

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group Newsletter Issue 9, Sept 2011

Dear Hill Endians and Tambaroorians,

Our 2012 Gatherings

Set the date on the calendar for 2012, as our next Gathering will be held on **Saturday 10th March** at the Rhodes Park, Concord. I will be sending out a reminder newsletter in January, but in the meantime, gather together your extended family and come along and make it a real family occasion, where you can honour the memories of your ancestors from this area and perhaps meet new "cousins". I am very happy to include extended family members in our newsletter mailing list, please just contact me with their email details.

We are also organizing another Gathering <u>to be held in</u> <u>Hill End</u> in October 2012. Planning is still very much in the early stages however we are looking at the weekend of 6th & 7th October, as the village is beautiful in Spring. Further details will be forthcoming in the January newsletter. Independent travellers are welcome and we will also have a bus coming from Sydney with pickups on the way. There will be a range of accommodation available in the village.

As I write this "editorial" I am sitting in front of a cosy fire in the parlour of a miner's cottage in Hill End. We know that the main part of the building is at least 140 years old as the land was sold to Joseph Shand, storekeeper, for £4 sterling in 1876. It is possible that he had built a cottage on the block before this as there is a photograph in the Holtermann collection of the cottage with a lady and 2 children out the front of the building. The Maris family have restored and maintained the integrity of the old cottage and it still retains the snug family home atmosphere that has existed here for well over a century.



from the Holtermann Collection at the SLNS. Home and away 39278

When I think of the conditions that the early residents experienced I realize that we are still able to share so many of these...the open fire, the morning sun on the front verandah, the fruit trees, the outside dunny, tank water, candle and kerosene light, chopping the firewood.

Yet the juxtaposition of using the microwave to defrost the frozen stew, reheating it in the same appliance, unscrewing a Cab Merlot (not even a cork!) and then sitting down to watch the final episode of *Masterchef* in front of the open fire jolts us 140 years into the future. I feel confident that this original family would have been just as comfortable and as well provided for. There is still evidence of old fruit trees, and perhaps a vegetable garden that would have provided them with fresh food, Very close to the boundary fence is a structure that may have been a chook run, and further up the "back yard" is a small dam and even remnants of a gold mine which may have provided some "petty cash" to supplement the family income.



The same Miner's cottage, August 2011 Lorraine's collection

What a wonderful feeling to be in such a historic environment, yet still being able to be using 21st century technology to produce a document that will go out by modern means to all the descendants of Hill End & Tambaroora pioneers. – granted, to get a faint signal for my Telstra phone requires a stroll thru the front gate and along the track about 50 metres to a slight rise where I can access "1 bar" to collect my voice mail messages. However, for those with the urge, a short drive to the top of Bald Hill will ensure that full reception is available for whatever signal you are seeking (but I have been reliably informed that an Optus tower is currently under construction on one of the local properties so this should improve matters somewhat in the near future.)

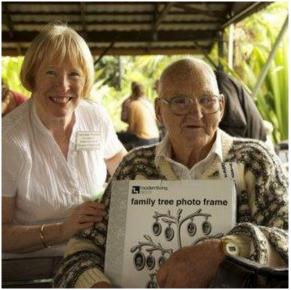
However, for short periods one can sieze the moment and live without the internet and yet, with no distractions, my trusty laptop allows me to catch up on preparing this newsletter and we feel privileged to be able to experience a foothold in dual worlds...

The 2011 Gathering

So many of the Gathering Group members that joined our 2011 reunion in Rhodes Park on 5th March have their family roots in such a cottage that I have described on the previous page. The families represented at this year's Gathering included:

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Alder	Gardiner	Northey
Bake	Gaynon	Pascoe
Bell	Goodwin	Paxton
Bender	Groves	Platt
Bennett	Hamilton	Porter
Bowman	Handcock	Pullen
Boyan	Heap	Pymont
Bromley	Hickey	Risby
Clarke	Hocking	Robbins
Clines	Iffland	Roberts
Cock	Jarman	Ross
Colley	Jeffree	Shaw
Colreavy	Jenkyns	Sherring
Cook	Lalechos	Short
Cullen	Lamb	Smith
Dagger	Lavender	Starr
Dempsey	Lawson	Stevenson
Dorin	Leak	Tee
Denman	Longmore	Thompson
Drakeford	Lyle	Thurling
Eldridge	Lynch	Trevithick
Ellis	Maloney	Turner
English	Maris	Vane
Ettinger	Martin	Wardman
Evans	McCarthy	Waring
Everett	McKenzie	Warry
Fabar	McLeod	Weine
Faraday	Millen	Willard
Farrington	Mitchell	Wilson
Fitzgerald	Murray	Woolard
Fuge	Nightingale	Wythes & Yates

Our numbers continue to grow and this year we had over 120 members sign the Visitors book. As well as all the new faces it was lovely to see the Wardman family so well represented and the Warrys also brought along the next generations to hopefully start a new tradition of attendance. It was good to see some of the younger generation coming along and the facilities at Rhodes Park cater really well to all comers, young and old.



Lorraine with one of our lucky raffle winners, Norm Warry, whose family have been great supporters of the Gathering for many years.

Many thanks to the volunteers who assisted with "Meet & Greet", book sales, tea & coffee, displays etc and again many thanks to our "honorary Hill Endian", Di Greenhaw who photographically recorded the whole event.

Photos from the day can be seen online on our Picasa web album. For convenience I will list the links at the end of the newsletter.

Lorraine Purcell

The 2011 Gathering



Hill End School Honour Roll

With the upcoming commemoration of WW1 in 2014 and the restoration of the War Memorial in Hill End, Helen Wood (nee Drakeford) has undertaken a mammoth task of researching the WW1 soldiers who are recorded on the Honour Roll which was unveiled in the Hill End Public School after the war. The school headmaster of the time. Mr A E



Cook donated the Board and was instrumental in organizing the local soldiers' names to be inscribed on it. He unveiled the Board on Anzac Day 1916. The Honour Board with an additional 24 names (bringing the total to 52 in all) was re-unveiled on Empire Day in 1917 by Mrs H Weir, the mother of the most recent soldier to die in the war. The Honour Board was completed after the War and now has a total of 82 names inscribed.

As we are preparing a publication to compliment the restoration of the War Memorial on the corner of Clarke and Bowen Streets we are looking for any photographs and any further information about the soldiers whose names are recorded on the Boards.

