Bradman. Henry is still remembered today by the Allsopp trophy in Softball.

Sharon Hoyer let us know about her grandfather’s two brothers, Jim & Aub Willard who were involved in tennis at a high level. She goes on to say that Jim played Davis Cup with Harry Hopman, and it is amazing to think they were associated with the same area. Their father, Walter, was a sprinter competing in the country and Sydney in the 1880’s and there are many references

to his athletic triumphs in the newspapers of the time. The Willards and Cullens are also mentioned as keen participants in the local cricket matches.

A brief dip into our resources has resulted in the following collection of vignettes:

Tennis

Australian tennis player, Harry Hopman’s ancestor on his father’s side was a gold prospector of German descent. His grandfather Henry David Hoffmann, known as Hopman, died on 29 July 1890 at Hill End where he had been prospecting since at least 1874, following a move from the gold-mining town of Braidwood. In 1875 he lost a case against a fellow miner accused of diverting water from his race at Golden Gully preventing Hopman from sluicing 30 loads of wash dirt. At Forbes in 1863 Henry married Elizabeth Amiot née Dsmidh (1839-1907), a widow with two sons. Elizabeth then bore Mary E (born and died 1864), Margaret Elizabeth (1867-1962), John Henry (Harry’s father), Henry David ‘Dick’ (1874-1948) who prospected at Hill End, and Annie Kate (born 1879). Elizabeth Hopman died at Hill End on 11 June 1907 and was buried with her oldest son William Amiot, who had been accidentally killed by a fall of earth in 1890. Harry’s father, John Henry became a probation pupil-teacher at Nyngan at age 13, and then taught at Tambaroora and Hill End for a period around 1890 before moving on to Bowral, South Newcastle and Newcastle then finally being transferred to Burwood in 1901.

Cricket

The Hill End Cricket Ground was on Bath Hill, on the south eastern fringe of the town. Will Carter, whose many reminiscences of life on the goldfields have been recounted in his newspaper articles from the 1930s recalls the cricketing skills of the town:



Mr Charles Shipway gold miner, in cricket flannels (American & Australasian Photographic Company ON 4 Box 22 No 673 – SLNSW)

Old Time Cricketers.

Hill End was justly proud of its cricketers in the early days. The writer was chatting recently with Ted Gustafson now an octogenarian, who used to skittle the wickets in fine style sixty years ago, as did also Charlie Shipway. Among others who played for the old town were Tommy Naughton, Billy Adams (a son of the discoverer of Hawkins Hill), Jack Knight, Jack Ross and Alick (Alex) Ross. One of the team's outstanding victories was that gained in Sydney over a Newtown team in 1881. It was a complete take-down for the city batsmen when Gustafson and Metcalf began to pelt them with some of the country high explosive break backs and inswingers. Both bowlers came out of it with splendid averages, and the win proved a very decisive one for the 'Hell-Enders,' as a wag of Newtown termed them. Their welcome home savoured somewhat of a triumph, when once the heights of Wyagdon and the Monkeys had been surmounted. (*The Southern Mail Friday 18 February 1938*)

A following report of the match between Rylestone and Hill End Cricket teams on 15 Jan 1876 records the enthusiasm and skills of the local teams.

CRICKET MATCH.—On Saturday last, the 8th instant, a keenly contested and well attended cricket match was played, on the recreation reserve, between eleven of our local club and the same number from Hill End, which resulted in a victory for the latter by 5 runs, the match being decided in one innings owing to the time being insufficient to play it out. Some really good cricket was displayed by both sides on the occasion, and when each one did his level best it is almost needless to make comment; but we may say that the batting of Messrs. H. Knight and Shipway, on behalf of Hill End, was especially worthy of praise, the former batsman making 51 runs in his second innings, when he was caught in first-class style by G. Hall. Messrs. Anderson and Taylor, on behalf of Rylstone, also proved that they were no mere tyros in the art of batting: while Messrs Stewart and Raynor, on the same side, earned sincere praise, from all beholders, by their display of bowling, the former gentleman taking no less than seven wickets in the second innings of the Hill End Club. The score was as follows: Hill End—1st innings 93, 2nd innings 110; Rylstone—1st innings 88. Of the second innings of the Rylstone Club it is needless to speak, as those players who went in evidently did so more for the purpose of filling up the remaining few minutes than to display their cricketing abilities. The umpires were—for Rylstone, R. W. Cox, Esq.; and for Hill End, — Pullen, Esq.

Boxing

This is an honourable sport when it is conducted correctly but in the raw unsophisticated environment of a goldfield the opportunity for some illicit sporting entertainment could not be overlooked. Not all the fighting was according to the Marquis of Queensbury's rules, especially in the early days. The following article from the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 20 December 1871 gives a very eloquent report of a prize fight.

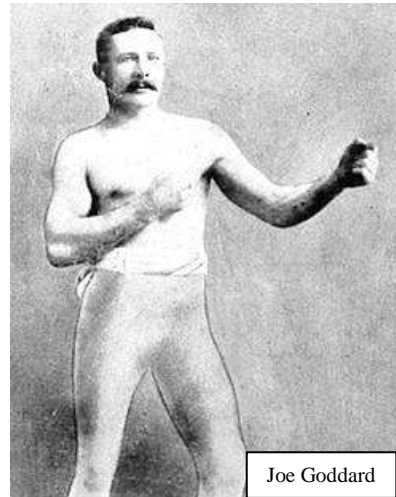
A Brutal Fight

—A correspondent of the *Hill End Times* gives the following account of a prize fight in that locality, which for brutality is unsurpassed in the history of such disgusting exhibitions:— "Two individuals, rock-smitters at Hill End, rejoicing in the possession of superabundant

muscle, came to the conclusion that the old classic sports should be revived. Probably they had been reading the 'fight for the championship,' in the *Æneid*, between Dares and Butes, and felt desirous of emulating those Trojan pugilists. They considered it beneath them to combat merely for the parsley wreath of honour from which the ancients were wont to contend; and accordingly the 'cole was posted,' to the extent of £50 a side. All the preliminaries having been arranged, the two warriors, accompanied by a host of admirers, started for the scene of operations; and in a gully at the back of Chappell's crushing machine — an appropriate spot! [Fighting Gully? - Lorraine] —set to work for two hours to pound and deface each other with hearty good will. At the end of that time, their object was achieved. One had several ribs broken, and both were (to use the phrase of a looker-on) beat to a stand-still. A chance blow decided the fistic tournament, and the bruised and battered pieces of bleeding humanity were removed by their respective partizans.

