

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue



Haefligers Cottage

Open Day

The tours of Craigmoor were booked out before it started. A 4WD group from Dubbo had to miss the House but for a reduced rate got to see the other nine houses. All up there were 135 people and a healthy injection into Progress's coffers. Craigmoor contributes about 40% of the Association's annual income before grants. Groups came up from the Historic Houses Trust and the Hill End Gathering, organised by the indefatigable Lorraine Purcell. Years of practice made it the best-organised event ever. Parks made a great effort to have the Town looking neat for Open Day and Brian Hodge is impressed with "the dedication, commitment and vigour of the staff in cleaning up Tambaroora". Visitors enjoy the badges that Sheena Goodwin makes to permit them entry into the other houses. They are small chips of quartz glued to a safety pin: simple and effective. The absolute best

comment of the day was "I love those drunken fences". Kim Deacon summed it up "people get so much from Open Day and they particularly enjoy Beyer's". We who live here just don't realise what a special place we reside in. It gives visitors an insight into the hardships our forebears had to endure, especially seeing Beyer's. It has a contemplative quality, according to Glenn Woodley, who introduces people to it, rather than guides them through. Craigmoor needs guiding because it is a vastly different place. Some say that Beyers ought to be done up like the other houses. That would rob it of its power for reflection. Visitors come for the history.

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

Minitour October 2008

Taking advantage of the beautiful weather and Hill End Open Day on 19th October, a small group of the Hill End

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

Gathering members recently spent a few days in the Village. Conveyor, Lorraine Purcell and her husband Dennis Lynch hired a minibus to bring 5 members of Glendora Lawson's family back to visit the old family home at Rose Cottage. Lorraine's mum Eileen, and work colleague Ion Sloggett were joined by artist Fahy Bottrell (whose great great grandparents Christopher and Margery Bottrell are buried at Sofala) on the journey.

After a tour to Tambaroora and the Bald Hill lookout the group was warmly welcomed to Rose Cottage by Betty Jeffree for lunch on Saturday and appreciated the friendly hospitality that we have come to expect. The Cottage has changed somewhat since Biddy Marshall (nee Pomfret), now in her 90s, used to stay with her Gran (Glendora) there back in the 1930s and she was able to tell of the good times that she experienced during her stays. It was a wonderful opportunity for her daughter Glen and other family members, Kaye, Dawn and Margaret, to talk of times gone by. The village was looking it's best when the group enjoyed the opportunity to look at the old buildings that were open on the Sunday and to take time to wander the town, marvelling at how different it must have been "way back when". Fahy Bottrell added colour to the event and was quite at home in the company of some of the locals at the Hotel on Sunday evening where a few of us gathered to settle the dust and enjoy a pub supper. Intrepid photographers Di Greenhaw and Liz Hopkins (who flew down from Brisbane for the weekend) were in attendance and recorded the weekend for posterity. The party was ably accommodated at the Lodge and the

Hotel and the general consensus on the way home was that it well worth the trip.

Lorraine Purcell
Hill End & Tambaroora
Gathering
Group



Gathering group at Bald Hill

The October Long Weekend

Though it was predicted, the weather before was so pleasant, we didn't believe it would be so inclement on the Long Weekend. Spring weather can be chaotic and so it proved to be, with rain over the weekend. There were 541 campers but the rain sent some timid ones back home early. Not all was lost. However Julie Gilmore's plans for more activities on the holiday weekend were restricted to indoor events. Hill End Gold had a stall in the Hall and that attracted much interest. The P&C raised a lot of money from their jumble sale. A P&C group from Bondi Beach was staying in the camping ground and they went around the long way so that they could be "held up" by the kids to raise money for the School. Craigmoor had visitors trying to escape the damp weather.

St Paul's Presbyterian Church

The application for a grant was rejected by Bathurst Regional Council. However all is not lost. The advantage of having a designated Councillor bore fruit on his very first visit. Ross Thompson was able to tell us the real reason for the rejection.

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

Council assumed that the building was owned by the Mudgee Diocese and it is considered by the Council to be a private owner. That is not so Don Rookledge proclaimed, it is owned by the Trustees. We await future developments.

The General Store

The Craft Group continues at the General Store every Wednesday, which is a good meeting place for the ladies of Hill End. Julie Gilmore says that they are trying to get a Jam Session going once a month on a Friday with a different person playing with dinner. Remember too that everyday you can borrow books from the Library Depot at the General Store.

