

Stamper Battery Autumn (April 2009)



Phillip Johnstone-Golden Chill

Hill End Weather

The last twelve months saw extremes of temperatures within our village.

Last winter minus 15 was recorded; it was actually warmer in Antarctica on that day.

Summer brought a heat wave that reached 46 degrees; it was cooler in the Sahara on that particular day. Now as autumn settles in we await with some trepidation the approaching winter chill.

Germantown Nuptials

Jason and Janine Morris were married in April 2009 at Ackerman Cottage in Germantown Lane.

Jason is of English descent and Janine of German origins.

Similarly 129 years previously Mary Anne Ackerman and Joseph Herbert Groves were married at Ackerman Cottage in 1885 in April as well. Mary Anne was also of German descent and Joseph had English origins.

This was the only wedding at the cottage until Jason and Janine's recent wedding.



Lorraine Miller - Ackerman Cottage Wedding

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Ackerman Cottage on SBS



Maggie Beer, is a celebrity cook who has a weekly TV program called 'The Cook and The Chef'.

SBS is making a series called 'Who Do You Think You Are', tracing various Australian's origins. Maggie is the subject of one such episode and is related to Lorraine Miller via the Ackerman side.

Maggie and film crew came to Hill End to film some of the episode in Ackerman Cottage. Betty Jefree from Rose Cottage catered for the occasion; serving mouth watering delights such as Filo pastry baskets with chicken mornay, corn and crab quiche, and Hill End blackberry pie and cream to name but a few items from the variety of fine fare Betty presented.

Betty is much famed for her Devonshire Teas that she serves in her garden; perhaps Margaret Beer could do an episode of her show about Betty's culinary skills.

Easter in Hill End

This Easter as per usual the camping grounds were overflowing.

The annual Easter service was held at St. Paul's. Craigmoor held Open House on Saturday and Sunday. Stalls in the Royal Hall, filled the building.

The Pub reported its best Easter yet. Hosie's Store joined in the festivities by having a sidewalk café for the weekend,

which proved a great success, adding an extra ambience to the village.

Two New Businesses at Easter

The General Store



New proprietors of the General Store, Colin and Michelle Wilson Gunn took over just in time for the Easter onslaught of visitors. Baptism by fire indeed.

We wish them well in their new venture and wonder how Colin 'Jock of all Trades' still maintains the stamina and finds the time to wear two busy hats. His team can still to make the camping ground amenities sparkle, whilst at the same time dedicate them selves to the shop.

Hill End Press



Bill and Genevieve Moseley have opened a new gallery and café at Holtermans Corner. Coffee, cakes and art, again just in time for Easter. Once again we wish them every success and offer our appreciations for making the village a little more dynamic.

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

HETPA President's Report

The Progress Association has completed another year and the same Committee has been re-elected. Unfortunately no one else was nominated for the committee.

The year has been successful in as much as our projects have been completed and our finances are still healthy although it is not the aim of the association to accumulate funds. The bulk of our funds came from the Open Days and the Craigmoor open house days. The volunteers have done a great job and have given their time and effort to support the town and I thank them for this dedication. I know that there are other things that they probably would rather be doing.

A special mention must be made of the P&C refreshment stall on the open day the patrons only had good things to say of the food and staff so thank you Stella, Gria and Luke.

The private people who open their houses on Open Day make the day a memorable event for our visitors and along with the people at the public buildings I thank them and the people who assist them on those hectic days

Easter 2009 was our busiest ever and the town really put on a great welcome for our visitors with the Royal Hotel, Hill End Lodge, the General store, Hosies B&B, Holterman's Corner and Rose Cottage catering for their needs.

The Royal Hall refurbishment has been completed with the raising of the stage

floor and the new scenery panels. The Kitchen has been painted and fitted out with the utensils thought to be required, the store room floor has been replaced and shelves erected. The photographs have been catalogued, cleaned and rehung. The hall has been repainted inside and out, down pipes to the rainwater tank fixed and the area at the back door paved. Thanks to all those who helped with these tasks.