Surname	Initials/names
Ackermann	Leslie Adam
Ackermann	Clarence James
Ackermann	Cyril Alfred Love
Ackland	William Charles
Amiot	Patrick Augustus
Amiot	Charles Cecil
Anderson	John Ross
Anderson	William Archibald
Ashton	J ohn
Ashton	Douglas
Aylin	Albert Edward
Bender	Edmund Henry
Blyton	Herbert Clemdon
Brailey	George Frederick
Brodie	Walter Henry
Bromley	Edward Arthur
Bryant	C George Douglas
Carl	Edward
Carl	Jack/John Thomas
Carmichael	Hilton Hedley
Carver	Sydney Raymond
Carver	George Havelock
Cooke	Frederick George
Craig	Jack Ernest
Cross	R Frederick Alonzo
Elliott	J oseph
English	J ohn
Fallon	Bernard Alexander
Flynn	J ohn
Gaynon	Patrick Anthony
Glawson	James Robert
Graham	George Henry

Hamilton Heap Hodge Holloway Jeffree Lavender Lawson Lawson Lawson LeMessurier LeMessurier Longmore Longmore Longmore Longmore Longmore Longton Macryannis Macryannis Maris Maris Marshall McAlister **McAlister** Millen Millen Moore Nattrass Nattrass Nattrass Oliver Perkins Robertson Robertson Rodwell Rodwell Ross Smith Tanner Trevena Wallace Walpole Walpole Walsh Warry Weir Weir Whitley Willard Willard Woolard

Robert Douglas Lindsay George **Russell Frederick** David Horace William Lyle W Arthur Roy Walter 0 Harold Maxwell William Ernest Alice Tryphena James Edward Findley Thomas Albert (Bert) William James Ivan Slack Henry Hampton Edward Basil Claude John Joseph Clarence William **R**ichard Thomas Valroy Turon Elias Edward Robert George aka Garner John Rankin Roy Douglas George Douglas Thomas Edgar Allan Wilfred Ralph Ralph Lionel Ernest Sydney Gordon William Roy John James Herbert William George Richard Herbert Edward Winter Thomas Oscar Arthur Basil Charles George Harry Lee William Lee Henry James Ambrose Walter Horwood Hilton Thomas Harry Lawrence George Thomas Arthur James

As well as the original WW1 soldiers we are also looking for any photographs that you may have of Anzac Day in Hill End over the years. They may well be in your holiday snaps of Hill End if you tend to visit at this time as well. We are looking for any material over the last 100 years. If you can assist in any way please contact Helen on (02) 4776-1477 or email her at woodbh@tpg.com.au. We would like to have as much information as possible to complete our records by the end of 2012.

Sydney Aubrey

Walter Heard

Condolences

We have been made aware of the passing of the following Gathering Group members. Our condolences are extended to their families.

Ray Ackermann of Batehaven passed away April 2009

Jack Nattrass

We were advised of Jack's passing by his son, Lee. Jack moved to a nursing home in Paddington as his health had gone down hill, he had broken his leg and had a couple of strokes which limited his independence. Unfortunately he suffered another massive stroke in October last year and as a result passed away on 4 November 2010.

Barbara Perry

We were sorry to hear of Barbara's passing in June after a long struggle with cancer. Barbara was a Vane, Bender, Dagger & Willard family descendant and was a keen member of the Group. In the past few years Barbara and her fellow volunteer, Wendy Brown have been responsible for ensuring that your hardcopy newsletter was folded and "stuffed" into the envelope and sent off to you. She will be sadly missed as an enthusiastic volunteer however her family are keen to keep the connection with the Group and her daughter Debra Denny is now following in her mother's footsteps with a strong interest in the family connections.

Margaret Olley (Artist & Benefactor)

Margaret's fame was well known from her early days as a member of the "Hill End Group" the initial art community which counted Donald Friend and Russell Drysdale amongst its numbers. She was also a generous and giving personality and whilst she loved her time in Hill End she did not want to return there to see it now as she preferred to remember it as she knew it back in the 1940s. She generously gave permission for us to use some of her artworks in our publication "Hill End Histories and Tambaroora Tales" and I had the privilege of meeting her at her home to present her with a copy of the book.

Wardman Family reunion

To commemorate the arrival of **Thomas & Harriett Wardman** and 3 children in Australia, 170 years ago, on 9th August 1841, a plaque will be unveiled on the weekend of 5^{th} & 6^{th} November 2011 at Tambaroora Cemetery, Hill End, NSW.



Harriett Wardman

All Wardman descendants are invited to attend the Gathering. The Wardmans had a further 6 children so there are many descendants, spread over Australia. It is hoped that a booklet will be available on the weekend and ay old photos, birth, marriage and death certificates, stories etc and contributions would be appreciated.

For more details please contact Sandy Freeman (<u>mnsfree@bigpond.com</u>) or Betty Wardman 286 Keppel St Bathurst, NSW 2795, phone (02) 6331 3203.

Dear Ancestor

Your tombstone stands among the rest, neglected and alone.

The name and date are chiselled out on polished marbled stone.

It reaches out to all who care; it is too late to mourn.

You did not know that I exist, you died, and I was born. Yet each of us are cells of you, in flesh, in blood, in bone.

Our heart contracts and beats a pulse, entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled, one hundred years ago,

Spreads out among the ones you left, who would have loved you so.

I wonder if you lived and loved, I wonder if you knew That someday I would find this spot and come to visit you.

The writer of the above poem is unknown but thanks to Cindi Tidey for sharing the above poem with us.

The Family Tree...



Just a reminder to any of those families who wish to remember their Hill End family roots by planting a tree in their honour. The Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association continue to maintain Louis Beyer's vision for the town by planting trees along the main avenues of the town and are now working on the plantings along the Bathurst Road.

For a donation of \$100 towards the costs you can have a tree planted in your family's name. This includes the tree, a small plaque showing the name of the family to be remembered, the variety of tree and the donor's name/s. The trees will be similar to those already planted in the avenue, crimson maple, linden, scarlet oak, horse chestnut and possibly elm. They will be fenced, watered and fertilized by volunteers from the Progress Association who will ensure that the tree gets all the attention needed to thrive in the new location.

Further details can be obtained from Ross Brown in Hill End at 63378306 or email Ross at <u>peterandross@tadaust.org.au</u> photo

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A family Reunion?

Have you ever considered organizing your own Family Reunion?

