

THE STAMPER BATTERY

WINTER (June 2005)



Hill End 1872 drawn from the Excelsior Claim, Sargent's Hill

Snow Memories

When I was growing up, we usually had one or two snowfalls a year, which we children loved - that is until we all started suffering with chilblains! I remember one particular heavy fall, about 8pm, my Uncle Bruce (who lived next door to us), told us to come outside and see the snow. Everything was so quiet and still, and it had been snowing quite heavily for a few hours. We had no idea that snow had started to fall, as we were warm and cosy indoors with the fires going. It looked so beautiful, everything was covered with a few inches of snow - the lawn, pine trees, fence, etc. - it was like something straight out of a picture book. On our lawn there was a snowdrift nearly 2 feet high. I remember Uncle Bruce jumping over it, and we children (my sister and cousins) having great fun trying to do the same. It stays in my mind as a really magical evening. I also remember a particular snowfall we had, we were having a great time - building snowmen and throwing snowballs - but someone rather stupidly had moulded snow around something sharp (a rock, or piece of tin), and thrown it. It hit a boy on the

side of his head nearly slicing off the top of his ear! Another incident involved the Headmaster – he arrived for school with his thermos in his back pocket. Someone threw a snowball that had a stone inside it, which hit the Headmaster's thermos. When he felt a warm trickle running down his thigh, he realised his thermos was broken, and to put it mildly, he was **not** amused! Consequently all children were forbidden any further playing in the snow.

Carol MacCance



Post Office Flat snow 1940's

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Vanished Churches



1st local church Tambaroora



St Saviour's



St Joseph's



St Andrew's

The variety of religious denominations in the area during the gold rush era, congregated in various places to worship, over the ensuing years building churches for this purpose.

Today our tiny village still has three churches left standing from the 1870's boom period:

- The disused Anglican Church, originally the Wesleyan Church, (Hill End's first church was possibly the bark Wesleyan Chapel), rebuilt in stone in 1863.

- St Paul's Presbyterian Church (which still holds services).

- The Catholic Church, (originally the Primitive Methodist Church, now the gallery for La Paloma pottery).

A lot of church edifice swapping went on as the population waxed and waned in Hill End.

However another three sizeable local churches have been sadly lost to time. St Andrew's Anglican Church was one; this huge building stood next to the public school, but was pulled down in 1912, for want of merely one hundred pounds worth of restoration. It had been built to replace the earlier slab Anglican Church St Matthew's located on the site. No longer standing as well is St Joseph's Catholic Church, which was located opposite the School Residence, a brick building long vanished, the only reminder left is the large stone engraved

with a cross, which sits today outside the later Catholic Church.

Also missing from the local landscape, one of Tambaroora's most substantial structures, St Saviour's Catholic Church, there was also a Catholic chapel on Camp Hill at Tambaroora.

However the very first church in the Tambaroora/Hill End vicinity (1853) was the Anglican Church, a humble bark structure, which once stood in the Tambaroora Anglican Cemetery.

Include to this list the Chinese Joss House that once existed at Tambaroora, and one can see that spiritual matters were far more to the forefront of the mind in times past.

All set under the eternal gaze of Bald Hill, a ceremonial bora ground for eons, until the gold rush inundated the area with prospectors.

Ed.



Bald Hill aerial view 1960's

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Lincoln's Hill End Bus The saga continues

(An email from Betty Maris)

In your last Stamper Battery, Carol MacCance wrote of her father, Bob Lincoln and his first bus.

It carried many of the Hill End people into Bathurst for numerous years.

I thought it might be of interest to your readers to know what happened to the bus eventually.

Our son Ian Maris bought the bus from the Lincoln's; he is a keen member of the "Vintage Chevrolet Club".

He said that before he bought it, there had been great changes to the bus. Due to the very rough roads from Hill End and many years of service it became necessary to replace the chassis. Those country men were amazing in the things that they could do, Bob Lincoln took the main body off the original 1938 Reo Speedwagon and transferred the body onto a 1941/2 GMH chassis front section including the bonnet and front guards. I believe this happened after WW2, when he bought an Ex-Military Truck. They were very easy to obtain from War Surplus back then.

Ian kept the bus for a time then sold it the Australian Military Vehicle Collection Society, where it was beautifully restored to its original condition.

