

# The Stamper Battery

## Autumn (April 2008) Issue



Charles Sturt University-Theatre Media students Annual trek arrives

### 20th Anniversary Visit

This year saw the 20th visit by the CSU Theatre Media Students to Hill End after the 1st yr students walked the Bridle Track, as part of their initiation into the world of drama. They then give a performance in the garden of the Royal Hotel. The 20th anniversary was marked by the added attendance of past graduates. By now this is a classic Hill End tradition. An event always well received, yet not really common knowledge.

Ed.

### Easter in Hill End

A Church Service was held at St Paul's on Easter Sunday at 2pm. Some of the business people in Town were disappointed with the timing. They were hard at work and unable to attend. Being in the afternoon, the ambience of the kerosene lights for which the Church is famous is lost in the daylight. Don Rookledge is thinking of applying for a grant from Bathurst Regional Council for the building. He tells of the occasion

when the kerosene lights were alight and one Pastor had to use a flashlight to read the Service.

Over Easter both Camping Grounds and the Bridle Track were full. The fossicking area was overflowing. The Pub had a record day. Since Easter the trees have begun to colour in their autumn hues, taking on burgundy to golden tinges at first until they fall to signify winter.

RC

### Open Day and Craigmoor

The National Trust Magazine reports that heritage visitations worldwide are declining. It gives the example of Colonial Williamstown in the USA where visitations are down by 35 %. But Craigmoor visitation rates are up. Visitors are asked the source of their knowledge of Open House Days in the majority state they read about it in the Discovery Magazine. It now has a circulation of 22 000 and Glenn Woodley writes new Hill End articles for it each month. Through good PR the

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Friends of Craigmoor have developed a rapport with the local radio stations, TV, the print media and the Bathurst Arts Council. It is paying off in numbers and dollars. Felicity Baines, Director of the Bathurst Tourism Information Centre took Hill End brochures to the Caravan and 4WD Show in Bathurst recently. Her promotion of town is appreciated, as was her mention of Hill End on radio and Prime TV prior to Easter. The April Open Day brought 103 visitors to. As usual it was a hectic day and more volunteers are needed, so beware. RC

### **MOU's**

Memorandums of Understanding with the Parks Service were signed for Craigmoor, Beyer's Cottage and the Royal Hall, only the Tennis Courts remain. The MOU's provide formal access for the Association. These define the responsibilities for both the parties, Parks and Progress. Lew Bezzina of the Parks Service is to be congratulated for completing the process, which has been talked about for a long time. RC

### **The Trees on the Avenue**

Peter Jones of Accurate Tree Services, Council Contractor took out the dead trees and trimmed many others. What impressed those who look after the Avenue was that he actually walked it to identify the dangerous ones and to target unsightly foliage. He took great care not to damage the adjacent trees. What impressed those who walk it was that he cleaned up after himself, leaving only a few chips behind. Lew Bezzina of Parks had the chips set aside for use in private gardens. Maggy Todd lamented the loss of the Himalayan Cypress, a victim of the drought. RC

### **The Fruits of the Hill End**

Shirley Wheeler, Betty Jeffree's sister was up for a visit. She commented on the pleasure of driving into town. "It looks so nice and tidy with the grass cut and of course it's so green". The new trees in the Avenue continue to flourish having been tended for 3 years now. Betty Jeffree has taken advantage of a bumper fruit crop this season. "I don't like to waste it" she said. Shirley came up to help bottle the jams. One thing Betty noticed this year was the quality of the apples. RC

### **The Heritage Orchards**

Lew Bezzina arranged for the local orchards to be inspected by representatives from Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens and Department of Primary Industries. They will return to advise further on the preservation of the fruit trees. This was a Hill End Arts Council initiative. RC