Leonie Tidey has alerted me to a website which will give you a few ideas on how to go about doing this. Go for it!

http://www.scrapjazz.com/topics/Themes/Family/2290. php

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National Medal Award Robert Anderson

We are very proud to announce that Hill End local Robert Anderson was recently awarded the National Medal for his conscientious work with the Hill End Voluntary Bushfire Brigade for the past 51 years. The



Medal National recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised



organisations that help the community during times of crisis especially those that protect life and property at some risk to their members. It is Australia's most awarded civilian medal. Congratulations!

Alternative living in Hill End 1940s style

Whilst researching material for Louis Beyers' story late last year I came across the following article in The West Australian of Saturday 4 May 1940. This was a new aspect of life in Hill End that I was not previously aware of and am wondering if there are any of our long term Gathering members who recall this experiment in an alternative lifestyle.

A plea to the Bathurst Local Studies Librarian, Beth Hall for further information resulted in the location of a 5 page pamphlet in their collection, from which the following article seems to have been taken. R.G. Lloyd Thomas was a travelling journalist whose material appeared in a number of newspapers in Australia in the late 1930s and early 1940s. I have not been able to find any further reference to the Turon Community Advancement Cooperative Society so one wonders what became of the whole idea.

The Turon Community Advancement Co-operative Society - by R.G. Lloyd Thomas

"Hill End, in New South Wales, has many counterparts in Western Australia. In its time it has produced hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of gold. Today the scarred hills are the only visible reminders of its prosperity. Its 52

hotels have been reduced to one and 30,000 inhabitants are now its represented by little more than 300 people. More than half of the adult population are on the dole-others are on old-age pensions. The "moneyed class" in Hill End are the rector, the schoolteachers, the policeman, the publican, the storekeeper and the bus proprietor. It is a depressed area. Some people have been so unkind as to call it world's end-because it looks a bit like that and it is not on the road to anywhere. The 180 miles which separate it from Sydney are an aweinspiring barrier to half the population.

There are boys who have never seen a railway train (they are 50 miles from the railway) while a ship is an even greater mystery. In nearby villages are people who have never seen a moving picture. Few of them live - most of them exist. Monotony has become the accepted standard of life. They fossick between meals and sleep.

Yet strange things happen in little backwaters. Strange things are happening in Hill End today-the birth of an experiment in living, a determined co-operative effort to change the order of things, and there are some people who believe that Hill End will become better known for its tremendously important social experiment than for its gold. And it has all happened because of a little study group which met in the rather dilapidated rectory at Hill End.

I was at a public meeting when it was decided to form the Turon Community Advancement Co-operative Society, Limited. They listened keenly to the outline of the plan. And they rallied to support it. There will be a Community House, probably the long-disused public hospital, and in it will be reading and writing rooms-a library, a lecture room and facilities for learning trades. Cottage industries will be taught, - hand weaving, woodwork and pottery. There will be billiard rooms and a plan of adult education. The Society will finance the establishment of cottage industries and also an agricultural project for training youths - this latter plan thanks to the generosity of a local landowner who was so impressed with the whole scheme that he gave ten acres of ideal land, - has taken up shares, offered to lend some money to finance other projects, and to become a director of the Society.

That is the kind of enthusiasm, which the Society has created. The people see in it a torch of hope which will be handed down from generation to generation. They see in it a cultural outlet and a means of livelihood: They see that if they help themselves through corporate effort, they may get some where. So a new spirit has been born. The people of Hill End, for the first time since gold petered out, see some prospect in life -the means of learning and the means of earning. They call it an experiment in living. They believe that in the end Hill End may become once more prosperous through corporate effort. "Forward" is their motto. Forward they are going!"



Hill End as seen by Donald Friend in the 1940s

Music in Hill End

Life was not always hard in these pioneer villages. Sunday was traditionally the "day off" and even the stamper batteries were still on the day of rest. The multicultural element which existed in the village encouraged a musical environment and a mixture of Irish, English, Welsh, Scottish, German, Greek, and even Native American influence produced a musical cacophony which would have echoed around the surrounding countryside.



An early musical starter in Hill End was Michael Askew who was gold mining in Victoria before arriving in Hill End around 1871. He played the cornet and formed Michael Askew's Band and, according to Harry Hodge, played for the Governor, Hercules Robinson on his visit to the town in 1873.

In a later reminiscence by **Frank Shellard** in

Mr G Tindall The Queenslander (24 Jan 1914 p8) which has been reproduced by Alan Davies in his Holtermann blog on the State Library webpage, we discover that Holtermann was also a music lover and any one who could play a musical brass instrument was sure to get a job in his mine. "He soon had the making of a fine brass



Mr G Jeffree

band. As he provided the uniforms and instruments, it was called Holterman's Band, and used to play at his house and about the town". Prior to Holtermann heading off to the Philadelphia Exhibition in 1876 he seems to have auctioned off the entire contents of his St Leonards home including "a drum, 2 cornets, 3 saxhorns, a French horn and clarinet" as well as 2 "cottage pianofortes".



Hill End Musicians

Musical soirees were popular and in the early 20th century we have photographic evidence from the Maris collection, of two groups of musicians from the area. In the more formal group above we believe that it is Adelaide Dove (nee Bryant) at the organ. The following photo of the brass band appears to have been taken around 1910, using the style of the ladies' hats as a dating guide. Three of the members of this group have

been identified, Bon Carver, Clarrie Maris and Jack Stewart. If anyone knows who else is in these two photos we would love to know.



Eventually traditional music was supplemented by a home grown version and we are very lucky that a number of these early musical forays have been preserved, especially the story of one particular songwriter and his music.

Some time ago I found the words for a folk song, *Tambaroora Gold* mentioned. Unfortunately I had no idea of the tune so just placed the information in the "must check out" file for future research. I was thrilled therefore a few months later to see that there was an item on eBay which would satisfy my curiosity. A 7" 45rpm record (remember those!) of the song, performed by a group (?) called 'Five and a Zack' and recorded on EMI in Melbourne in 1982. Bidding was not intense...in fact I was the only one who placed a bid, and so the record became mine! I still have an old record player so my interest was fulfilled.

Wondering about the origins of the song I persisted in my research and was fortunate enough to find an article written by John Low for *Heritage*, the newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organizations (March-April 2010 issue) and it makes interesting reading. I contacted John and he generously allowed me to reproduce the following extract from that article. If anyone is interested in the entire article please contact me for further details.