Betty Maris



Lincoln's Bus

Earlier Public Transport

Originally in 1851 there was a mail service to Sofala from Tambaroora, extended to Bathurst in 1853, by the 1860's Maloney's coaches ran from Hill End to Bathurst via Sofala, by 1871 Coyle's Coaches also did that run, but was bought out by Cobb & Co the following year. Another coach service Brown's went to Mudgee three times a week, yet another took the Turondale-Bathurst route. There was even a small coach that taxied between Hill End and Tambaroora.



Hill End-Tambaroora Coach 1872

Current Public Transport

Today Hill End is serviced by a once a fortnight community bus service to Bathurst. The bus runs every second Thursday leaving at 9am from the Hill End General Store, departing Bathurst at 2.30pm. It seats 10, and is on a first come first served basis. Quite a difference to the options of transport in past days. The private vehicle has now become the norm.

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HILL END VOLUNTARY BUSHFIRE BRIGADE

Brigade Anniversary

Formed in 1935, 2005 sees the 70th anniversary of the Brigade. There have been many changes over these years, from riding a horse to a fire with almost no access to water or equipment, to today's 4Wdrive vehicles with new pumps, radios and safety equipment. While fighting fires has never been easy, volunteers today acknowledge the efforts of the early members of the Hill End Brigade. It has been a busy time for the Brigade over the last few months with 2 Hazard Reduction Burns and a Village Firefighting Course.

Hazard Reductions

The 1st hazard reduction was in May over an area of approx. 15 ha w/s/w of the village. Held in early June the 2nd larger hazard reduction was over an area of approx. 130 ha w/n/w of the village. Jeff Larsen, Senior Fire Controller, Chifley Zone NSW Rural Fire Service said both burns were well executed by Hill End, Eglinton, Perthville and Raglan volunteers. The Parks Service Division had representatives present. These hazard reductions will afford Hill End substantial protection from fire approaching from the west. The Hill End Brigade would like to thank those volunteers from other brigades for their support with these hazard reductions.



Brigade members enjoying a well earned lunch break.

Village Firefighting Course

17 volunteers completed a Village Firefighting Course over the weekend of 14th/15th of May. NSW Rural Fire Service Instructors Greg Ingersole and Maurice McMillan presented a theory day on the Sat., with Greg and Training Officer Eddie Gibbons handling the practical on the Sun. The Village Firefighting Course is a follow on from the Basic Firefighting Course and looks at structural, gas and vehicle fires.



Brigade extinguishing a burning LPG cylinder

Shed Renovations

While plans are proceeding for the construction of a new Fire Shed, renovations to the office area of the existing shed have been carried out voluntarily by Ken Miller, Russell Roberts and Mick Hauge, thanks guys. The existing shed is to become the Brigade Museum when the new shed is built.

Annual General Meeting

The Brigade AGM will be held on Sat. 25th June, a full report will be in the next Stamper Battery. Everyone is welcome; all memberships become due at the meeting or can be forwarded to:

Maxine Anderson -Secretary/Treasurer
Hill End Voluntary Bushfire Brigade
Pine Dale, Hill End 2850

\$20.00 full/\$10.00 concession

And/or acreage fee of \$15.00 per 1000 acres or part thereof

Jim Shanahan
President

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STATUS OF UNOCCUPIED/VACANT NPWS BUILDINGS IN HILL END

Bryant's Butcher Shop

NAS will recommence work on the building this coming financial year for occupation.

Carver's Cottage

Discussions are ongoing with the current lessee to return the house to NPWS for conservation works.

CWA Building

NPWS are discussing with Mid Western Health relocating the clinic. Privacy screening and soundproofing of partition walls will be carried out before the relocation. NPWS expect to complete these discussions/works and relocate the clinic by December 05

Denman's Cottage

Work has commenced on stabilising the building, which will then be advertised for a Conservation lease by June 30th 05

Fairfax House

NPWS have taken possession of the house and will advertise for a conservation lease by June 30th 05

Lyle's Cottage

Currently occupied on a temporary emergency housing agreement, NPWS have notified the occupant of their intention to advertise for a conservation lease by June 30th 05.

Note* All other buildings in Hill End are otherwise occupied, under conservation/restoration agreements or such as Beyer's and Craigmoor will never be used for permanent occupation.