Our initial application for a Village Grant to repair the Presbyterian Church was unsuccessful but a second application to fund a disabled access ramp to the nurse's clinic was and it should be in operation after June of this year. The National Parks have also constructed a moveable wheelchair ramp for the Royal Hall. The Progress Association continues to support the Presbyterian Church through donations to the insurance costs.

Our web site *hillend.org* has been revamped and looks much better and more professional. Please have a look and let us know what you think.

The Committee looks forward to the New Year hoping for continued support both through attendance at meetings and with new ideas of how we can benefit the town through our activities as well as suggestions as to projects to attempt or seek funding for.

Ross Brown
President
HETPA

Stamper Battery Autumn (April 2009)

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

The group held its 'gathering' in Sydney on 7th March, with over 70 people attending. We all had a pleasant day and luckily the weather was kind. Some people took the time to catch up with relatives while others made new contacts. It is amazing to meet a distant relative for the first time to find that you are very much alike.

At the 'gathering' Lorraine Purcell launched the book of stories written for the Family History Expo writing competition held last year.

"Hill End Histories and Tambaroora Tales" is available in Hill End at Hosie's, Northey's, the General Store, the Visitors Centre and the Family History Room.

For those interested in furthering their family history research, the Pioneer Register CD is also stocked at these venues.

Lorraine and her husband Dennis are having a well-deserved holiday in Western Australia detecting for gold.

Daphne Shead for Lorraine Purcell I



Hill End Family History

I would like to thank all the wonderful people who donated copies of certificates, photos and lots of information to the family history archives. The files have been boosted with a wealth of data for the future generations.

Market stalls held in the Royal Hall over Easter were a huge success. The goods made available were household goods, clothing, cakes, jewelry, books, art, silk screening, plants and general bric-a-brac to name but just a few.

Is there anyone interested in doing the same again on the June long weekend. Please ring Daphne on 63378218 if you would like to discuss it.

There is still time to submit a story about your female ancestor for the book being written about the pioneer women who lived in Hill End, Tambaroora and surrounding districts in the 1800s.

The stories do not have to be documented fact but can be family stories and legends. These women deserve to be remembered just the same as the men have been.

Daphne Shead

www.hillendfamilyhistory.com

Hill End Histories & Tambaroora Tales

An anthology of short stories based on fact...and a little bit of fiction
Written & published by members of the Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group, edited by Lorraine Purcell, RRP \$25.00. The number of books written about the once great gold mining towns

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

of Hill End & Tambaroora can almost be counted on the fingers of both hands. Hill End Histories and Tambaroora Tales is the latest addition to this exclusive market. Once a thriving metropolis of over 7000 people in its heyday in the 1870s, Hill End is now a heritage village where you can step back in time and imagine how the early farmers and miners survived in the conditions of the day. When the gold ran out these settlers moved on to all parts of Australia. The actual descendants of these pioneers, members of the Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group, have put forward versions of their families' lives and events during this period.

"In this eclectic volume can be found young hopeful parents and their children, hardworking families, courageous men and women, grieving mothers, broken fathers, joyful men and women too - generation after generation of mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers carving out a determined, resolute living in what was often an inhospitable and unforgiving landscape".

**Noeline J Kyle, Honorary
Professor, University of Sydney
author of "Writing Family
History Made Very Easy"**

A well presented compilation of entries written for the inaugural Hill End Family Story Award in April 2008, this inspiring anthology is now available in book form. It is illustrated with family photos and puts stories against many of the photos in the historic Holtermann Photographic Collection held by the State Library of NSW. It also contains an index of names of people mentioned in the stories. This limited edition volume is a welcome supplement to the biographical material contained in the Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register

which was published by the Group in 2006 and would be an essential enhancement to any library, local studies or family history collection. Now out of print in hard copy, the Pioneer Register is still available on CD.

**Publications available from
Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group
12 Grantham St
Carlton NSW 2218
02 95870352
heatgg@yahoo.com.au
Lorraine Purcell
Convener
Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group**

Bathurst Road

Council has included funding under the Roads to Recovery Program for the continuation of the sealing of the Hill End Road.