"One of the characteristics of a 'folk song', whether or not its origins can be traced, is that it is adopted by the community ('the folk') and survives and evolves through the living memory of that community. The story of 'Tambaroora Gold' provides an interesting demonstration of this process. When I [ie John Low] arrived at the Blue Mountains City Library in 1982 to establish a local history collection I found, tucked away in a cupboard, a battered manila folder containing copies of an assortment of poems (some typed, some handwritten) and a couple of songs printed as broadsides. They were the work of an old Katoomba identity, Harry Peckman, known during his lifetime as 'The Blue Mountains Poet'. Though many were mediocre, sentimental and conventional, there were some that captured my imagination and others that offered insights into the region's history that could be important irrespective of literary quality.

Born at Kurrajong in 1846, Harry Peckman lived the whole of his life in the Blue Mountains region and died in Katoomba in 1934. As a young man, in the days before the western railway line was built, he drove wagons and coaches on the road between Penrith and Hartley. Then, when the Blue Mountains developed its reputation as a tourist destination, he began taking visitors to the local scenic attractions.



...Though he performed for the gentry his audience was in the main a popular one and his work, when published, appeared almost exclusively on privately printed broadsheets and later, when a newspaper was established in Katoomba, in the local press...

...He was also acquainted with a number of Sydney literary figures who sought him out when they visited Katoomba, among these the poets Roderick Quinn and Henry Lawson. My discovery of one particular broadsheet was especially exciting. I was visiting the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society's museum in the old refreshment rooms at Mount Victoria Railway Station, when their research officer brought out an original Peckman broadside to show me. The ten-verse song with chorus was headed "Tambaroora Gold / By Harry Peckman, Hartley" and that title certainly rang a bell.

While we have Peckman's complete text for 'Tambaroora Gold' we don't know what tune he used when he originally sang the song in the 1860s.Several fragments of this song were published in 1961 in the magazine of the Bush Music Club (Sydney), the least fragmentary of these obtained by the historian Russell Ward from a 70 year-old resident of the NSW north coast. This version was later 'completed' by John Manifold and not surprisingly differed markedly from the Peckman broadsheet. Names of people had changed, for example, and there was no chorus.

The remaining fragments were all collected by the folklorist John Meredith. One, later published by Meredith in his important collection of Australian folk songs, came from Muriel Whalan of Katoomba who remembered learning it from her mother during her childhood at Sunny Corner, west of Lithgow. The others came from an informant who had grown up in the Springhill district of NSW and from the famous bush singer H. P. 'Duke' Tritton. It seemed to be the chorus that stuck in their memory. The band 'Franklyn B. Paverty', who recorded the song in 1987, set it to the tune 'Sweets of May'.

Was Harry Peckman's broadsheet version the original? Though, of course, one can never be absolutely certain with folk song, even when authorship is claimed, I'm inclined to think it is. There is no printing date on the broadsheet but Peckman went to Hartley in the early 1860s as a very young man to work for local hotelkeeper John Louis Meads. He was living in the Hartley – Mount Victoria district when Tambaroora, just north of Bathurst NSW, was still a prosperous gold mining town (along with its better known neighbour Hill End) and news and gossip from the gold fields was travelling regularly down the Western Road. It would appear that the young bush poet was performing his songs and poems and peddling his broadsheets quite widely during the 1860s and 1870s."

For the purists the words have been reproduced below:

Tambaroora Gold:

It's just about one year ago, As near as I can guess, Since last I trod old Sydney streets, In sorrow and distress. I'd squandered all my wealth away, Misfortune had controlled, But still a voice sung in my ear Bright Tambaroora (The band c 1910

Chorus:

I've travelled for experience, And oftentimes been sold, But they don't get over Charley, or His Tambaroora gold.

It's true I had seen better days, Although I stood in rags; My boots were all to pieces, and My trousers patched with bags; My friends and sweethearts slighted me, And gave me turnips cold, So I thought I'd try my luck amongst The Tambaroora gold. **Chorus.** The day I left old Sydney A tear foll from my ove

A tear fell from my eye, For amongst all my kind friends there was Not one would say good bye. But I on my journey staggered, till At last I did behold

The hills that brightly glittered with Bright Tambaroora gold.

Chorus.

I had not long been on the field Before I got a job, And worked three months on wages for A chap called "Dusty Bob" By this a claim I purchased, and, In turning up the mould, My pile was soon created with Bright Tambaroora gold. **Chorus.** Then back I came to Sydney, A regular dashing swell; Then, strange to say, my previous foes All seemed to wish me well -

Politely bowed and touched their hats, As up the street I bowled;

And the girls got shook on Charley, with The Tambaroora gold

Chorus

And ever since that very day I've been a happy man, For they treat me as a King or Prince, And pet me all they can. The 'forties" kindly greet me, and The "Bobbies ", brave and bold -They'd like to "touch" proud Charley for His Tambaroora gold.

Chorus.

Last week I was invited out. I went — it was to lunch — With a cove who thought to hocus me, And make a jolly "punch". Said he,"Come, Charley, try some schnapps," Said I, "Yes, so I'm told, But you don't this time snap Charley, or His Tambaroora gold".

Chorus.

The other day I chanced to meet Miss Angelina Vawn, Who once gave me cold turnips, when She found my money gone. Said she, "Come to my bosom, Charles, We lovers were of old." But I know she loved not Charley, But his Tambaroora gold. Chorus,

The other night I took a walk Down by Prince Alfred Park, (And I'm always on my guard, you know, Especially after dark), And there a cove rushed out at me, As cautiously I strolled. "Bail up!" cried he, 'and hand me out Your Tambaroora gold." Chorus.

I on to him flew like a bird, And seized him by the wool, And dashed him in the gutter, and He bellowed like a bull. He cried in sad confusion, as He in the gutter rolled, "Oh spare my life, the devil take Your Tambaroora gold." Chorus.

I've paid for my experience, &c



Joe Yates (http://nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn2678021)

Another well-known local musician was Joe Yates who was a fiddle player who spent his life in the Hill End and Sofala. He loved living in the old mining village, where he played his fiddle and grew prize-winning vegetables in his kitchen garden. The National Library has a collection of his recordings and an interview with Joe as well as the above portrait, taken in 1983.

Inside History Magazine

It is always good to see Australian history & genealogy recognized and what better way to do this than with a regular magazine that covers so many of the topics that intrigue us. One such new magazine is Inside History which was launched in November 2010.



