

THE STAMPER BATTERY

SUMMER EDITION (March 2005)



Tiverton Gone

Sadly, one morning early this January, the cottage called Tiverton, (at the junction of the Mudgee/Bathurst roads) caught fire and partially burnt down. This house has belonged to the Hodge family since the late 1800's. By strange coincidence the exact section of a previous house on the same block was also destroyed by fire in 1906, almost a hundred years ago. The community responded quickly to offer emergency assistance to Linda Tompkins and her boarder Ronald Charles, who also lived there. Both have been put up temporarily in other local accommodation, and the community donated many of life's necessities to Linda, as all of her possessions were lost. Lee and Hayley Mobbs did a quick whip around, raising cash to help Linda replace white goods lost. The community kindness and assistance will hopefully have belated some of the trauma involved in totally losing one's abode. Our wishes of fortitude go out to both Linda and Ronald.

The Local Environment Plan

Submissions have now closed and a few were made from Hill End/ Tambaroora. There are specific exclusions for Hill End, such as carports, barns, etc. It is important to preserve the historic nature of our town and this can be achieved, without restricting anyone's development within their own property, through careful and sympathetic planning. What we need from this Plan is the mechanism to stop unsightly developments slipping through the net, ever again.

We have to accept the urbanisation of Hill End, without it wrecking the place. We look to Bathurst Regional Council to make this happen.

RC

Bathurst Regional Council will be in Hill End on 31st March at 7.00pm to discuss the LEP at Royal Hall.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Election Day March 5th.

We have to go to the polls again to elect a new Council. Bathurst Council Administrator, Kath Knowles has been sympathetic to our Community's needs because of the strong voice of the Progress Association and she has been here twice and spoken honestly to us. There are 18 standing for 9 positions on Council and 6 of those are former Evans Shire Councillors. The real issue will be whether the new Council will be city-centric. There will be no wards anymore, so each Councillor will be answerable to the entire region, it will be interesting to see who respond to the rural community. The three Rs are crucial, according to Barrie Rogers when he was talking on ABC radio recently, namely Roads, Rubbish and Rates. These have been well covered in previous editions, but things may change once a new Council is elected.

RC

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Beyer's Avenue Trees

Ross Brown reports that there have been several subscriptions for a memorial tree along the Avenue. Our thanks to the "Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering", (coordinated by Bill & Betty Maris), for their publicising the idea of preserving the Avenue's delightful atmosphere amongst their members.

(According to their newsletter the next, "Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering" will take place on **5th March**, as usual in the Rose Garden of the Botanical Gardens in Sydney.)

Aerial Photographic Survey

It is 23 years since one was conducted and a new one was timely. The survey was carried out on a grid pattern and it will update the files. The compilation of the 120 photos will be on display in an album in the Visitors' Centre for you to see where you live. Photography was done by Brett Hilder. (See Brett's report on p.5.)

Mine Capping

As regards to the meeting last year re mine capping, the Department of Mineral Resources is reviewing the tenders they received and will be awarding contracts soon.



Bryant's Butchery & the National School

The NAS is going through the approval process and plan to hold short weekend courses operating soon in the New Year.

The Mining Registrar's Office

(aka the Assay Cottage)

Leased by the Gallen's for tourist accommodation. The front room will provide a display, and the back rooms will be accommodation for one couple. Parks are hopeful of restoring the cobblestones and stage coach canopy



The Mining Registrar's Office will be open to the public during Hill End Open Days.

(www.hillend.org Open Day Info.)

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Bleak House

Bleak House used to be right next door to the Registry Office in the 1870's, before it was moved to Reef Street, where later on, further rooms have since been added to the central core.

The house was purchased by a person who had a block further up Reef St, where they wished the house to be relocated.

To move a house by hand, several 100 metres is quite a feat.

Holes were drilled low in the house walls, long poles passed through them, as handles for lifting, and the structure was manually shifted uphill.

The free kegs of beer awaiting the volunteer 'house movers' would have been great incentive for the task.

The holes where the poles were put through are still evident with pieces of tin nailed over them today on Bleak House's exterior walls.