Joe Goddard, 'The Barrier Champion',

One of the toughest boxers Australia had ever produced was Joe Goddard, who vanquished the famous Mick Dooley, Joe Choynski, Joe M'Auliffe and dozens more. He was born at Hargraves (Pyramul) in 1857 and worked for many years at Hill End.



Joe was a lively lad, who, like many another youngsters on the early gold fields, was never happier than when engaged in playing tricks on the stolid-faced old Chinese at Hill End, where he spent his early days. In the course of his

town rambles he one day met 'Three-fingered George,' a very cute Celestial who measured up fairly well with Bret Harte's celebrated 'Heathen Chinee.' [An illustrated poem published in USA in 1870 – Ed.] Joe saw him coming along the reckless looking old streets, and the devilish young spirit within him could not resist the inclination to give him a passing clout on the nose. 'Three-fingered George' at once went to Joe's mother, who seems to have been a firm disciplinarian, who at once gave her offspring a sound thrashing and locked him in one of her rooms, which completely mollified the rage of the assaulted victim, who made off murmuring, 'Welly nishee lady,' which Mrs Goddard overheard when restoring the crupper which she had detached from a saddle perching on a peg in the storeroom. No sooner was Joe imprisoned than he squirmed up the chimney, escaped from the roof unnoticed by his mother, and went off up town looking for more diversion.

Harry Hodge wrote that it was around 1873 that Joe Goddard, just one of a family whose names appear at intervals in contemporary Police records, began his turbulent career of prize fighting and violence which led him almost to the peak as world champion and finally to his death in Nevada in 1902. ...As a youth Goddard fought Bob Anderson for four hours on end at a Hill End picnic. Spectators divided their time between the two attractions until darkness separated the combatants, with no decision in sight. It left an unsolvable question as to how far Bob would have gone if he too had adopted prize fighting as a career.

Goddard had five brothers, all hefty giants like himself. "He was not a scienced man but he possessed prodigious strength, remarkable stamina and endurance and like the old time bulldog never knew when he was beaten." (*Referee*, 5 March 1936)

Goddard was shot in the head during a fight at the Republican primaries in New Jersey in July 1902 and died January 21, 1903 from his wounds. Apparently he was travelling from poll to poll with a group of men. At the polling place in Pensauken, he got into an argument with a "coloured constable" named Robert Washington. When Goddard attacked Washington with a baseball bat, Washington shot him in self-defence. It is believed that his body was stolen by grave robbers, who sold him as a cadaver to a medical school.

Shooting

Games of skill were not forgotten either. In 1874 Peter Myer the local tobacconist in Clarke St also ran a bowling alley and shooting gallery in his premises where the miners could spend some of their recreational hours.



Bowling Saloon & Shooting Gallery, left, and Myer & Siefke, tobacconists, stationery & fancy goods, Hill End Holtermann Collection SLNSW ON 4 Box 9 No 70034

Like all small towns Hill End had a very active Rifle Club, possibly originally formed from the Reserve Rifle Company which was established in 1888 by 41 keen members, at the instigation of Louis Beyers.

It didn't take long for the Reserve Rifle Company to start testing themselves against other Companies and in September 1889 they shot against the Bombala Reserve Rifle Company, with Captain Bootle being the top scorer for the Hill End team. The men from Hill End competed against rival clubs at Hargraves, Mudgee, Lithgow,

Orange and Bathurst. The *Referee* newspaper of 4 Sept 1889 reported the following scores:

| Hill End. | | | | | |
|---|------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| [FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]. | | | | | |
| RIFLE SHOOTING.—A magazine rifle, presented by Mr. W. C. Wall, M.P., was competed for by the Hill End Reserve Rifles, on 24th instant. The firing was at 400, 500, and 600 yards, seven shots, 83 limit. The weather was fine all day, and favorable for shooting. The following are the scores:— | | | | | |
| | Hlep | 400 | 500 | 600 | Tl. |
| J. Fox ... | ... | 31 | 32 | 20 | 86 |
| A. J. Meynink ... | 4 | 31 | 26 | 25 | 86 |
| W. Willard ... | 9 | 31 | 31 | 20 | 91 |
| J. Ackerman... | 7 | 23 | 33 | 23 | 86 |
| T. Christie ... | 5 | 22 | 33 | 25 | 85 |
| E. Gustakon... | 17 | 31 | 18 | 19 | 85 |
| John Walpole | 11 | 29 | 24 | 21 | 85 |
| A. Palmer ... | 17 | 28 | 16 | 23 | 84 |
| R. Alexander | 5 | 30 | 25 | 24 | 84 |
| A. Le Messurier | 22 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 79 |
| Jas. Walpole... | 10 | 25 | 24 | 9 | 74 |
| W. Carver ... | 14 | 23 | 27 | 13 | 77 |
| J. Langmore... | 16 | 25 | 24 | 9 | 74 |
| — Sergeant ... | 21 | 21 | 17 | 12 | 71 |
| C. Cross ... | 11 | 28 | 19 | 11 | 69 |
| J. Cross ... | 1 | 28 | 19 | 20 | 68 |
| A. P. Howard | 5 | 25 | 18 | 19 | 67 |
| G. Cross ... | 14 | 21 | 23 | 6 | 64 |
| J. Beattie ... | 11 | 22 | 19 | 11 | 63 |
| G. Langlands | 13 | 16 (withdrew) | | | |
| H. Cross ... | 16 | 24 | 17 | 6 | 65 |

Messrs. Meynink and Willard won small money prizes, as second and third highest scorers.