### **Gardening Tips**

Our Local Gardening Consultant, Brian Hodge won 5 1<sup>st</sup> Prizes for his vegetables and a Medallion at the Sofala Show. He is a bit coy about his success but it proves his competence to give gardening suggestions. Brian suggests planting onion seeds in May; his Californian Reds were prize winners. "A lot of old-timers waited until the day after the shortest day of the year to plant their carrots. I wait until September. If you leave them until October, your weeds will come up before your seeds. This also applies to parsnips. You can use the dormant time to prepare the soil with the compost you have prepared". Ross Brown says it's time to spray stone fruit with copper oxychloride or

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Bordeaux, which is organic to clean up any lingering fungal infections. RC

### The Fire Season

Bushfire Danger Period for the Chifley Zone was extended until 30<sup>th</sup> April. A big burn off was organised in late March along the Racecourse Rd. Dark smoke filled the sky until it was dissipated by a soft breeze. It was well controlled because the trees suffered minimum damage, but all the ground cover was gone. The burn off covered 220 acres and the purpose was to protect the houses around Golden Gully and the unoccupied ones to the north. The Brigade was grateful for assistance from units from Raglan, Bathurst, Wattle Flat, Sally's Flat and Turondale. Group activities like this promote teamwork in serious situations as units get to know each other. RC

### The New Fire Brigade Shed

Work commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> March with rapid progress due to Robert Anderson's bulldozer and backhoe. Rod Munro relocated the sub-soil using Hill End Gold's truck. The preparation of the sub-base was carried out by volunteers, Phil Butler, Russell Roberts, Steve Hobbs, & the Fraser clan worked with the Auld Brothers milling the timber. The formwork was prepared by Steve Hobbs, Burnie Baker and Matt & David Cornthwaite from the Mountains. The professionals wanted to start early. So Gaye and Jim Shanahan arrived at 5am to set up the bbq and floodlights to supply food and hot drinks during the morning. The slab was poured with the assistance of Russ and Jeff of Eastment Concrete Pumping at a low rate. A concrete pump sure beats a barrow and by lunch time the complete floor area

had been laid. In the sludge of fast arriving concrete were the Kimm girls, Sarah and Jeanine with friends of theirs under the direction of Brett Brown of Hargraves and Mick Brennan of Wattle Flat, and friends. The concrete was supplied by Boral Mudgee at a reduced rate, with trucks coming from Wellington and Orange. The additional costs of this rapid pour were met by Hill End Gold and the Hill End Lodge. RC

### New School Pool

The new pool opened with a splash. The students demonstrated their swimming skills, reminding Julie Browne of sheep going through a dip. It was pandemonium in the pool with big smiles and much noise. In her speech declaring the pool open, Winsome Price thanked Gaye Shanahan for succeeding in getting a grant of \$ 40 000 on her 2nd attempt. It came from the Federal Government's Fund Investing in our Schools.

Life has changed considerably since the first pool was installed back in the late 70s; there were no grants then. The money was raised from the Community through the continuous work of the original founders with rodeos, sports and many a sausage sizzle.

The idea was proposed by the schoolteachers at the time, Bob and Fiona Spencer in the early 70s. And it was taken up vigorously by Diana & Peter Kemp, Don & Joan Edwards, Robert & Maxine Anderson, Jeff & Jill Colley and Peter & Bob Colley. RC

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### Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering

Meet annually in the Sydney Botanic Gardens and recently combined forces with Daphne Shead of Hill End Family History to present the Hill End Family History Expo on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> April. As well as a coach load from Sydney (including visitors from WA, Vic and Qld) it is estimated that another 200 people headed to Hill End for the weekend to see what was on offer and to visit the home of their ancestors. There was not a vacant bed in the whole of the town and many had to stay in Bathurst and visit for the day. The town rallied with their support for the project and local businesses benefited from the influx.

Thanks to the Progress Association we were able to offer tours of Craigmoor (about 90 visitors) and Glenn Woodley's town tour (approx 80 in 2 groups) proved very popular. Ted Abbott provided a wonderful tour of both Cemeteries and assisted people in finding the graves of their ancestors. "It sent shivers up my spine," commented one of the group, "to be so close to my great, great grandmother."