Hosie's Store

Hosie's is getting bigger following the departure of Sue's mother, Peggy Holloway. She had only recently moved into Holterman's Corner and was intending to open a Doll and Teddy Bear Museum, but things didn't work out, unfortunately. Peggy is now living in Mudgee. RC

Quiet Summer

Sue Thomson tells us that "Mudgee is the quietest it's been for six years and its dead here". Her visitors blame petrol prices for the reason that people are not travelling as much. RC

General Store

The Hill End General Store is promoting Little Diggers kids parties around the

region, themed around the gold rush with Ted Abbott at the Panning Area. RC



Australia Day

Donna-lee of the General Store says that the kangaroo pies were a great success on the day and the guitarist, Jane from the Library donated her services for the day. RC

Youth Disco

The inaugural Disco was a success with about 30 kids involved. The PCYC bus was available for those from Windeyer and Hargraves, but this first time there were no takers. Jim Shanahan said, "HETPA would underwrite the cost of the first one, as a test of interest", which made a minor loss of \$100. The RFS, Northey's Store and three individuals made donations towards the event. RC

Tsunami Fund

A bucket was set on the bar of the Royal Hotel by Richard and Sarah and \$577 was collected. Joan Auld organised a Hoy Day and she was able to raise a mighty \$80 from a much smaller patronage. RC

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First local birth of 2005

Congratulations to Jim and Trish Allan are the proud parents of a baby girl, Evelyn Lea, 7lb 5oz, born Tuesday, 15 February. There are 4 other births to due in the next month.

Who'll be next?

RC

An Open Letter to the Community

As you may be aware, we the Hocking Family will be residing at the Hill End P.O. until Jan 2007, at the moment (sorry about that).

We wish to convey our gratitude to Barrie Rogers, Site Manager at Hill End for the Department of Environment and Conservation (or, NPWSS [sic]).

Without his assistance, understanding and common sense, we would still be in limbo and probably in the process of divorce (looks like Plan B).

Thank you to the local community for your support, also for putting words of wisdom into the right ears.

Thank you,

The Hocking Family.

[Terry will explain the extra S in NPWS to anyone willing to listen]

RC

Community Bus

Bookings no longer necessary, if wishing to use service, just be at General Store

9am every 2nd Thursday

Next Doctor's Visit

Dr Wilson will attend Clinic next on

15th March.

Bookings essential.

Nurse's Report

It has been proposed to have a Single Persons Register in town, to assist in emergencies for contacting next of kin, and individual Doctor. RC

The End Cinema Society

Upcoming films will be:

Easter Sunday 27 March (outdoors)

Chicago

(Catherine Zeta Jones/Richard Gere.)

Sunday 3rd April

All about My Mother

Sunday 1st May

Fountainhead

(Gary Cooper)

Sunday 5th June

Viva Zapata

(Marlon Brando)

Info

Ph: 63378333

email: lapaloma@ix.net.au

Town Car in Country



Matthew Rattray is the proud owner of a 1934 Packard 1100 Sedan, a straight 8. It was imported into Australia that year and sold through the Keller-Faulkner Dealership. It is a grand old lady and heads do turn as she passes through town. Recently at the inaugural Bowral Highlands Motor Fest, she won for him the People's Choice trophy. RC

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Hot Computer

Jann Gallen, on occasions puts her computer in the fridge! It stops because it gets too hot and its fan is not strong enough to keep it cool, in our mid-January heat. RC

Hill End from above

When I fly out of Australia I always think I'll see Hill End below. Last flight overseas, as the cabin display screen map said we were over Bathurst, I looked down from 25,000 ft and knew that somewhere below is Hill End and home. I recall the times I've looked up from the front of the Royal Hotel at sunset, watching the golden jet trails streaming in different directions high above. Now I'm over Hill End again, at 500ft in a small helicopter, wearing a harness, camera in hand. The doors of the helicopter have been removed to give an unobscured view. I am focusing on the rusting red roof tops below me. The wind whistles through, the harness firmly (thankfully) holds me in, and the camera records the scene below. The last aerial survey was done in 1978, our plan is to make 3 passes over the town to record it again. We then climbed another 1000ft, for a wider overview. The last survey also used infra red film to locate any hidden historic details in the ground below. Luke Sribberas had promised to lie naked on his front lawn to help test the sharpness of details recorded, however here I don't think even infra red camera may have helped.