When Mr Bootle resigned in 1890 Mr Jacob Edward Gustafson was appointed to the position of Captain.

The Kangaroo Drive



One of their most popular undertakings of the shooters seems to have been a regular kangaroo drive and the newspapers of the time reported on the number of scalps that were collected. There were at least 4 big drives that made the local papers in the 1890s.

HILL END.
A kangaroo drive was held on Friday and Saturday, the 26th and 27th March, on the Hill End and Tambaroora Common. Between 80 and 40 drivers and shooters put in an appearance. On the first day 124 were killed, Mr. T. Colley, jun., heading the list with 20 to his credit. The second day 127 were killed, Mr. Walter Willard securing 20. A most enjoyable time was spent by those taking part.

The previous article appeared in the *Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal* on Saturday 10 April 1897. Thankfully a century later attitudes have changed towards this type of activity however a recent visit to the village demonstrated that one would need go no further than the cleared paddocks along Tambaroora Road to achieve the annihilation of similar numbers of kangaroos in such a small area.



It is quite possible that we have a few photographs of the event as we recently received a packet of prints from one of our members, Suzanne Castley, who was connected to the Eyre family (who were associated with the Royal Hotel for many years). Amongst the collection were 3 wonderful pictures of a group of Hill Endians posing with their rifles and horses in Clarke St and in the field. – a very sporting bunch.

We are hoping that members of the Gathering Group may be able to assist us in identifying the men and boys in the photos. No doubt they were the prominent people of the village at the time and we think that the photos were taken around the mid-1890s. Even assistance with dating the photos would be of great use. If you think you may be able to help then please contact me for a very high resolution version of the photo which gives a much better idea of the faces.



Look closely, maybe your ancestor was amongst one of these shooters...

Horse racing

Those who followed the sport of kings were also catered to as well. In the very early days there were two racetracks carved out of the scrub. Hill End had a very active Race Club and Jockey Club and the Recreation Reserve, which had been gazetted in 1874, was dedicated in 1878, with Robert John Rawsthorne, Alexander Ross, Thomas Wythes, Louis Beyers and Alfred Newman as Trustees. These same names appear as being associated with so many of the civic activities of the town at this time.

The first “official” race meeting there appears to have been held in November 1872 and one of the most sought after prizes was the Beyers & Holtermann Cup, valued at £30. Along with a purse of 70 sovereigns this cup was won by Mr J D Little’s horse, Myrtle. Apparently, according to the *Hill End Observer*, a very satisfactory settling took place at Coyle’s Hotel after the meeting where the sparkling wine was passed freely around and those associated with the management of the meeting were duly toasted and their healths drunk with musical honours.

A year later, the Wythes & Hodgson Cup was keenly sought by the local racing fraternity at the Annual Races.



The Wythes & Hodgson Cup – Hill End 1873
Holtermann Collection SLNSW ON 4 Box 29 No 10131

The high estimation in which the donors of the cup were held by all classes of the community gave more than the usual excitement to the race. Mr Wythes was one of the first pioneers of Hill End & Tambaroora and Mr Hodgson had contributed towards the advancement of the district many years past. The two mile race was again won Mr J D Little’s horse, Myrtle, who defeated Mr Readford’s mare Birmingham. The winner received the Cup as well as 60 sovereigns donated by the Hill End Jockey Club.

Always in an entrepreneurial frame of mind in 1873 the “Boss” at the *Hill End Times* advertised that he had 2 loose boxes to let for the race week, near the Racecourse and away from the noise and bustle of the town. The boxes were secured by lock and key and accommodation for the Groom was also provided. [At least he made some money from the event! Lorraine]

In 1875 the Jockey Club was offering up to 40 sovereigns in prize money with the unusual proviso that the winner was to be sold by public auction after the race, with surplus raised to go to the race fund!

Athletics

The horses weren't the only creatures running around Hill End. As early as August 1872 pedestrian races were being well attended and the Hill End Handicap was run on the Cricket Ground. In February 1873 Hill End's own athlete, George Cronk acted as the starter and a race was held at the racecourse, between David Mehan and John Dinon, both well-known runners, over 150 yards. Several hundred horsemen and pedestrians thronged to the course to witness the athletic struggle. Apparently the ground was as hard as a brickbat and covered with dust. The first race resulted in a dead heat and another one was run an hour later and, which, after a couple of false starts was also a very close finish but led to a win by Mehan.



Unidentified runner – Holtermann Collection SLNSW ON 4 Box 45 No [33]

George Cronk was originally from Ballarat, and challenged runners in Victoria before heading to Hill End where he worked as a miner in between his challenges and running bouts.

CHALLENGE TO R. FERGUSON, the
Last Sydney Cup Winner.

I, GEORGE CRONK, of Tambaroora, do hereby Challenge the abovenamed Champion to run a half-mile foot race for the sum of £100 sterling. Match can be made at Tattersall's Hotel, Hill End.

GEORGE CRONK.

CHALLENGE TO J. WELSH, of
BATHURST.

I, GEORGE CRONK, of Tambaroora, do hereby Challenge the abovenamed to run 150 yards foot race, for the sum of £100. Match can be made at Tattersall's Hotel, Hill End.