Mo-vement at the Royal Hotel

From the start of the month guys with a clear shaven face will have the whole of the month to grow and groom a mo (moustache). Along the way they will raise money for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and male depression. The statistics speak loud and clear. The aim of the Mo-vement Movement is to raise awareness. The female staff of the Pub will judge the winner.

Another initiative was advertised outside the Shop by the NSW Farmers Mental Health Network (Leanne 6238 1549). And of course our Community Nurse Rebecca Conolly is available for discussion on men's problems. She is an easy person to talk to about things we don't want to talk about.

National Parks on the Local Landscape

Lew Bezzina also told us of things of more local interest. At Mt Tomah visitors can download a guide onto their

MP3 players and they can have an informative tour of the gardens. This is being investigated for Hill End. There are housekeeping ideas; the Camping Grounds might need upgrading. When built they were ample, but expectations change and the Camping Grounds need to change with the times. More than housekeeping are the repairs to the verandah of the Royal Hotel, which looks dangerous if you look up. The water and sewerage to some properties needed replacement, for it is a long time since they were installed. And standards have been raised: what worked 30 years ago is not acceptable today. The Service will begin to map its assets in line with modern expertise. That will save time in the future. The most basic housekeeping is the ongoing mowing and the spraying of weeds, that we only notice when they are not done.

Tourism

Visitations to the town of Parkes were down 20% according to ABC News and since then we have had the global economic meltdown. Opposite opinions arise from that event. Some say people won't leave home whilst others say that they will because they can't afford to go overseas with the dollar back down again. Sheena Goodwin mentioned that we might be getting more Grey Nomads, judging from the occupation of the camping area outside of school holidays. It is necessary to promote the place in every way we can. Lew Bezzina said that Parks does not have an advertising budget, though of course we feature strongly in their magazine on all the State's Parks. The *Discover* Magazine draws people through Glenn Woodley's monthly articles. We featured on the cover of this month's issue. Check it out.

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

Don Rookledge asked the question “What is our future as a Tourist Destination?” at a recent Progress Association Meeting. His concern is the lack of businesses that are open when the tourists get here. It’s a conundrum. Fewer tourists mean less business and we have been through a very quiet and cold winter. Don wants to “generate a plan for the future” and that “needs some discussion to have a viable Community”. The Association is active in this area. It has invited Felicity Baines, Manager of the Bathurst Visitors Information Centre to the next Progress Meeting. Julie Gilmore believes that there is diversity and that “there are a lot of things happening”. So it’s not all gloom and doom.

The School

Funding to the School has been cut. Formerly it was considered an isolated school, but the distance has been increased to 90km and this will not be reviewed until 2011. Mudgee is not considered a major centre the way Bathurst is and this means Hargraves still qualifies as an isolated school. The cut will restrict extra curricular activities such as excursions and special learning programs. The bureaucracy can be cruel at times.

Roads

Work continues on the Bathurst Road. Peter Benson of Bathurst Council tells us will seal another 2 km from Hill End to what he calls the Posey Hill Road, which looks more like a driveway than a real road. Norm Bennett says that the road runs beside Sunnyside and past the airport there. Peter is in the process of applying for more funding from the RTA for further work next year and if

successful that will leave a gap of just a couple of km. However, he says, “if we can stretch the dollar, it’ll all be sealed”. Cast your minds back a few years and try to remember what the journey was once like. Sheena Goodwin recalls that back in the 50s people used to wear light dust coats before the road was sealed. Once in Bathurst they would remove them. “You have to remember that cars weren’t well sealed back then and the dust would billow in” she said. The Mudgee Road may be fully sealed first. Road widening continues in preparation for further sealing; unfortunately a line of trees had to be removed. Let’s hope they get replanted in the future.

Ed DeLong
Media Officer
Mid-Western Regional Council

Bridges

Lew Bezzina told us of generosity of Bathurst Regional Council in funding the repairs to the second Warrys Road Bridge. It is at that point a Crown Road and we all know they don’t have money for roadworks. DECC will manage the project through Lew Bezzina. The drawings are in Council for review and will be going to tender soon. During construction access will be available to let traffic through. Afterwards buses will be able to reach the Bald Hill Mine, which is important to school excursion groups and to the tourism of Hill End.