It is the aim of NPWS to complete agreements for conservation leases by December 05 on Denman's, Fairfax and Lyle's and the CWA.

Barrie Rogers
Assets Manager
Parks Division

Buildings past

Hill End is known for its many vacant blocks where buildings, some rather large, once stood. Most are known of and identified.

However there is one that has never been mentioned, its only record, being in the distant background of a Beaufoy photo. What appears to be a large 2-storied building, above Warry's Rd, just as the road passes Sargent's Hill, and begins to wind around to Bear Gully and Bald Hill. The site on the uphill side is still fenced today, and filled with blackberries, so no real evidence of its past is visible.



Mystery Building

Junction Hotel

Just one of the 28 pubs that were once in the village in 1872. This building was in the paddock at the Mudgee/Bathurst fork in the Avenue. Note the arch on Bathurst Rd, welcoming the NSW Governor's visit.



Junction Hotel, Mudgee/Bathurst Rd fork

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Denman's Cottage

Ken Miller and his team have undertaken extensive work stabilising the walls before the cottage could be tendered, which will happen soon. .

The centre part of one wall had to be demolished, concrete footings have been inserted and the wall is being rebuilt to match the original. The roof is held down by ropes, whilst under construction to stop it being blown away. This section of the house suffered water penetration at the roofline, which proves that a house needs to be occupied, to aid its preservation. The cottage was originally built for a Mr. Bishop, a mine manager. Then it was the Oates Cottage; past local identity Cud Denman's mother was an Oates. Cud used to grow oats in the paddock there, harvested with a scythe. Cud's mother used to sell milk in the 40's when she lived where Luke and Gria now live. His father, George, was the butcher, operating out of Bryant's. In his last years, Cud lived in the cottage now owned by Hill End Gold. Cud, like his father before him was the local SP bookie. The poker machine room in the pub was called Cud's room, as it was where he ran his book.

RC

Avenue Trees

Peter Mitchell and Ross Brown tell us that the holes have been dug for the sixteen Memorial trees to fill the gaps in the Avenue. They were grateful to Robert Anderson for lending his backhoe to Matthew Burns to dig the holes and they were impressed with Mattie's care in avoiding telephone lines and sewer pipes.

RC

General Store

Donna-Lee opened the store for dinner on the nights of the Long Weekend and she is committed to do so throughout winter as long as there is local support.

From the perspective of a patron, I can say that it was a welcome addition to our town to have another space to dine out in. The first night, I started with the seafood

chowder, swimming in seafood, very generous, followed by the roast beef, which was very traditional. The second night, I could not pass over the chowder and followed it with bream, very fresh. So, for changes from cooking, go out over the weekend and enjoy some interesting food.

RC

Holterman's Corner

The Rattrays are acquiring the lease for their son, Matthew, who is very excited about the prospect. Cheryl has asked for suggestions on how to use the shops and some input is more than suggestive. It is wonderful that this property, vacant so long, is about to be occupied.

RC

Hill End Gold Ltd

The results from the last lot of drilling aren't released yet, but the lab says that they are very encouraging. Further drilling will take place in July. There is also a proposal afoot to strip mine Red Hill, Tambaroora.

Disco

An all ages Disco will be held in the Royal Hall on Sat. 9th July. A HETPA alcohol free event, with the PCYC bus doing a loop of local villages for any distant revelers requiring transport.

Winter Solstice

21st July- Days slowly start to get longer now, although most of winter is ahead. The 1st frost was on Mon 9th May. We have had rain, good soaking rain. Once Bernie Baker began to prepare to pour concrete for the new motel, it rained. Once Barrie Rogers organised the helicopter rides, it rained. 1st snowfall was in the evening of Wed 22nd June.

RC

Local Travelers

Robert and Robyn Auld have left Hill End for a trip around Australia, starting in Tasmania, they will be gone for sometime or will be back very soon.

RC

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Casey Mobbs' Birthday

A nearly full moon is veiled behind high cloud on an early autumn night in Hill End. The moonlight bright enough to illuminate the dust lifted by the wheels of cars trailing toward the Golden Nugget Restaurant in the Hill End Ranch. They go to a birthday celebration for a young prince.

