

# *QUINBEAN*

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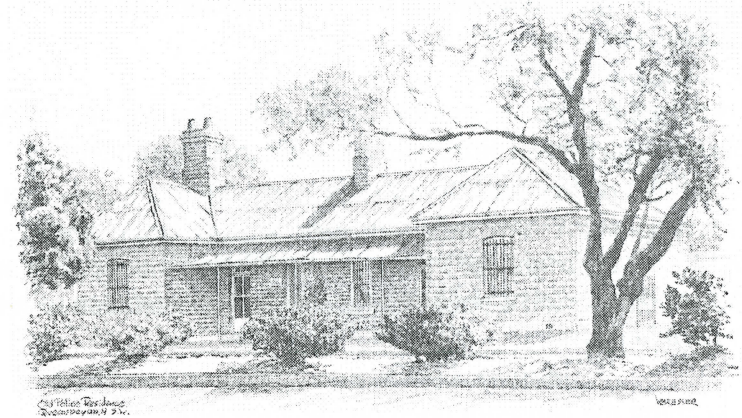


**Dodsworth Mill, Queanbeyan River**

**The Journal of  
Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society**

# QUINBEAN

*The Journal of Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc*



The Police Sergeant's residence – Queanbeyan Museum

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**THIS EDITION PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY  
QUEANBEYAN CITY COUNCIL  
FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Welcome to the second edition of *Quinbean*! Our first edition was greeted with pleasure and we are pleased to present the second, larger, *Quinbean*.

I have returned from three months travel in Europe and the USA with lots of ideas for our little Museum, gleaned from visiting numerous large and small Museums.

The Society has a long term vision for the Museum! Our core and pragmatic aims for the next 12 months, with the assistance of all Society members are:

- keeping the Museum open on the weekends
- in partnership with Queanbeyan City Council, rehousing and cataloguing the collection
- organising events to bring people to the Museum
- organising training to develop our skills in managing the Museum

As an introduction to training, in October the Society hosted a day on Managing Collections, run by the Goulburn Regional Gallery as part of its Start Program.

The city's spring festival Queanbeyan in Bloom will be celebrated with a History Makers at the Museum week end – November 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> – come and meet Jeannie Little who will be launching her new book at 11.30. This will be followed by a joint performance of the Queanbeyan Sing Australia Choir and

Canberra Union voices in the Courtyard – come and enjoy them with a sausage sizzle .

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November QDHMS is pleased to host

**QUEANBEYAN HISTORY MAKERS AT THE MUSEUM**

One of the penalties of living in a fast growing city is that the old family threads are more easily lost. There has been growing interest in discovering ways of preserving the history of the ordinary community.

Come along to the Museum and enjoy Elizabeth Burness who will share some local stories with us, enter into some conversations about how you would like to see the Pioneer families reflected in the museum and even the town, and share a light lunch with us.

We look forward to seeing you at the Museum!

Kerrie Ruth,  
President

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

**This journal is meant for YOU!**

It is designed for all kinds of stories – we want to preserve what you remember of this district and its people.

If you have a story to jot down from your memories and knowledge, we'd love to hear from you!

If you have a story to tell and would like someone to record it for you, we'd love to hear from you!

If you like the formality of footnoted research – we'd love to hear from you!

## W M HUGHES

### IN SEARCH OF A FEDERAL CAPITAL



Here is a story of the almost forgotten pilgrimage, in May 1902, of certain members of the first Parliament to inspect some of the 40 sites that had been proposed for its permanent home. It is a story told by L F Fitzhardinge that brings Billy Hughes and Canberra together for the first time. Section 125 of the Constitution provides that:

*The seat of Government of the Commonwealth shall be determined by the Parliament, and shall be within territory Which shall have been granted to or acquired by the Commonwealth, and shall be in the State of New South Wales, and be distant not*

*less than one hundred miles from Sydney. Such territory shall contain an area of not less than one hundred square miles, and such portion thereof as shall consist of Crown lands shall be granted to the Commonwealth without any payment therefor. The Parliament shall sit at Melbourne until it meets at the seat of Government.*

The official report of the premiers' conference contained the additional stipulation that the site chosen should be 'at a reasonable distance from Sydney', but this was soon forgotten.

Once the Constitution was adopted, it remained to find a site within the limits it prescribed. Some 40 towns were put forward by patriotic inhabitants. NSW. Royal Commissioner, Alexander Oliver, examined 23 of these, and recommended 3 - the southern Monaro (Bombala), the Canoblas (Orange), and Yass. Queanbeyan he rejected as too inaccessible.

During the first session of Federal Parliament parties were organized so that members could inspect the various sites for themselves, nor did they limit themselves to those recommended by Oliver.

The House of Representatives tour took place in May 1902, and consisted at the outset of fifteen members (the personnel fluctuated somewhat), with their train of officials, attendants and pressmen. Hughes, who at this time favoured Lyndhurst, in central western New South Wales, did not take part in the tour of the western and northern sites, but joined the party in Sydney for the inspection of the sites in south-eastern New South Wales, which were strongly favoured by most of the representatives of States other than New South Wales and Queensland, whether on their merits, because of the proximity to the border, or, as many thought, because their inaccessibility would considerably delay the move from Melbourne.

The itinerary was a strenuous one, comprising long coach journeys and nights in primitive bush hotels, punctuated with civic receptions and banquets of turkey, so that it was a notable



occasion when at Goulburn they were served with roast beef. Throughout Hughes was conspicuous alike for his physical stamina and his high spirits, running for great distances ahead of the coach on mountain roads and taking the lead in practical jokes at night.

He first attracted notice when the party, having been taken by train to Nowra and thence by coach to Jervis Bay, was being transferred outside the harbour from the N.S.W. Government yacht to the *Wakatipu* which was to take them overnight to Eden.