HE&TG members Bill & Betty Maris chat to Tony Hubbard

The weekend was launched on Friday night in the Royal Hall where displays provided by local historical groups and

commercial enterprises dealing in family history material were on exhibit. We were able to present a heartfelt "Thank You" to all the townsfolk who provided assistance in the preparation and running of the event. Local harpist, Margaret Rookledge, serenaded the guests and the stage was set by photographer, Di Greenhaw, for Merlin style portraits.



Modern Merlinesque Image

Donna-lee and staff of the Hill End Lodge accommodated the coach patrons and provided a typical Aussie country roast dinner on Saturday night, followed by the Short Story Award presentation running in conjunction with the Expo. Stan Walters won 1st prize with a poignant story about his great Grandmother Caroline Jeffree. Plans are being made to publish all the entries in book form later in the year.

What would our ancestors have thought if they could see the Hall decked out in all their photos and the trappings of modern technology that linked us to resources on the other side of the world?

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**Matt Rattray**

With Matt Rattray's assistance we were able to access the Internet and assist those who were beginning their research. Family history wasn't the only thing on the minds of the organizers of the expo. As part of the theme for the weekend a fair amount of work went into the extras that add that professional touch.



**Hill End Hooch, Bald Hill Bubbles, Tambaroora Tipple**

The wine at the launch on the Friday night was specially labeled to reflect the occasion.

**Lorraine Purcell & Daphne Shead**

### **The General Store**

The Gilmore's featured recently in a The Sydney Morning Herald article. Entitled "It's a long way to the Shop" it addressed the changes that have occurred in 4 villages in the Central West. The article spoke of the struggle for general stores to survive now locals are going to supermarkets for their shopping. Innovative ideas are needed to increase general stores business. Julie was quoted as saying "The milkman always brings produce from his garden for me to cook with. Last week it was apples, so I made pies". Julie's homemade cakes received an honourable mention, as did her planned Mystery Murder Night. She told *The Stamper Battery* that first she needs to workshop it amongst the locals to see how it goes. Tourism NSW would jump at it, she was told, if she could get it going. The Library Depot has also been re-established at the General Store. **RC**

### **Peter Garry at the Globe**

Peter Garry has run Madman's Territory for 4WD tourists for many years, more as a hobby than a business. After he moved to Hill End, it was insufficient to absorb his intellect. So he looked further a field. He found his challenge in a neglected Pub in Rylstone. It has qualities and potential that will keep him busy for years.

The Globe predates Hill End's Royal, extended in the 1930s into quite a large hotel. Attached to the main building is a Bistro with further potential. It opens onto a grassy area that rolls down to the main street where Peter intends to build a stage for entertainment.

Good luck to him.

**RC**

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### Cleaning the Town

The Wilson-Gunn's 'Jock of all Trades' team have been awarded the cleaning contract by Parks. There have been compliments to the Visitors' Centre on the new freshness of the Camping Grounds Amenities. Realising the sad state of the Cricket Ground toilets, they have found cooperation from Parks with a hose out suggested from Jock of All Trades before matches. They also offer varied handyman services. Ph 171 RC

### Hoy Days

Held on 1<sup>st</sup> March it was organised by Joan Auld and \$ 300 was raised for the School. The next Hoy was on 26<sup>th</sup> April for the Fire Brigade. RC

### Roads and Bridges

Bitumen now extends to Pomanara with only 10 km of dirt remaining. Rod Munro says that Council will seal another 5km starting from the Town. Within the Village, Bathurst Regional Council's grader did some welcome work on the dirt roads, considering the problems with the ownership of the roads.