The room murmurs with streamers and balloons. Quickly the personalities start to arrive. Everyone in Hill End, it seems has a personality. Children whirl in between. Volume is turned up on the karaoke machine, the performances begin. Players arrive on the area for dancing, finding rhythms resonating from a tapestry of robust old favourites. Two personalities gather attention amongst the happy performers. The man in layers of red woolens, with red cap pulled down to eye level. The woman, all in black, with blonde hair to the shoulders. A tango of Hill End plays out its theatre leading to a climax of layers lost to a voluptuous applause.

Brett Hilder

Cricket

It was a delicious autumn day and there was peace in the air. The Water Police came for their match, some with deck chairs for the time between drink breaks. The friendly atmosphere drew the kids into the game and 'No Ball' was called the first time they got out. Trent is now a big kid, just like his father, and unfortunately, he got out for a duck. Daemon Gilmore, aged 5 batted for Hill End, but he had difficulty making runs, because the pads hindered him so he had a runner. His father, Stewart, had to work hard to beat the score of an older son and in the husband and wife combo, Rhonda scored more runs than Mark Cravino.

RC

New Resident

A previous Artist-in-Residence, Rosemary Valadon is all set to make Hill End her home. She has bought the pink cottage, between the Old Catholic Church and the Ranch.

Resident in Vogue

Luke Sciberras features in this month's Vogue Living, in an article entitled 'Cool Hand Luke'. Several pages devoted to him, his work, his country lifestyle and his traditional Hill End Easter luncheon.

(Donna Lee is stocking copies.)

Luke is also currently exhibiting at Tim Olsen's Gallery in Sydney for a month.



Cool Hand Luke

Gria Shead

Gria is working hard for her upcoming exhibition at Port Jackson Gallery in Melbourne, (6 Aug-3 Sept) featuring landscapes of Hill End and portraits of her daughter, Stella.



Temperance Lane Gria Shead

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Artists in Residence

Heidrun Lohr

"I've been photographing fences at night using the headlights of the car. Some of the fences here should have names, they are so individual. But I'm scared of the dark.

The darkness has a lot of meaning, it is connected with fear and death, the cold and the hidden. In the city, you just don't have the dark space you have here. I've tried to walk into the darkness and had the feeling that I was walking into empty space and had to go back inside quickly. It's the remembrance of childhood panic attacks. The darkness is so big here, a big blind black void, in stark contrast to the inside, with its warmth and light.

So it is with my work, black and white photos of the fences at night, contrasted with colour photographs of wallpaper etc from inside. The fences encircle this place and the wallpaper defines a particular space."

Hiedrun interviewed by RC

Katthy Cavaliere

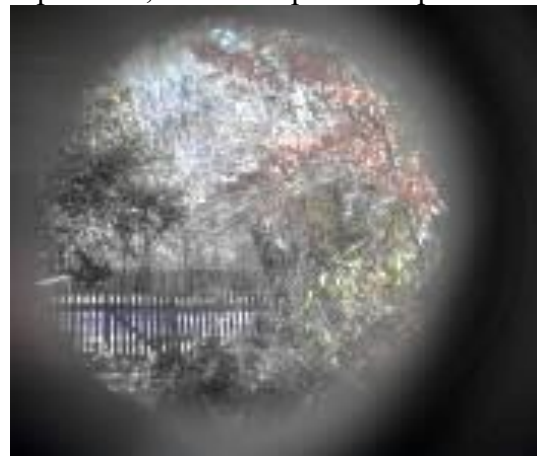
Katthy made a Camera Obscura by blacking out the studio at Murray's Cottage with black plastic. Previous artists in residence, Tamara Dean and Dean Sewell (of the Pub Photo fame) brought a big box to use as a Camera Obscura, but this one was the whole room. Once your eyes became accustomed to the dark, the view outside of the fence and trees in the garden was revealed, but upside down.

Katthy did an exercise with the kids at School. They brought in their favourite toy and told why it was so special. "The stories were very revealing, personal and authentic," she said. "They told stories of a happy memory, related to the toy, such as a holiday, like a souvenir, so that the object replaced the experience and became a trigger for the experience. Other stories related to a loss such as the loss of a loved one, the death of a grandparent,

and in some way the object filled the emotional gap of that loss. It became the container of emotional investment.

The kids then drew the toy in the context of their bedroom, from above.