The correspondent of the *Age* gave a vivid description of the embarkation:

At 7 o'clock last night the steamship *Wakatipu* stood off the mouth of Jervis Bay. Those aboard were gazing over the dark expanse of waters for the first glimpse, under the fitful gleams from the lighthouse of the Parliamentary party in search of the Federal capital. Leaving Sydney at 10 a.m. on Monday, the excursionists travelled over the line from Nowra. But for mosquitoes the members would have been enraptured with the scenery.

A coach ride of 15 miles through forest and across the Shoalhaven river brought the travellers to Jervis Bay, where it was necessary to take open boats to the Government yacht *Victoria*, and subsequently to the *Wakitipu* by the same means...

Once aboard handsome steam yacht *Victoria*, the members wondered whether they should stay onboard her for the passage to Twofold Bay, instead of risking the perils of travelling over a mile or two of sea in open boats to the large steamer. The luxurious appointments of the yacht were a great attraction, but as it threatened to be rough the consensus of opinion favoured the larger vessel.

The work of changing ships was not accomplished without difficulty. The first boatload left the *Victoria* for 2 or 3 indefinite

looking lights a mile away, with fervent wishes from those left behind for its safe arrival. The sailors who pulled were considerably inconvenienced by the good nature of Mr Hughes, who sat facing stroke, and with wonderful energy persisted in gravely and awkwardly pushing the oar to help the rower when he was finishing the stroke. The sailor entreated and swore by turns, and had not Sir William Lyne warned Mr Hughes that if he did not leave things alone the party might spend the night on the open sea, the honourable member would have run the risk of being surreptitiously dropped overboard.

From Eden, where the party were regaled with tall stories about fish and whales' and legends of Ben Boyd, the party went by coach to Pambula, where they spent the night before an early start on the long and arduous drive up the mountains to Bombala.

Arriving exhausted and half frozen, they were informed that arrangements had been made for them to follow the example of the Senators who had preceded them, and give a concert in aid of a local charity, with a dance to follow the next evening. Since none of the party could either play or sing, the concert was something of a fiasco, the one gleam of humour being the encore given to Hughes after he had led off the proceedings with a recitation, greatly assisted by the audience, of *How Bill Adams won the Battle of Waterloo*. Mr Hughes gave another heart-rending scene about *A Death in the Workhouse*!

After this 'a dead hollow flatness settled over the concert that was depressing as the silence of the mountains, and even when, after Mr Mauger, the serious and teetotal member for Melbourne Ports, had given a long recitation of the kind in vogue at temperance picnics, Hughes rose and gravely presented him with an illuminated address and token of admiration from the Federal Parliament and the people of Bombala in the form of a coach timetable and a straw bottle-cover that Hughes had picked up in the street. The joke fell flat.

Next day was spent driving in a piercing wind around Bombala, and dancing until after midnight with a six o'clock start for



Dalgety the next morning. Dalgety was just emerging from its time-honoured name of Buckley's Crossing and consisted of half a dozen houses that seem to have been washed up and left on the bank during a flood.

They were again driven around the local beauty spots with the local magnate, one of the ubiquitous clan Campbell. Hughes, hoping to keep warm, had managed to borrow a horse and rode with the local police sergeant behind the perambulating refrigerator which contained his colleagues. After a time, while Campbell was expatiating on the view of Kosciusko, Hughes said to his companion *Is it always as cold as this?*

He leant towards Fitzhardinge and said in an undertone, *Fall back a piece; old Campbell will hear us.* And when we were out of earshot, he said, *I've been here fifteen years, Mr Hughes, and I declare to God this is the warmest winter I've ever known.*

After this, not even an uproarious evening, in which in the presence of an enthusiastic and uninhibited audience of locals could reconcile him to Dalgety. Nor did the delights of an early morning dip in the *liquid ice* of the Snowy, demonstrated by the indestructable Miller and the member for East Sydney, G.B. Edwards, accustomed to all-the-year surfing, seduce him.

The coach trip to Cooma restored the party to civilization and their special train, as well as to another dance and fourteen separate originals of the *Man from Snowy River*. The next day, Sunday, was spent quietly at Queanbeyan. Most of the members, including Hughes, stayed on board the train and slept in, but a few energetic souls were taken by the local committee to see their site. Among these was L.E. Groom, who wrote to his wife:

In the afternoon the Mayor and others drove us about to see the place. We were taken up on the top of Mugga Mugga hill. The view was one of the best mountain views we have had. The Murrumbidgee ranges are magnificent. Groom, who thus became perhaps the first Federal member to comment on the Canberra

site, was fated to be the responsible Minister at two critical points of its history, the end of the battle of the sites and of the battle of the plans, and then, as Speaker, to preside over the transfer of Parliament to Canberra in 1927. He well deserves some day to have a suburb named after him.

The rest at Queanbeyan was followed by an inspection of the drought stricken and dusty shores of Lake George: *You ought to see it in the spring time, gentlemen* resumed the sanguine resident. *This country is then a vernal park.*

*An infernal park*, rejoined the irrepressible Mr Hughes.

Soon after, when the immense and clumsy charabanc that had brought the party from Bungendore had broken down, Hughes and Tudor passed it at a run. *What are all those fellows going so fast for!* inquired Mr Groom. *Hurrying to get away from the site*, shouted Mr Hughes as his striding figure disappeared in a cloud of dust and gathering darkness.

The rest of the trip was comparatively easy: a morning in Goulburn in dense fog; a visit to a site near Yass where the red dust was so dense and incessant that the members protested that they did not want to eat the site but to see it; attending the unveiling of a war memorial at Gundagai; and by dusty drive to Tumut. But by this time Hughes had had enough and had gone home, without waiting for the ball by which Tumut seems to have won the votes of his colleagues.

The question of the Federal Capital was not to be settled yet for several years, and finally the choice fell on a site which only two or three members of this party had seen, during that quiet Sunday afternoon at Queanbeyan.

Whether the expeditions contributed anything to the choice is doubtful, though perhaps they served to reduce the number of candidates. The trip did serve, however, to make Hughes known to some of the pressmen from States other than New South Wales, to whom he had so far been little more than a name, and perhaps too was the beginning of his friendship with Littleton Groom, so



different in character and background, yet so sympathetic with his broad social purposes, with whom he was to be associated in many ways during the next thirty years.