As the road is a Classified Regional Road, a bid has also been placed for funding under the annual Repair Program to the Roads and Traffic Authority. Council has previously funded part of the works to date with funding under the Repair Program but this current financial year was unsuccessful in attracting funds from this source. It should be noted that Council competes for this funding with all other Councils in New South Wales for funding under this program.

The extent of works proposed in the 2009 / 2010 Program will depend on the amount of funding received from this RTA program if any.

Work will commence in the latter part of 2009.

**Correspondence
from Doug Patterson
Director Engineering Services
Bathurst Regional Council
to Ross Thompson of BRC**

**Written in response to correspondences sent by
HETPA President Ross Brown.**

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Park Life

Work has been completed to the Royal Hall Stage Area. All rotted and decayed posts, bearers and joists have been replaced and drainage works have been carried out to prevent water penetration. The floor boards have been sanded and sealed with lanotech. A great result from Ken Smith and Colin Gordon who carried out the work.

Work has begun on the Royal Hotel verandah. The roof and flooring will be replaced with complimentary work on the sub floor structure, railing and drainage and finally painting. This work is being carried out by Rod Burton from Mudgee.

Stabilisation work to the shed at Athol is nearly complete. Rotted posts and timber in the roof structure have been replaced, the doors will be re-built, corrugated iron adequately fixed and stormwater drainage rectified. Wayne Crowe and Matthew Healy from Sofala have done a great job.

Work will begin on painting Athol on 6 May 2009. This building has deteriorated over the years and it will be great to preserve the building fabric with original colours. Ray Passeri, a painter from Kelso will carry out the work.

Design and documentation for the Sacred Heart Church, Fairfax House and Denman's Cottage are almost complete. Christo Aitken a Heritage Architect from Napoleon Reef is the DECC consultant completing the reports. DECC will then decide on whether funding will be

sought to carry out the conservation work or advertise the properties as part

of the Conservation Lease Program. It will be great to have these properties occupied in the future.

Design and documentation is also being carried out for the future use of the CWA Hall. Christo Aitken is also completing these reports.

A Scope of Works has been completed and some conservation work will be carried out this financial year.

An Interpretation Strategy and Plan has been completed by Rose Deco Planning and Design after the well attended Focus Group meetings held in the Royal Hall. I'd like to thank all of the participants for your contribution and taking the time to attend the meetings. The information gathered will hold great weight in future funding proposals. To date ideas from the meetings have helped Hill End Historic Site gain \$40,000 funding to carry out repairs to the roads and tracks to Bald Hill and Merlin's Lookouts and Kissing Point, which DECC has contracted Bathurst Regional Council to carry out the work and to mount 7 famous artworks created in Hill End within the village and to produce a Self Guided Tour brochure.

Statistics on visitation at Hill End show that April 2009 was the highest in over 10 years. During the Easter period there was a real buzz around the village, with lots of laughter and content people in the area. The weather wasn't great but it

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

didn't stop any of the festivities. All commercial and retail operators and community groups contributed to the success with all doing a great job. In discussions with many tourists I'm not surprised that a major attraction for them to Hill End is the local community. Everyone is friendly, obliging and always up for a yarn about almost anything.

I'd like to welcome Colin and Michelle Wilson Gunn to the Hill End General Store. Colin and Michelle are the new operators of the premises after the lease was assigned to the new lessee's. Colin and Michelle had approximately 2 days to have the General Store stocked and operable before Easter.

Well done to you both and congratulations on your success since the assignment. I'd also like to thank the previous lessee's of the General Store, Julie and Stewart Gilmore for their efforts over the past 2 ½ years, and wish you and your family the best for the future.

In finishing I'd like to formally thank all of my Parks and Wildlife staff for their efforts overall, but especially in recent times. I'm amazed at your energy and never say die attitude. In my 2 ½ years at Hill End I don't think I have ever heard any staff member say; we can't do that or it can't be done.

We are constantly submitting proposals and coming up with new ideas to boost Hill End in a holistic way, which is positive and gaining momentum.