GEORGE CRONK.

Australian Town and Country Journal Saturday 20 July 1872

In October 1872 he challenged any man in Australia (except Frank Hewitt) to a half mile race for £200. As

well as many pedestrian races he won the heart of Harriet McDonald and they were married in Newcastle in 1874. They initially lived at Wallsend near Newcastle and then they moved to the mines at Chartes Towers in Queensland, where he was injured in a mining accident sustaining a fracture of his left thigh bone, and putting a hold on his running career. He became a tobacconist and fancy goods shop keeper before taking on the license of the Enterprise Hotel at Queenton. He later moved his family to Boulder in Western Australia, still following the gold, and it was here that he passed away in July 1916.

Sports Days

Regular Sports Days have been a part of the Hill End social life since the 1880s. Usually with a reason in mind, such as raising money to support the Hospital or the local Fire Brigade, they were well attended and helped fill the coffers of worthy causes. Below is just a sample of the many reports that regularly appear in the local press.

Mr. W. Scott, secretary of the Hill End and Tambaroora Hospital sports, writes me that they will eventuate on the Recreation Ground, Hill End, on December 28. The Sheffield handicap is of 15 sovs., 120yds, the prize money being cut up as follows:—
£12, £2, and £1.

Referee Wednesday 2 December 1903

Hill End.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

The sports and picnic in aid of the hospital were held on Saturday last, and, notwithstanding the several showers which fell during the day, a fair day's outing was enjoyed by those who attended, yet the weather prevented many from leaving home.

Monday was devoted to cricket, Christmas-tree, and concert in the evening, the result being a "boom" in the sum of £35 15s., takings at concert and tree in aid of the Wesleyan Church.

As a sequence to the Hospital Sports, two footraces for £2 10s a-side came off this afternoon on the old racecourse, Tambaroora, one between W. W. Willard and Thos. Wren, the latter winning by several yards; then between Walter Willard and Wren again, Wren disposing of Walter by a couple of feet.

The holidays are now considered over, and work resumed.

Beautiful days, cold nights.
January 5th, 1888.

Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal (NSW : 1851 - 1904) Tuesday 10 January 1888 p 2 Article

So, if sport is your "thing" then maybe you can thank your ancestors for establishing the gene!

Hill End Family History

Daphne has now settled into her cosy new office at the rear of the Royal Hall. This location is convenient to those who just visit the main part of the town and if her sign is out then she is “open for business”. As part of our volunteer program Daphne has been working tirelessly, updating her database. She has been linking families and tidying up the minor details in anticipation of eventually being able to add much of the material that we have been digitising over the past year. For those with a statistical bent she has approximately 29000 individual names on the “linked” family history file and a further series of 2800 individual family files that, at this stage, cannot be “connected” to the main database....now that’s dedication! [Or obsession – Ed]



Daphne in her new office at the rear of the Royal Hall

The Hill End Family History research room

has relocated to the rear of the Royal Hall
Next to the Royal Hotel
and is open every Saturday
10am to 4pm.

For enquiries contact Daphne

Email: daph@hillendfamilyhistory.com

Phone - 02-63378218 after 6:30pm
or try your luck on 0429335627
from 11am to 3pm.

For further information check out Daphne’s website at
<http://www.hillendfamilyhistory.com>

Research Notes

I have been asked by the Society of Australian Genealogists to present a full day seminar on Sat. 5 April. There are 2 sessions.

The morning session will concentrate on the resources that we have uncovered which are useful for researching goldfield ancestors.

The afternoon session will present a case study on Margaret King who was a servant in Hill End. She died in 1872 and was buried in Tambaroora Cemetery in an unmarked grave. Using the clues contained in two letters written by Margaret and produced at her coronial inquest

and reproduced in an article in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, I will demonstrate the amazing amount of information that can be found about Margaret’s poignant life using the sources covered in in the morning session.

If there is enough interest amongst our members I am happy to repeat this seminar a little later in the year, and hope to have confirmed a date and venue by our Gathering at Rhodes on 1st March.

Goldfields Research for NSW & Victoria with Philippa Garnsey, Society of Australian Genealogists Webinar –

In August last year we were fortunate to have Philippa Garnsey from the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG), present a talk for us at Kogarah Library on researching our goldfields ancestors. It was well attended by over 30 Gathering Group members and the feedback was most gratifying.

Philippa will be repeating the 1 hour seminar in a “Webinar” run by SAG on Tuesday 25 February and for those with a computer and internet access, who are geographically challenged you can attend in the comfort of your own home. However, you do need to be a member of SAG. This may just be the impetus you need to join the Society and for just an additional \$10 you can take advantage of this and many other webinars. Bookings are essential so for more details check out the website at <http://www.sag.org.au/events/webinars/447-webinar-goldfields-research-for-nsw-victoria.html>

For those who would like the handout from the Seminar we have it on our website at <http://heatg.org.au/he/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/NSW-Goldfields-Resources.pdf>

Biographical Database of Australia



The BDA is a new research tool for historians and genealogists comprising transcripts and indexes of many original records and published biographies of deceased individuals who arrived in or were born in Australia, starting from the earliest times.

This first release contains convict, muster, census, baptism, marriage and burial manuscript records for most of the New South Wales population 1788-1828, for Norfolk Island and Tasmania 1802-1811, and many immigrant and convict records from 1829-1837 along with full text of short biographies of 11,000+ residents of most colonies/states published 1881-1907. The indexes can be searched for free and for a small annual subscription of \$25 you can get a full biographical report from their database.

For more details check out www.bda-online.org.au

Hill End Happenings

Hill End Historic Buildings Open Days

Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association will hold their Open Days this year on Sunday 4 May and Sunday 19 October, 2014.

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.