In 1904 Hughes was a member of the Watson Government which made what he described in retrospect as *the absolutely demented decision* to select Dalgety. His later claim that at the time neither he nor any other member of the Government had even seen the place is sufficiently refuted above (Watson was also a member of the party). In 1909 he made a last attempt to secure the capital for Sydney, but this was hopeless, and Canberra was finally selected.

Once the choice of Canberra was fixed, Hughes soon became reconciled to it. He visited the site from time to time, and took a real interest in its growth.

One of these visits gave rise to a letter from his wife which might stand as a model of wifely tact, given that Hughes prided himself on his horsemanship no less than on his car-driving (and perhaps with no better cause):

*Before opening your last letter I thought the cold was so intense at Duntroon you were unable to write like a sober man and received quite a shock when you explained the reason. I am so sorry such a thing should have happened when you were getting so well. I hope it won't put you back in any way. They must have surely given you a rather fresh unmanageable horse - you were not quite up to managing such beasts just yet. One wants to be very fit. Politicians you are quite able to reign in when fractious, but just at present you ought not to be putting out strength on wild animals, let well alone. If Duntroon agrees with you stay as long as you can. I have an idea inland air is best for you. When you get back to those ... politics there will be no getting away from them. Stay out of the atmosphere as long as you can....*

Later, he was Prime Minister when the first big break-through after the war came with the appointment of Sir John Sulman's Advisory Committee and the serious start of building. He showed his faith in the new city by somewhat reckless speculation in its

real estate, most of which was swept away by the depression, and he acquired a residential block with the idea of establishing a home here, but that project remained unfulfilled.

**L F Fitzhardinge 1964**

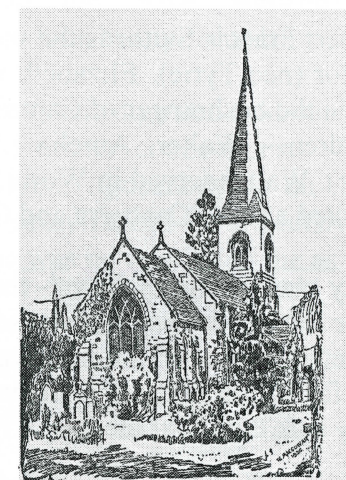
## A Family Story:

### **FLANAGAN, SUITOR, TYRIE, SHANNON, SOUTHWELL CONNECTION**

David and Frances Flanagan (nee Sutor) have lived in Queanbeyan since September 1988, with their family Raymond and Barbara. Raymond attended Deakin High School for year 7 and Barbara attended Forrest Primary for year 6. Raymond and Barbara attended Karabar High School from 1989 - 1996.

David is the 2nd youngest son of John and Thelma Flanagan (nee Browning) of Gunbar, (don't blink - you'll miss it) 60 kms this side of Hay.

Frances is the daughter of Robert Sutor of Queanbeyan and Joan Sutor (nee) Cocks of Bombala. Robert and Joan were married at St. John's Church at Reid on the 12th April 1952. They had four children - Frances, Richard, Judith and Colin- they were all christened and married at St. John's Church. Raymond and Barbara are the 2nd generation to be christened at St. John's. Barbara will be the 3rd generation married at St John's on the 1st December.



**St John's Church, Reid**



Robert Sutor is the son of Robert Francis and Martha Sutor (nee Shannon) of 118 Ross Road Queanbeyan. They had 8 children - Clara, Hilda, Jack, Doreen, Robert, Norman, George and Laurance (Laurie). Robert Francis died in 1940 aged 44 years. At the time Martha known as (Mattie) was widowed at 35 with 8 children ranging from the age of 18 down to 1 year old. Luckily Mattie was living in Queanbeyan, where she and older children found work.

Her parents Samuel and Martha Shannon (nee Southwell) lived on the property "The Valley" (out near White Rocks) and Mattie's sisters' being Katie Melville, Linda Hannaford/Summerall, Phyllis Price, May Sells, Lyla and Joan Arney, and her brothers' Thomas and Jack Shannon were able to help and support the family. In time Clara married Leigh Mortlock, Hilda married Frank Skerry, Jack married Beryl Clune, Doreen married Phil Gilbert, Robert married Joan Cocks, Norman married Val Hunt, George married Maizie Malzard, Laurie - bachelor.

Robert Francis Sutor is the youngest son of Alfred and Elizabeth Sutor (nee Tyrie). Elizabeth was the grand daughter of Andrew Tyrie the bushranger of Captains Flat. Alfred and Elizabeth had 4 children - Walter, Amelia (Amy), Robert Francis and Alfred (dec). Walter served in World War I and World War II; lived and worked around Canberra and Queanbeyan area.

Amy married Harry Royal- they travelled around Queanbeyan in their horse drawn wagon selling their homegrown fruit and vegetables. Robert Francis was a farmer, who lived and worked the family property near Jerangle. When Robert Francis became very sick they sold the property and moved back to Queanbeyan.

**Frances Flanagan**

## QUEANBEYAN IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

There are two thousand seven hundred and eighteen records relating to Queanbeyan recorded on the National Archives online database, *RecordSearch* and of course there are many more not catalogued or hidden in the records.

There are two main ways to access the collection. It is possible to visit the Archives building in East Block, Parkes in the ACT or one of the State Offices and request access to files. It is also possible to request photocopies or digitised versions.

The records are kept as Archives not as library material so it is not possible to turn up and have the records in a few minutes. It is best to read the instructions on the NAA website at <http://www.naa.gov.au> before trying to look at any records.

Some records, however, have already been digitised and can be looked at on any computer with Internet connections. For example, by searching for McGlynn, Queanbeyan on the Archives' *RecordSearch*, I found an army record for a McGlynn born at Queanbeyan. Unfortunately he was no relation to me as far as I know.

