

# The Stamper Battery

## Winter (July 2006) Edition



Danelle Bergstrom Shan'an's Gully

### Winter Solstice

June 21<sup>st</sup> was our Southern Hemisphere Winter Solstice, slowly now our bit of the world tilts more sunward, the sun slowly begins to set more to the south, eventually to set south of Bald Hill, not north of it as it does in winter. However July and August are still winter, so more cold is yet ahead of us. On June 17<sup>th</sup> Parks recorded minus 9, last year's lowest recorded temp was minus 4. Two months until Spring. Ed.

### Mine Capping

Above the Bald Hill Mine Walk, in the vicinity of the Scandinavian Mine, towards Irish Town, work has commenced on capping open mines, putting steel grates across the old shafts for safety. Peter Mitchell and Ross

Brown have inspected them and say that they are strong enough to walk on, so one can look down through and throw a stone down, which is what tourists want to do. The regeneration will camouflage them in the future. Some years ago a large section was fenced off and is almost invisible now. RC

### Craigmoor

Ken Miller said that they were not training for the 'Great Escape'. He and Steve Hobbs have replaced the wooden piers under the front section of the building with concrete pads and brick piers. It was work on hands and knees, terribly tiring with a little trolley reminiscent of the movie. RC

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### Black Cockatoos

June saw the migratory passage of a flock of Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos through our village. With their distinct call, they visit our area to feast on the pine tree cones that they favour so much, and that attracts them here on their annual migration.

Ed.

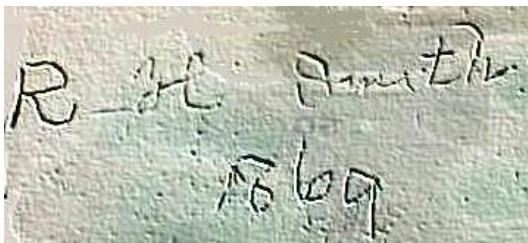


Black Cockatoo J. Gould 1840

### Local Signatures

Following on last issue's feature on Signature Rock, and the quest to record old graffiti of Hill End an even early signature can be found engraved into a pane in a local shop window. In flowing script the name *R H Smith 1869* predates by 21 years the fore mentioned initials carved into rock. What a pane!

Ed.



Engraved window pane

### Seeing Stars at Hosie's

An email from Sue-*"Thought this picture of Anne Tenney (Molly from Country Practice & mum on Always Greener) & Heath my Driller would be nice for the newsletter. Lovely lady, she was seen here there & everyone, (also walking my ferret) with lots of tourists coming up to her & saying goodbye."*

Sue Thomson



Hosie's guests

Anne Tenney and Heath the Driller

### The Avenue

A tree has been planted in the hole at the junction of English's Lane and the Mudgee Road. It is an English oak and the third last one that Peter Mitchell and Ross Brown have planted in the current replacement along the Avenue. It appears to be in the middle of the Lane, but it isn't. To complete the job they are seeking a specific type of pine, popular in its day, but it has gone out of fashion because its size. They have planted daffodils around the bases of the new trees, which will look good in spring.

RC

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### Recuperating

This season has seen its share of accidents and illness around town.

Not to mention the recent mining accident (see **Hill End Gold report below**).

Brian Hodge is recovering from several broken ribs and a punctured lung after a fall at home.

Ray Auld is recovering from a stroke he had in May.

Robert Anderson is on the mend after intensive kidney surgery.

Rosalie Macgregor is recovering from a car accident, with forehead stitches, and bruising.

Our best wishes to all for a speedy recovery.

Ed.

### Mining Registrar / Assay Cottage

Jan Gallen's recently opened Prints & Images Shop in the Assay Cottage was awarded a National Trust Heritage Award for the adaptive reuse of a heritage building.

Opening hours are 10 till 4 on weekends and public holidays.