Brett Hilder

Rita Long

Daughter of Eddie and Lindy, recently married John Smallwood, a policeman from Springwood. We wish them well. Richard George said it was one the best weddings ever. RC

Last Day of Summer

28th Feb. the last day of summer has past!

Local Legend & Lore



Green Valley Hill

Actually called Mary King Hill, it was named after a lady in the late 1800's, who whilst descending the steep hill there, lost control of her sulky, which rolled over, killing her there. Ed.

Fresh Bread Smell

In the 1870's there was a cottage/ bakery just above the first small creek as one nears Bald Hill from the Hill End side. From the wooden railing bridge there, one can still see the fruit trees up to the right, marking the house site. Sadly the baker's entire family got Scarlet Fever, and all died there. The cottage was therefore burnt down to avoid spread of any further contagion. The story goes that at certain times one can still smell the unmistakable aroma of freshly baked bread as one passes the old bakery site. I walk that way quite often, dismissing the tale as just that, yet another ghost story. However twice now over a decade, I have strongly sensed the unmistakable wafts of freshly baked bread in the air, as I pass by. Merely the subconscious influence of the story causing an olfactory illusion, or an unexplained reality. Ed.

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The Artist in Residence Program

There are 20 artists coming to Hill End this year. This means that the Cottages will be occupied 11 months of the year. The NSW Ministry of the Arts has sponsored six, BRAG two and the Parks Service one. The Parks Service was pleased to be able to sponsor a Residency for Toni Warburton. The Program is an important part of the overall impact of Hill End on Australian Culture.

Hill End Art Event:

Invisible Cities

A film and puppetry installation by Samuel James, Clare Britton and Halcyon Macleod at Hill End General Store, view from the street or drive-by. 23 - 26 February. Residency supported by the Australia Council, the NSW Ministry for the Arts and BRAG.

Samuel James/Clare Britton/Halcyon Macleod

The first residents at Haefliger's this year are film makers and puppeteers. Sam works in film, Clare and Halcyon are the puppeteers. "I started with the photos from the Visitors' Centre," Sam was impressed by the displays at the Visitors' Centre, "but history can be written to give one impression. If someone else had done the displays they would be different.

We are setting up displays which give our impression. But it's not true history, more a series of impressions. What you read in a book, or see in a museum contains some degree of fiction". Sam was taken by a photo of the Ackermann sisters, standing very tall and formal, and made a fiction out of a photo, puppets of the sisters as twins were made to complement his imaging, also a ghoulish stick puppet that arose out of Sam's freaking out being here alone the first week, with the shadow of the tree

outside his window and the branches scraping against the glass.

The three have been imaging different stories from fact to build layers, firstly Sam's video, secondly the animation by Clare and Halcyon, which is pre-recorded and inserted into the video, and thirdly the live performance.

"This is what we are putting on at the Hill End General Store to see if it works and where we are up to."

Dean Sewell & Tamara Dean

4 March - 1 April (NSW Ministry for the Arts)

Photographers Dean and Tamara aim to create a contemporary vision of a forgotten time which gives a sense of the town and its people.

Dean Sewell

Dean exhibits regularly whilst freelancing as a documentary photographer. In 1996 Dean covered the Russian Elections and the Chechen War for the Sydney Morning Herald. In 1999 he covered the East Timor elections and its violent aftermath. Dean was awarded Australian Press Photographer of the year in 1994 and 1998. In 2000 and 2002 Dean won the World Press Photo awards. Dean's work can be seen online at www.oculi.com.au

Tamara Dean

Currently a staff photographer with the Sydney Morning Herald.

Be in an Historic Pub Photograph

Tamara and Dean would like to invite everyone to be part of history; they plan to photograph the town's current residents outside the Royal. To be part of it, be at the Royal Hotel on Friday 11th March for a 6pm shoot.



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Luke Scribberas on canvas



'Wind Swept n' Picked Clean'

The rather intimidating title of Luke's latest exhibition of his locally inspired landscapes, which will be held all month long this March, at Port Jackson Press Gallery in Melbourne.