Some example of what I found follow:

- McGlynn Walter Sydney : SERN 2454 : POB
- Queanbeyan NSW : POE Bathurst NSW : NOK F  
McGlynn Thomas Michael Queanbeyan Post Office file  
[part 2]



- Monaro Street, Queanbeyan looking south west
- Canberra / Queanbeyan water supply provisions - Googong, New South Wales - Decision 1145; Attachment - Environmental Impact Statement for the Googong water supply project (2cm)

You can find lots of example of interesting files just by searching on key words but if you have specific areas of research it is better to prepare beforehand and find out what series of files are likely to contain the information you want.

The website has lots of information but a trip to East Block gives you the chance to consult the helpful staff there. You should plan for at least two trips. One to work out what you want and order it, and then more trips to look at the material.

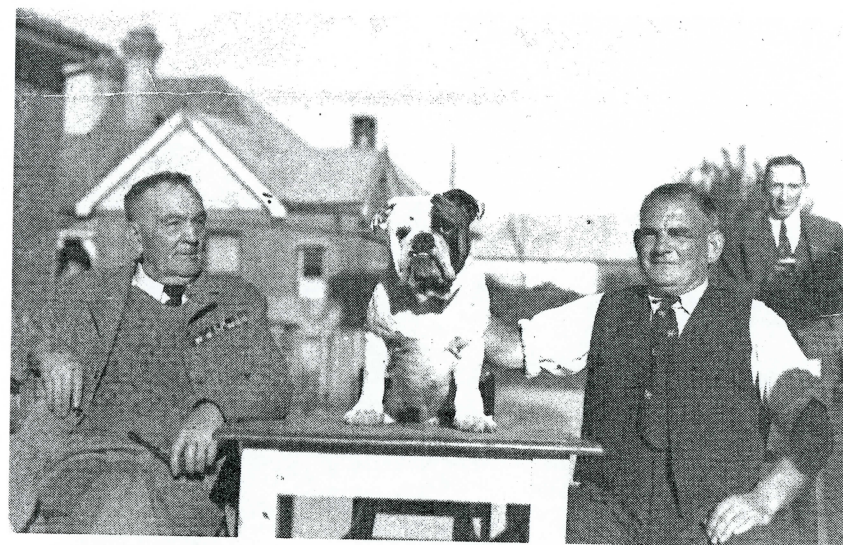
**John McGlynn**

## MORE MYSTERY PHOTOS

Readers were able to identify two of our last unknown photographer's subjects.

Photo 1 is believed to be Greg Gallagher and photo 3 Isabella Beatrice Southwell.

This issue's mysteries are all of manly pursuits and all should have a story attached. Please help if you can!



**Who are they and what is the grand occasion?**

On the following page is a photo that Mrs D G Robinson identified as being of Dan Hillman, who lived with his wife and greyhound in the bush on Bungendore Hill.

Dan wore a red silk scarf around his neck and his wife's hat. Is this really his name or does it come from his chosen home on the hill? The photo was found behind a mantel piece at 15 Surveyor Street.

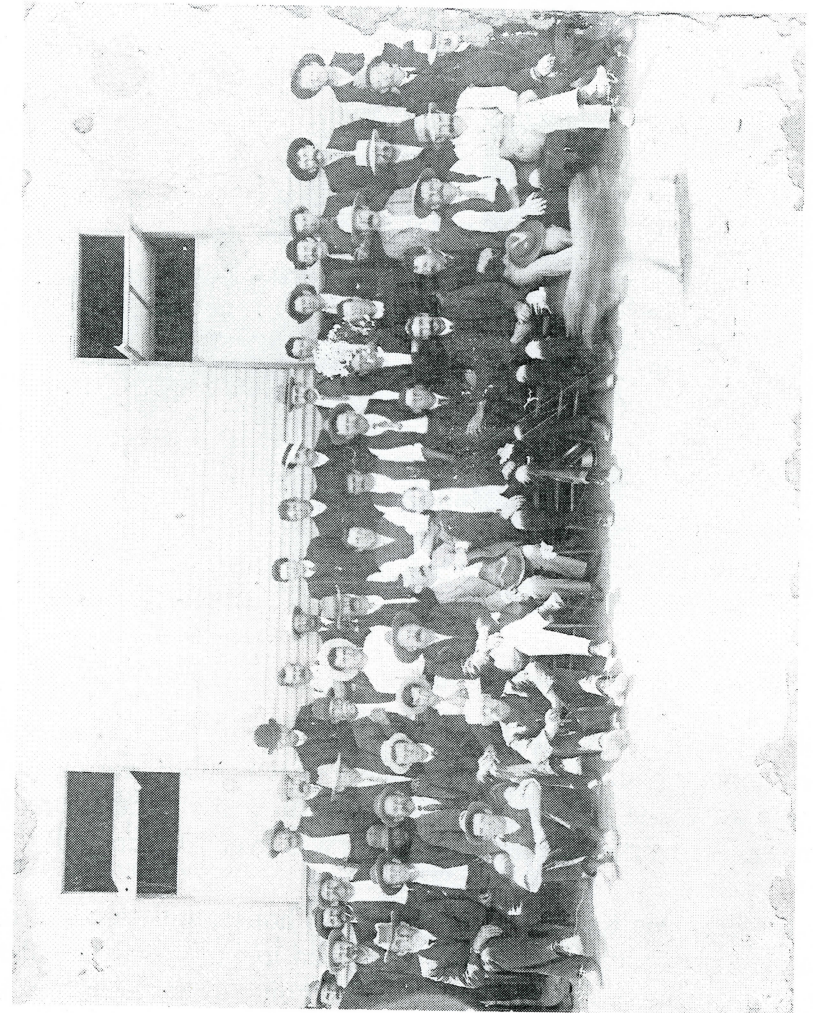
The third photo seems to be a fairly large staff. Does anyone recognise it?