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



Glenn Woodley – English Cottage Outbuilding

Hill End Vegie Shack

Bec Thompson, is continuing the Hill End/ Thompson legacy by growing the freshest vegies in town. She makes these available to locals and visitors from her Vegie Shack, located on Tambaroora Rd, about 300metres north of the Bathurst Rd. on Saturdays from 11am, in the growing season. She emailed recently to say that she has their first potatoes, crispy snow peas, zucchinis, some tomatoes and more will be happening as the weeks go by with kale, heaps of 3 types of basil - lemon, Thai and Italian.

As well as fresh eggs and local honey, she also has their new Chilli Jam, Tomato Relish, Peach Jam, Strawberry Jam and coming soon is their original "Woosta Sauce"!!



Knitting up a storm – Wallflower Arts

We know that February is still a bit hot to think about warm knitted goodies however it is never too soon to remember that winter is just around the corner...Hill End has a reputation of being pretty cold in this season so locals, Ruth and Emma, have taken to using their crafty skills to design and produce a lovely range of small items which will keep you warm and cosy during those cooler months.

Emma and Ruth live with their pets in a tiny pre 1870's cottage in Hill End. Surrounded by books, wool, fruit trees, animals and the beautiful red clays and the Australian bush there is much to inspire them. They both use creating and art as a way to deal with chronic illnesses and disability and to bring beauty and happiness



into the world. The need to create has always been a part of both of them and their focus at the moment has been on knitting, spinning, needle felting, crochet, photography, dyeing and beaded jewellery. They take on commissions and also have a supply of wonderful handcrafted items that make great gifts as well as very practical accessories.

Check out their website and stock up now for winter. http://wallflowerarts.blogspot.com.au/2013/12/knitted-things_1612.html

No Internet? then give them a ring on 02 63049293 or drop a line to Emma and Ruth, Faraday Cottage, Short St, Hill End 2850.

Good things do happen when you least expect it!

I would like to take the opportunity to publically acknowledge the kind donations from the Gathering Group members. A number have recently supported us with cash and stamps to assist in the production and distribution of our newsletter and other expenses involved in running the Group.

Others have generously sent us their research and photographs, thus allowing us to share information with other researchers.

You know who you are and your contributions are much appreciated.



Our Long Weekend Market in the Royal Hall

Our October Market was truly a local affair. It was wonderful to see our twice yearly retail therapy experience in Hill End supported by so many of the local craftspeople and residents who were able to find an outlet for their skills and products.

Once more we were so lucky with the weather which brought out the Hill Endians as well as the campers and day trippers to the district. Add the smell of the onions at Dennis's sausage sizzle and it was a sure-fire recipe for success!



The Pymont family descendants helping Dennis out at the Sausage Sizzle

Our next Market will be on the Easter Weekend, 19 – 20 April and our Sausage Sizzle will once again contribute to the culinary delights of the village on Easter Saturday.



Jenny, our "Lemon Lady" with her tasty offerings

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 02 95870352 or [email us](#) 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 purchase books and copies of materials held by larger institutions such as the State Library of NSW.

Hill End Land for Sale

No, we are not going into the Real Estate business however I have recently been advised that Malcolm Drinkwater from History Hill Museum has a block of land for sale in the village and he has asked me to bring this to the attention of the Gathering Group members. I have a map with the actual location on it so feel free to contact me and I can email it to you. In the meantime the following details may give you a few ideas. Malcolm is asking \$25,000.



It is Lot number 136, Parish of Tambaroora, County of Wellington and is located to the east of High Street outside the National Parks boundary in a sheltered hollow. Originally surveyed in 1871 when the applicant for purchase was Harriett Beard, at that time this 2 acre property had an improved value of £17. In 1979 there had been no further improvements made and it was described as a "rough area, steep, cut by a steep banked, eroded creek". The most recent Valuer General's value is \$43,000.

For all further details you can contact Malcolm. His details are as follows:

Email - historyhill@historyhill.com.au

Phone - 02 63378222

Mobile - 0428 378222

Fax - 02 63378300



Our Volunteer Projects

Where do we start? There is so much!

I am happy to announce that we have digitized and rehoused over 2000 individual family history files from the NPWS Museum collection. This major undertaking has been the work of 2 small teams of volunteers over the past 12 months. We still have about 10% of the collection to be done but these are the "fiddly" files, many with large documents so they will require individual processing on the A3 scanner and specialized housing etc. Once the files have been completed we will then face the daunting task of "cataloguing" and tagging the files with all the family names included in each one.

These “Before & After” photos show what we have achieved so far!



When we get to this stage we may be seeking the assistance of our Group members who may wish to work on their own family names within the collection. After all, you know your families and may be able to assist in the verification of the information supplied. This can be done remotely using the premise that many hands make light work. We will be working out the details of this part of the project in the coming year so will keep you posted.

Other projects

Some of our volunteers have also been busy undertaking their own individual projects too.

Annette Sheen has indexed Will Carter’s reminiscences of the Hill End & Tambaroora goldfields which were syndicated in the newspapers in the late 1930s. These small vignettes of many of the local characters provide a wonderful first hand insight into the life at the time and Harry Hodge may have had cause to refer to many of these when writing his “Hill End Story” books.

Verna Little has been busy transcribing and indexing a diary kept by Mary Walpole, covering the period 1923 – 1930. In it Mary mentions many of the people living in the town and describes the day to day activities, again providing an understanding of a different period in the town’s history.

Grahame Thomas has completed a number of smaller projects including preparing the envelopes for the next newsletter. He has also indexed Harry Hodge’s *Guide to Historic Hill End* and John Rule’s *Sofala Days & Turon Nights*. Eventually these will appear on our website.

Alison Briggs has kept the address list updated, and thanks to the website we now have almost 1000 names with whom we are in contact with through these newsletters.

