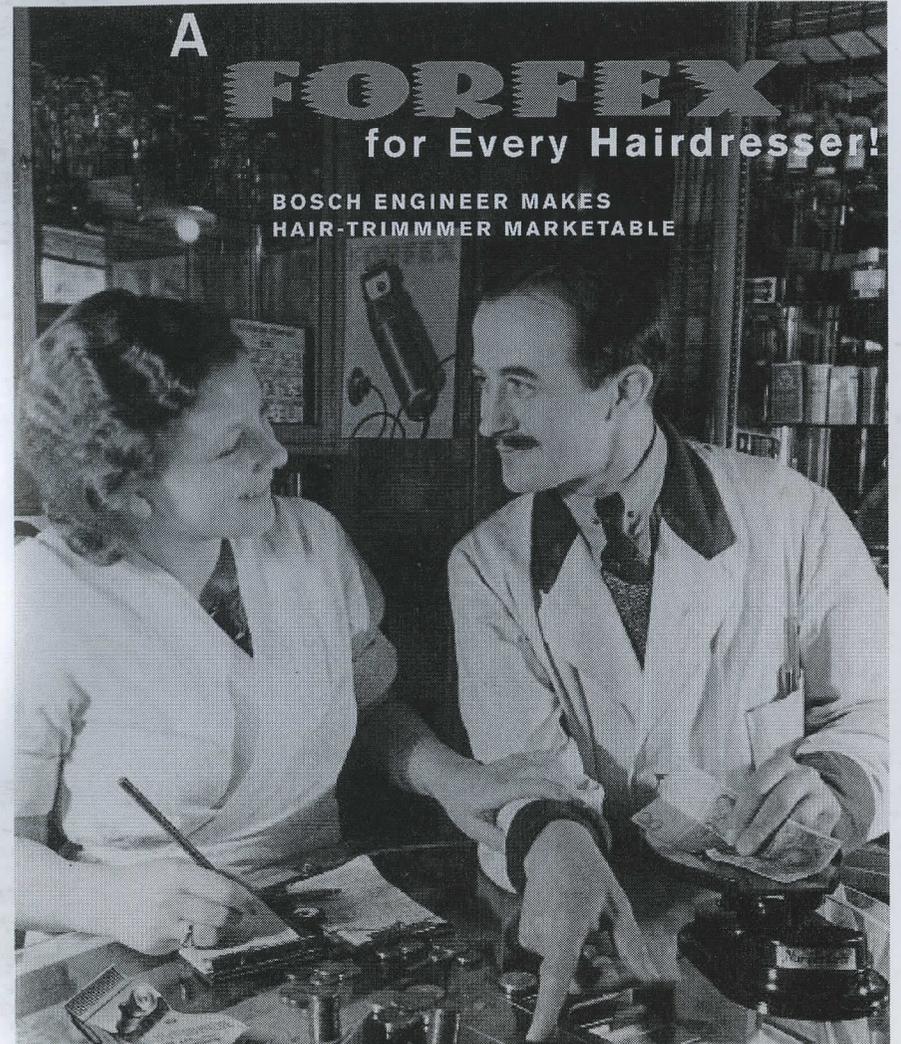


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10 Farrer Place  
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

# QUINBEAN

Volume 4, Number 1. April 2011



The Journal of  
The Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the first issue of *Quinbean* for 2011.

The Society has just had some more good news on the grant front, with an amount of \$59,200 coming from the NSW Government through the Community Building Partnership program (CBP) for completing Stage Two of the storage building. This will be used to build our volunteer work room for collection management and other Museum tasks. This grant was supported by our local ALP State Member for Parliament Steve Whan.

We have also just received news that QCC has granted us \$1,500 to assist with Artists fees for well known local artist Margaret Hadfield to paint a mural on the back concrete block wall of the Museum. We have already received \$2,500 from Southern Tablelands Regional Arts and \$1,000 from Cr Peter Bray's Charity Book Fair for artists fees for the mural, which will become a very attractive depiction of Queanbeyan in historic times. The historic mural promises to be a daw card in its own right.