Please contact Gillian Kelly 62972168 or [gilliankelly@bigpond.com](mailto:gilliankelly@bigpond.com) or call in to the Museum any Saturday or Sunday afternoon, if you can help.





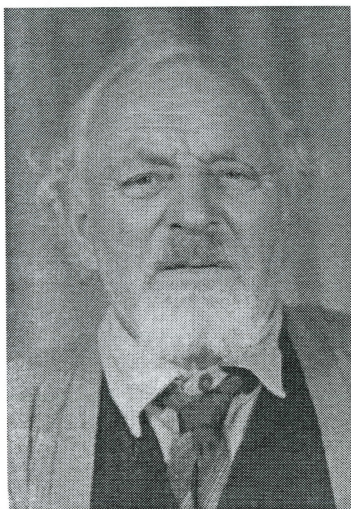
**Is this Dan Hillman of Bungendore Hill?**



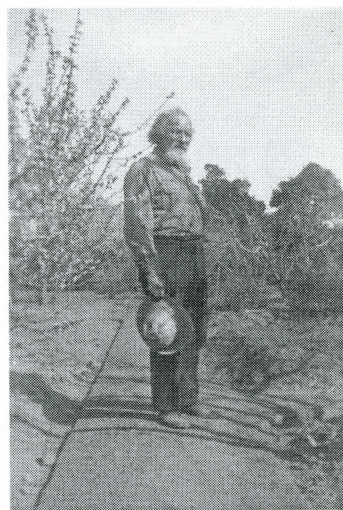
**Is this photograph taken at the Kingston Power Station, or the Canberra brickworks? Do you recognise anyone?**



## MART & LUDMILLA KALLAS OF CHARLES STREET



Mr Kallas



Mr Kallas in his garden

A photograph, a few tantalizing facts. Who was “Mr Kallas” the face in my grandmother’s photo album? I remember hearing that he was a “White Russian”, had a beautiful garden and that my grandmother worked for him (when she was over 70 years old).<sup>1</sup>

My brother, Des Keenan, showed me his house, still standing in Charles Street, with its distinctly European looking roof line; alas the garden is no more. Des remembered going to Mr Kallas’ as a boy in the early 1950s, and that he slept upstairs with a dagger on the little table near his bed. Des also remembered the Grueber family lived in the back yard in a “converted” cut down fuselage of an old aircraft. Images that last!

<sup>1</sup> Sarah Jane Maitland of Morton Street

The man and his house must have a story to tell, yet not many clues remain.

Mr Kallas was born in 1874 on the island of Saaremaa, Estonia, off the coast of Sweden. Des remembers talk of him in the Russian Army, possibly in the Tsar’s guard. “White Russian” would tie in with the turbulent times of his youth: civil war in 1917; the murder of Tsar Nicholas II and his family in 1918; the occupation of the Ukraine by White armies in 1919; the evacuation of the Crimea by the remnants of the White armies in 1920; and finally victory for the Red Army.

What part did Mart Kallas play in this complex and horrendous history?

In September 1926 Mr Mart Kallas arrived in Sydney, from London, on the *Benalla*.<sup>2</sup> Britain had provided military assistance to the Whites until 1919, had he fled to England after the defeat of the Whites?

In January 1928 Mihkeal Kallas arrived in Sydney from Marseilles on the *Cephee* and in May 1928 Arnold Kallas arrived in Sydney from Marseilles (nominated by Oskar Hagar)<sup>3</sup>. Arnold and Mart purchased property at Longueville, NSW in 1941<sup>4</sup> – were they brothers, or cousins? And was this imposing looking house in Sydney?

Was it built or designed by Mart whose occupation was given as “architect” on his death registration?<sup>5</sup>

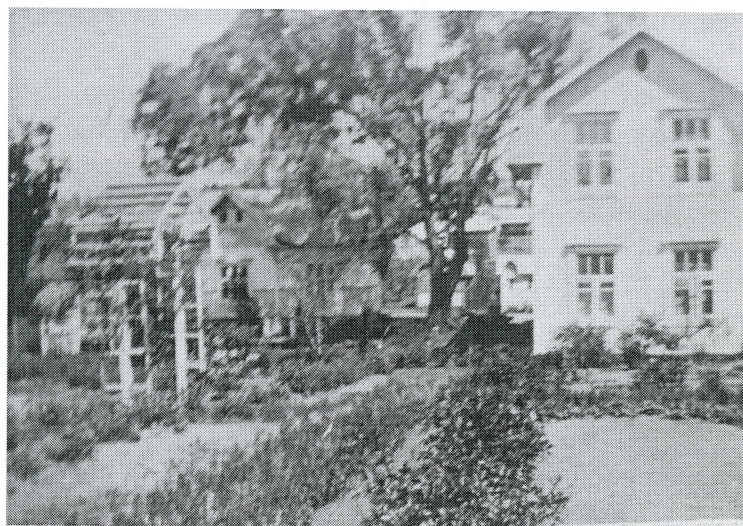
<sup>2</sup> National Archives of Australia K269/4

<sup>3</sup> National Archives of Australia K269

<sup>4</sup> National Archives of Australia L4782

<sup>5</sup> Death Certificate





Kulas house & garden, probably Longueville

In 1930 Mart married Ludmilla Zaitsev at Queanbeyan. He was 56 years old and Ludmilla 35. Ludmilla was born in 1895 in Novgorod, Russia, and had married there aged 18 to Peter Liibus. Their son Eugon was born in 1915. Did Eugon come to Australia with her in 1930? Ludmilla died at Queanbeyan in 1941 and is buried in the Queanbeyan "Presbyterian Cemetery".<sup>6</sup> No headstone marks the spot.

Mart died in the Queanbeyan District Hospital on 17 June 1953. He was 79 years old and was buried by G.G. Eddie, Presbyterian Minister. The information on his death certificate was provided by G. O'Hanlon of Cameron Road and witnesses were E. Ryan and G.R. Bond. Perhaps the families of these men know more of "Mr Kallas"?