I recently spoke with Cassie Mercer, the editor and her enthusiasm was contagious. "We love publishing stories on the fascinating history of Australia and New Zealand," she said, "And our latest issue is once again filled with features that will inspire you to trace your family tree."

Inside History is a magazine for people passionate about researching their family history. Published bimonthly in Sydney, its 76 pages are packed with practical articles on tracing your family tree in Australia and New Zealand, as well as snippets about our social history and stories about our heritage.

Past issues have included articles on the following subjects:

· It's census time! How can you help family historians in the future?

- · Discover the secrets to dating old photos
- · How to research the history of your house
- · We take a look at Tilly Devine's neighbourhood
- How to find Chinese ancestors

New subscribers receive 25% off at Blurb if they use this website to produce their family story photo book.

Each issue has 76 pages of terrific features, practical information on family tree research, chances to network with other genealogists, competitions and product reviews! When the children are searching for a Christmas or birthday gift, consider this an option.

Cassie has generously donated a six month subscription to the Magazine to the Gathering Group to be used as a prize so we will let you know how you can stand a chance of winning this subscription in the January newsletter.

Volunteer update

Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted at our March



Gathering. Our volunteer group continues to meet on a three monthly basis, at Kogarah Library. This small band of enthusiastic helpers has achieved so much in the past 12 months and in doing so allowed me to chase up some of the more elusive research enquiries that have arisen.



Some of our Volunteers, Bea, Annette, Helen and Stan, with a selection of the treasures at the State Archives

To see just what is available in the State Archives relating to Hill End in June we headed out to Kingswood where the Reading Room staff gave us a brief tour of the facilities and then provided us with a sample of the records held. Everyone requested a different type of record and the resulting "ohs and ahs" that punctuated the usual studious atmosphere of the reading room demonstrated the little gems that were unearthed.

Court records exposed many interesting cases from the most violent assaults to the lack of dog registrations. The school administrative files revealed ongoing incidents and observations as well as mentioning many teachers and students by name. The Hill End Borough (Council) Minute books showed us that nothing is new when it comes to local government administration and some of minina records. The Colonial Secretary's the correspondence has also provided some interesting petitions and lists of names and thanks to Verna Little and Maureen Clark we now have all the names on a very early petition (1853) showing the early miners on the Tambaroora goldfield. The list is possibly not exhaustive however it does give us an idea of who was in the area in those very early years.

We hope to index a lot of this material and make it more easily accessible to researchers over the next few years. Our aim is to provide a snapshot list of names of people in the area at any particular time. No doubt many may not have signed these petitions but for those of us whose ancestors were inveterate petition signers these documents often provide additional snippets of information such as occupation and address which has not been recorded anywhere else.

I must also thank those volunteers who spent a day at my home, helping to clear up the filing and disposing of duplicate material left over from the Pioneer Register. We achieved so much on the day without really realizing that we were "working" and thanks to Dennis for providing sustenance with his special "Hill End Sausage Sizzle" for lunch.

News from State Records

Keep up to date with the new material being released and indexed on the State Records website by subscribing to their electronic newsletter "*Now & Then*". It is an excellent source and will provide new avenues for you to explore in your family history research. One such example is the list of Publican's Licenses. This list is taken from the Government Gazettes and provides the name of the pub, the publican and the location and date the license was issued. Of course, these were for the "legal" public houses and one can only imagine the number of illegal "sly grog" shops that sprang up, especially in the goldfields, where the population was so transitory.



Joseph Nowell's Crown Hotel, Hawkins Hill, Hill End

And if the people don't come to the pub then you take the pub to the people. According to Harry Hodge in his book, "*The Hill End Story*" local tradition has it that one local publican (Turnan) on the road between Sally's Flat and Hill End bribed the road contractor to make a minor deviation in order to bypass his rival's hotel, at Maitland Camp. However, McEwen replied by rebuilding his establishment on the new alignment of the road, directly in front of the existing homestead.

A long way to travel...

Have you wondered how your ancestor may have travelled to Australia, and especially what they thought of the whole experience?

In a book, published in 1995, titled "*No privacy for writing: shipboard diaries 1852-1879*" editor Andrew Hassam has gathered together the shipboard

journals of a selection of immigrants and has allowed the writers to present their impressions of that perilous journey. One story of special interest is that of Scottish lass, Mary Maclean, who set off from Glasgow in 1862 to join her brother in NSW. Her diary was discovered in an old writing box in a ruined house in Hill End almost one hundred years later. Mary describes the trip and we hear first hand how she coped with the day to day living on a ship with 442 other passengers, all headed to a new life. She later married into the wellknown mining Marshall family (the "Little house" Marshalls) in Hill End. With her husband and sons often away because of their mining business, Mary had to take responsibility for the daily running of the house, orchard, as well as the horse yards, blacksmith's, the wheelwright's, the assay office and other activities that were based on the ten acre property. Another formidable Hill End lady!

Copying old documents

An article by Margaret Simpson, in the Jan – Feb 2011 issue of *Inside History* on reading old handwriting, was most appropriate to some of the work that our volunteers have recently been carrying out. Amongst the tips included were the following which may assist people when faced with working with and copying old documents:

- Always work from a good photocopy (or digital photograph) of the original. Handle the original as little as possible.
- If the ink is dark but the background is mottled set the scanner or copier a notch or two lighter. This will fade background marks
- If the ink is pale or faded then increasing the contrast can help darken the writing and fade the background.
- If ink marks show through from the other side this can be eliminated by placing a sheet of black paper behind the document when placed on the scanner or copier glass bed.

Disaster relief is not new...

In the winter of 1867 the colony suffered major flooding along the coast, especially the Hunter, Hawkesbury, Nepean and Shoalhaven Rivers. In consequence of this a General Flood Relief Fund was established in July of that year and people throughout the colony contributed money and goods for the relief of the flood victims. The residents of the Western Goldfields were not immune to the hardships caused by the floods and in response to the call a large number of the population donated to the cause.



Illustrated Sydney News Tuesday 16 July 1867

The *Empire* newspaper published the lists of these subscribers and on page 8 of the issue dated 29 Oct 1867, there is a list of over 700 names from Tambaroora and surrounding pastoral and goldfields areas. This may be another source to see where your ancestor was during this time.

This list can be accessed through the Trove website (www.trove.nla.gov.au) newspapers or contact Lorraine to receive a copy.