This relates to Katthy's exhibition at Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, where a life size replica of her childhood bedroom viewed from the ceiling was on display. You had to mount steps to see the room contained below in a large cardboard box. And the reason for this; "After a visit to Italy where I was born, I came back to my childhood bedroom and it looked like a time capsule. It held memories of growing up, good and bad, The idea of the box is that we store precious things in them. For me, the box represents an internal space inside ourselves, wanting to get out. I thought that exposing something so personal, it would open that up." RC



Katthy's Camera Obscura view of the Avenue

Ben Quilty

"In Sydney you never see the moon. I had forgotten just how piercing the moon can be. I have been making paintings of cars in Sydney. I think they say a lot about the character of a place. Here the cars are predominantly 30-year old Fords and Toyota Land cruisers. When I look out of the window of the studio, the landscape includes cars. You can't get away from them."

RC

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Kylie Needham

Kylie is a TV scriptwriter, writing for Home and Away, All Saints, McLeod's Daughter, and currently MDA on the ABC. Kylie accompanied Ben to write her Master of Literature's thesis on the adaptation of the novel into film. But she was distracted because "there are just so many characters circling in Hill End, and I start thinking how I would dramatise those characters into some kind of story."

Rudi Krausmann

Rudi is translating a play he wrote on the diaries of Albert Speer, architect for the 3rd Reich. It is to be performed in Salzburg, and therefore has to be rewritten in German. He has published several books of prose and poetry, illustrated by artist's works.

"Australia is semi-parochial as the writers and artists don't get together. In Austria, they both are aware of the other's activities. You don't only paint with your eyes, you also paint with your mind."

RC

Ronda Wallis

Amazingly, she is the 3rd artist in a row to work with a pinhole camera during residencies this year. Ronda uses a variety of tins and drums, where the photographic paper is curved on the inside making for a distortion. "I am depicting fences in my work. They are the barriers that we put up; physical, psychological, structural, natural, perceived and embraced or feared, within the broader framework of containment."

RC



Ronda Wallis - 'Getting In'

Flight Path



Artist Janet Haslett, who owns a cottage here, had a show in Balmain recently, featuring Hill End scenes from above.

Hill End Art Gallery

It had a successful opening, with a group show of the current artists living in Hill End, which was a good way to begin the Gallery's existence. Response to the new Gallery in the Visitors' Centre has been overwhelming. It was an amazing coup in terms of cultural heritage to have an art gallery in Hill End. There will be a rotation of exhibitions every few months. The next exhibition will be the works of Ray Crooke, who was Artist-in-Residence last year. That opening will take place on 23rd July. All welcome.

Barrie Rogers

Brett Hilder

Brett has been doing some work for the Service, assembling a cabinet of photographic equipment (reported some time ago) and, more recently, remaking the photomontages at the Visitors' Centre. They deteriorate with time and it is important to keep them looking fresh. Brett's experience has been valuable in producing good designs for the displays.

Barrie Rogers

Daphne Shead

Daphne is undertaking Genealogical Studies, working from the Morgue and welcomes enquiries from locals and visitors. Email; bitofheaven@bigpond.com

Barrie Rogers

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Parks News

EPA Sewerage Audit

Hill End got a 5-star report for its sewerage system; this is the highest award that the EPA gives. The audit examined the management of the system as a whole.

Town Water

The bore has held its level through the drought. We have a 23-day reserve, but people are asked to be Water Wise. We do not have to impose restrictions, but, despite recent rains, we are still in a drought and we all must be responsible. The main along Fletcher Street will be completed during July.

Capital Works

In the upcoming financial year, we will create extra storage to part replace the Archives Shed, erect interpretation signs at the Roasting Pits, erect the signs reproducing the famous paintings of Hill End around the Village, upgrade the Walking Track to Bald Hill Mine, install 4 more hydrants around the Village, in consultation with the RFS. There will be a funding for Heritage Management and to complete our Effluent Management Program.

So, we have a busy and productive year ahead.

Old Hearse

The National Museum has inspected the Archives Shed, behind Lincoln's Shed where the Hearse and the Stage Coach will be relocated. The Museum has officially approved the return of the Hearse and will restore it over the next year.

Funding

A new arrangement has been implemented whereby Hill End has become independent entity within the Service. This means that income derived

in Hill End will be applied to works in this village alone, rather in the Region as a whole.