A busy year for him, with another show at BRAG later in the year. That one will be entitled "A Painters Progress". Sounds more bountiful than the current shows title.

Brett Hilder

Brett just concluded another show of his photographs at Joseph Lebovic Gallery, Sydney.

HETPA Website

The HETPA website is now online at

www.hillend.org

What grew from a simple idea, turned into quite a detailed task, listing all the available attractions, facilities and options our little town can offer the visitor.

HILL END VOLUNTARY BUSHFIRE BRIGADE NEWS

Callouts

It has been a busy season for the Brigade with numerous callouts including a house fire at "Tiverton". Due to a quick response most of the building was saved and most importantly no one was hurt. There was also a fire at Dixons Long Point started by lightning, which involved Brigades from Hill End, Hargraves, Mudgee and Perthville. Thankyou to all those members and all who helped with these and other incidents.

Fire Season

Even though summer has past warm weather has not gone. We are still in a permit period, so anyone lighting a fire in the open (other than a BBQ or campfire) must obtain a permit from Brigade Captain Robert Anderson
ph: 02- 63378275.

Membership

We invite people to join/ re-join the Brigade or donate to the Blitz Restoration Fund. Income from donations, memberships or acreage fees are the mainstay of the Brigade, so do consider supporting your local Voluntary Brigade. If you would like to join, pay acreage fee or make a donation...
Membership: **\$20.00**/Concession: **\$10.00**
Acreage Fee: **\$15.00** per 1000 acres or part thereof.

Shed Renovation

A renovation working bee will be held shortly. Plans for the new station are moving ahead, albeit slowly.

Christmas Raffle

A big thankyou to those who supported the Christmas Raffle, also thankyou to those who donated to what in the end was a splendid hamper. The lucky winner was Robert Auld.

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Training Afternoon

Thirty-two people attended a training afternoon on the 29th January 2005. The afternoon began with a BBQ lunch supplied by the brigade, this was a good chance for everyone to get to know each other. After lunch an inspection of brigade vehicles and familiarisation with brigade equipment took place. It was pleasing to see so many locals interested, especially younger members of our community.

Jim Shanahan
President/Deputy Captain

SCHOOL NEWS

New Students

A big welcome to 7 kindergarten students, Connor Simpson, Trinity Pilley, Ebonnie Simpson, Stella Sciberras, Daemon Gilmore, Kimberley Simpson & William Browne. A Year 2 student, Jake Pilley and a Year 4 student, Meg Pilley.

Healthy Lifestyles

Healthy lifestyles will again be targeted this year with new canteen guidelines introduced this year.

Swimming Carnival

Swimming Lessons at Hill End with Mrs Price have led to success at the Small School's Swimming Carnival held in Mudgee with Jeffery Kimm – 3rd in 16m Breaststroke & 16m Backstroke. Jessica Gilmore – 1st in 16m Backstroke. Lucy King – 2nd in 33m Backstroke & 50m Breaststroke.

Sydney Opera House

Once again Year 3-6 students have been accepted to sing with a large choir at the Opera House in October. Students and Jill Groves will be holding a stall on Easter Saturday to raise funds for this trip.

Aluminium Cans

Hill End Public School continues to collect aluminium cans so if you need to dispose of any please leave them at the school.

Gaye Shanahan
For Hill End Public School

HETPA President's Report

This is the first issue of the year, so A HAPPY AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to everyone. Hill End brought in the New Year in great style, as usual, at the Royal Hotel. What a wonderful night!

This is also the last edition before the AGM, which is required to be held before April 19th.

I am pleased to say David Sherley, the Acting General Manager of Bathurst Council, confirmed the points he agreed to at the Progress Meeting of 16th Nov.

I am also pleased to say that Kath Knowles, the Administrator did what she said she would re roads before Christmas.

The Anglican Church is being reviewed by the Deacon and the Bishop. They are costing restoring the Church for use by the Community, whilst it still remains a consecrated church.

Nun's Picnic was a great success and HETPA appreciates the generous donation of \$ 600.

There are new guidelines for use of Royal Hall. Book via Gaye Shanahan on 239 or Glenn Woodley on 384. Those who've borrowed tables and chairs are asked to return them. We are planning a working bee for the Hall.