The road to the Tip has been graded after Brian Hodge's request. He made the point that the Council is responsible for the Tip and we assume that Council should maintain the access road to it. The bridges in Germantown Lane and Warry's Road are being replaced. Thanks to Parks mowing, and HETPA members staking out a walking track alternative, pedestrian access to the Camping Ground and Germantown attractions was enabled, as the closure unfortunately overlapped with Open Day. It was necessary despite the work done on the first bridge by Central Tablelands Builders and later by Ken Miller and his

crew. 24 tons of dirt was removed exposing the old timbers of this historic bridge. Sadly but deemed necessary a new wooden bridge will replace it. RC



Exposed timbers of Germantown Lane Bridge

### AGM of the Progress Association

A Cabinet reshuffle occurred, with Ross Brown rising to the Presidency, assisted by Sheena Goodwin as Vice President. Gaye Shanahan took over the Treasury from Jim, who deserves the thanks he got for his years of work. Peter Dorling remains as Secretary, Glenn Woodley also remains as the Ordinary Member and media officer to complete the team. RC

### Cricket

A recent match came alive with a 7-a-side match with 2 teams from Sofala and one from Hargraves. EJ Long got a hat trick, 3 balls and 3 dismissals, and that made for a great day however we were narrowly beaten by our archrivals, Hargraves. Overall we came third. The Water Police came up for their annual game. They started coming here in 89 / 90. A member, Jack Cahill had a property near Hill End and that initially brought them here. It was a beautiful autumn day with fielders from both sides enjoying the sun. Cameron Wilson-Gunn caught a visitor out but many missed opportunities were due to the refreshments. Daemon Gilmore, aged almost 9 was a keen player with potential, Brian Hodge remarked. RC

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### Local Art News

Gavin Wilson is opening an exhibition he curates, entitled 'Cuisine and Country' a gastronomic venture in Australian Art at Manly Art Gallery from May 16th through June.

[www.manly.nsw.gov.au/gallery.html](http://www.manly.nsw.gov.au/gallery.html)

Rosemary Valadon had an exhibition at the Eva Breuer Gallery in Sydney during April.

Hui Selwood and Raquel Mazzina will have a joint exhibition at Bathurst Regional Art Gallery in May.

Hill End photographs by Glenn Woodley and Bill Moseley are included in BRAG's 'Brush with Heritage' exhibition, until May 18.

Luke Sciberras and Gria Shead have exhibitions coming up in Melbourne upon their return from a stint in Italy.

Michael Ramsden is currently on show at Ray Hughes Gallery in Sydney. Featuring his new work 'Tambaroora Tablets'.



Michael Ramsden

Genevieve Carroll (Moseley to us) has her scarves on display the Tokyo Art Museum following her residency in the

Paris Cité des Arts. She recently penned 'The Fatigue of the Vertical', about her recent experiences. She describes it thus: "I have just about emerged from the experience of 3 months in Paris and now have regained an equal measure in living here and thinking of there. We have formed a truce. It has made me look at our landscape in a far different way. I have become involved with her; she is athletic and very fertile... Hill End and Paris are both indefatigable in femininity".



Genevieve's Paris installation-'Stairwell'

Danelle Bergström is in Darwin painting judges as distinct from judging paintings and will be there for 4 months.

Once again one of her portraits was hung in the prestigious Archibald Prize at NSW Art Gallery.



Peter Sculthorpe-Danelle Bergstrom

### Hill End Arts Council (HEAC)

Between \$ 2 500 and \$ 5 000 has already been secured for the restoration of the

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furniture in Haefliger's Cottage from NPWS and Bathurst Regional Council (BRC). The new curtains in the Cottage were a joint effort, with Parks buying the fabric and Sheena Goodwin making them.

The Arts Council is interested in acquiring the lease on the Old Catholic Church to preserve its use as a Gallery once it goes up for tender.

### Recent Resident Artists



Katthie shows camera to the school

### Katthie Cavaliere

Back after her visit in 2005, Katthie brought a mobile Camera Obscura with her, a large cardboard box mounted on the back of a ute.

