

The Stamper Battery

Spring (September 2008)



July Snow- Maggy Todd

08-A Late Winter

After a quite mild June, a fall of snow on 9th July brought joy to many. A couple more light falls followed. We have not had a fall for nigh on three years. Later in the month we had some real winter. It was the coldest August in decades. The minimum for Sydney was above our maximum temperature on average throughout the winter. Now that is cold. Yet spring is now upon us. Trees are beginning to blossom, the wattle is in its glory, the hint of winter's end is near.

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Residential shuffle

The Assay Cottage

It has a new resident. Mavis Hill suffered the misfortune of the loss of her house a year ago and it is pleasing that she now has permanent accommodation. The fire destroyed all her furniture and she is looking for some replacements, so please keep her in mind.

The Schoolmaster's House

Auctioned 16th August

It was owned by the NSW Department of Education and no Schoolmaster has lived there since Dave Robson seven years ago. So it's not surprising that they are rationalising their property portfolio. It was bought by Ian Marr from Orange. Ian did a residency and has returned many times since. He managed to out bid a phone tender, his only competitor.

Aunty Ette's

The wattle and daub cottage next to Aunty Ette's on Thompson's Lane has become the home of the Chef at the Pub, Leanne Price. Renovation was started by John Auld and is being completed by Steve Rattray. John raised the left corner by 4 inches and anchored back the front wall, which had rotated outward.

The Ellis House

The Ellis House has been sold and there was washing on the line, a hopeful sign. It was settled the day that Ross Ellis died. It was purchased by Cat Mills, who is an artist originally from Perth. Cat is the mother of a young child. She was at the National Art School with Hui and Raquel and Luke. The owners before the Ellis Family were two Greek ladies, the Misses Makreanis.

Fond Memories

Ian Jeffree

Passed away, aged 53 on 19th July. Ian was the son of Betty and the late Russel Jeffree. They were devoted parents to Ian. The thoughts of the Hill End Community are with Betty at this time.

Ross Ellis

Known locally as the Goose, Ross passed away in late July. Peter Seaman relates a story that epitomises the Goose. They were working on Hill 50 in WA and Peter had had enough and quit. Ross said, "If he's leaving then I'm leaving" and the foreman replied, "well, that's immaterial to me". Ross shot back with "it's immaterial to me too". Later they both retired to the local pub and Peter continues "there was a terrible silence until Ross asked, "Just what does immaterial mean?"

Bev Pretty

Bev was a past resident of Bleak House with Ross Ellis and she has passed on not long after Ross. It was Bev that kept Ross alive, Peter Seaman said. Those who have lived here a long time will know that is true. She will be sadly missed by her daughter Danelle.



Daffodils in snow-Maggy Todd

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EJ meets the Tiger

E J Long had a win at Golf.
He won a trip to the USA,
to meet Tiger Woods from a contest held
by Gillette Razors. Commercial
competitions do really have winners.
Our best wishes to EJ in the USA.
A long way from Mongrels! RC

Archery

Shannon Peterson is an occasional
visitor and his father, Vern tells us that
Shannon competed in the World Titles
for Archery and won his section. Vern is
well known for his camp down at the
river. RC

Go girl

Stella Scriberras did well in a School
Sport's Carnival in Mudgee and will be
competing in the relay team made up of
some schools in that area. RC

Hill End Rifle Club

Hill End Rifle Club was formed in 1901
after Federation, to ensure that Australia
had a source of trained marksmen
available should a National Emergency
take place, such as the Boer War.
Prior to Federation each State had
Militia units and it was these units
attached to various Mounted Rifle units
that went to South Africa to help Great
Britain during the Boer War. The first
Captain of the Rifle Club was Enoch
Goodwin. The Rifle Club continued on
until about 1965 when its activities
declined. The club has been re-activated
over the last few years. The current
president is Brett Anthes of Meroo near
Mudgee phone 63 737 894
The Sydney Colonial Muzzle Loading
Club commenced in 1969 and holds an
annual Championship each Easter at the
Hill End Rifle Range The Hill End Rifle