The Gumnuts are back again. They provide Pre-School activities for our younger ones, who benefit greatly from it.

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HETPA Website

<http://www.hillend.org>

Oliver Woodley has done a very great job and we thank him for his efforts.

A mystery vehicle, tearing around the cricket pitch, cut tracks into it. The drivers were having a bit of fun, have repaired the damage and cleaned up some junk from behind the shed in a working bee.

The Music Festival will now take place in Nov, due to the pregnancy of the Artistic Director, and the Car Crush will take place at the end of March. Open Day April 17 has been listed in The National Trust's Diary of Events, which will take it to an even wider audience.

The work on the stone drains around town by the Community Service Group continues every fortnight. The PDC a separate group is working on the Catholic Cemetery, restoring grave markers as they have at the Main Cemetery. With a plan of 2 years for these Programs, the Cemeteries and the drains will continue to be maintained.

The Young Eagles will take flight in March from Hill End. There will be about 20 kids involved. It is a program that I participate in to give young people the opportunity to experience. An operator from Mudgee is donating 2 hours Flight time. Talking of flying, there is pressure to get the Helipad built. All is prepared in theory; it now just needs someone with enough time to make it happen.

Finally, I would like thank the committee and volunteers for their ceaseless hard work in keeping the Progress Association, and Open Days

going as well as the Stamper Battery in circulation.

Barrie Rogers
HETPA President

Hill End Open Day Houses

Hill End Open Day presented by The Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association

CRAIGMOOR 1875

Once the home of a successful mining family, this two storied wooden house dwarfs the surrounding humble miner's cottages. A museum in itself, not been altered since its heyday.

Recognised by Historic Houses Trust as one of the most significant historic houses in NSW. To aid the house's preservation, it is rarely open to the public, and then only in small guided groups, truly a unique opportunity.

MURRAY'S COTTAGE 1870's

This classic miners cottage came to fame as the residence of artist Donald Friend in the late 1940's.

Currently used as a residency in the Visiting Artists Program.

HOSIE'S STORE 1872

Originally a large general store, servicing busy Clarke St, through the prosperous years of the gold boom. Now a B& B, and gift shop.

BEYER'S COTTAGE 1860's

Another authentic miners cottage, owned by Louis Beyer, one of the owners of the Star of Hope Mine, which produced the famous Holtermann Specimen. The

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house is left unrestored, to show the original 'wattle and daub' building methods. This house is also rarely open to the public.

ACKERMAN'S COTTAGE 1857

A carefully restored miner's cottage, in the Germantown section of the village. Once vineyards grew in its large front paddock.

ROSE COTTAGE 1850's

Another early miners cottage, where Devonshire Tea is served amidst the well cared for cottage gardens.

St PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1870's

Just one of several substantial churches that existed in Hill End, now the only one still conducting services. Beautiful gas lanterns adorn the interior, the never built stained glass window reflects the crash of the mid 1870's, as miners drifted to other fields.

HAEFLIGER'S COTTAGE 1860's

The second Artists Redidency cottage in town, once owned by artist Jean Bellette and husband Paul Haeffliger since the 1940's. Past artistic visitors here, have ranged from Russell Drysdale to John Olsen.

Also view the current visiting artists' studio.

ASSAY/MINING REGISTRAR'S OFFICE 1870's

This small brick building was originally the focal point of the gold field, here gold was weighted, purchased, and stored for its trip to Sydney. Now used for overnight accomodation.

LA PALOMA 1860's

A delightful cottage with an adjacent pottery studio, and galley next door in the old red brick Catholic church.

Hill End's Historic Buildings Open Day is a rare chance to view ten unique buildings, from humble miners' cottages and old churches to the historic residence, Craigmoor, with its original furnishings still intact. You can also see artists' residency studios and a pottery studio and gallery, all set within restored 1870's dwellings. Enjoy Hill End's sublime tranquility as you stroll through this captivating historic village. (Note: Maximum of 130 persons per Open Day-Bookings Essential).

Cost: 25\$/\$18 (concess.)

Bookings Essential

ph 63378334/email heaps@ix.net.au



Beyer's Cottage



Craigmoor