Sharon Hoyer continues to transcribe the Maris oral history CDs that were recorded a few years ago and eventually we will have a written record of their Hill End memories of another period.

Even my mum, Eileen Purcell has helped out with the preparation of the envelopes for this newsletter and she was on duty at the Markets last October too— *Good onya, Mum!*

Answer to our puzzle on page 6 - Mediterranean

A Volunteer’s Journey

Jenny, one of our volunteers put her spin on the NPWS Family History digitization project in an email to me when I was travelling overseas last year. We had just sent back a report to her about our travels on Crete and Croatia...This was her response. We felt it was worth sharing...

Dear Di & Lorraine...glad you are having a "you beaut" time...come home soon. I too have been travelling and here is a take on last Thursday:



On Thursday we drove to the beautiful, down town suburb of Hurstville with its magnificent NPWS building towering above us, we entered its foyer. As arranged beforehand we found

two other members of our group, Bea and Verna waiting for us in the foyer. The day was sunny with a lovely cool breeze.

John ascended the building to level two where he had been given previous information regarding a trolley that contained boxes and a special suitcase that may be of importance to us all. We three who remained in the foyer had also been informed that we may find some interesting research to enjoy on level one and so we informed John that it would be a good idea to return with the trolley to this level. Once we were all together we opened the suitcase and found many curious items; a diary, a box of stationery, and many objects of a technological nature. After having read the diary we all agreed that the reason we had chosen to visit this place of interest was to clean, scan and enter boxes of documents that had been placed in folders. This caused mass excitement as we were able to uncover many years of history belonging to a forgotten gold mining village called Hill End.



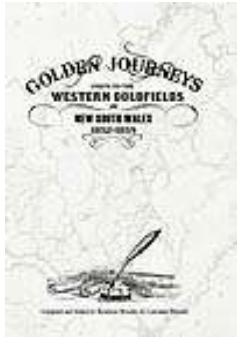
While Bea and Verna cleaned the documents, John used the technological items to enter much data and Jenny cleaned folders and then went on to scanning. Much work was achieved with Jenny finding a wonderful story in the one file that she thinks would make great reading for a website.

Lunch was taken; Jenny and John going downstairs to the café as Jenny needed to get out of the “corporate” atmosphere and Bea and Verna stayed on level one.

*After lunch we returned to our discoveries sharing any interesting pieces. For Jenny it reminded her of the TV program *Time Team* as we did find some anomalies. Around 3.30pm sadly it was time to bring our visit to an end however we all agreed that we would love the experience again and believed that we could do the same at Carlton in two weeks’ time.*

Our bookshop

Golden Journeys – Visits to the Western Goldfields of NSW 1852 – 1858 compiled by Bea Brooks and Lorraine Purcell.



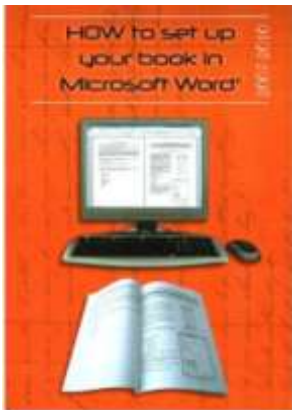
GOLD...just the word is enough to conjure up dreams and imaginary experiences in the most dispassionate of readers.

By absorbing these contemporary reports on the early gold discoveries and following the day-to-day travels of three journalists of the mid 1850s, the reader is exposed to the everyday living and working conditions of the earliest miners on the Western Goldfields of

New South Wales, covering the area from Ophir, along the Turon, the Meroo, the Macquarie and the Cudgegong rivers. Included in this volume of approximately 300 pages is a large fold out map, printed in colour on both sides showing 2 very early versions of the goldfields in the 1850s.

How to set up your book in Microsoft Word

2007/2010 – 2000/2003 by Dan Kelly & Karen Graham



84 Black & White pages
Published by Boolarong Press

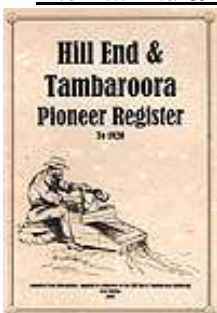
You've written your family history on the computer and used Word to capture all the research that you have accumulated over the years. Now it is time to produce "the book". This easy to follow publication will assist you in producing a professional looking document that you will be proud to share amongst your

family.

This "How to" book is in two halves. The first half of the book is set out for those that have 2007/2010 on their computers. If you turn the book over the back half of the book is set out for those that have 2000/2003. Microsoft® Word is not the best software to set up a book in, but it is the most cost effective way as most people have Word on their computer.

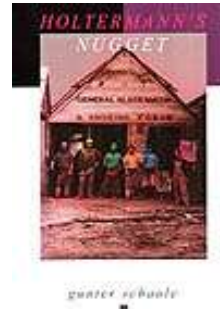
This book was written to answer the questions that have been asked of the authors over thirty years. Throughout the chapters of this book, they have given some guidelines that will hopefully show people how they can design a book of their own.

The Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register on CD



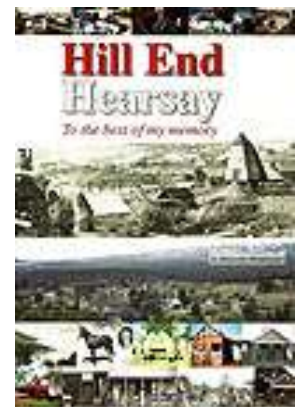
The bound edition, printed in a run of 500 copies, sold out within 12 months of publication so, to satisfy demand, the Register has now been produced on CD in acrobat format. Containing all the original material (plus a few corrections) it has the added advantage of being able to be searched by name or location and enables the researcher to quickly access related entries.