This year the Museum has embarked on the Museum Galleries NSW Standards program along with others Museums in the South East Region. This involves answering a number of questionnaires on all aspects of running a Museum based on Nationally agreed Standards for Museums. We will also receive one half day and one full day visit from our Museum reviewers, after which they will write a report for us with recommendations. There will also be a one day practical workshop on a topic that is most requested by participating Museums. Other participating Museums include Adaminaby Snowy Scheme, Clyde River & Batemans Bay Historical Society, Cooma Correctional Museum, Bega Valley Historical Society, Eden Killer

Whale Museum, Moruya & District Historical Society, Merimbula Old School Museum and Thredbo Museum.

Coming up we have the Queanbeyan Heritage Festival from 2 - 24th April. Look out for more details in this *Quinbean*.

Last year was indeed a very hard working one. Out of this has come the realisation that we are suffering growing pains. We would really love to have more active volunteers to carry the weight of our plans for Museum Development.

As part of the Heritage Festival we are hoping that people will see how interesting and rewarding volunteering at the Queanbeyan Museum is. As reported in the last *Quinbean* we received a NSW Volunteers Heritage Heroes Award at the end of last year for our work over the last few years at the Museum.

**Kerrie Ruth**  
**President**

## FROM THE EDITOR

What brings life to the bricks and mortar of the museum? It is, of course, the people and QDHMS has a small but very interested and interesting band of folk who achieve this.

The variety of tasks ensures that everyone can find something that interests them, and working with a group promises that the boring and mundane – as are inevitable in every exciting undertaking – become lively events. The coffee breaks are always opportunities to solve the problems of the world.

From outside the Museum we have developed a band of regular helpers – some in the line of their professional lives like the Council boys who are generally able to solve our building problems and the team from Balfrans who can lift, roll and slide anything.

A group from The Men's Shed, who have a wide variety of highly refined skills have joined us in rescuing the front fence and superbly restoring collection objects. They are now getting creative in helping us hide some of the ugly but necessary external pipes and heaters.

Our artist Margaret Hadfield is often there extending the mural along the wall – a process that is quite intriguing. Members check the progress each visit.

There are others who prefer to work away quietly and can even do this from home. They write stories for this journal; they research bits and pieces of history and they research their own families – all adding to the story of this place.

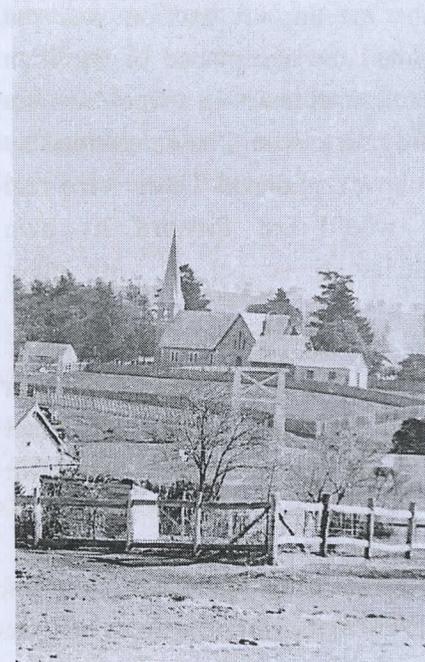
And there is always, twice a week, the roster. It is not at all necessary to have a huge knowledge of history, or even the exhibits. Most visitors just want to look and those who have questions are always happy to wait for an answer that needs a little time

If you have a bit of an interest in any facet of Museum life please don't hesitate – jump in boots and all and join us! Involvement can be as time consuming or as brief as you choose but you are guaranteed some fun, enjoyment and a lot of satisfaction,

**Gillian Kelly**  
Editor

## CHRIST CHURCH – THE SCHOOL

Wendy Smith



The school house (white) centre right with Soares' addition on its left.

One of the major questions raised in the early years of the Christ Church Parish was the education of the young.

The responsibility of the church in this area was much greater in 1838 than it is today.

The education of children, particularly those of poorer families had been left largely in the hands of the church, and this meant not only giving religious instruction but also teaching literacy and numeracy skills.

In the 1830s and 1840s the State, however, was maintaining that education came under its control. The State wanted to set up schools which all denominations could attend, rather than each denomination

having its own schools. As a consolation, one hour of religion a week could be taught in State schools. In September 1844, a meeting was held in Queanbeyan to discuss this new schooling arrangement, which was known as Lord Stanley's system or the Irish system, because it had originated in Ireland.