It became locally known as the Lost Delivery Truck, as it was seen endlessly circling town. Leonardo de Vinci mentions the Camera Obscura in his diaries, Katthie said. There are theories that he used it for his preliminary sketches. It was the very first step towards the invention of the modern camera. "It changed the way people looked at the world, their subject and the landscape" she said. "The reason I came to Hill End is that I wanted to photograph history with history". RC

Her Camera Obscura then was a darkened room in Murray's, which is how Katthie produced the photographs for her shows in Bathurst and the Bellette Gallery. She covered the windows with black plastic for the purpose. Inside the latest mobile device was a claustrophobic experience once Katthie had shown me the upside down image on the back wall. The kids at the School got to try the experience, making tracings of the Great Western Store, which they later refined. RC



Pinhole view of Great Western

### Camera not so Obscura

As well as Katthie's 2 Obscura exercises, in her residencies here, Tamara Dean also used the technique when she was here. Ronda Wallis in 2005 used a Pinhole Camera a similar small aperture device, but a small box or a variety of curved tins up to drum size, even a capsicum. Inside each sealed container photographic paper is curved, making for a distortion. Now Ronald Correspondent informs that Bill Moseley is so enthused by Katthie's work he is to have a go also. Ed.

### Emma White

Emma has a family connection with the Bowler's and the Suttor's from this area.



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Emma wanted to find out for herself. Then there is the subject of her 2005 Master's Thesis, video work about the reconstruction of an archaeological dig. So Hill End becomes an appropriate place for Emma. Emma describes her work as conceptual. She will be doing work using texts, deconstruct them and consider the formal and aesthetic function of a letter. How a letter when it is added to others become a word and when a word is added to other words it becomes a text. The artifacts of language will grow into an installation. RC



Rubbing of Murray's Stove with palings printed over-Nathalie Hautog-Gartier

**Nathalie Hartog-Gautier**  
Working from Murray's she was surprised by the greenness compared with Drysdale's paintings. "I am interested what makes the landscape formal and informal in form" she said. "There is a marked contrast in Hill End between the European landscape and the natural landscape". Nathalie used clay to print fence palings onto paper. The local clays were ground to and mixed with glue. This mixture was applied to a fence post and pressed onto paper. Other rubbings were overlaid on these images to give depth to the work. RC

**Tobias Richardson & Hayley West**  
Coming from Darwin, they had to go to Mudgee for thermal underwear. They did a residency in Malaysia and "It's great to do one in your own country. There are no cultural challenges, but the challenge here was the cold". Tobias moved to Darwin to escape the Olympics. "They changed the landscape of Sydney forever" he said. Hayley is a conceptual artist. "I'm working on ideas around Bellette. It will manifest itself through photographs and performance." Hayley describes Darwin as "full of mercenaries, missionaries and misfits. Tobias said of Hill End and his art, "My work always deals the not so obvious built environment, hence the demountables. They are a very potent signifier for they talk about of shift in the history of Hill End". RC

**The things decent folks throw away these days!**



Katthie Cavalerie-impromptu improvisation

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### The Lone Pine and NETS

The NSW newborn and paediatric Emergency Transport Service started in 1979, providing mobile intensive care to critically ill children. On Anzac Day they organised a 4WD trip to Hill End. They have donated a pine seedling, propagated from Lone Pine, and it is now planted in Lyle Park. Lone Pine was one of the Gallipoli hills that the Allies were trying to capture at great human loss. The Australian War Memorial propagated seedlings brought back from Turkey and one of these is now situated in Hill End. It is a noble gesture and the community is deeply grateful.

RC



### Lone Pine Memorial

The original pine on the actual battlefield was destroyed during the fighting. This one was grown in its place from the seed from pine cones taken back to Australia after the war by several survivors.

Ed.

### Hill End Anzac Day 25<sup>th</sup> April

Perhaps our biggest turn out yet. Jim Shanahan along with wife Gay and Bob Fraser managed the proceedings, Jim giving a moving address, followed by prayers and hymns. Albert Mobbs read

an ode to the fallen and Maggy Todd spoke as a descendant of warriors past. Rob Paine read an account of the Lone Pine battle.

Moments of silence were conducted, including one for our troops abroad today.

Ed.



Bob Fraser lowers the flag in a moment of respect.

### Lone Pine Seedling Planting

Following the service, a planting ceremony was conducted in Lyle Park to plant a seedling of the Lone Pine tree here in Hill End. Rob Payne dedicated the tree. The concept facilitated by NETS, the Great Lakes Veterans Sub Branch, Hill End Gold and National Parks.