New Park

A new park is planned on the corner of High Street and the Bathurst Road. Mining equipment from behind Bleak House and agricultural artifacts, such as the hay baler from Denman's will be put on display. This will add another dimension to the Museum and create a good entrance.

Barrie Rogers
Asset Management Officer.

HETPA President's Report

Hall Photos

Tim Pike, Collections Manager at Bathurst Regional Art Gallery had a meeting with Jim Shanahan about the photos in the Royal Hall. Yet another example of the service we are getting from Bathurst Council. He suggested digital reproduction of the photos.

Young Eagles Helicopter Day

Weather has delayed take off for the Young Eagles, but we cannot complain about the rain. Hopefully, the 38 young people will have had their 1st experience of a helicopter by the time you read this

Clean Ups

The car crush is about to happen and this time the contractor will cut the cars in half and take them away.

A new trench has been dug at the tip.

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HETPAS's Role

The clause that Cheryl Rattray found to be spurious in the interim development plan has been reversed Kath Knowles told us at the May Progress Meeting. It is pleasing to the Association to see Bathurst Council is not ignoring us or taking us for granted.

The role of the Association in overseeing Development Approvals is a difficult one to define and it will evolve as time goes on. The Association should not adopt the role of 'policeman', but facilitate the opportunity for residents to know what is happening. Conversely, the Association should also work to protect the Building Entitlements of those residents who own land here, yet still respecting the fragile, irreplaceable historical and geographical essence of the village.

It is a fine line to tread.

One role that the Association should pursue is instilling in the younger generation a care and compassion for this Place. We should, as an Association foster that Community Spirit.

There should be more to the Association than just raising money, which it is good at. We are looking ways of ploughing that money back into the Community. The proposed play equipment in Lyle Park is just one example.

Barrie Rogers
President
Hill End & Tambaroora
Progress Association

Hill End Public School News



Technology

We received our new allocation of computers this month under the NSW Govt Program - Technology for Learning (T4L), a substantial upgrade of technology at the Hill End Public School. It is tremendous having access to the latest technology. We are very fortunately situated in relation to computer technology and it is great to see all students developing proficiency in its use.

Concert

We are all looking forward to a mid year Concert in the Royal Hall, on Fri. 1st July, last day of term. Once again a big thankyou to students and Mrs Groves whom we know will put on a great show.

Term 2

As we come to the end of another term we appreciate all the great things we've participated in – Science Challenge, Life Education Van, Musica Viva, Artists in Residence Program, Education Week, Loud Shirt Day etc, etc

Thankyou

Special thanks to John Mead for repair to front brick garden wall & Phil Davies for repair to sports equipment.

Winsome Price
Principal

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Clinic News

Dr Wilson's next visit- 5 July.

Appointments-**63378263.**

David Turcato has begun 6 months long service leave and we won't see him until next year. We wish him well. He is replaced by Vicky Gramsden. As well as being a general nurse, she is a midwife and an early childhood nurse, which will be of great benefit to Hill End with its recent births. She is looking forward to getting to meet the people of the area.

Police Report

Traffic offences are currently being targeted.

A Turondale male was arrested for drink driving and a Turondale woman was charged for driving without a license. A Sydney male was issued with three infringement notices in Hill End, for driving an unregistered and uninsured vehicle with false plates.

I remind people to be up to date on these matters.

There have been a few break and enters around the district. Rural properties have been targeted, but there is no similarity to the previous spate of break-ins.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact me.

Phil Butler found a Staffordshire bull terrier on Alpha Road.

I am still breath testing; so far, no Hill End residents have been charged, but breath-testing will continue. Finally, don't be complacent when driving around Hill End, accidents can happen here too.

Jim Allen
Senior Constable

Snow Scenes



Hill End Snow 1947



Hill End Snowfall at night 2005
Photos courtesy of Carol MacCance

Winters can indeed be severe in Hill End, with below zero temps common, however snowfall does seem to have decreased somewhat compared to times past. Yet it still can get cold, it can turn my cooking oil solid.

One local best summed it up, declaring-
'Winter? Winter is a Mission!'

Contributions

Hill End related contributions (photos, memories, reflections, sketches, etc) are always welcome.

Email

progress@hillend.org