Range is located between Anderson's
Road and Bald Hill Road and close to
the Hill End Tip. The Sydney Colonial
Muzzle Loading Club and the Hill End
Rifle Club jointly share the permissive
lease of the 54 acre area from the Lands
Department. The Range is also under
NSW Police Firearms Registry as an
approved Shooting Range under the
NSW Firearms Act which controls the
legal conditions of use. A recent
inspection by the Control Authorities
required that the range be fenced, signed
and fitted with gates to ensure the safety
of the general public. This has recently
been completed by local tradesmen.
The current conditions of use are:
Current membership of Hill End Rifle
Club or Sydney Colonial Muzzle
Loading Club. Current NSW Shooters
Licence, not NSW Farm Permit.
Firearm to be used must be licenced.
Red range flags to be flown and gates
closed. Advise local Police of the
proposed activity if not a scheduled
event. Don Rookledge

Auction for Swimmer

Joan Auld took compassion on Emilie
Miller, organising yet another fund-
raiser for Emilie who injured her neck
during a swimming training session in
Lithgow earlier this year.
Joan was inspired by an article in the
Western Advocate describing her
accident. Since then Emilie has been in
Westmead.
Joan raised \$ 400 through the auction
from goods donated by the Hill End
Community.
The energy of the occasion was
generated by the auctioneer, Peter
Seaman, whose technique impelled
people to buy. RC

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The Royal Hall: an Update

The Mitchell Library in Sydney is interested in the photos in the Hall. The Mitchell is seeking a grant to copy the original Holterman photographs again and is hoping to include ours too.

Prefabricated shelving didn't work for the job of the shelving in the Storeroom. So Don Rookledge drew up a sketch and organised pre-cut wood for the CSOs to assemble.

The Town is getting good value from those doing Community Service and we thank them for their contribution. Sheena Goodwin organises their tasks and she is impressed by just how hard the CSOs work. They have picked up papers around the Tip, cut back overhanging elm trees and they continue to clean out the stone gutters. The CSOs raked out new soft fall under the play equipment in the Bill Lyle Memorial Reserve and fairies deposited another load immediately afterwards. We found out that there was some spare left over from the School.

There has been discussion about the level of lighting in the Hall. It is gloomy after coming in from the bright daylight outside and some simple and effective solution must be found.

Gaye Shanahan and Sheena Goodwin purchased ware for the Hall kitchen under the DFACS Grant. It is a Federal grant for small equipment, useful for filling the cupboards of the refurbished Kitchen in the Hall. The kitchen worked well for the 31 people attending the Hill End Arts Council dinner recently. Ross Brown the President of the Association is asking for a suggestion on what projects it should be pursuing. This is your opportunity, please think hard. RC

St Pauls

One the icons of our village, St Pauls, is in a bad state of repair. The Church, built in 1872, and restored in 1961-67 has reached the time in its life when it needs a lot of TLC. In the 1960's the community got together and raised funds for restoration as the Church was condemned by Evans Shire .

Today, The Church, needs the same kind of help !!! Our way of life has changed and the ways that we used to carry out this sort of work are now controlled by insurance , autocrats and regulation, plus rising costs. The Church is a great Community asset, similar to the Royal Hall.

Like the Royal hall, its owners do not have sufficient funds to carry out the work.

HETPA is seeking a grant from the Bathurst Regional Council, under the Village Grants Program to help with the restoration.

HETPA used the same program, to carry out work in the Royal Hall, providing new kitchen, painting ,new store floor and new back-drop to stage. Who has benefited?, the Community of course. The work required to the Church is to repair roof structure, eaves and guttering, restore leadlight windows, replace front fence, repair front doors, paint interior, repair plaster behind the Pulpit , and restore church sign and support. This is not all that is required. Bathurst Regional Councils Heritage Architect, Barbara Hickson, has inspected the Church and all the above work is of urgent need if we wish to have this St. Pauls for the next generations.

