

THE STAMPER BATTERY

SPRING (September 2006) EDITION



Daffodils first bloom August 2006

Hill End in the News Sydney Morning Herald, August 1870

The township of Hill End consists of some fifty dwellings, the greater part in close proximity [very close] to each other. In the township there are four public houses [hotels] and five stores, but the number of both will soon be increased, for buildings for the purpose are being erected. Of tradesmen there are two butchers, one baker, two bookmakers, three blacksmiths, three carpenters and one builder. There is also a chemist's shop, churches and a public school. Altogether the number of people is about 1200. Of these, it is reckoned that fully 700 are miners.

A further report from the time-

The stores at the diggings are large tents are numerous and well-stocked generally

square or oblong, and everything required by a digger can be obtained for money, from sugar-candy to potted anchovies; from East India pickles to Bass's pale ale; from ankle jack boots to a pair of stays; from a baby's cap to a cradle; and every apparatus for mining, from a pick to a needle. But the confusion, the din, the medley - what a scene for a shopwalker. Mrs. Clacey

Today things are a fair bit quieter, especially with the demise of our General Store. The Ghost Town Syndrome grows. Fortunately Holtermann's Corner opens 7 days a week, providing milk, bread, cakes, pies and general needs. All Welcome. Ed.

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Hill End's Newspapers

Also in the boom years our town boasted 2 newspapers, The Observer and the Times. A far cry from the humble offerings of the Stamper Battery newsletter of today.

Ed.



The Bark roofed Times office, Clarke St

Hill End Family History

The last two months have been very busy for me. I am still putting data into the computer and doing research at the same time. The website is slowly getting bigger, at the moment I am researching the bushrangers who came into an area that roughly includes Bathurst, Wellington and Mudgee. Also I am putting some more about the cemeteries of the district, with a photo or two. The names that received attention from descendants were:-Carver, Jackson, Norton, Toohey, Goodwin, Yates, Alder, Reynolds, Baker, Ackermann, Manolato, Jeffree, Dorhauer, Standen, Cooper, Clarke, Salkeld, Glanz, Boesenberg, Maker, Lewis and Prior. Sometimes I receive more than one enquiry for a name, this time the name Jeffree was very popular. As the weather warms up more people are getting about looking for their ancestor's history and grave. Sometimes they get lucky and sometimes they go away empty handed,

but mostly they go away with something to add to their family history tree.

Thanks to Rosalie McGregor for the donation of 3 issues of "Tasmanian Ancestry" put out by the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc., a very welcome asset for the Hill End Family History unit. Happy hunting to all genealogists.

www.hillendfamilyhistory.com

Daphne Shead

Chinese Miners get even

In 1862 two Chinese gold fossickers, Ah Soom and Ah Mook, provided the only recorded instance of the Chinese hitting back at their white tormentors. One night on the Tambaroora goldfield the tent of these two Chinese was invaded by two masked men demanding money with the threat of a beating. Ah Mook produced some £10 (\$20) in gold and the robbers were so busy gloating over it they forgot to watch Ah Soom. Lying in the corner of the tent he suddenly pulled a pistol from under his bedding and put a bullet in the chest of one of the nocturnal visitors. The shot sent the other robber scuttling out of the tent for his life with Ah Mook, Ah Soom and a dozen of their Chinese neighbours in pursuit. They not only caught him, they nearly beat him to death. The white robbers ended up in hospital facing robbery charges when they recovered.

Daphne Shead

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Chinese Miners 1866

Ephemeral Graffiti/Creative Fodder

Continuing our hunt for historic local graffiti, this edition was distracted by a more recent set of initials set in the landscape. As the Hill End road climbs up from Sally's Flat, in the paddock to the right, the feed put out for the sheep there was done in a most creative manner, the giant initials 'JR' were spread across the hillside, perfectly written with the strewn hay. Ed.



Initialed hillside. *Medium-hay* on grass.

Further Environmental Art?

Another piece of environmental art appeared in town recently. Almost overnight, dozens of little green plastic sculptures materialized, like so many paper lanterns, dotted through the freshly cleared creek side. At first there was presumption that a BRAG Resident Artist had cut loose with a landscape

sculpture in town itself! However it was in reality a Parks environmental reclamation project, removing the dreaded pine tree and replacing them with native trees, she-oaks and gums. Ed.



Chinese Lanterns dot the landscape.

Graffiti the continuing story

There is some more on the mantle piece of the Pool Room at the hotel. Eddie Long says when Peter Colley, a former Publican saw someone using a hot poker to brand his name into the wood, who he grabbed him by the collar and rammed him into the verandah post. RC

The Combined Villages of the Region

Marian Clark of Wattle Flat initiated this get together of the Villages of the Region and it is proving worthwhile. It is just a loose group of people interested in promoting their Villages around the city of Bathurst. There has been another 'expo' in Bathurst with radio plugs as well; one featured Jann Gallen. Good support from Felicity Baines of the Tourist Office continues. Jann Gallen says that she and Suzanne Thomson are getting more accommodation enquiries from there as a result. So the initiative is proving successful for some businesses in Hill End. And businesses employ people. RC

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Departing Policeman

.We wish Jim Allen every success and say farewell to Trish and Evelyn. We expect them all to visit at least once a year. Trish will be working for 000, the emergency number; let's hope we don't have to talk to her there.