Holtermann's Nugget by Gunter Schaule Profits from the sale of Holtermann's Nugget will go towards the Royal Hall Photo Project



This historical novel is based on the life of the successful 19th century miner, businessman, and photographer, Bernhardt Holtermann, who arrived in Sydney as a young man from Hamburg. If you are looking for a good yarn and yet still interested in a slice of Australian history then this book is ideal for you. It has been well researched and the background information paints a vivid picture of what conditions existed and what life was like in Hill End in the 1870s..

Hill End Gold and Hill End Hearsay – Second editions by Malcolm Drinkwater



In March this year Malcolm Drinkwater from History Hill released second editions of his 2 popular books, *Hill End Gold* and *Hill End Hearsay*. In the introduction to *Hill End Hearsay*, Malcolm says: "Nothing stimulates the five senses more for memory than being there, and I was". *Hill End Gold*, first published in 1982, is the story of Australia's first gold finds. His second book, *Hill End Hearsay*, was written to tell the story of what happened after the gold and the hype had gone.

Malcolm said that his theme for writing these books was that "if you buy a book about history than you're sponsoring history and without books like these history will die.

Golden Hill End by Brian Hodge



After many years of research Brian Hodge released his latest narrative work encompassing the history of the Hill End region from aboriginal times until 2009. It encompasses a number of issues which have not preciously been addressed.

The work contains 5 colour photographs and 18 B&W illustrations.

All these books available for sale and the details are on the order form included with this newsletter. They can also be purchased via our website at <http://heatgg.org.au/he/publications/>



Publication Order Form

Please order your copies of the
Gathering Group publications on this form

Name: (Please print)

Address.....

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

| No Of copies | Title | Amount | Total |
|--|--|---|--------------|
| | Golden Journeys – Visits to the Western Goldfields of NSW 1852 – 1859 (includes large fold out maps) compiled & edited by Bea Brooks and Lorraine Purcell | \$49.95 | |
| | | Postage \$14.00 | |
| | Golden Journeys Map –showing Gold Fields & verso Official Map of Austn’ Gold Country (Hargraves) can be purchased separately - double sided 80cm x 57cm – suitable for framing posted rolled or folded | \$10 .00 | |
| | | Postage Folded \$2 Rolled in tube \$8 | |
| | Hill End Gold 2nd edition – by Malcolm Drinkwater | \$49.50 | |
| | | Postage \$14.00 | |
| | Hill End Hearsay – to the best of my memory- 2nd edition by Malcolm Drinkwater | \$49.50 | |
| | | Postage \$14.00 | |
| | Golden Hill End by Brian Hodge, (published 2010) | \$20.00 | |
| | | Postage \$4.00 | |
| | Holtermann’s Nugget by Gunther Schaule A fictional account of Bernard Holtermann’s time in Hill End. | \$15.00 | |
| | | Postage \$4.00 | |
| | Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register <u>on CD</u> (Published 2006) | \$30.00 | |
| | | Postage \$2.00 | |
| | How to set up your book in Microsoft Word 2000-2010 By Dan Kelly & Karen Brown | \$20.00 | |
| | | Postage \$4.00 | |
| If you are purchasing more than one publication please contact me for a combined postage price, especially with the larger books. | | | TOTAL |

[] 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 Details:

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 postal & delivery details.

Please post your order to
Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group
12 Grantham St
Carlton NSW 2218

All enquiries to Lorraine on 02 9587 0352 or 0408 117 784

The 2014 Gathering in Rhodes Park (Map on next page)

Some people arrive with morning tea, others bring lunch and a few arrive with afternoon tea...the keen ones will be there for breakfast! It is a very free form gathering and is an excellent opportunity for those with ancestors from the region to meet with others who have a similar interest. Initially started as a reunion for those who lived in the Hill End & Tambaroora area to get together, the Gathering is gradually evolving into a meeting place for those with links to the district to join in as well and share their experiences and family history research.

This will be our sixth year at Rhodes Park, which has now become our new "home" and caters well to our requirements. Our venue provides public transport access, plenty of parking, toilets and a Kiosk and a large Shelter Shed which we have booked solely for our use all day.

There will also be a selection of reference materials on display & available for perusal on the day. The Gathering Group publications will be on sale as well as a selection of second hand books relating to Hill End and Australian and family history.

Boiling water, and coffee & tea making facilities will also be available.

We will be having the official welcome and "Roll Up" at 12 noon.

What do people bring? As in the past years the following suggestions are a few ideas that have come to mind....

- Well, there are some tables and seating available in the Shelter Shed but if you are coming by car, it might be a good idea to bring along your lightweight picnic chairs/table or picnic rug, so we can spread out and be comfy.
- Bring your morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, and whatever "refreshments" that will be needed to sustain you for the day. There is also a kiosk adjacent to the Shelter Shed, with coffee, soft drinks and a considerable range of refreshments available for those travelling a long distance and who don't want to bring refreshments with them.
- Bring a couple of copies of the "potted" version of your family history, including photos (but remember that old ones are easily damaged by handling, so perhaps now is a good time to have copies made and **these** can be made available for others to have a look at - **leave the originals at home!**) This may be an opportunity to swap stories and information.
- Wear a name label with your name on it, (in **LARGE PRINT** so others can read it without glasses!) and also the main family names that you are associated with. Maybe a large sign, with the family name, that can be put on your "campsite" so that others can make themselves known to you as well.
- Notepad and pens etc to jot down the contacts if necessary and camera to get that memorable shot.
- If you have the opportunity to prepare a small "handout" that gives your **name and contact details and the families that you are interested in** (no more than a page), it may be worthwhile. Make a few copies of this that can then be swapped if you find others have a similar interest. - saves a lot of writing down in the excitement of the moment of finding others "doing" the same family.