<sup>6</sup> Sarah Jane Maitland of Morton Street

I intend to keep on looking for answers to the many questions about a family from a very different world that settled and died in the small country town of Queanbeyan, far from their homeland.

**Marilyn Folger**

## TYPHOID IN THE DISTRICT

Typhoid Fever is an acute illness associated with fever caused by the *Salmonellae* bacteria. The bacteria is deposited in water or food by a human carrier, and is then spread to other people in the area. The bacteria can survive for weeks in water or dried sewage.

The knowledge of how people became contaminated and the discovery of antibiotics has made it a fear of the past in the western world, but in the nineteenth century in Queanbeyan it was a very great and genuine fear.

In 1897 Johanna McAuliffe ( nee Leahy) of the Gundaroo district wrote to Queanbeyan's Dr Blackall, seeking advice about the nursing of her daughter Ada as she recovered from typhoid. The letter has survived in the records of the Yass hospital and was copied by Anne Burgess while relieving Nurse Manager, September 2003.

Ada was 22 years old at the time of her illness. She survived and in 1899 married Leslie Dyce from another Gundaroo family. Ada and Leslie had at least three sons, Harold, Frank and Alexander. She died in 1951 and is buried in the Queanbeyan cemetery, more than fifty years after what could so easily have been a fatal illness.

25 June 1897



*Dear Mrs .McAuliffe,*

*I received your letter today and was very pleased to hear that Ada is doing very well. She may finish the powder she has but she need not continue with them after that. The medicine she is to take three times a day instead of every 4 hours.*

*She can have milk, broth, tea, jelly, beaten up egg, bread and milk sop, ground cornflour. Be careful not to give too much diet for a time as it is mostly in that way relapses are brought on. Be careful not to give solid food too soon. After typhoid, patients get very hungry and crave for solid food before it is well to give it them. Then when she has been doing very well for about a fortnight she might have some bread and butter, a lightly boiled egg or some meat that has been through the sausage machine and then slightly cooked.*

*She can then also have boiled rice and cooked fruit. The bread should be stale and should have the crust removed.*

*Do not be in too great a haste to get her up. The old saying that "the more haste the less speed" is remarkably true in reference to patients who are getting better after typhoid.*

*When she is well you might disinfect the bedding and other things in the room. Boil all the things that will stand boiling, soak other things in carbolic lotion for 24 hours and then wash them. Burn sulphur in the room and leave it shut up for 24 hours then open all the windows and door and let the fumes escape.*

*Be careful that the burning sulphur does not run on to the floor and set it on fire. The best plan is to have a vessel of water underneath so that if any of the burning sulphur runs off it will run into the water. Of course this is to be done only when Ada is quite well and leaves the room.*

*Patrick Blackall*

## **THE LEES FAMILY OF GROßBOTTWAR AND GUNDAROO**

In a small town called Großbottwar, between Stuttgart and Heilbronn in Germany the family Lees settled. Records from the town show that Baldhas and Anna Catharina Lees gave birth to Caspar in the year 1617.

Caspar married twice, firstly to Magdalena Sattler on the 23 March 1645 and when Magdalenda died on 14 November 1669, he remarried Catharina on the 9 May 1671. The children to Caspar's marriage to Magdalena were: Caspar, Magdalena, Agnes and Barbara.

Caspar's second wife died at age 70 on 21 January 1685 and then he died not long after on the 11 February 1685 at the age of 68 years. The Lees family continued to live in the village and spouses were sought from nearby towns.

On the 25 January 1670 Caspar a burger from Großbottwar, married Anna Maria Kunkhen from Roßheim im Elsaß. The couple settled in Caspar's home town and raised 8 children: Anna Margaretha, Hanß Leonhard, Christoph, Maria Magdalena, Hanß Caspar, Hanß Erhard, Johann Leonhard and Maria Barbara.

This Lees family suffered terribly with the loss of at least 4 of their 8 children in infancy and also with Anna dying just after her 14 birthday. Caspar and Anna's lives were also short lived with Anna dying not long after the birth of her last child on the 4 January 1690 at the age of 42. Caspar died 3 years after his wife on the 5 September 1693 at the age of 45.

At the age of 24 Christoph Lees a burger and weingärtner, married Anna Magdalena Hagenheyli in Großbottwar on the 9 January 1700. The new millennium was fortunate for the couple as they were both married and gave birth to their first child. The couple's 2 children were: Anna Barbara and Anna Maria.

On the 3 June 1713 Christoph's wife Anna died and not to be without a wife, Christoph married for a second time to Catharina Zehen of Höpithier on 6 February 1714. Caspar and Catharina had 4 children: another Anna Barbara, Johann Christoph, Johann David and Johann Caspar.

Just after his 55 birthday on the 17 March 1730 Christoph died, his second wife Catharina lived until 1741 when she died on the 20 February. The Lees family through Christoph's 6<sup>th</sup> child, Johan Caspar still live in Großbottwar today.

The Lees family continued on the tradition of grapevine tending, of which Großbottwar is still famous for. Johann David an expert with vines married the 19 year old Christina Dorothea Aufrecht in Großbottwar on the 11 July 1747 at the age of 25. Christina's

parents also of Großbottwar were Zyriakus and Dorothea, nee Krach, Aufrecht.

The couple were fortunate to have 16 children:

Maria Magdalena b. 28 Jun 1748 d. 30 Jun 1748  
 Christina Dorothea b. 6 Oct 1749 d. 3 Feb 1833  
 Anna Maria b. 30 Jan 1751  
 Johann Christoph b. 9 Apr 1751 d. 4 May 1782  
 Magdalena b. 4 Jul 1753 d. 4 Feb 1826  
 Maria Agnes b. 23 Nov 1754 d. 23 Apr 1755  
 Sabina b. 10 Feb 1756 d. 7 Nov 1783  
 Sara b. 13 Sept 1757 d. 25 Nov 1757  
 Barbara b. 18 Sept 1758 d. 15 Jan 1785  
 Johannes b. 28 Dec 1759 d. 11 Sept 1761  
 (todtgebor. Knäble) b. 20 Sept 1761 d. 20 Sept 1761  
 Johann Sebastian b. 19 Jan 1763 d. 10 Aug 1838  
 Jacob David b. 5 Aug 1766 d. 1 Nov 1841  
 Dorothea b. 20 Oct 1769 d. 29 Nov 1769  
 Cyriacus b. 20 Feb 1770 d. 8 Mar 1770  
 Christina Dorothea b. 30 Jan 1772 d. 3 Jul 1851

Seven of the couple's children died in infancy. Johann lived to the fine age of 80 dying on the 8 December 1802, his wife, Christina, lived until she was 87, dying before Christmas on the 17 December 1811.