New Policeman, we hope we get as good as we got on the last two occasions, both Bob and Jim fitted into the Community & contributed through the Cricket Club.

RC

Departing Mail Lady

Lola, our trusty mail lady has retired after many years of good service that included a bad accident on the job. We now have a new mail man called Graham.

RC

Hill End is truly a Playground

Two new playgrounds were installed in our town recently.

One, the more complex of the two, was constructed at the school.

The second, (which was a HETPA grant funded initiative), is aimed at a younger age group and situated in Lyle Park. Ed.



School's new playground



Lyle Park playground

Impromptu Soccer Game

A game was played by Kim Lembryk and Rob Payne of Hill End Gold with of the kids who came to the working bee to put the sawdust around the new play equipment at the School recently.

Greg and Brent did well to block Kim from kicking a goal.

She was once a soccer player for Australia and would have played in the Sydney Olympics but for an injury. RC

HETPA President's Report

We have made it to Spring!

Blossoms, daffodils and a visit from yellow tailed black cockatoos, Hill End is a such a beautiful place to live.

The playground in Lyle Park is completed.

The installation was completed with a big Kangaroo lying near the new fence and not moved by the intrusion.

Galloping gumnuts, held in the park fortnightly, for the young ones, will be the first to try it out.

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The Hill End General Store has been closed for the last 7 weeks.

Sheena Goodwin
President
HETPA

The National Parks Division have advised that they are advertising for tenders and it will be open by 2007.

The long closure of the General Store has not been good for the community or tourism and will be that way for another few months. Despite letters, phonecalls and a petition we are left without petrol etc.,etc..

HETPA has applied for this years Bathurst Regional Councils' Rural Village Infrastructure program grant. Members voted to improve drainage behind the Royal Hall, replace the kitchen floor, improve and expand the electrical supply and install a new kitchen to replace the present old and unusable one. Hopefully we will be inspired by the kitchen and the social possibilities it provides.

The tennis court is being given some TLC, and HETPA is going to buy some rackets and a new net. Sheryl Welsh has been very positive in fostering renewed interest in the tennis courts. Peter Garry is interested in doing more work to improve the fencing and the surface.

It will be wonderful if we all start making time to have a 'hit' and have some fun together.

Thanks to those involved.

Open Day is on the 15th October

October Open Day

October 15th

Cost-\$25/18 Concess.

Bookings/Enquiries ph-63378334



Craigmoor House Tours

October Long Weekend

Sat 30th Sept & Sun 1st Oct

Cost- \$10/ \$8 concess.

Bookings/Enquiries ph-63378334



Upcoming visits

Dr's Visit

Dr. Wilson's next visit-**Sept19th**

Please book by phoning clinic.

63378263

Library Van

Next visit of Bathurst Library's

Mobile Library Van- **Sept 20th.**

Hill End & Tambaroora

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Pioneer Register & Gathering

This is to advise of a new email address for the Hill End and Tambaroora Gathering Group and to ask you to change your address book records by deleting my lorraine@compassnet.com.au address which is no longer valid and adding this address, heatgg@yahoo.com.au

It is the intention of the Group to produce an irregular newsletter and I will be in touch soon regarding this. With regard to the Hill End & Tambaroora Pioneer Register there are only a limited number of copies left for sale as response has been marvelous. If you have been putting off purchasing your copy then it is now time to reconsider as it will not be reprinted in the immediate future (however we are considering producing a CD version for a similar price if it is still in demand when hardcopy supplies run out).

\$37 will see a copy posted to you anywhere in Australia.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope your Hill End research has been fruitful.

Lorraine Purcell
Convenor

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

Hill End Art

Henrietta Manning

Mentioned in the previous issue the Henrietta Manning exhibition is now on at the Hill End Art Gallery in the Visitors Centre. The exhibition was opened by Minister Bob Debus. The show featured the much traveled "Faces in Isolation" works Henrietta had painted in Hill End. Many local faces are

portrayed, and a few landscapes. Henrietta was back for a residency at Murray's Cottage simultaneous with her Opening. Ed.