Electricity

Country Energy has installed state of the art voltage regulation equipment at Turondale, this provides our customers at Hill End with regular voltage supply to their homes. Country Energy has also had a strong focus on vegetation management in the Hill End area,

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

vegetation management is critical all year round to ensure our native fauna and flora are within safe levels to our overhead network.

While no energy company can assure 100 per cent reliability, Country Energy is investing strongly throughout the region to upgrade existing infrastructure, improve supply reliability and lift overall service levels.

Country Energy inspects the overhead electrical network on a 4.5 year cycle and, in addition to this inspection cycle, carries out a number of pre-summer inspections including the inspection of all overhead assets to minimise the risk of bushfire, ensure public safety and reliability of the network.

In this financial year Country Energy will invest more than \$ 36 million in the Central Western Region in regular and rigorous maintenance and capital works programs to enhance supply capacity and reliability.

Boosting employee numbers in the Central West to enhance service delivery levels, Country Energy has employed 19 apprentices in Orange and Bathurst over the past six years and will continue to employ local people, with another 2 apprentice line workers to begin in the cities in January 2009. These investments in people and infrastructure reinforce Country Energy's commitment to maintain and provide an essential service for our customers now and into the future while ensuring the safety of the public and our own people. As we are now in the beginning of storm season Country Energy advises that if you are effected by a supply interruption to call Country Energy on 13 20 80.

Joanne Elms
Manager Community Relations, Central Western
Country Energy

Ross Thompson

Ross was elected to Bathurst Regional Council in the last elections. It is his first time on Council and he brings to it an interesting background. Those elections brought huge changes to the composition of the body. Only four Councilors retained their seats, Clrs North, Burke, Carpenter and Toole, who remains the Mayor. There are five newly elected members. Ross is our Duty Delegate and that gives HEPTA access to a specific Councillor, as distinct from the staff members of Council. This is a great asset for HEPTA, having a direct link to an informed person. He attended the October meeting and took away detailed information about the ownership of St Paul's Church to counter the rejection of the grant application. We all pass the Milla Murrah Angus Stud on the Turondale Road. Ross returned to the land in 1993 after doing an Economics Degree at Sydney University and later working in rural banking. He has since held a number of positions in farming associations, including the Bathurst Sale yards. He was motivated to stand because he felt Bathurst Council needed a rural representative as distinct from a city-centric one. In 2001 he went and set up a stud in Argentina, a country with a long cattle history. Australia, he says, leads the world in cattle genetics and he exports embryos overseas. Ross is married to Dimity and they have two young daughters. He is keen on sport, so we just might get him into the cricket team.

The Hill End Rifle Club

Further to the article by Don Rookledge in the last issue, Bob Fraser informed the Progress Meeting the reason for the fence around the range. Its purpose is to

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

deter horsemen and 4WD drivers from encroaching the space whilst there is a shoot in progress. Fortunately no one did during the last hundred years of the Club's existence, but that is not really the point. It is a visual barrier and it is mandatory. One person who was ignorant of the procedures was relieved to learn that they shoot away from the road. Safety is of prime importance on a rifle range. During an interview years ago, the Secretary of the Muzzleloaders interrupted many times to check the rifles of those leaving the range to make sure the breeches were empty.



Original Hill End Rifle Club
Photo Courtesy Albert Maris

Hal Gilmore

Joan and Hal inherited a flock of geese from the Film "Right Hand Man". They have continued to multiply ever since. However some have been the victims of attack by foxes. Like all geese they can be a bit aggressive and at times they are more ferocious than the dogs. A goat named Bambalam guards the flock from foxes tirelessly and it used to shepherd them across the Bathurst Road when they went visiting. They have been seen resting on the warm bitumen in the middle of the road in the middle of winter. That comes as a shock to drivers leaving Hill End. It is in command. The

goat sent newly acquired goats back to their owners on the Ullamalla Road and it dismissed two stray deer. Such is the territorial instinct and the awesome responsibility that this silly goat feels.

It was a group of scouts that first brought Joan and Hal Gilmore. Later they bought the property Sarnia (it means green grass in the Guernsey Isles). It was developed by le Meursier and the Gilmores are the fourth owners.

Ross Brown, the President of HEPTA made a presentation to Hal at the September Meeting for his involvement in Craigmoor. Ross said that when he came to Hill End 30 years ago, Craigmoor was always closed. It was Hal, he declared, who showed him and Peter through and many others in the fourteen years that he was caretaker. Hal was later a guide for the Friends of Craigmoor. His long association with the House was acknowledged with a certificate and a small gift.