It is a great Community Asset.

The Church has received a heritage grant on a 2 for 1 basis, this will help, but more money is needed . The Village

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Grant Program is a great way to receive funds without the Community having to raise funds as was necessary in the past. Please, all of you, get behind this proposal to save our Church.

Don Rook ledge

Public phone

The Public Phone at the Post Office now only takes cards. No coins. Mobile phones have made the old public phones a bit obsolete and we have to accept this change. But it does not help us in our emergencies or our tourists in their need to phone home. The Pub now stocks phone cards.

RC

Hill End Community Health News

I would like to introduce myself as the new Community Nurse for your community. I have been employed by GWAHS as a Transitional Nurse Practitioner. My position is temporary until January 2010 when David Turcato's leave is completed. In my role I will be providing a clinical and district nursing service to Hill End, Sofala and surrounding areas. I have a diverse nursing background including general medical and surgical nursing, sexual health and women's health, midwifery and nursing children. I have been in Community Health since April last year. At Bathurst Community Health I coordinated a cardiac rehabilitation program and 'walking for health' program.

As a Transitional Nurse Practitioner I am not authorised to prescribe medications. Consequently in cases where prescription medication is required I currently have to seek a prescription from your family Doctor and fill this in Bathurst. If your family doctor has a policy where they cannot write a prescription unless they see you first I

will refer you to your Doctor if medication treatment is required. I will be in the clinic Monday to Friday from 2 pm to 3 pm. I am available at other times for home visits or clinic visit by arrangement.

Please call 6337 8263.

If I am out of the clinic this number will divert to Bathurst Community Health Centre where you can leave me a message. If I have to change the clinic hours or close the clinic I will write this on the white board outside the clinic. Please call 000 and ask for an ambulance if urgent medical care is needed.

Please call me if you have any questions. I am here to support you in keeping well or managing chronic conditions. I am updating the clinic pamphlet and will send this out as soon as it is ready. Your feedback and suggestions regarding the Community Health Service is encouraged and welcome.

Rebecca Conolly

Roads Around

The Progress Committee will approach the RTA about getting additional signage at Kelso to advise drivers of the alternative route through Turondale. It was suggested that the Kelso sign should be at the 11-Mile turn-off to avoid confusion through a profusion of signs on the Highway. Hill End should also be mentioned at the Eglinton turn-off from the Highway.

The Committee will also remind the Bathurst and Mudgee Tourist Offices of the infill of bitumen on both roads for when they reprint their tourist maps. This will encourage those city 4WD drivers who don't like to get their vehicles dirty.

Design on the next section of the Bathurst Road is almost complete.

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Council missed out on RTA funding but will use their funds to seal a further section soon. Peter Benson of BRC said that they would not be getting as far as they hoped. The bridge at Hargraves has now been replaced. Bathurst Council will be responding to the problems of maintaining the Crown roads around the Village.

The drilling within the Village in Clarke Street has been completed, the road is reopened and Hill End Gold has cleaned up after itself. RC

Fire Brigade News

The AGM was held on 3rd July. The Office Bearers remain the same as elections only take place every three years.

The steel frame for the new Fire Shed was a long time in the making, but it only took a day for the skilled workers of Hill End to put it up. In reality, it is only Meccano at that stage. However it was good to watch them as they worked between each other erecting it.