Lew Bezzina
Manager - Hill End Historic Site

Turon Panther re sighted



Recent photo of Turon Panther

Panthers have been seen along the Turon since the late forties, when US air force mascots escaped from the air base at Richmond. So frequent were sightings nearby at that time that hence today we get the name Penrith Panthers.

As the suburbs extended, via Capertee the felines soon made their way west to make the Turon valley their home.

Throughout the length of the valley large black cat sightings became most common.

Recently however such sightings have increased in number.

Stamper Battery input
Contributions of articles, information, history and images pertaining to Hill End and Tambaroora are always encouraged.

Contact-
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heaps@ix.net.au

Stamper Battery Autumn (April 2009)

Previous Resident Artists strike Gold

From the Canterbury Bankstown Express
Snapping duo richly rewarded



A husband and wife team has won first and second prize in one of nation's richest photography competitions, the Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize.

Dean Sewell was awarded first prize of \$80,000 and his wife Tamara Dean awarded \$2000 for A Dry Argument and The Bride, Ritualism Series.

Mr Sewell was a photographer with the Sydney Morning Herald for 20 years until 1998 when he decided to freelance. "I have my own time and space and can dedicate real time to big issues," Mr Sewell said. "I'm a storyteller and that's what drives my practice, looking at often quite complex stories."

His winning photo A Dry Argument is an illustration of the drought in South Australia.

"The photo gives you a visualisation of the lack of water in Mannum, lower

reaches of the Murray River in South Australia," he said.

He said people in the area must have had waterfront properties at some stage.

"There is a whole series of waterfront jetties, but no water - that would be

depressing." Mr Sewell plans to channel the \$80,000 back into his photography.

"The money we put into our photography is enormous ... the award is for the money that you put into it," he said.



Tamara Dean- Intoxication



Dean Sewell-Dry Argument

Another Residency winner

The Moran Portrait Prize for painting was coincidentally won by Ben Quilty, another previous residency artist.

From a Residency to a Resident

Frequent visitor, Ian Marr who previously did a BRAG Residency here recently purchased the Schoolhouse and will become our newest resident. We welcome him to Hill End.

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Resident's gold displayed at Mint

Extract from a Past Residents letter
1955



Gria Shead-Washstand Craigmoor

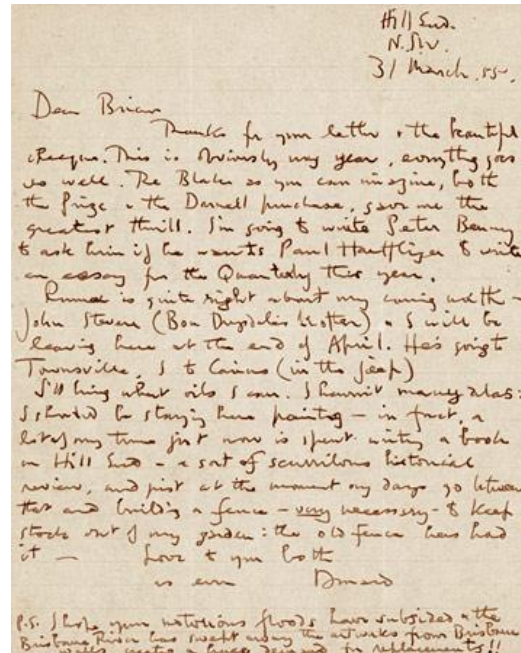
Gria Shead is a second generation painter who finds inspiration in the town and countryside of her home in Hill End. Known for her en plein air paintings of the landscape, Gria has more recently turned her attention to the evocative interiors of Hill End's historic built environment, especially those of Craigmoor, Hill End's best known historic house, managed by The National Parks and Wildlife Service. This exhibition of new works continues the partnership between the Hill End community and the HHT at the Mint.

From the HHT website



cow in Murray's garden

"I should be staying here painting - in fact, a lot of my time just now is spent writing a book in Hill End - a sort of scurrilous historical review, and just at the moment my days go between that and building a fence - very necessary - to keep stock out of my garden: the old fence has had it. As ever Donald."



Original Friend letter

Book about Residents

Friend was referring to 'Hillendia', his book of sketches and interesting anecdotes about Hill End.