The Weather

At the beginning of October the morning temperature was 3° at 5am, which brought a light frost. It quickly rose to 12° at 8 am and 20° at noon but during the afternoon it fell to 16° at 3 pm. The very next morning it was 13° at 5 am; the variability is disturbing to our wellbeing. But that is springtime with its unruly weather. Tanks are full and dams overflowing. Fast flowing water filled the Turon and Dry Creek on the way to Bathurst briefly did not live up to its name. We had good rains from June through October, though strong winds in October quickly dried off the surface moisture. Later showers refreshed the topsoil. So far so good

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

The Bathurst Car Races didn't affect us unless you went shopping during Race Week. The television coverage went on and on, with a few spills to make some excitement. Commenting on the speed in the pit stops, Rob Payne said that it might take them six minutes, but when they renew brake pads for us, they charge us two hours.

Diamonds in the rough

There's more than gold in these damn hills. Around Monkey Hill there are to be found some diamonds according to Steve Hobbs, rough and poor quality, but still diamonds. If you look carefully there are some mullock heaps below the TV towers on the mount of Monkey Hill. The quest was started by the finding of some rough diamonds in the adjacent creeks, but little else is known. Brian Hodge says that Bald Hill Mine was dug further in 1899 to try to find more, but that venture was unsuccessful. It was thought that it was an extinct volcano and would certainly contain some diamonds in the pipes where the lava flowed.

Hill End Community Health Centre

Hay fever is the common name for allergic rhinitis, which means an allergy affecting the nose. Most people associate hay fever with spring, when airborne pollens from grasses are at their peak. However, hay fever can occur at any time of the year and is caused by a reaction to allergens around the home such as dust mites, moulds or animal hair or fur. Symptoms include: Sneezing; A runny or stuffy nose; Itchy ears, nose and throat; Red, itchy or watery eyes; Headaches. In severe cases, a person can't sleep or concentrate, and may feel tired or unwell. Reducing hay fever symptoms

Ways to prevent or control symptoms of hay fever include: Check the pollen count forecast. Try to stay indoors if it is high. Stay indoors as much as possible in spring, on windy days or after thunderstorms. In your garden, choose plants that are pollinated by birds or insects, rather than plants that release their seeds into the air. Smear petroleum jelly (like Vaseline) inside your nose to stop the pollen from touching the lining of your nose. Splash your eyes often with cold water to flush out any pollen. Reduce your exposure to dust / dust mites, animals / animal hair or fur (dander). Avoid rubbing itchy eyes. Breathing in steam or salt water (saline) sprays can help relieve a blocked nose. Some medications may help the symptoms of hay fever. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice. You may be advised to try: Nasal sprays – these help reduce the inflammation in the nose, which is the cause of nasal blockage and other symptoms. They need to be used regularly as directed to be effective. Anti-histamine medications (non-sedating) – these may be useful to control sneezing and itching, but are not as effective as sprays to control a severely blocked or runny nose. Eye drops – may relieve itchy, swollen or runny eyes.

Reference: <http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcy2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Hayfever?open>

The Women's Health Nurse will be visiting on 24th November.

Rebecca Conolly
Transitional Nurse Practitioner Sofala / Hill End

New Fire Shed Progress

Roofing and cladding of the shed is proceeding and if all goes well we are hopeful of completion to lock up by the end of the year. On behalf of the Brigade I would like to sincerely thank those

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

who helped with this work and encourage everyone to continue supporting this worthwhile community project.

Jim Shanahan
President/Deputy Captain



Hill End Gold

The company is emerging as a strong contender for an environmental award from the NSW Minerals Council for its work in rehabilitation. The spoil from the Raise Bore Site 10 000m³ was used to fill an erosion gully to the west. This solution saved large transport costs. Erosion gullies continue to form and this solution prevented further erosion. A creek bed was formed to direct the run-off in a coherent fashion. Layers of hay, seeding and planting are bringing the reclaimed area back to match the adjacent bush. The care the company took to solve this problem is to be commended. The restoration was led by Rob Payne and the hard working Rehab Team.



Roy Holloway, Ted Woolard in Drysdale's 'Cricketers' 60th Anniversary this year.