Holtermann Photos Digitisation Project almost complete

Some of you may have been keeping abreast of the Holtermann Digitisation Project being undertaken by the State Library of NSW over the past 2 years. Check out their progress at

http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/discover_collections/society_ art/photography/holtermann/

Sign up for the blog and follow all the various entries especially the curatorial thread as there are a lot of interesting and unknown snippets coming to life. It also highlights the hard detective work and diligent research that is being carried out by the library staff to chase up all the small leads presented by the new information constantly coming to light in the photos.

The first stage of the project will be launched on 15th September and will showcase a selection of 50 images that have been enhanced and made interactive on the State Library website. It is anticipated that the rest of the collection will be available next year. The site will be part of the State Library's Discover Collections and a preview can be seen at

http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/discover_collections/index.html



An example of how the detail on a photo can be enhanced and more information gleaned from the background.

Hill End – a poem

From The Red Land by Rod Cameron

Merlin's magic with old photo plates captured moments that would have been lost had not his camera clicked them into history. The dray down to its axle in the mud, the proud Emporium, the Wheelwright Shop, the Paris Haircutting and Fancy Goods have all been long preserved in black and white.

But Merlin's camera is not here to see a little tourist miss in pale blue slacks. She struggles with her old prospector's dish and breaks the lumps of clay to wash it clear. Yet shines the same excitement in her eyes when tiny grains of gold reflect the sun and the web of Merlin's magic is respun.

Family History in Hill End

Daphne Shead is still working on compiling information on the midwives and nurses in Hill End and Tambaroora. A couple of women who



are hard to track down are Susan Lewis who was a midwife and wife of Thomas Lewis, and Amelia Kent, a nurse who lived in Reef Street. Can anybody help build a file on these industrious pioneer healthcare workers? Your help will be very much appreciated.

The Hill End Family History research room

is located in the Morgue in the old Hospital, (now the NPWS Visitors Centre) and hopes to open every Saturday **10am to 4pm**.

Appointments advisable to ensure Daphne will be available

Email: hillendfh@yahoo.com.au or

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

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

Write your own Hill End family history

There are now 2 incentives to get the story under way.

The first is the announcement that Bathurst Regional Council has established a new assistance fund to help local property owners, local heritage trusts and community groups to undertake special heritage projects which include the preparation or publication of local history books and projects amongst other things.

The aim of the fund is to assist in the preservation of heritage properties within the Bathurst Region, to assist in building a wealth of knowledge about Bathurst properties, places and sites, and to enhance the understanding of the history of the Bathurst Region.

Grants of between \$500 and \$5000 (but not exceeding 50% of the total project cost) will be made available to approved applicants subject to assessment of the significance of the project etc.

The closing date for the first round of grants is 30th September 2011 so it is a bit rushed this year but it may be worth considering for the following year.

Enquiries can be made to Mr Thomas Wheeler at Bathurst Regional Council on (02) 63336130

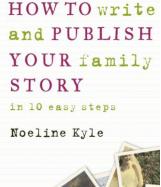


The second incentive is the publication of a new book by well known author, Dr Noeline Kyle:

How to write and publish your family story in ten easy steps

After thirty years of giving workshops, talks and seminars to family historians and genealogists Dr Noeline Kyle realised what was missing. What her audience is really crying out for is an easy-to-use reference book to show them how to write and publish their research. *How to write and publish your family story in ten easy steps* draws on Kyle's extensive experience writing and publishing family history. It provides a template for family historians and

genealogists who are ready to take the next step. The book guides them through the process with ten basic steps to help them shape the story, develop а narrative, establish their characters and write biographies, construct chapters, edit their text. use technology, and ultimately, publish and promote their book so it reaches the widest number of readers possible.



** Special Offer **

To purchase a copy of Noeline's book at the special price of **\$15.96** (which is 20% off the regular price) visit the publisher's website at: http://www.unswpress.com.au/code13/p2751

I should have asked...

To get you started on your family story we have included a selection of questions that may help to avoid that "I should have asked" moment. This has been adapted from one published in the December 2010 issue of *Australian Family Tree Connections*. Have you ever thought that you should ask your parents or grandparents about their lives and then left it too late?

Some of the questions seem obvious, but asking such questions and recording the answers today will help your family come to life in the future. Why not take a moment to write down <u>your</u> answers to these questions too - it's a huge step towards completing your own memoirs.

Consider printing out the list and making space after each question for them to fill in, or if you are talking to them jot down the responses. Another good idea is to have a voice recorder running in case you miss anything. Don't forget to tell them that you are recording and offer to let them hear it when you have finished, in case they have "second thoughts" about anything they may have said.

Questions to ask:

Personal

1. What did you want to be when you grew up?

 What was your favourite piece of clothing, food and toy?
What was your most longed-

for Christmas wish?

5. What scrapes and bruises did you get as a child?

6. Tell me about your first kiss?

7. How did you and my mum or dad meet; was it love at first sight?

Home

8. Tell me about your Dad's first car?

9. What was your pet's special trick?

10. What made your aunts and uncles so special?

11. What was it like staying at your grandmas?

12. What did you talk about during family meals?

13. What work did your father and mother do and did they enjoy it?

14. Did you have to travel a long way to go to school or work?

15. Do you have a special Christmas Day memory?

16. What illness did you have as a child, did the doctor visit?

17. How did your mother sew, cook, clean, keep food fresh, heat water etc?

18. What handyman jobs did your father do, and what tools did he use?

19. Who washed the dishes after dinner; did you and sibling squabble?

20. What jobs did you do after school?

School

- 21. What assemblies did you have at school?
- 22. Was there a poor or a rich child in your class?
- 23. What games at playtime, where did you eat lunch?
- 24. What subject and sport were you good at, and what did you hate?
- 25. Did you have a teacher who inspired you?
- 26. What was a naughty schoolyard song?
- 27. What school and after-school groups did you join?

Out in the world

- 28. How did the family shop for food?
- 29. Did you visit your local library?

30. What was the road outside your childhood house like?

- 31. What was your first paying job, first pay packet?
- 32. What frightened you at the zoo or the circus?
- 33. When did you leave home to live elsewhere?

34. Do you remember your first teenage dance?

- 35. What church activities did you join?
- 36. What radio or TV programs did you like and dislike?
- 37. Was milk, bread, ice home delivered?