RC



### Recent Accident

On the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006 an accident occurred at our exploration drilling site at Red Hill. Two Field Assistants sustained head injuries and were air lifted to Orange Base Hospital. Both employees have since returned to work and are almost fully recovered from their injuries. Hill End Gold Limited would like to express its sincere appreciation to both the NSW Ambulance Service and

CareFlight Helicopter personal for their quick response and professional standard of on-site treatment of our injured employees.

### Canadian Visit

Hill End Gold Limited Consultant Geologist John Gallo recently attended the Vancouver Resource Investment Conference. The conference featured many speakers covering topics such as direct investments in resource public companies - speculative investing, resource exploration, oil & gas, world outlook and investment strategies.

### Resource Estimate

Hill End Gold Limited is pleased to announce the initial resource estimate for the Reward area at Hill End. The work marks a significant milestone in understanding the controls of the mineralisation at Hill End and is a major step in modern mineral resource estimation for the large Hill End mineralised system. The estimate follows some four years of historical research, geological data collection, modeling, preliminary underground exploration and diamond drilling.

The Inferred Mineral Resource estimate is for a part of the Steven's, Paxton's, Mica and Phillipson's vein sets in the Reward area at **680,000 tonnes at 6 g/t Au for 130,000 ounces of gold.**

Check our website at  
[www.hillendgold.com.au](http://www.hillendgold.com.au)  
for the latest ASX announcements, news items and other information.

**Jim Shanahan**  
Administration/Safety Officer  
Hill End Gold Limited

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### Where did the gold come from?

Mike Quayle of Hill End Gold answered the question. 430 million years ago Hill End was a deep ocean, known geologically as the Silurian period. West of us, there would have been an Australia, which would have been ancient even then, this ancient landmass would have had its shoreline in the vicinity of Cobar. There were volcanic islands off the coast and this island chain was being thrust to the east coast of pre Australia by an active tectonic period with earthquakes and volcanoes. The volcanoes were thrusting up, creating a pull-apart action that caused the opening up of what is known as the Hill End Trough. 5km deep, 2-300km long and 40km wide, over a period of about 20 million years, these volcanic deposits eroded. That caused avalanches of silt into deep water repeatedly. This material formed into belts of slate. At the base of it, it was like gravel, called greywacke, known locally as wacky. The material eventually filled the Hill End Trough. Over a long period there was continuous metamorphosing and folding of the earth's surface. The rock at a depth of 5km down was under great pressure and high temperatures at hundreds of degrees, under these conditions minerals changed form. Part of the process is the liberation of water. This superheated fluid picked up metals and concentrated them. Earthquakes formed big vertical fractures. The fluids moved up these faults, cooling as they rose. The molten liquid is composed of chemical elements, gold being one. The metals drop out of a solution that's rich in silica that forms the quartz. Not all of these

events brought gold, just because of the presence of quartz, there are many veins of quartz, which are non auriferous. Mike concluded "What we have to find out at Hill End Gold is where and how the gold has been concentrated. Gold is a naturally occurring component of Earth, here since the Earth formed." **RC**



Gold laden Quartz Vein

### The Chinese Bushranger

**The notorious Sam Poo was mentioned in a previous issue, Daphne Shead has here enlarged upon his tale.-**

Sam Poo, turned up late 1864 at the Talbragar diggings. He was a loner who mixed with neither whites nor Chinese. There were rumours that he had been a Chinese laundryman in Sydney. Sam Poo set up a tent on the outskirts of the field. He was nicknamed "Cranky Sam" due to his surly manner. One resident of Chinatown said "Him no good. Him bad man – no like".

Then it was noticed early in 1865 that Sam Poo was no longer around. Apparently he had packed up and left Talbragar. Two days later 10 Chinese prospectors left the Talbragar diggings

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and set out along the Mudgee Road. At a lonely spot on the road Sam Poo bailed them up at pistol point. He relieved them of their small calico containers filled with gold dust that they had concealed under their pitails.