Donald lived at Murray's Cottage and once 'cows in garden' was always a persistent local problem.

Stamper Battery Autumn (April 2009)

Resident's exhibition

Resident Author



Ana Young

Ana Young will be exhibiting at the Jean Bellette Gallery from Friday 8th May through until July, opening at 6pm.

Displaying a series of recent paintings and collages of Hill End, entitled 'Fenced, patched and corrugated.'

Jean Bellette Gallery

Ana's exhibition will be the third exhibition of local artists work at the Jean Bellette Gallery recently.

A great trend, as tourists want to see just such local art.

Although many visitors also expressed the wish that there was a local gallery, a gallery that represented a selection of local artists currently working.

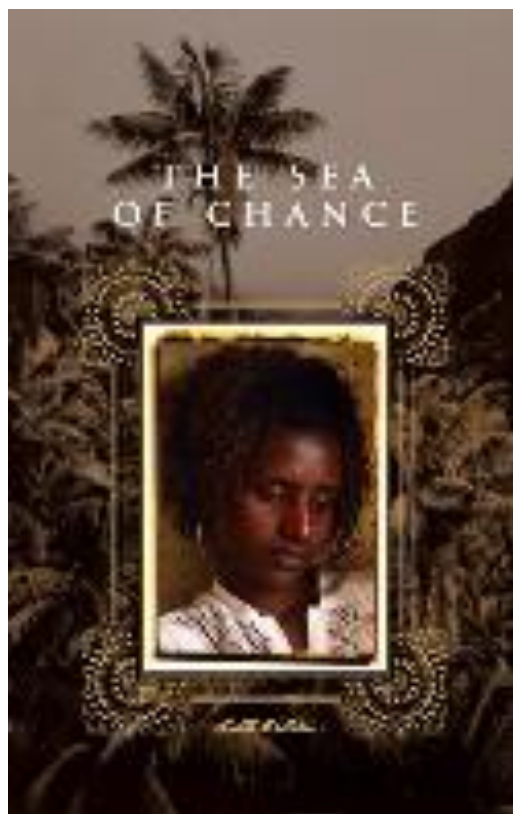
Fortunately with the opening of Hill End Press gallery their wishes may well be fulfilled.

Brett Hilder recently had his book 'Sea of Chance' published, and is for loan in Bathurst library.

A wonderfully produced book, that describes Brett's diplomatic bureaucratic trials and frustrations at bringing his Ethiopian wife to Australia.

'Sea of Chance' is published by the Murdoch Press.

But one of a trilogy of literary and photographic works that Brett is producing.



<http://www.murdochbooks.com.au/seachance.pdf>

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

ANOTHER TIME PAST
CREATED

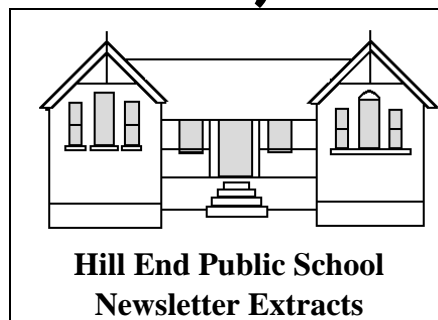
by Brett Hilder

The second book in the trilogy

A distillation of the visual and written notebooks kept during a lifetime of travel by Australian photographer Brett Hilder, this book is a poetic journal and philosophical travelogue. It is an evocation of a journey through lands of Spanish culture in the Mediterranean and Latin America, and to Eritrea in Africa. Brett Hilder's words form the background to his photographs of people and landscapes.



<http://www.brethilder.com>



Welcome to Term 2

Welcome back to all staff members, children and parents and community volunteers. I hope you all had a refreshing break. The staff started the term with a staff development day at Mudgee High School, with Bruce Sullivan as a guest speaker. Bruce is a world renowned speaker on developing positive relationships and understanding others' thinking and learning styles. Staff also went to interesting workshops in their field of work.