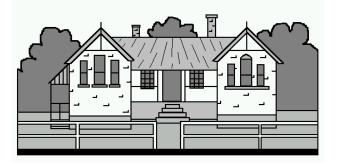
38. Did you have Guy Fawkes bonfires, Anzac/Empire Day events?

- 39. Where did you travel to by train, bus, tram?
- 40. Do you remember an early family holiday?
- 41. Can you describe your family home and "walk" me thru the rooms and the surrounding property?

Did you go to School in Hill End?

Keep up with what is happening in the school these days via their weekly email newsletter "The Golden Quill". Things are probably a bit different now...

Reading the newsletters over the past few months it is so exciting to see the innovations that have been introduced and there is no doubt that the current students are not missing out on anything. If you would like to be included on the mailing list for the newsletter then contact Gaye Shanahan and register your interest. She can be contacted at GAYE.SHANAHAN@det.nsw.edu.au



If you shop at Coles and have no use for the Coles Sport for Schools vouchers then consider saving them all up and posting them to Hill End Public School, c/-Post Office Hill End. As a remote school they can use all the assistance they can get and this is one way you can help keep the school supplied with equipment that will be well utilized. Just make sure you send them to the school by 18th October.

The Census

By now you will have returned your census forms and may wonder what will become of them. Past census material has been collected and the data (not the names unfortunately) is available at the Historical Census and Colonial Data Archive Website. Check out the website at http://hccda.anu.edu.au/

State Records hold the Collectors Notebooks for most of NSW for the 1891 Census. This was the first census to survive in substance after the 1841 Census. Records of the intervening censuses are believed to have been destroyed in the Garden Palace fire on 22 September 1882. Only householders are listed. The names of the other people resident in the household are not identified. I recently visited State Archives and have copied the pages of relevance to the Hill End district and hope to have them available, eventually with an index, at the March Gathering.

Your support is appreciated

We wish to acknowledge and extend our thanks to the members who have supported the Gathering Group with their

generous financial donations this year. This will enable us to continue to send out the hardcopy newsletters to over 250 descendants and helps out with our most expensive outlays i.e. postage and printing costs.

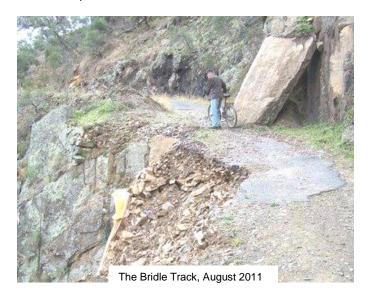




Hill End Happenings

The Bridle Track

This historic track along the Turon River was cut by a rock fall and subsidence 12 months ago, about 17 kms from Hill End, at Monaghan's Bluff. Unfortunately, because the surrounding area is also unstable there does not seem to be any plans in the immediate future to repair it as it would be VERY costly. From the accompanying photo, taken in August you might be able to see the problem!



This is one area where the track literally "hangs" on the side of the cliff and there is a considerable drop to the river below...It is hoped that the Council sees its way clear to restore this historic track for all users.

The Arts in Hill End and nearby

THE GREAT DIVIDE: GENEVIEVE CARROLL, JANET HASLETT & JULIE WILLIAMS

Local artists Genevieve Carroll, Janet Haslett and Julie Williams have been drawing creative inspiration from the remote historically charged village of Hill End and its surrounds for almost a decade. This exhibition explores the creative impacts that the village and travels further afield, have had on their practices.

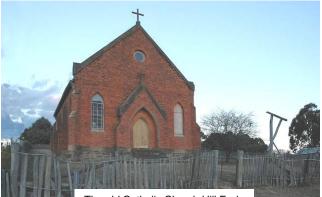
See this inspiring exhibition, as part of the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) Local Artist Project between 12 August and 25 September at the Regional Art Gallery in Bathurst.



Hill End Arts Council Artists Studio Open Day

The Hill End Arts Council (HEAC) is an incorporated not-for-profit organisation established in 2007. They are excited to announce the inaugural Hill End Artists Studio Day on Sunday 18 September 2011 which is being held with the support of The Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG).

HEAC have recently acquired the Hill End Catholic Church and this will be restored and used as an allpurpose arts centre, to be accessed on a national and international level. The remote village of Hill End has a population of 120, of whom a large number are professional practicing artists including painters, sculptors, photographers, printmakers, writers and musicians. HEAC and BRAG are committed to supporting the artists of Hill End and have worked together to promote these artists through exhibitions at both BRAG and the Jean Bellette Gallery in the Visitors Centre, Hill End.



The old Catholic Church Hill End,

In Hill End, 13 artists will open their studios on 18 Sept, including the artists-in-residence at Murray's Cottage (Donald Friend's home) and Haeflinger's Cottage (the home and studio of Jean Bellette and Paul Haeflinger). This will coincide with an exhibition of new work by artists based in Hill End to be held in the Jean Bellete Gallery at the Visitor Centre.

Entry to all studios will be \$30 and \$25 concession. Registration commences at 9am and the studios are open form 9.30am - 3.30pm. The opening of the exhibition will be in the Gallery at 4pm.

Craigmoor Open Day

Craigmoor historic home is open on the October Long Weekend, 1st and 2nd October from 11am to 4pm. (Cost \$10.00 & \$8.00 concession.)

Hill End Historic Buildings Open Day

On 16 October from 10am to 4pm you can experience a rare chance to view ten unique buildings in the town, from humble miners cottages and old churches to the historic residence of Craigmoor, with its furnishing still intact. Local guides will be available to answer your questions about each location. (cost \$25.00 & \$18 conc.)

Genevieve Carroll, Hui and Raquel's Loungeroom 2011,

Bookings are advisable for both activities and can be made on (02) 63378306.

<u>Royal Hall Market</u> October Long Weekend

The Easter market in Hill End was a great success this year, the weather was lovely and even though the Bridle Track had been closed by a rock fall at Monaghan's Bluff, the tourists were still in

town and looking for somewhere to spend their money. We had a variety of stalls again and Gathering

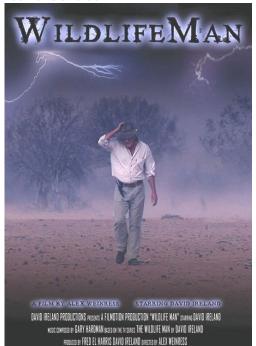
Group member, Jenny Tomlinson's Lemon Butter proved very popular. As usual Dennis fed the masses on the Saturday with his Sausage Sizzle which is becoming an "institution" and he sold out again by 1.30pm. The queue stretched out into the road!