Johann and Christina's 13<sup>th</sup> child, Jacob David Lees married at the age of 28 to a fellow towns person, Blandina Oetinger who was 19. Blandina's parents, Johann Jacob and Maria Catharina, nee Heinlein, Oetinger gave birth to Blandina on the 3 February 1773. Jacob, unlike his father, was simply listed as Burger and Bauer of Großbottwar not a weingärtner. The couple married on the 11 February 1794, and lived their entire lives in Großbottwar having eight children:

Carl Friedrich b. 20 June 1795 d. 9 Oct 1795  
 Eva Dorothea b. 30 Dec 1796  
 Jacob Friedrich b. 19 Oct 1798 d. 13 Jan 1815



Caroline Rosina	b. 10 Nov 1801	d. 18 Feb 1864
Johannes	b. 4 Jul 1804	d Australia
Christine Rosina	b. 14 Dec 1807	d. 27 Jun 1882
David	b. 30 Jan 1812	d 31 Aug 1812
Conrad	b 4 Nov 1814	d Switzerland

At the age of 61 on the 3 August 1834 Blandina died leaving her devoted husband who continued to live in Großbottwar with his 4 remaining children nearby. On the 1 November 1841 Jacob died at the age of 75.

On the 8 June 1830 Johannes Lees, a weingärtner of Großbottwar was encouraged to marry Louisa Barbara Schittenhelm, the daughter of fellow weingärtner Christian Conrad and Maria Barbara, nee Pfeiffer, Schittenhelm due to Louisa's pregnancy. Johannes' now pregnant girlfriend, Louisa was born on the 11 July 1808. Johannes and Louisa lived a full life, rearing six of their nine children, yet after the birth of their final child and with only siblings remaining in the town, at the age of 50, Johannes packed up his family and left for Australia. Similarly Johannes's brother, Conrad, who had married a Swiss national, Anna Eberhardt of Cloten-Zürich moved away from Großbottwar, to Switzerland, in 1856.

Johannes and Louisa had nine children in Großbottwar, they were:

Louisa Juliana	b. 13 Dec 1830	d. 24 Jul 1834
Conrad	b. 24 Dec 1832	
Luise Julianne	b. 20 Mar 1835	
Johann Adam	b. 24 Feb 1837	
Johannes Jacob	b 16 Sept 1839	
Karolina	b. 10 Apr 1842	d. 26 Jun 1842
Friedericka Dorothea	b. 13 Oct 1843	
Johann David	b. 29 Nov 1846	
Christiane Dorothea	b. 5 Jun 1852	

The records from the parish church in Großbottwar explains that there will be no further entries for this family:

*"Im Herbst 1852 nach Australien ausgewandert mit seiner Familie, Ausgenommen die Tochter 3 Luise Julianne, welche im Herbst 1854 Den Eltern nach Australien folgte."*

On 18 March 1853, on the ship *Helene*, The Lees family arrived in Sydney, in the colony of New South Wales. From the shipping records: John Lees age 48, Louisa B 44, Conrad 20, Adam 16, Jacob 14, Fredericka 9, David 6 and Christina an infant who died on the voyage over aged 22 months.

In Australia Johannes became known as Enos and settled in the Yass River area near Gundaroo and with the exception of one child who drowned in the Yass River, all the children married and remained in the district. The Lees family is very widely spread in the area, where several other German migrants settled.



**George Lees, son of David, grandson of Johannes and Louisa and great grandfather of the author**

David, now the family's youngest child, grew up to be a healthy strapping lad and on the 29 April 1870 at the age of 24 he married



Alice Crocker at St Edmunds Church of England in Gunning, both signing their marriage certificate with an X! In 1874 their son George was born and in 1903 he married Amelia Matilda Boutcher from Cottbus in Germany, near the Polish border

**Andrew Blundell**

## **GEORGE MONK, MAILMAN**



**George Monk & Amy nee Denham**

George was born 1909 in the farmhouse at Barrack Flat (where Monk Place is) fourth child of Frederick Alfred and Caroline Isabella (nee Lee) Monk. He walked two miles to and from the Isabella Street Public School in Queanbeyan until he was

14years. He worked on construction in Civic until single men were put off and did other jobs such as fencing.

In 1937 George won the mail contract between Queanbeyan and Gunning. The first vehicle was an American Hupmobile and petrol cost 10/5 (10 shillings & 5 pence) for 5 gallons. His workday started at 7.30am with all day doing pick-ups and deliveries, then be up at Gunning Railway Station at 3.30am to meet the Mail Train. The Post Offices on the route between Gunning and Queanbeyan were Bellmount Forrest (T. Wells), Gundaroo (K Morgan) and Sutton (J Kershaw)



**Gunning Railway Station**

There were over 50 roadside mailboxes (RMB) and each day he would look for the little white flag, which signaled mail, messages or shopping lists to be picked up. Sometimes these request where posted to The Mailman, Gundaroo (or Gunning) stamped with a one penny green Queen Elizabeth (wife of George VI). These requests were many and as varied as:



*"Could you please get 12lb of chick meal (the coarsest) from Cranswicks. We have an account so ask them to book it. I am enclosing 6d for carriage."*

*"Will you kindly go to the railway station or the goods shed and ask for a parcel for us. Also call at the cordial factory tomorrow and bring out six dozen cordials for us."*