The Brigade attended a fire in the Green Valley area together with others from the Region. About 400 acres were burnt out. The fire burnt the grass right up the stone rock walls of the garden around 'Bargong' according to Storky Campbell, before it got away, racing up the ridges. Memberships are due, Maxine Anderson tells us. It is a cause well worth your support. RC

Outfoxed

Suzanne Thomson has suffered the loss of two flocks of chooks to foxes. One climbed up the netting and down a tree into the run. Suzanne got a special fox trap from the Common Trust and caught the male in it. To detain the female she will put a headless chook into the trap

each night to capture the culprit. The rest of her lost flock has been interred into the Deepfreeze, waiting to render the ultimate service. RC



Luke Sciberras-Plucked Cock

Vegetable gardens

It is time to plan your veggie garden. Brian Hodge says that it is too late to plant broad beans because they can't handle the heat, and too early to plant dwarf beans because they can't handle the frosts that still persist. But beware, he warns, peas need to be protected from ducks and galahs.

Phil Davies-A profile

in 1947, Phil, his sister Anne and their mother were brought out of Palestine. Phil came down from Jerusalem in an armoured car. Phil remembers this time quite well even though he was 11 years old. But for a kid all of this would have been exciting. These refugees were only allowed one suitcase each. His father was a Policeman with the British Mandate, which governed the country after the First World War. The political situation was becoming explosive. "The

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British were the meat in the sandwich with the Arabs and the Jews fighting it out for control". The family landed in England in mid-winter with only summer clothing and their one suitcase. The family settled in Wales where Phil became an apprentice with de Havilland Aircraft. Of his training, he says "I was one of the bad boys I got suspended a couple of times, because I have a blind spot in my maths". That doesn't interfere with his ability to take four measurements and make something that fits perfectly.

Phil migrated to Australia in 1956, first to Melbourne for a firm that made crushing plants for mines. Later he rejoined de Havilland in Bankstown Aerodrome.

There was a spell at Mt Isa before he came to Hill End 18 years ago. Gold brought him here. He had a mining venture in Werong, but that became a National Park. He came to Windeyer for a Mining Expo and afterwards dropped into Hill End where Phil saw opportunities and settled in.

You only have to see his workshop to realise how well he has settled in. Over the years he has built all manner of mining equipment.

RC



Ken Hutchinson, Drillers #3

Coming Events Sept/Oct 2008

12th Sept

Jean Bellette Gallery
Ken Hutchinson

17th Sept

Library Van next visit

Oct 4th & 5th

Craigmoor Open House

Oct 18th

Hill End Open Day

Oct 19th

Holterman Specimen found

31st Oct

Common Trust Annual General Meeting

31st Oct

Jean Bellette Gallery
Glenn Woodley

Whose Job Is It?

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done in Hill End and everybody was sure that somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was everybody's job.

Everybody thought anybody could do it but nobody realised that everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when nobody did what anybody could have done. Maxine Anderson

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Split Rock Broken Bottles

A letter has been received from a walking resident. "One of my favourite places to walk to is Split Rock. Recently I took a family member there and I was saddened and angry to find the track littered with the remnants of a party, crushed tins, bottle lids and fire remnants. They showed good taste in choosing the venue, but need educating about only leaving their footprints. RC

The October Long Weekend

Julie Gilmore reported on her progress towards making it a successful weekend, to coincide with Craigmoor Open House. Please note that what follows is the initiative of a single person – no committees, no meetings – just making it happen. It is pleasing to see the energy to get some good things happening again. So far, she is preparing a mud map with activities and performance times. She is hoping to get Betty's quilting teacher up, Dean Taylor from Parks and Andy Pix from Hill End Gold to present a concert with the Cricket Club. She has approached Suzanne Thomson about getting a Cobb & Co coach and our Policeman Ben Smith for the Kid's Bushranger Hold-up. She has spoken to Anne and Eric Cassar from Silent Dale for a demonstration of alpaca weaving. Julie has got information from Charles Vassal, the coordinator of the Henry Lawson Festival in Gulgong for information on their successful Festival. Hill End Gold may present an exposition on the way gold was extracted in the past compared with present techniques. Daphne tamper will mount an exhibition for History Hill. Our Nurse will take blood pressure on the day and provide general health information. The P&C will set up stalls in the Hall or the Park. Julie

feels that, weather permitting, the Park is more prominent for attracting tourists than the Hall. Insurance spoils the vigour of Julie's plans, but the Progress Committee felt that we would be covered by the sufficiency of the current policies of the village community groups. Parks insurance also provides cover for some activities. RC

Kim Deacon

Kim sang and played the harp at St John the Baptist Church in Mudgee recently. She sold many CD's of her work at the venue.