Ed.



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Seedling descendant of the original Lone Pine  
Hill End Gold News

### A Day in Rehab

There has been criticism from some quarters of the community that Hill End Gold Limited has filled in a 450m section of erosion gully on Prince Alfred Hill with excavated material taken from their Raisebore construction site. Unless tended, erosion gullies only get worse. The erosion site rehabilitated covers a 1 hectare area that in places was 4m deep. The company was under no obligation to conduct these works but believed it to be a win-win situation for all and included the works in their Development Consent modification submitted for the Raisebore construction. Rob Payne noted "We are fortunate to have Kerry Waters and Kim Lembryk leading the rehab works with their wealth of experience in land management. They with the committed support of Mike Anderson, Tylor Alderson & Laura Burns have undertaken a mammoth task that already has gained very positive comments from the Dept of Primary Industries". "It was decided to manage the water from the catchment rather than dispose of it through contour banks that could have lead to further erosion elsewhere" Rob Payne said. "We have constructed a meandering creek through the area with medium sized rock, laying Geotech fabric, a kind of felt, under the rocks to discourage future erosion. About 960 saplings have been planted, all being true natives of the original Hill End environs. The purpose is to replicate nature as best as possible." he continued. It is already greening up well. "We use hay as mulch and to assist with the initial establishment of grasses that will control

erosion until the native grasses take over. Trees removed at the Raisebore site have been scatted over the rehab area to assist with erosion control and to initiate small eco systems". Rob Payne said.

Comparing the rehabilitated site with the pre-existing gully further down, it is hard to criticise the works. At the end of the site a spillway to mitigate the flow of water has been constructed. Along the remaining erosion gully, Hill End Gold has erected a number of erosion barriers to prevent the flow on of silt to the river. Reviewing the Connie Dam rehab areas, that were rehabilitated 16 months ago, Rob Payne can identify the areas of rehab, but it was difficult for me to distinguish the bush from the rehab. RC

### Employment by Hill End Gold

A few years back there were only 5 people employed. Over the past year, the number has risen to 58, of which 27 were locals. The swift growth of the Company caught the town by surprise. Recently however the number of contractors has diminished with the departure of one of the three drilling teams. Another will leave soon. The Raise Bore has been dismantled. Therefore traffic movements will decline accordingly. RC

### Red Hill

A drilling program has taken place there as the locals know. As with all sites, it was protected by hay bales because of the noise. It is an extension of the reef that runs from Chambers Creek to Hargraves. The prospects for Red Hill look good right now. RC

### The Drilling Program

Whilst drilling around Rose Cottage, there were hay bales around to stifle the

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noise, which varied with atmospheric and geological conditions. Betty Jeffree said, "They were very mindful of the noise, polite, thoughtful and visited me 3 times". There are restrictions on the hours of operation, but out in the bush they go 24 / 7. The program is being reduced, which will please some. Incidentally, there is not much drain on electricity, because these operations are run on generators.

The road closure outside Bryant's Butchery for a drill site by Hill End Gold has been delayed until soundproofing material arrives. It will commence at the end of April. RC

### Rumour

**Roving Correspondent lands HEGL Job**  
Hill End Gold has taken me to the Raise Bore site and Red Hill to view their operations. Viewing makes for a more comprehensive understanding of what is involved and the problems to resolve. Interestingly my visit even created the rumour that they have now employed me 3 days a week. Gee, the rumour spread fast. RC

### A New Reef Discovered

Out at Red Hill, a new lower reef has been discovered, following Hill End Gold's drilling program.

Bob Fraser had told them he believed that they should drill deeper. It was worth it. The resulting core samples track the gold bearing deposits through the strata below. There was a small gathering of mining folk and Bob Fraser was called back to the Pub to hear the news. The newfound reef was named the Fraser Reef after much deliberation at Hill End Gold. It acknowledges the efforts of those who preceded the Company. RC



Autumn Eve in Hill End

**Dr Wilson's next visit 6 May  
Ph 263 for appt**

### HETPA Membership

\$ 10-Per annum or part

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