Cricket Dates

23rd Nov

Pyramul vs. Hill End at Pyramul

7th Dec

Hill End vs. Hargraves at Hill End

Fond Memories

Peter Leggett has passed away, Joan Auld tells us. The family owns the property on Lees Lane next to the Aulds and they come up on long weekends when you'll see lots of tents in the yard. They bought it from Moira Smith 50 years ago and before that it was owned by Ada Cooke. Joan says that Peter worked for the ABC and Betty Jeffree mentioned that he was a model train enthusiast, turning his hobby into a business with a shop in Dural. Betty also said that he was one of the first shooters to come up here. Peter is survived by his wife Bronwyn, Stepdaughters Louise and Susan, and his Sister-in-law Carol.



Photo-Phillip Johnstone

Birds of a Different Feather

The parrot population was decimated during the Depression when farmers were seeking to control the rabbit population with baits, says Luke Sciberras. Peter Mitchell feels that the parrots have declined recently. Luke

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

suggests, “If conditions in the bush are right they hang around the river otherwise they move back into Hill End”. Peter has seen more galahs lately, which he says are meadow birds and are seen around the village regularly. Luke Sciberras has noticed the Yellow Faced Honeyeater around. It calls as it flies and its song is like a cork being squeaked in a bottle. Also around during winter was the Grey Shrike Thrush; it looks like a grey butcherbird. Both have deceptively large calls for such little birds. Luke says that the Koels are back from wintering in Bali; they are also called storm birds. Some are black with yellow beaks; some are striped. They make two sounds: a whistle that drives Sydneysiders berserk and a “woolah-woolah”. The Red Browed Finch has been spotted by Maggy Todd and this is a newcomer to our report.



Doreen Shaw

Recent Hill End Books

Tamara Dean and Dean Sewell have published a book, a limited edition from the photographs they took during their first residency. Luke described the photos as “a moment in time in the village captured in velvety blacks and silvery lights of people at home and in the Pub. They had Les Campbell on his

farm and Ray Auld at the Mill. They did The Big Pub Photo with many locals lined up outside to replicate a former photo of the townsfolk.

Artist’s Lunch

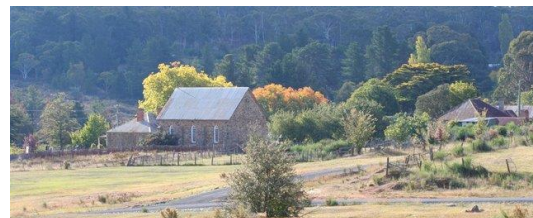
Luke Sciberras has featured in yet another book, entitled *The Artist’s Lunch* by Alice M^cCormick and Sarah Rhodes. Luke along with 19 other artists feature and, yes there is a recipe in the back. It’s all about what to do with a duck in the oven. First get a duck. Then read the recipe.

Brett Hilder

Brett has had two books published recently. The first he says “is a bit of a fable about his journey with his wife and getting her out of Eritrea also it is about his hassles with the Immigration Department to bring her to Australia”. The second is “a poetic journal about the dream of travel, more than travel itself. It contains photographs and words and is more to do with the Hispanic and Mediterranean world”. His dark sensual photographs are captivatingly displayed in his second book.

Inscribed throughout our history

Since the penning of “Robbery under Arms” in the 1870’s, Hill End has been frequently written of. A highlight of the afore mentioned novel, is the Turon Race held at the property on the Turon crossing now known as “Homeward Bound”.



The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

Rosemary Valadon

The current Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Show features an Invitational Drawing Exhibition and part of the acquisition program. by Rosemary Valadon is represented by her drawing of Genevieve Moseley. "All of the artists have work in the collection and it is based on artists in the Region", Sarah Gurich said. "It is about building the collection to give a stronger representation of the artists' individual works we have already". Rosemary already is in the collection with her painting "Open Door" from her residency at Haefliger's all those years ago before she bought here. "Rosemary is well known as a figurative artist and the Show is a fantastic opportunity to acquire new work" Sarah said. BRAGS, the Friends of the Gallery contributed funding to make this show happen.



Genevieve by Rosemary Valadon

On at the same time are drawings from Kedumba and the AGNSW, which contain many different styles and techniques over a long period from both collections. Jean Bellette features strongly in the AGNSW Collection along with her contemporaries.

Gria Shead and Luke Sciberras

Together will be showing in Rylstone during the month of November at the Number Forty Seven Gallery, which incidentally is opposite Peter Garry's Globe Hotel.