We will be holding the Market again this October Long Weekend on the Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd October. If you are in the area come along and see what you might find amongst our treasures. We are also always happy to accept donations of items to put on the stall and money raised will be used for continuing Hill End research and preservation of the local history. Better still, consider having you own stall. Contact Lorraine (02 95870352) or Daphne (02 63378218) for more information.

The Red Carpet rolls out in Hill End

The Royal Hall will be the venue for the launch of David Ireland's latest film *Wildlife Man* on Sunday 2nd October at 7pm.

David's wildlife films are shown worldwide on over 40 networks including Discovery Channel. This latest production is arguably one of his finest productions! It took three years to produce and has more Australian environments and animal encounters than any wildlife film ever produced in Australia. Check out the Wildlife Man's website to learn more about the man himself! www.davidireland.com



<u>A Golden Journey -</u> Our next publishing project receives a Grant from Bathurst Regional Council

Our volunteer Bea Brooks has been collating goldfields material from the 1850s issues of the newspapers including the Sydney Morning Herald and we feel that the information contained herein is a wonderful resource that showcases the life in the Western Goldfields during this time. There was enough material included in the 50 or so articles that had been written by travelling correspondents to make a sizable book so we decided to undertake the project.

The first four articles were written in December 1852 in the very earliest days on the Turon diggings and sets the scene. The main body of the work is a contemporary report by an experienced goldfields journalist, Charles DeBoos and his life is a story in itself. We anticipate that we will be able to "follow in his footsteps" as he writes about his journey over an 8 month period recording his route on the relevant maps.

A project like this involves a level of professional input that we felt may have been a bit beyond our expertise and so we applied for 2 grants to assist with the production costs.

Great news awaited me on my return from Hill End when I collected my mail. We are thrilled to know that Bathurst Regional Council has acknowledged the effort and has seen fit to allocate a \$1000 grant to help out. Grants involve a deadline and so we hope to have the project completed and book published by the March Gathering.

"The Library" collection

Lorraine has a considerable number of books and articles relating to the area in her personal library as well as draft copies of indexes and petitions that have been transcribed by the volunteers Eventually these will be published but there is lots more work yet to be done. In the meantime she is happy to make these available for Gathering Group members to access to do their own research. Please contact her by email or phone (02) 95980352 to make arrangements for a mutually convenient time to visit.

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Contact details for the Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

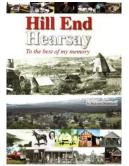
Lorraine Purcell Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group 12 Grantham St Carlton NSW 2218 Ph: 02 95870352 Mobile:0408117784

(Please leave a message if I am unable to answer. I will get back to you ASAP) Email: <u>heatgg@yahoo.com.au</u>

నసానసానసానసానసానసానసానసాన Gathering Group Publications

We have limited supplies of the following publications available for purchase by mail order. Pricing and details are on the following order form.

Hill End Hearsay – to the best of my memory by Malcolm Drinkwater



Released in October 2010, Malcolm Drinkwater's book, *Hill End Hearsay* is an eclectic mixture of anecdotes and history from the goldmining town of Hill End. As the title declares, many of these stories are based on "hearsay". They have been collected by Malcolm over a long period and are now recorded for posterity. He has introduced new yarns and poems and

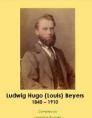
revisited the tales of the past, scattering them with his home-grown experiences. He has spoken to many of the town's identities, past and present, and as he states on the title page "They thought their lives were ordinary, nothing special, their stories unimportant - They Were Wrong".

In-between running his History Hill Museum on the outskirts of the town and maintaining a working property, Malcolm Drinkwater has collected together his memories and intermingled the narrative with a wide collection of photographs, both historic and contemporary, in a style that is truly Malcolm's. He writes as he speaks and you know it is from the heart.

This work is limited to 1000 copies and like his previous book "*Hill End Gold*" (now out of print and a "collectible book" in its field) it will prove a good investment for the collector as well as providing a good read. There are 192 glossy pages with black & white as well as colour photographs. (21 x 30cm)

The Miners' Friend, Ludwig Hugo (Louis) Beyers 1840 – 1910 compiled by Lorraine Purcell

The Miners' Friend



This 44 page book was produced to mark the centenary of the death in 1910, of one of Hill End's most respected sons, Louis Beyers.

It contains brief biographical information as well as an outline of his life and career in Hill End as a public figure and benefactor. Known as 'the miners' friend', after more

than 30 years in the town he packed up his family and moved to the West Australian goldfields in the late 1890s. Here, he started his working life again after becoming bankrupt through the negligence of an unscrupulous solicitor who took advantage of his generous nature.

Whilst much has been written about his partner, Holtermann, Beyers seemed to have slipped through the net and hopefully this publication will go some way to redress this situation. It has been compiled from a number of sources and included some new material which has recently come to light, including Louis' own words in an interview, on how he became bankrupt. *Holtermanns Nugget* by Gunter Schaule



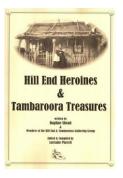
This historical novel is based on the life of the successful 19th century miner, businessman, parliamentarian and photographer, Bernhardt Holtermann, who arrived in Sydney as a young man from Hamburg.

If you are looking for a good yarn and yet still interested in a slice of Australian history then this book is

ideal for you.

Written with the approval of Holtermann's great grandson, John, this is a work of fiction. However it has been well researched and the background information paints a vivid picture of what conditions existed and what life was like in Hill End in the 1870s.

Hill End Heroines & Tambaroora Treasures - The women of the goldfields, their lives and stories by Daphne Shead & members of the Gathering Group.



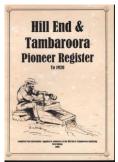
We are proud that this book has been reviewed in SCAN, a quarterly journal produced by the NSW Dept of Education, as a curriculum related resource for primary school teachers.

Daphne has written a wonderful account of the confrontations and joys of outback life. She traces the journeys made by the women who

followed their menfolk to the new goldfields in central west NSW and presents a montage of anecdotes about the conditions and challenges that they had to cope with.

Members of the Gathering Group have contributed stories of over fifty women ancestors. Some are short and others are lengthy, but all tell the story of everyday women who helped open up these new areas. They were the bonds that held the fabric of the family unit together against all the odds in the true Australian spirit. Contact details for all contributors are included. It includes a comprehensive index of all names in the publication.

The Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register on CD



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

Publication Order Form

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

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