Sam Poo continued to do hold-ups, selecting solitary wayfarers on foot, both Chinese and whites. In February 1865 he attacked and raped a woman, holding her a prisoner all day, finally letting her go at nightfall. Trooper John Ward dressed as a civilian set out alone that month on foot. He came upon Sam Poo, and after a long chase Trooper Ward caught up with him at a deserted goldfield known as Barney's Reef. They engaged in a running gunfight until Trooper Ward was shot in the chest. Sam Poo took Ward's weapons and set off into the bush. Ward lay helpless until about noon the next day, station owner James Plunkett, riding by, found him. Trooper Ward gasped out what had occurred before whispering "Take care of my wife and children" with his dying breath.

A widespread manhunt was swung into action with an armed, mounted posse (men from as far away as Bathurst joining in). For 2 weeks they scoured the district in vain. Then a black tracker named Harry Hughes volunteered his services. Early on the morning of 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 1865 he was taken to the site of the murder where he quickly picked up the trail of Sam Poo.

He led the troopers to a place where they found the Chinese bushranger. A dogged running fight ensued for several hours. Finally Trooper Todd shot Sam Poo in

the thigh he fell but continued to fire from the ground. They rushed him, tracker Harry Hughes reached him first. He clubbed the bushranger with his rifle butt, breaking the stock and fracturing Sam Poo's skull. He was taken under guard to Mudgee hospital more dead than alive. After 9 months he was taken to Bathurst for trial. After being found guilty of Trooper Ward's murder he was hung in Dec 1865. Daphne Shead

**The Sam Poo story is soon to be part of a big budget (\$45 million) Australian/Chinese film production currently in development, entitled The Barefoot Bushranger."** Ed.

### Hill End Family History

I have been very busy with many visitors calling in and asking about their ancestors. The names for research for the last two months are:- Baskerville, Christie, Green, Chappell, Platt, Bartle, Davis, Reid, Phillips, Bruns, Molony, Tappit, Natrass, Holtermann, Tuthill, Degner, Grives.

I am slowly adding more subjects into the website-

[www.hillendfamilyhistory.com](http://www.hillendfamilyhistory.com)

If anyone has an item of local history that they would like to see on the site please send it to me, with a photo if possible.

Daphne Shead



Gria Shead- Garden

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hill End</b> <b>Voluntary Bushfire Brigade News</b></p>
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### Callouts 1/07/06 to 06/06/06

The Hill End Brigade responded to 6 callouts during the year including 4 fire calls and 1 motor vehicle accident. Statistics are a wonderful thing, with 33.33% of callouts being on a Sunday, with no callouts on either a Monday or Thursday, not sure what this means. Our response times were as usual very good. Thankyou to the 19 active members who attended these incidents.

### MyRFS

[www.myrfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.myrfs.nsw.gov.au) is a new website dedicated to RFS volunteers. Members who register can access their personnel information and download Standard Operating Procedures and RFS Service Standards. If you are an active member and would like to have access to the site please speak to Brigade Secretary Maxine Anderson.

### Smoke Alarms

Because of their isolated location, rural families and home owners will benefit most by the early warning provided by smoke alarms, which became compulsory from 1 May 2006. Eight people died and 44 were injured in house fires attended by RFS volunteers in rural fire districts during 2005. In the past five years, 30 people have died and 231 were injured in house fires attended by the RFS. RFS volunteers and staff encourage all home owners to install smoke alarms immediately, but in particular, that rural, isolated properties install smoke alarms now. Residents of rural NSW face

increased risks during house fires because they live in areas that are generally more isolated from fire services. These people must be more self-reliant to survive fires that can rapidly engulf a home and its contents. A working smoke alarm and a home fire escape plan are the best ways to ensure you and your family are quickly alerted and leave safely.

Several fires attended by RFS volunteer fire-fighters last year involved tragic deaths of children or multiple family members. Some of these may have been prevented if working smoke alarms alerted people so they could escape. From 1 May all residential accommodation across NSW must have one or more smoke alarms in buildings in which people sleep and alarms must be operational. This includes rental properties. Proper installation of alarms is the responsibility of the property owner.