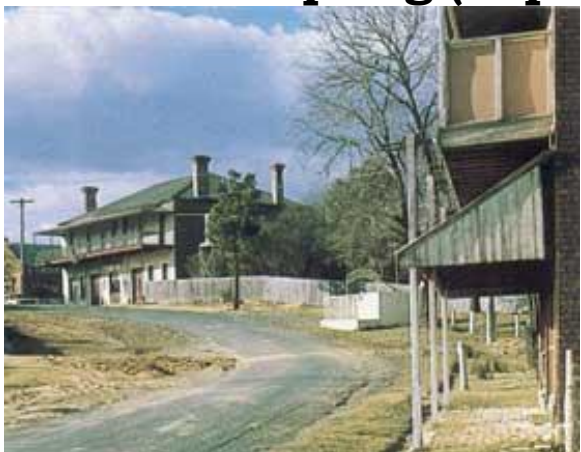
Hill End Arts Council

The Committee has begun to plan for a Festival in 2010. It is a long process and it was helped by the experience of Hannah Semler, who spoke at the meeting. "Good things come to those who wait" she said in her opening comment. Her address focused largely on the grants available. Hannah suggested enlisting the support of our local State Member, Gerard Martin. Glenn Woodley was congratulated for his rendering of the Donald Friend sign at the Royal Hotel. It is now in place and the original has yet to find a home out of the weather. An update was given on negotiations with Parks to secure the Catholic Church. Lew Bezzina has told HEAC that he has obtained funding for an Architectural Heritage Report. The restoration of the Haefliger's furniture is well advanced.

After the meeting there was a splendid dinner of roast pork carefully prepared by Lino Alvarez and Kim Deacon followed by Betty Jeffree's sublime apple pie. RC

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Old photo of town

Note the pub and War Memorial were painted white with a green roof and Northey's had a closed in top verandah.



**New photo of town
In the style of Drysdale**

Photographer Di Grenshaw took this image during the Hill End Gathering visit recently. A recreation of Russell Drysdale's imagery of a red, dry Hill End.

A New Sign of the Times

Did anyone notice its absence?
The Royal Hotel sign painted by Donald Friend has been copied onto a new frame by Glenn Woodley. It has been a time taking task for him to try to replicate the original and see through the rust stains to capture the technique of the artist. One difficulty he experienced that few of us would understand is that the first one

was painted by a right-handed artist, whereas he is left-handed. Our hands sweep in opposite directions when we flourish. And that's the action when a painter makes a stroke with his brush. The cold weather caused Glenn to make smudges as he moved back and forth over the sign. Paint does not dry very quickly in winter, especially on a steel sign. That's what caused the smudges. It was obviously not the work of a sign writer, as Glenn found out as his study progressed. The intensity of his examination was rewarded in his achievement. Look closely at it. Ask yourself: is the stark new sign more attractive than the old rusty one? Both sides are very different. It is almost, Glenn said, as if one side had been copied from a coin. The other side has an Etruscan feel. One person viewed the work close to completion and compared the two side by side. He asked: "which is the original". No better compliment than that. Incidentally Glenn received his school's HSC Art Prize from Russell Drysdale, long before he had ever heard of Hill End.

RC



New Royal Hotel Sign

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Hill Shadows:

Shadow puppet and music workshops



Students from Hill End, Sofala and Wattle Flat public schools with visual artist Antonia Aitken and musician and composer Tim Hansen.