Henrietta Manning-Hill End Publican

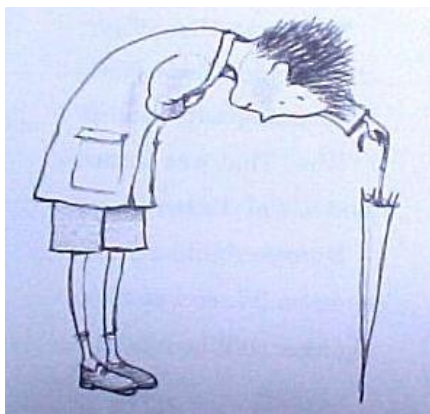
Owen & Beth Norling Murray's Cottage

Beth is a children's book illustrator with some 60 books behind her. The School has 2 titles she has illustrated. "In 2004 my work changed, I started to come up with stuff that couldn't be expressed in children's books. My brother Owen (camera/post-production) and I came here to do a project on the theme on infant mortality in the gold rush, where 1 in 3 died before school age. It will consist of 2-400 frames moving along an image 1.5 metres long creating a loop film with audio to add mood.

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Beth Norling-book illustration

Above is an example of my illustrations, the later image was a test shot for the animation on infant mortality. The face is blank; we will put in a photo of a real, historical Hill End face later. The time I had with the children at School was most enjoyable. I showed them my work, and talked about what portion of illustration to text is used according to different age groups. I also showed examples of my animations, and they told me about the flip books they had made, the processes are similar. Then we talked about characterization, and the children drew their own character they invented. They did some beautiful drawings and we all had a great time.

Beth Norling



Beth Norling-animation figure

Joanne Searle

Haeflinger's Cottage

“I came to Hill End to do preliminary drawings before 2 dimensional works in clay”. Joanne is a ceramicist from Canberra. Her work involved recording sounds and a computer program to provide a 2 dimensional interpretation. “It’s called a sound wave which makes patterns and I reconstruct these patterns into a drawing. The background of the illustration below is derived in this way.



Joanne Searle-sound wave sketch

It’s such a good program, to have 4 weeks to experiment and play”.

RC

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Ben Beeton



Ben Beeton

Makes art about ecology, geology and natural history. "I do drawings of plant specimens scanning them onto the computer. I use geological maps of the Region, also maps of what Australia used to look like millions of years ago. I put all of this information into the computer and make artworks there. Then I print them out onto canvas paint and draw on them." In one painting, he has used a map of Gondwanaland, showing the rifting of Australia and South America; in a corner is a twig of a plant he scanned. It is appropriate that the NSW Parks Service is sponsoring him, as he is passionate about the Environment: "Each generation has left the planet to the next generation in a more depleted state with increased destruction of the natural environment." He feels that we should learn about the endangered species in our Region. He wished to thank Hill End Gold, Parks and Bathurst Regional Art Gallery. "Hill End has an amazing past: volcanoes, mountain building, rainforests and a deep sea trough and you evidence of this as you walk through the bush." RC

Chris Dolman

His 1st residency was in 2001. "I am enjoying seeing the place in different seasons. Hawkins Hill in fog is like looking at the edge of the world," he said. "I did all the views the first residency, the churches, the fences. This time I am working in the Cottage with objects. I will be having a two man show in Bathurst with Paul Williams, which will include a sound installation. It will be an aspect of an interior, looking for compositions; images that trigger something, perhaps the textures of wattle and daub. I am working on fabric collages. Whilst here we did a workshop with kids from Stannies and another in Mudgee." RC

Drilling in the Village

Plans were announced by the local mining company recently to test drill at a few sites in town. At the corner of Church St & Clarke St, and across the other side of the cricket pitch, at 2 sites on Reef St. Basically to survey the vein running under the cricket pitch area. Ed.

Missing Watch?

Holtermann's Complex is just so. Doing the rounds of the corner Complex is a great source of merriment regarding a certain missing watch and a certain missing bus driver, or was that a missing bus? The joke in itself is aptly complex, drop by and ask Leanne for details of this tale if your curiosity is aroused. Ed.

The Root of Blackberries

The 1st introduction of blackberries into Australia occurred in 1843, and the subsequent distribution was vigorously

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advocated by the Acclimatisation Society of New South Wales. However by 1887, blackberry was considered weedy in areas in NSW. Ed.

Roads

Bathurst Council is working on parts of the Turondale Road, above Cheshire Creek and appears to be starting on the top of Monkey Hill. Because of the grade, this bit quickly wash boarded after grading, so it will be much appreciated. This will reduce the time on the dirt by 5 minutes, but we still have the 15-minute stretch as we reach Town. RC

School Play Imaginasia

In this play every student had three parts and they were well rehearsed. It follows a poor family on their escape from starvation in England of 1861 on their journey across the globe culminating in the land of Imanginasia. The beautiful costumes were made by Mrs. Groves. It was announced that the Teachers have been nominated for teaching excellence awards. RC

The Church Fence

The CSOs, those contributing to the Town through Community Service Orders are helping Ted Abbott repair St Paul's fence. RC

Let us know stuff

Please readers if you have Hill End snippets of fact, non scandalous fiction, images, please feel free to contribute. This is a community newsletter and we need all community groups, as well as interested individuals to offer input

pertaining to Hill End to make it truly viable and of interest to all. Ed

Email contributions-
progress@hillend.org
or hard copy via
Stamper Battery c/o Hill End PO



The Dawn of Spring is upon us

www.hillend.org