A person who does not comply with the legislation is guilty of an offence (maximum penalty \$550).

### Tips on smoke alarms

- Install at least 1 smoke alarm on each level of your home
- Use only Australian Standard 3786 smoke alarms
- Replace alkaline batteries when daylight savings changes
- Test smoke alarms once a month
- Clean smoke alarms every six months – use a vacuum cleaner
- Get new alarms every 10 years or earlier if they need replacing
- Ensure you have a home fire evacuation plan.

*The above information is courtesy of the NSW RFS website.*

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### Brigade Captain

Robert Anderson Captain is convalescing and making a good recovery after surgery.

### Annual General Meeting

A full report of the AGM will be available in the next issue of The Stamper Battery.

### Memberships

If you are considering joining please contact Brigade Secretary Maxine Anderson.

**Membership \$20.00**

**Concession Membership \$10.00**

**Acreage Fee \$15 .00 per 1000 acres.**

Jim Shanahan  
President/Deputy Captain

### Upcoming Events/Visits/Dates

5<sup>th</sup> July- Peter Andren visit.  
8<sup>th</sup> July- Henrietta Manning Opening.  
P&C Bush Dance.  
11<sup>th</sup> July- Dr Wilson visit to Clinic.  
14/15<sup>th</sup> July- Mudgee Field Days.  
9<sup>th</sup> August- Mobile Library visit.

### GOT A PROBLEM?



Peter Andren MP

**Your Independent Member for Calare**

**Will be in Hill End on the 5<sup>th</sup> July**

**At 1.00pm  
for interviews**



Angelika Erbsland - Hill End Mine

### Hill End in Mexico

Richard Perram, Director of the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery recently gave talks in Mexico City on the Artist-in-Residence Program in Hill End to people from all over South America. A slide show accompanied the talks, including the works of Rosemary Valadon's and Gabrielle Courtney, paintings by the latter is at present on view at BRAG.

### Gria Shead Recent Exhibition

May June at Solander Gallery, Canberra.

Works viewable online at

[www.solander.com.au](http://www.solander.com.au)



Gria Shead- Local Scene

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### Danelle Bergström

Exhibiting-Sydney, in June. Danelle found it all fell into place at the end. "It happens that way sometimes." "When I was here in '97 I made a drawing of the trees on the way to Bald Hill. So beautiful it was then, but even more special to me now." she said. "There are two aspects to my work, landscape and portraiture, but sometimes I feel one is at the expense of the other. The landscape works are an emotional response to the surrounding bush. Many of the paintings explore reflections in pools and ponds, when the fragile water surface can hold an image momentarily, until it is disturbed by wind or insects. It is not a literal response, but a metaphor for my own feelings. The portraits create a diversion but at the same time are an integral part of my work"

RC

View Danelle's works online at [www.rexlivingston.com](http://www.rexlivingston.com)



Danelle Bergstrom-Reflective Sound

### Henrietta Manning

Previous Resident Artist returns to Hill End in July, for another residency, and the opening of her much toured exhibition 'In Face of Isolation', at the Hill End Gallery July 8<sup>th</sup>. The show features her Hill End portraits and landscapes.

Ed.



Henrietta Manning-Tambaroora St

### BRAG Artists in Residence

#### Sarah Ross-Murray's Cottage

Working with gold I developed a fascination for the background of the goldfield itself, not just from a materials point of view but from a historical aspect. In Victoria small gold towns have largely disappeared, undervalued in the 1940's/50's they fell down, were recycled or disappeared. Consequently there is little history still around that documents the ordinary folk. Plenty of large goldfield buildings in Ballarat etc, but no evidence of how ordinary people lived during this era.

#### School Project.

The students from the school provided the inspiration and drew simple images. I converted these images and etched them into sterling silver. Each piece was cut out and made into a pendant with the students name on the reverse. The children selected different coloured silks to hang the pendants on for Mothers Day. Everyone kept the secret and hopefully we had a few pleased mothers. I was impressed with the students



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concentration span, talent and commitment to task. They were an absolute delight to work with and I hope it inspires future jewelers in the making.