*"Would you please get me 2 skeins of Clarkes no. F.576 Green strand embroidery cotton from Mrs. Watsons fancy work shop. The cottons will be 4d"*

*"Will you get me a mouth organ and book of instructions how to play"*

*"Could you call at Queanbeyan Hospital at 2.30 on Wednesday for Myra. She wants to come home for the afternoon. She will be going back with you on Thursday morning."*

*"Would you please pay T. Donoghoe wireless shop of Queanbeyan, 4/- enclosed!"*

*"From Cranswick 3 gals Shell Blow Fly oil 2/64"*

Batteries for charging was a common request as was the order for blocks of ice in the summer. January 1940 the folk at Bowylie had ice of 50 - 70lbs delivered each other day at 1/- (a shilling) so by the end of the month the account at Carters IceWorks was 15/

Records show many of the passengers were regulars eg school children Victor, Gloria and Greta, visitors, a soldier on leave, and on one occasion a young boy to a Queanbeyan dentist for a tooth

extraction.

One of the places on that road is Bellmount Forest and nearby a farm was where Amy Denham lived. Amy worked at a Boarding House in Gunning and on her day off (Thursday) was a passenger home in the morning and back with the afternoon mail run. She was "quite taken with the Mailman's brown eyes" They married in the Methodist Church at Bellmount Forest and lived in Gunning.

In 1938 a representative of General Motors Holden offered George a contract to drive a new car along the mail route. Each time a new model came out he would drive between Queanbeyan and Gunning covering 110 miles and seen by approximately 200 people.

In 1941 George lost the contract and in early 1942 moved with his wife and daughter (and soon to be born second daughter) back to farming at Barrack Flat.

In 1947 he again became 'The Mailman' on the three times a week service to Michelago. The Postmaster-Generals Department paid him 76 pounds per annum and provided him with a timetable, which specified time of arrival and departure at Queanbeyan - Burra - Michelago.

At the end of 1948 he surrendered the contract to Jack Lanham who was willing to take on the new School bus service with the mail run and by agreement the Monk girls could travel the bus to school.



Regular drives to Bellmount Forest and Gunning to visit relatives were occasions to check out the gum trees for buds, as getting to know people on the mail runs opened opportunities for placing hives of bees on the farms during a good honey flow. There were also trips in the early spring through the Burra. These drives were also a drive down memory lane for George who would speak of the people he got to know between here and there on his journeys as a rural mailman.

**Nancy Monk**

## **QUEANBEYAN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

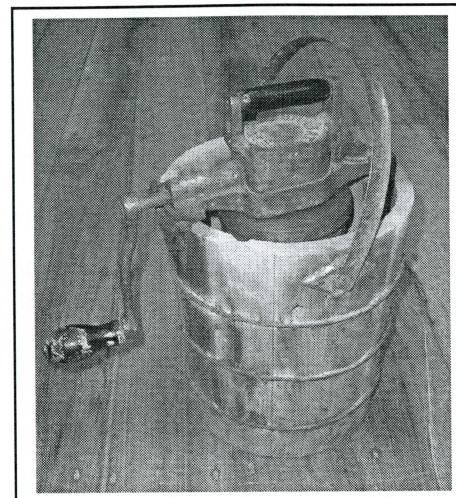
**FARRER PLACE  
QUEANBEYAN**

**OPENING HOURS  
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
1 – 4PM**

**OTHER TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT**

### **From the Collection**

## **THE ICECREAM MAKER**



In the Museum kitchen display there is an old and somewhat battered ice cream freezer that intrigues children and adults alike.

The little machine consists of an outer wooden pail and an internal metal drum that sits on a spigot and has a locking device to hold it firmly upright inside the pail, and a handle that allows the drum to be turned. Inside the drum is a paddle that beats the contents as the handle is turned.

The process of making icecream involved filling the drum with cream, sugar and flavouring and fixing it into the pail. The gap between the drum and the pail was then filled with ice and salt and the handle turned at speed to freeze and beat the cream to an iced cream!



Now, we are talking pre electricity and refrigeration in the house, so where did the ice come from? One visitor shared with us that her family only had icecream after a hail storm, but ice works in Australia were first created nearly 150 years ago by a James Harrison who in 1842 was the owner the Geelong Advertiser .

It was while he owned this paper from 1842 to 1862 that his interest for refrigeration and ice-making began to develop. Whilst cleaning movable type with ether he noticed that the evaporating fluid would leave the metal type cold to touch.

Harrison's first mechanical ice-making machine begun operation in 1851 on the banks of the Barwon River at Rocky Point in Geelong. His first commercial ice-making machine followed in 1854 and his patent for an ether liquid-vapour compression refrigeration system was granted in 1855.

Using a compressor upon a refrigerant gas, then forcing the compressed gas to pass through a condenser, where it cooled down and liquefied. The liquefied gas then circulated through the refrigeration coils and vaporising again, cooling down the machine had a 5 metre fly wheel and produced 3000 pounds of ice a day.

The ability to provide ice to every household led to the creation of a piece of furniture that would prolong the life of a slab of ice – the ice chest!

It wasn't long before ice manufacturies were springing up all over the country, with Queanbeyam's own in Crawford Street, opposite the swimming pool. The building is still there and being used as an aquarium supply outlet. Perhaps readers can tell more of Carter's Iceworks, because this is one industry that has already slipped through the cracks!

# QUINBEAN

Quinbean is proudly produced by the Queanbeyan & District Hisorical Museum Society. This edition has been proudly sponsored by the Queanbeyan City Council as part of Quenabeyan in Bloom celebrations.

Queanbeyan is amongst the fastest growing areas of NSW and as a result the proportion of those who have lived here a long time is decreasing, and their stories are being lost.

The aim of QDHMS in presenting Quinbean is simply to tell those stories for today's enjoyment and tomorrow's history. The Society would be delighted oif you would like to share your knowledge of the district . Contributions should be forwarded to

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# QUINBEAN

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