The Jean Bellette Gallery

Glenn Woodley is currently featured at the Visitors' Centre and the launch was attended by more than 50 people, highest turn out yet. At the opening Gavin Wilson congratulated Glenn on the copy he made of the Donald Friend sign that hangs outside the Royal Hotel. It's been up for a month and looks as if it's been there for 50 years. Gavin gave Glenn a good wrap-up when opening the exhibition, comparing him with Orpheus from his early days in Jamaica and the effect of Reggae on his aesthetics. He also complimented Glenn on the work he did on Heap's Cottage, which he picked off the ground when he came to Hill End 13 years ago. At the time he began, there were only the two front rooms just standing. It now looks and feels like the original. He pictured Glenn as seeing the comings and goings of Hill End from his eyrie at Heaps. He has blended into the Community, Gavin said, being Editor of this newsletter and a committee member of the Progress Association. In fact he's been here so long that the clout of Hill End is embedded in his soul, unlike those visiting artists who are only here for a month. Gavin mentioned as well that Glenn had been selected twice for the Blake Prize (for religious paintings) and twice invited to the Florence Biennale. He studied at the National Art School in Sydney. The show runs through until January 2009.

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue

Lino Alvarez at Mary Place

Lino's exhibition was opened by Janet Mansfield, President of the International Academy of Ceramics who has supported the craft of pottery for a very long time.

Artists-in-Residence

Michael Bell

It was the historical link with Australian artists that drew Michael to Hill End. He comes from Newcastle, which is a city with its own strong artistic history. In Hill End he found "a place unlike anywhere else. It had been recommended by other artists who had worked here and I was curious" he said. "It was only for 3 weeks, but I got a good sense of the place in that time. I found myself picking up on the colour combinations in the landscape. I was particularly struck by the Indian red of those sheds as you drive in from Bathurst" [at Clare Hill]. Michael describes his work as figurative in style and graphic in technique. He works in oils on canvas. "I found working in Jean Bellette's studio inspiring – it has an exceptional atmosphere". He was working towards an exhibition at Ray Hughes Gallery whilst here. He had a successful opening there with Richard Perram representing BRAG. Most of the paintings he did here are hanging there.

Scott Marr

He grew up in Leeton NSW with his grandmother in a huge old building designed for Water Resources Engineers with 120 rooms. "I was never a good reader" he said "so I appreciated imagery and my grandmother exposed me to good art, the Renaissance and the Classical Period". He was fascinated by the isolation of Hill End. Asked about

his method of work, he was firm on one point: "One thing I want to be very clear about is that [what follows] is not an environmental statement. Nothing better describes the environment better than using the environment itself. I challenged myself to find pigments from the landscape here. These are subtle hidden secrets" he continued, rising to his subject, "once you discover them, they are abundant and very generous". Scott found pigments in the soil and plants; aqua and blue from grape hyacinths and lilacs; vibrant yellows from the wattles at the beginning of the season. This vibrancy varies with the timing within the season, he has found. Scott was excited by a bark wash he distilled and he collected charcoal for drawing. "The charcoal was particularly interesting, because once broken down with water, it gives off a green tinge that is very true to the colour of shadows. Scott felt like a kid again, being in Hill End. "There's something about the true silence that's really rare these days" as he said this, his neighbour across the Lane set out on his ride-on mower, headlights a' blazing. He wants to thank the Ladies of the Kitchen at the Pub for the veggies "I didn't feel neglected at all".



Scott Marr

The Stamper Battery

November 2008 Issue



Golden Gully Arch-Di Greenshaw

National Parks in the Broader Landscape

The Service has been quietly working away and the Manager, Lew Bezzina told the last couple of meetings about their activities. They are working on additional interpretation for the whole Village. "Important themes have been neglected" Lew said. "There was the first gold boom with the alluvial workings in Golden Gully including the Chinese presence. The second gold boom opened up the Golden Quarter Mile on Hawkins Hill. The third gold boom introduced new technology and then followed the poor man's mining". All these phases are neither documented nor available to our visitors, not to mention the current exploration. "There are lots of gaps in our history and that includes the various phases in our arts history" Lew continued. And bravely,

they will address the invasion of the Town by the Parks Service in 1978 with its positive and negative effects on those living here at the time. This needs to be recorded truthfully for future generations. Properly recorded the experience could be useful to other arms of Government in very different locations.



Hill End 1950s-Simon Harriet