So, there you have it! This may be an opportunity to meet the faces that match many of the names we have been corresponding with in the past 12 months. It is also an opportunity to renew the friendships made at previous reunions. As it is a very informal get together there is no need to "book" to come to the gathering. We're sure to all fit in! Our venue should also provide sufficient shelter if the weather is inclement.

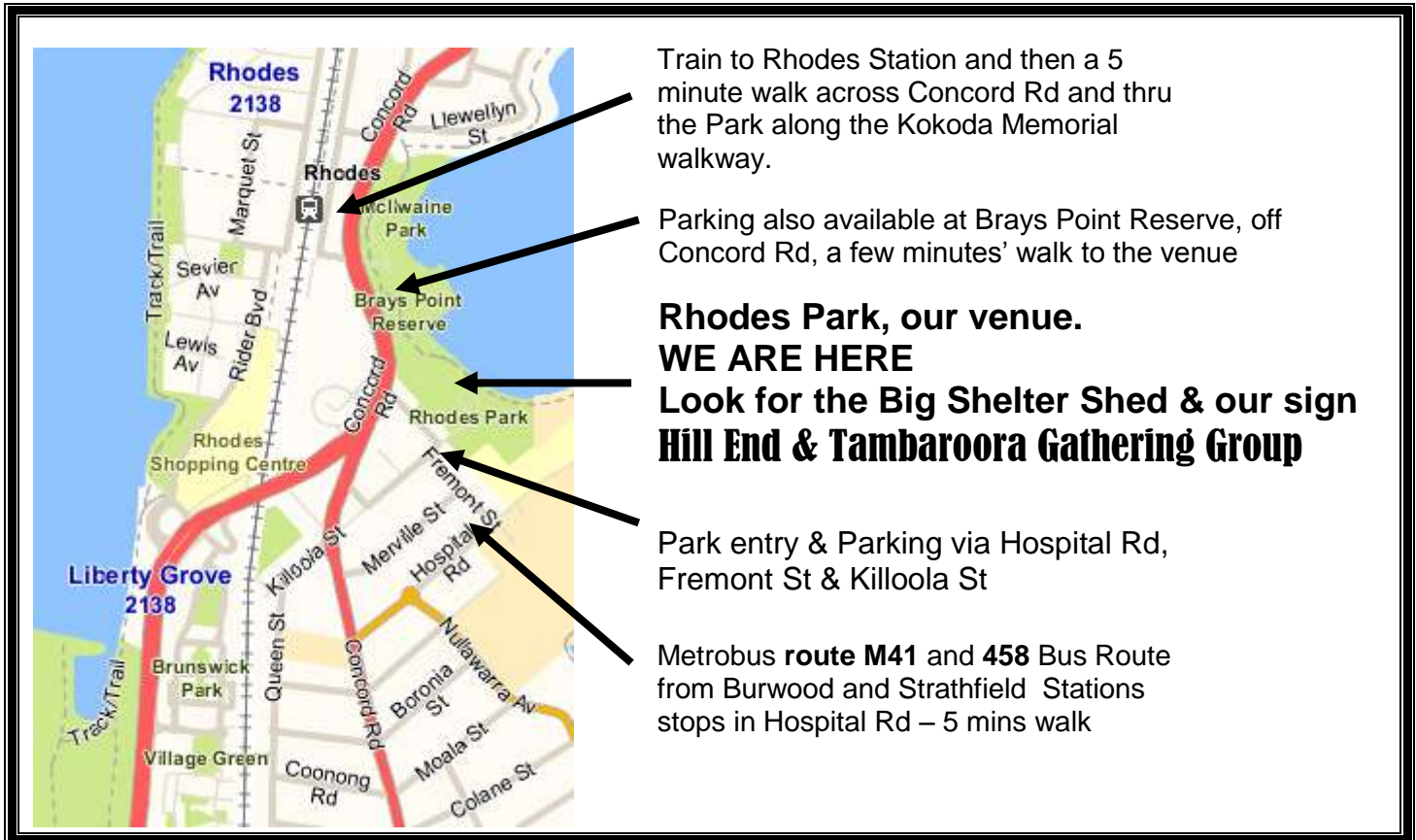
Further enquiries can be made to Lorraine Purcell
on (02) 95870352 or 0408117784
or via email to heatgg@yahoo.com.au



Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group 2014 Gathering Info

Rhodes Rotary Park Killoola St, Concord

Saturday 1st March 2014 from 10am until 4pm
(Adjacent to the Kokoda Memorial Walkway and Brays Bay)



Access by car:

Free parking is available at Rhodes Park, via Hospital Rd, Fremont & Killoola Streets or at Brays Bay Reserve off Concord Rd. Stroll along the Kokoda Memorial Walkway to the Shelter Shed.

Parking is also available at Concord Hospital car park on Hospital Rd. \$5.00 parking fee applies.

Please note time limits on parking in surrounding streets and remember to move your vehicles if necessary.

Public transport:

Train to Rhodes Railway Station then short walk downhill to cross Concord Rd and on to the Kokoda Memorial Walkway at Brays Reserve. **Please note that there will be track work on the Blue Mountains Line on the 1st March and buses replace trains between Lithgow and Blacktown. Bathurst services will be replaced by bus between Bathurst and Lithgow and between Bathurst and Central.**

Bus Routes: Use the Metrobus system to access **route M41** from your local interchange or from Burwood Railway Station (runs every 20 mins) **OR**

Route No **458** from Burwood to Ryde.

Departs Burwood Station in Railway Pde South

Departs Strathfield Station, Everton Rd, Stand D North Side

Ask driver for closest stop to the Kokoda Walkway in Hospital Rd. (outside Concord Hospital) . From here it is a 5 minute walk along Fremont Street to the park.

All enquiries to Lorraine on 02 9587 0352 or 0408 117 784