Students from Hill End, Sofala and Wattle Flat public schools recently attended a two-day shadow puppet and music workshop with Antonia Aitken and Tim Hansen, two artists participating in Bathurst Regional Art Gallery's Hill End Artists in Residence Program. The Hill Shadow workshops, held at the Royal Hall in Hill End, focused on the development of art, music and performance based skills. The notion of 'place' was used as a catalyst for workshop activities, and provided a platform for the students to share their experiences. Each student was given the opportunity to perform, introducing the shadow-puppet character they had made and experimenting with the effects of moving parts, light and shadow. The workshops were a great success. Thank you to Regional Arts NSW and Arts OutWest for funding assistance via the Country Arts Support Program, and to Arts NSW for funding assistance via the ConnectEd Program which allowed Bathurst Regional Art Gallery to provide subsidised bus travel to Hill End.

Sarah Gurich
BRAG

Upcoming Exhibitions

Ana Young

Ana is exhibiting at the Western Plains Cultural Centre (Dubbo Regional Gallery) opening 16 Aug- 9 Nov. Ana will call the show "Corrugations" after the tin of Hill End. It contains also references to the fences and the quilts of Craigmoor.



Ana Young-Palings

Lino Alvarez

Lino will present his prolific recent works at Mary Place Gallery, Paddington. Opening 28th Oct

Luke Sciberras

Luke will be exhibiting at Tim Olsen Gallery 13th-27 Sept

Jean Bellette Gallery

Ken Hutchinson's show opens 12th September at 6pm. Ken did a residency a couple of years ago. It will be opened by Hannah Semler of Arts out West, who has done a lot to publicise the artistic heritage of Hill End. Glenn Woodley will follow him on 31st October. It is pleasing to see a local artist there.

Gavin Wilson told the HEAC Meeting that involvement would take some of the pressure off BRAG to mount shows every couple of months. However we will be able to tap into their connections and resources.

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BRAG Residency Artists

Yaeli Ohana-Murray's Cottage



Yaeli Ohana-Relics

“My art at the moment is at a transitional phase” she said “a marrying of both figurative and abstract, while retaining the integrity both”.

The undercurrent of history found its way into Yaeli's work through the shards she collected and the gnarled dried leaves of winter. By putting the morning's photographs through her computer, Yaeli was able to mix the colours on her palette directly from the computer screen. Yaeli brought up some prepared backgrounds for her paintings from Bondi where she lives. They are very different from the ones she did up here. The Bondi ones have the ocean colours from aquamarine to deep green. The Hill End ones are markedly softer with dusty pinks, the pale yellows of the grasses, the ochres and oranges of the earth, the lilacs and beiges of the trunks of the gum trees and of course green.

“The green of the trees is different to the green of the sea. It's a purer green and less menacing” she said.

Yaeli was seen collecting wood along the side of the road and experienced a random act of kindness when half a load was delivered to her door. “It was like gold itself” she said with gratitude. RC

Antonia Aitken-Haefliger's

Antonia is a printmaker and shared Haefliger's with Tim Hansen. Antonia is preoccupied with the notions of place and belonging. Going out into the bush, she is exploring how we, as non-indigenous people, understand and interpret our experiences of being on the land. “I like being in the bush; a time to contemplate a new work”. The landscape of Hill End is more worn and somewhat more hostile than it is around Canberra. The colours are more subtle, despite the rich red earth underneath. “In Hill End, I've been interested in the remnants of the mining past, the opening up of the earth” she said “and how the land is reclaiming itself”. “Walking home from the Pub, I became aware of the moon shadows. I go out with paper and ink and trace the shadows. Some nights the frost made the grass so stiff that the paper stood up on top. That caused runs in the ink, it is all about chance”. Talking on, Antonia said “I like to use earth colours. I've used them by pooling dirt and ink on paper. I've begun to do woodcuts from timber I've found at the tip, carving out the wood between the shadows and back home I'll print them. I've been doing an etching a day as a form of a diary, which I'll make into a book. The workshops we did with the School are important to us to give something back to the Community”. RC