This term will be a busy one, with guest speakers visiting from other centers and the "Brains Alive" camp in Week 6 for primary students. The National Assessment tests will be held in Week 3). All primary will do some of the testing but only Years 3 and 5 will have their assessments sent away for marking. Areas to be assessed include Grammar and Spelling, Text Writing, Reading, Maths (Numeracy, Space, Data, Patterns and Measurement).

Week 6 is Education Week so we are trying to arrange a trip to Bathurst to visit the Art Gallery and also some Art workshops with professionals on Thursday 28th May, with the bus being funded. Please check upcoming dates and return permission notes promptly.

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Reminder - Appointments

If you need to speak to Mrs Price or any staff member about an important issue, please ring to make an appointment and state what the matter is regarding, as all staff are usually on class from 9 a.m. to 3.10 pm. If you have a minor request you can call any time between 8.20 and 9.00 a.m. or see a staff member after 3.15 p.m.

Lunches

An exciting new arrangement is coming for lunch orders on Fridays. Look for the menu/order form early next week. Orders and money need to be in by Thursdays.

OC Placement

We have received information about applications for OC class placement for students in Year 5 in 2010.

If any parents are interested for their child, please contact Mrs. Price for the information.

Label Clothes

Please ensure your child/children's clothing is labeled with their name. With the variable weather conditions, jumpers are mislaid and it is difficult for staff to identify clothing. Just write their name using black marker please.

Active After School Sport

Starts next week—Mondays and Tuesdays—from 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. Please collect you child promptly at 4.15 as staff must leave then.

Hats

School hats are still needed this term as the sun can be intensive. School hats can be purchased from the school for \$10. It is preferred that all children wear school hats please, taking pride in unity and their school uniform. They are also light weight and have a broad brim, protecting the face and the neck.

NAPLAN

The National Assessments begin next week: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, for Years 3 and 5 students. All students will do a test each of these days as good practice. Please ensure your child gets to bed by 8.30 p.m. each night and sleeps well. This is very important. It is also important that they come to school after a healthy breakfast, well rested, clean and with a healthy fruit break, recess and lunch. There is no need for children to be stressed over these tests but they must try hard at school all the time and do their best, with a positive attitude to work in order for them to progress satisfactorily. Please talk to your child about concentrating well, accepting challenging tasks and trying their best.

Kids' Camp

The 2009 "Brains Alive Kids camp" will be held in Week 6 of this Term, from Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th June. This overnight camp is only for Primary Students. A teacher will be at HEPS to teach K-2 during these days. Private transport will be necessary for this camp. We have organized several local day excursions this term for all the students, with transport so please ensure they all attend.

Lunch Orders

As indicated last week, we now have the opportunity to offer parents the chance to order lunch for their children for Fridays only, if they so choose. Accompanying this newsletter is the Canteen menu. One of these menus needs to be completed each week for each child who is ordering lunch. The menu should be completed by parents, and then placed in an envelope, with money, and returned to school on

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Thursdays. Please note, there will be no lunch orders tomorrow, but parents can return forms next week, for a Friday lunch order on Friday 15th May. A canteen menu will be included with newsletters or students can pick one up to take home each Wednesday to be able to complete the order and return it on Thursday.

Dates to remember:

12,13,14 May NAPLAN Testing

15 May LOUD SHIRT DAY. Bring a gold coin donation, for the Shepherd Foundation, which works with Deaf children – giving them a voice.

19 May MUSICA VIVA, at Cudgegong Valley P.S., Mudgee at 11.30

22 May LETTERS END (Performance) + BOWLING in Bathurst.

28 May BATHURST ART GALLERY WORKSHOPS. Travel by bus.

3,4,5 June BRAINS ALIVE CAMP, in Gulgong, for Primary students.

16 June CLC ART SHOW, Mudgee. We will send in art work retained from our art exhibition.

23 June SCHOOL COUNSELLOR visit.



We were very proud of the behavior of the students who participated in the Anzac Day Ceremony.

Anzac Day Service 2009

The service was well attended as usual. With wreaths being laid, hymns sung and prayers of remembrance offered.

This year's service paid special tribute to two First World War veterans from Hill

End. Annie Bertha Parry and Charles 'Snowy' Freeman.