### My own work

There was such a wealth of imagery to absorb from my stay. I have been working with Holtermann photographs, etching and embossing them in gold for a series of brooches that reflect the carte vista style of portraits from the era. Drawings I made from the tiles around Murray's stove I have etched in copper and am patching these together into a series of bowls.

Sarah Ross

Sarah's jewelry designs are online at [www.studioingot.com.au](http://www.studioingot.com.au)



Sarah Ross-Meg Pilley's Pendant

### **Amanda Penrose Hart- Haefliger's Cottage**

"I sketch the landscape which I have got to know over the last 5 years of visiting Hill End and Sofala, where I have bought some land, so I'll be up more often". Her first week here, she said, "the silence rang in my ears, coming from the hubbub of Sydney. I was thinking that I gone a bit deaf after the hum of air conditioning and computers and living on a noisy street. After a week

I was able to work in silence. I enjoy painting night pictures, not that they sell well. I am interested in light, but not necessarily daylight. I don't think there is enough observation of light past sunset. There are oodles of colour and light then. A lot of landscape artists paint daylight and sunsets, but I think if they held off for an hour or two, they would find there is plenty to see in the dark. I don't find anything romantic in a sunset. It's harder work to try to make a landscape at night. We're programmed to work in the day and sleep at night". Amanda came up with her daughter, Teah who is 6 years old and she was enrolled in the School. "She had a ball.. The School came up to the Studio and I was impressed by the intelligent questions they asked about being a professional painter".

RC



Amanda Penrose Hart-Local Scene

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### **Imaginasia**

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Aug the School will be presenting their annual performance in the Royal Hall. Rehearsals are taking place and students are sworn to secrecy, which makes it so much more fun on the night.

RC

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### **Police Report**

Jim Allen asks that all drivers make sure their licenses and registration are up to date. Also he reminds motorists that not wearing seat belts is against the law.

### **Golf- Wanted-Old Mongrels**

(to teach new Mongrels old tricks).  
Social Day Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Aug. Mongrels Style Golf 11am Fee-\$5, refreshments after game, with Gate Prizes to all attending. Mongrels guarantee-No one will leave hungry or thirsty. Youth Welcome. Enquiries **ph 63378188**

### **B&B's Hill End 1870's style**

A new style of lodging and boarding house is in great vogue. It is a tent fitted up with stringy bark couches, ranged down each side of the tent, leaving a narrow passage up the middle. The lodgers are supplied with mutton, damper and tea, three times a day for the charge of 5 shillings a meal, and 5 shillings for the bed: this is by the week. A casual guest must pay double, and as 18 inches is on average considered ample width to sleep in, a tent 24 feet long will bring in a good return to the owner. Courtesy Daphne Shead



Gria Shead-Flowers

### **HETPA President's Report**

Despite the welcome rain and very cold weather over the June long weekend, the village had many stoic visitors who stayed for the duration. We are now settling in by the fire for the cold winter ahead and look forward to the joy of Spring.

The two projects that have been made possible through Bathurst Regional Councils', Rural Village Development Grant are underway.

The playground in Bill Lyle reserve will be in place during July. The paling fence constructed by Bob Frazer and Peter Seaman at the creek end, has given the park a more inviting aspect and hopefully will be used more by locals and tourists.

Street signs are being constructed in conjunction with NPWS sign guidelines and will be in place by the end of June. The assistance of the NPWS in the erection of the signs is appreciated.

HETPA is beginning the process of possibly having the courthouse open for visitors on Open Day. Thanks to Peter Mitchell for his ongoing interest in having this wonderful building open to the public.

**Sheena Goodwin**  
President HETPA

### **HETPA Membership**

Contributions and membership are encouraged. Membership is \$10 per annum OR part thereof, Concession \$5. There is a necessary surcharge for those living outside of Hill End of \$ 3 for postage. Email is preferable, because of cost and the quality of the photographs.