Tim Hansen-Haefliger's

He was up with Antonia and is a composer. Tim came to it in a roundabout way. He grew up in Orange, learnt piano, but by his own admission, didn't practice. Later he did a Theatre Course at CSU and went to Sydney as a theatre technician. He claims a double life of theatre and music. He freelances in Cabaret and talks of the performances

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he's been a part of. "It's different from the formal situation of going to a concert with the ritual of preparing oneself for the pomp and ceremony of a concert".. "The desire for change became stronger in Hill End" he said. "I've been so busy composing that I've not had time to experiment. Here I've had time to walk around, to listen to sounds, like the frogs and the creek and the echoes of my voice from the cliffs around Kitty's Falls. His own music is contemporary classic. Tim's music has depth and progression, rhythm and divergence that rivet the listener. Played loud or as background music, it throws up new things every time. He started a guitar concerto in Canberra before he came here. "Just sketches over a month. The first part is frenetic with rhythms that never let up. The second part, composed up here is more mellow".

Yet another artist finds wealth at the Tip. Tim found some pipes discarded by Hill End Gold. These tubes are used to protect the holes drilled for rock bolts. A long slot had been cut out of the diameter and this gave them a different sound from the simple tubes we call wind chimes. He cut them to various lengths. With two sets, he is thinking of a piece with two percussionists playing in tandem.

Working with Youth

Both Antonia and Tim worked with the Students of Hill End, Wattle Flat and Sofala and did a 2 day workshop with them. The 1st day was music. Tim made them "balloon-a-phones" which are PVC pipes with half a balloon and a mouthpiece like a clarinet. They made a sound, like a didgeridoo. Walking down the Avenue it was like a herd of rhinoceroses looking for a mate.

Alternatively, they had "whirly whizzers" made of flexible grey-water pipe, which make the sound of a bullroarer. Antonia led the 2nd day with shadow puppetry. Behind a screen backlit by a projector, simple shapes come alive. "It's a way of teaching drama and they are all things you can make at home" she said. RC

David Turley-Murray's

An installation artist, David said, "I'm into traces, marks left behind. I'm a collector of found objects and re-present ephemera and personal objects, transforming them into another way of perceiving them I have a fascination with light; it's always incorporated in my installations". David did a couple of long residencies in Perth and one in Tokyo. One of his Perth residencies was up the road from an auctioneer of deceased estates; he bought whole boxes of diaries and drawings, which he worked into installations at various exhibitions. "It is the history of the item when someone passes on which interests me. They take on a new life". The Hill End Tip provided a rich source of found objects, as it has for so many recent artists. RC



David Yardley-Chandelier

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Caitlin Yardley-Murray's

The Cricketers turns 60

"I work with large scale poured oil paintings. I make them flat as much as my control allows. Then there are other factors, such as the weather, gravity and the wonky floorboards of my studio. All of those things have a say in the way the oil paint dries "As the paint dries", she continued, "some veining occurs and then it takes 3-5 weeks to dry completely. I have to do it all at once even if it takes 15 hours to finish a painting. Oil paint has a fleshy quality so that you can achieve a very visceral effect". In Hill End she has started drawing flowers in preparation for a show in Perth. She picked up an old copy of *Art in Australia* in Murray's Cottage and found an article on Women artists in Western Australia. It provided a focus for her next show in WA. In her work there is a strong vertical element, which she sees "as negating any references you might see, rather than referencing anything figurative you see if they were horizontal. So, it's all about colour, paint, line and edges" she concluded. RC



The Cricketers is perhaps Drysdale's most famous painting, and one of the most reproduced images in twentieth-century Australian art. This year is the 60th anniversary of its creation.

The subject of three figures, (Ted Woolard and Roy Holloway being two of the three) set amid the stark walls of building in a deserted town, is a haunting and extremely original interpretation of a familiar sporting theme.