Annie Bertha Parry

Born on 27th July 1886 at Hill End, Annie was the second surviving child of Scottish parents. After her mother died in 1897, Annie, at the tender age of 11 years, moved to Sydney to board at Abbotsleigh Girls' School, after seven years Annie passed the senior public examination in 1903. Annie worked as a governess to save funds for her training at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, which she entered as a student nurse in June 1907. After leaving the hospital the following June Annie nursed privately until appointed one of five nurses in the Department of Public Instruction on 19th July 1912.

On 14th November 1914, when World War I broke out, Annie joined the Australian Army Nursing Service. Two weeks later on 28th November she sailed for Egypt on HMAT *Kyarra*. Annie served at No.2 Australian General Hospital in Egypt. This was a large tented hospital, and most of the patients were battle casualties. It came to specialise in the treatment of fractures. This hospital experienced many air raids. Annie returned to Australia in August 1915, in 1916 she was appointed matron at Penrith Hospital New South Wales, and later worked in Gippsland, Victoria. In 1921 Annie was appointed the first full-time secretary of the St John Ambulance Association in New South Wales. It prospered under her guidance: she energetically travelled throughout the State organizing first-aid classes and promoting its work to industrial and commercial firms, government agencies, schools and sporting clubs; she wrote a

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

succession of practical first-aid and nursing booklets. She was quick to exploit radio and film for teaching and publicity.

Her innovations occasionally caused problems for the conservative St John leadership in London.

The course which she devised in 1923 in emergency childbirth procedures, for residents of remote areas, was omitted from St John classes for decades.

It was considered both unseemly and fraught with possible dangerous medical and legal consequences if non-professionals were taught midwifery.

Retiring in 1945 Sister Parry worked voluntarily among returned services personnel and the elderly. She was appointed commander sister in the Order of St John of Jerusalem and in February 1954 was invested as Member of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II. On 29th July 1959 at the age of 73 Annie Parry died at her Chatswood home.

PRIVATE CHARLES HAROLD FREEMAN

“Snow” Freeman, or to give him his full name Charles Harold Freeman was born at Dry Creek South Australia on 26th September 1892.

Much of Snow’s life remains a mystery; at this stage I have not been able to find contact details for any living family members. We do know that Snow was working as a Tram Conductor in Sydney just prior to enlisting in WW1. On the 9th October 1914 at the age of 22, Snow joined 5th Field Ambulance. Just over a month later on 28th November 1914 he boarded HMAT Kyarra at Sydney and set sail for Egypt

and the Western Front. It is not impossible that Snow and Annie Parry may have met during the voyage.

The 5th Field Ambulance was part of the 2nd Australian General Hospital; at times the hospital cared for up to 1000 casualties.

Snow’s duties would have included driving a horse and wagon, acting as a stretcher bearer and helping out dressing wounds in the field.

The following are Quotes from AG Butler’s, The Western Front, Vol II, Official History of the Australian Army Medical Services, 1914–1918

‘...the doctors with their assistants never stopped ... the stretcher bearers had one continuous stream of wounded and barely had time to eat. Every possible man helped to carry the wounded in ... The weather kept fine till the afternoon and then the snow came and it was frightfully difficult for the bearers to pick their tracks. The men were drenched and cold, but as nothing as compared to the wounded who lay out in the snow. It was a sight to see the smaller men stick to their job, backwards and forwards ... [It] was the most solid days carrying in France.’

Unnamed 4th Field Ambulance diarist

‘Casualties passed through our hands in one endless procession; mangled bodies and shattered limbs, but one cannot be but callous and indifferent as practical assistance is needed here, not sympathy ... Working practically for 48 hours without rest and very little food, blood to the elbows as there is not enough water to drink much less to wash.’

Lance Corporal Roger Morgan

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

the road was packed with stretchers and walking wounded ... Fritz shelled our track from one end to the other, on the second trip one of my squad was hit in the thigh, we carried him out and got another man. On our next trip another of our squad got a small piece of HE (high explosive) in the leg but carried on ... We went on throughout the day. At dusk a HE shell wounded two of the rear squad and hit our patient. We hurried on and returned but found that another shell had killed one of those previously wounded and wounded the patient and another bearer ... At night we were relieved'.