The painting was a commission from an English publisher, Walter Hutchinson. He wanted a painting of an Australian cricket match and asked his Melbourne office to arrange a commission from one of Australia's best-known artists. The request was referred to a collector and dealer who worked for Hutchinson. The collector mentioned the matter to Drysdale, who was occupied with subjects of Hill End. Drysdale's painting of country boys having an informal game of cricket against a building at Hill End was not what Walter Hutchinson was expecting, and was shocked. He cabled Melbourne and fired his collector. The next day, having ascertained that Drysdale was indeed a distinguished Australian artist, Hutchinson cabled to reinstate him. Ed.



Caroline Yardley-Pour 53

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Graeme Inson- Clarke St 1996

3 Hill End Unique Facts

Gold

Hill End was the first place where payable gold was worked in Australia, the first where gold was mined from quartz veins, and the first to have a stamper battery.

Between 1857 and 1950, close to 21,770 kg (700,000 ounces) of gold were mined at Hill End, valued at about \$ 565 – million in 2006.

<http://www.bathurst.nsw.au/community/community.asp?PageId=4>

Beaufoy Merlin Photographs

Perhaps the most beneficial business to have graced Hill End was the photographic business of one Henry Beaufoy Merlin. He was a much travelled and sought after photographer, whose photographs depicting the gold era throughout New South Wales and Victoria have turned into a wealth of information, since his plates were rediscovered in 1951. Almost all of his works are now housed in the Mitchell Library and are thankfully preserved for posterity. Viewing these photographs reveal a wealth of information that could not be gleaned from written words.

Art

Hill End has also been the inspiration and home to three generations of Australian artists cementing its history within Australian modernism. Since Donald Friend and Russell Drysdale first laid eyes on Hill End in 1947, many of Australia's most famous post-war artists have visited and worked there.

Friend was inspired by an article on Hill End as a remote, half-forgotten area with a beauty rarely seen anywhere.

In 1995 the Hill End Artists-in-Residence Program was established at Haefligers' cottage. Bathurst Regional Gallery also obtained Donald Friend's cottage, enabling visiting artists to work in the historic landscape.

It is now seen as almost as a rite of passage for artists to work in Hill End. Hill End remains a landscape for the imagination, both speculative and open ended. The scarred earth and scattered houses, the silent ruins, the leaden skies and the resilient locals remain a part of the compelling ingredients that continue to make Hill End such an intriguing location for the creative spirit.

Has Hill End drawn more artists than artists have drawn Hill End however?



Hill End 1960's- David Srathan

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Spring (September 2008)



October 19th 1872 Star of Hope

19th October, 1872, the day on which there was found in the Star of Hope mine the largest specimen of reef gold ever known in the world. It was detached as carefully as possible (some broke off in the process) under the supervision of Holtermann and Alfred Bullock, the assistant mine manager, and eventually brought to the surface.

Looking back, it is clear that from the first Holtermann regarded the specimen as his very own; it assumed the significance of some great mascot or talisman that would carry him forward to everything the world had to offer. There must be a photograph, of course - one that would permanently record the outward appearance of the great specimen and those associated with its discovery.

The finding of the specimen

To the left is to be seen Holtermann and to the right Alfred Bullock; those in the back row, commencing second from the left, are: L. Burns, J. Smith, D. Hogan, J. Williams, H. Burgess, M. Hogan, J. Hendry, A. Greek, H. Miller, E. Williams, E. Whalen; in the front row: Gunivitch, R. Kerr, Holtermann, Bullock, W. Roberts. the great "nugget" duly went with the other matrix material to Pullen & Rawsthorne's Battery.

All that remains today is its portrait and those few figures on paper which showed the results of the month's crushing - a grand total of 15,581 ounces, this from 72 tons of stone, or a return of 57 ounces to the ton.

The Stamper Battery

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Membership

\$ 10 Per annum or part

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