Unnamed 5th Field Ambulance diarist

'All wounds were most thoroughly treated, cleaned and rendered as antiseptic as possible. Fractures were put in splints ... We generally had about eight medical officers. On July 29th we dressed 800 casualties in twelve hours. The private chapel of the Château was used as the dressing room, and six officers slept in the family vault ... During our ten days we treated just under 4,000 casualties'.

Captain Davenport

This was the world that Snow and thousands of other Australians were part of during WW1.

After almost 5 years of service overseas, having been wounded at the Battle of The Somme and suffering injuries from shrapnel and gas, Snow returned to Australia on 4th June 1919.

Like many others it is not hard to believe that Snow was in some ways affected by his experiences of war.

Little is known of the next 10 years, it is believed Snow spent time in Western

NSW, possibly around Bourke and Broken Hill, the research continues.

Snow came to Hill End and lived in a mud hut just south of where the Bridle Track crosses the Turon River. A quieter life in the bush enabled Snow to handle the horrors that to some degree must have haunted him.

Notwithstanding this, on 25th May 1942 Snow enlisted in the 23rd Battalion, Volunteer Defence Corps with headquarters in Bathurst. Twelve months later Snow also enlisted in the Coastal Defence Service. The Volunteer Defence Corps was only part time and Snow alternated between the two points of service.

With his discharge from the Volunteer Defence Corps on 20th September 1945 Charles Harold Freeman's war service came to a close.

Because of his service and injuries Snow was granted a TPI Pension.

Neighbour and devoted friend Laurie Marchant nee Stuart has many great memories of Snow, "he was a real gentleman always keeping himself and his hut spotlessly clean". Laurie remembers Snow would often preface a comment with "By Joves".

For years just about everyone who travelled the Bridle Track would stop for a chat, a cup of tea and to sign the visitor's book. Snow gained a certain fame as the welcoming character to stop and visit on the way to or from Hill End. Denis Chamberlain from Bathurst recalls during a visit in 1963, Snow would keep putting small green sticks under the billy to stop it boiling, so you would stay a little longer to chat.

Stamper Battery

Autumn (April 2009)

Often on a Saturday afternoon Snow would walk up to Hill End to purchase provisions and socialise with friends at the Royal Hotel.

Through the 1950's & 60's many young boys of the village would spend time with Snow learning how to fish and identify the local wildlife. The boys were all given the duties of collecting wood, boiling the billy, washing up; everyone was expected to pull their weight.

Life on the Turon River must have been a haven for a man who had seen possibly some the worst of what man could do to man.

During winter the river valley stays shrouded with a fog that sometimes does not lift all day, as Snow grew older this climate affected his health.

When this occurred Snow would spend time in the Sofala Hospital recuperating.

Eventually however Snow needed long term care and he moved to Macquarie Homes in Bathurst.

On Tuesday 20th October 1970 Charles Harold Freeman died and several days later was buried at the Tambaroora General Cemetery.

A few years later Snow's hut was pulled down; however at the right time of year bulb plants poke their heads through marking the spot where this special man lived.

Jim Shanahan



HILL END VOLUNTARY BUSHFIRE BRIGADE
Pine Date
Hill End NSW 2850
Brigade No. 16009
Phone 02 63378275
Email rfs@hillend.net

Group One Training Day-Wattle Flat 9am 24th May 2009

Hill End brigade will be attending, members and prospective members welcome.

Program will include-structural fires, wildlife behaviour, map reading, MVA's and tankers pumps hoses and hydrants.

Contact Jim

Shanahan by May 10.

J. Shanahan
President/Deputy Captain
Hill End Voluntary Bushfire Brigade

HETPA fees due

Since the AGM it is time to update your HETPA fees if you wish to remain a member and also receive the Stamper Battery newsletter.

Membership Fee
\$10 or \$5 concession
Payable to

Treasurer
Hill End & Tambaroora
Progress Association
Hill End PO
2850