The Revd Edward Smith chaired the meeting. A motion was put forward by Mr George Campbell against the acceptance of the Irish system, as he thought that one hour of religious teaching a week was not enough. Apart from that, he felt that the course would be determined by the denomination with the largest group of students. There were real fears held that this denomination would put forward its own denominational doctrines and so alienate those parents with other church affiliations.

In 1844 and for many years after, there was great tension between denominations, particularly Catholic and Protestant. It also meant that the teacher or master must not favour any denomination, but remain neutral.

It was also felt that one hour of religious teaching would not provide a thorough grounding in the Gospels, let alone the doctrines of the church. George Campbell then moved the motion to oppose the adoption by the State of Lord Stanley's system.

Captain Faunce, in seconding this motion, really stated the heart of the matter when he said, "Religion should be incorporated with every action of our lives and every study, but in the proposed system the children will be taught habitually to neglect religion during five days

of the week".<sup>1</sup> The motion was carried. The arguments for and against the establishment of a schooling system by the State were held by all parties until 1866 when Henry Parkes introduced the Public School ACT.

While all the arguments and counter arguments had been going on, the Queanbeyan Parish had built a small school room behind the church measuring 25 feet by 14 feet. The first teacher to be employed was Dr Andrew Morton who had been unable to find employment as a doctor in the town.<sup>2</sup> Thirty boys and girls attended this school. The school provided a basic education as well as a good grounding in religion.

Little is known of school life between Dr Morton's appointment in 1843, and the resignation of John William Considine in September 1851. He was replaced by John Morris, who was 70 years old, and who taught for two years until he died in 1853.<sup>3</sup> John Morris had been conducting a private school in the town for some two years. Charles Campbell recommended John Morris and drew a sad picture of education in general.

*He is an old man, but writes with a very good hand and pays particular attention to the children's advancement in writing and arithmetic. And, as these are the two attainments in the lower classes in this quarter most wish their children to possess he numbers nearly forty scholars ...*

<sup>1</sup> Sydney Morning Herald 24 September 1844

<sup>2</sup> Errol Lea-Scarlett, Queanbeyan pp105

<sup>3</sup> Errol Lea-Scarlett, Queanbeyan p51

*.In the villages the parents are seldom able to derive pecuniary gain from the labour of young children and therefore in Queanbeyan there is a somewhat better attendance.<sup>4</sup>*

In an official report dated June 25, 1855 the school was described as 'a stone building of good form and size, but floored with clay, which causes it to be very dirty. The furniture is scanty and rude. The apparatus deficient, but looks plentiful. The children read tolerably, spell badly and do not understand the lesson. Little progress has been made in arithmetic, and grammar and geography are not taught. Their knowledge of the scripture and Catechism is very imperfect. The children are irregular, unpunctual, dirty and disorderly. The Master is slovenly and dirty; he is quite unfit for this office.'<sup>5</sup>

The size of the school had grown to 60 or 70 pupils by 1856.<sup>6</sup> Exams were a necessary trial for children attending schools. On one occasion these were made more bearable when cakes and confectionery were provided by Mrs Smith, the Clergyman's wife, at the conclusion of the examination. Book prizes were awarded to students who distinguished themselves

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<sup>4</sup> C Campbell. March 18, 1852 Denominational Schools Board In letters, State Records

<sup>5</sup> Cross, Bygone Queanbeyan 1980 p67

<sup>6</sup> Goulburn Herald 19 July 1856



**Interior Christ Church School House, probably c 1870**

In 1859, examinations were conducted by the Revd A.D. Soares and lasted about four hours. The pupils were tested on different chapters of the Old Testament and several hymns repeated by the children. No wonder there were only 30 children in attendance! <sup>7</sup>Parents were encouraged to be present but this occasion no one turned up.

Mr John Ford was the teacher at the Christ Church School from 1856 to 1862 and things improved. Ford was destined to make a considerable contribution to education in both Queanbeyan and Bungendore where in 1862 he accepted a position of teacher-in-charge of the Bungendore Protestant Denominational School.

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<sup>7</sup> Goulburn Herald 7 May 1859

At Christ Church he managed forty nine children in four classes, all house in the one small space. George Lane was the next teacher appointed, but he too had his difficulties, both with the Revd AD Soares and the community. Student absenteeism was a major problem. Criticism was made of George Lane in the form of a letter signed *Nemo* in the *Goulburn Herald* in 1868. George Lane replied on 10 October 1868 that the absenteeism was due to an outbreak of influenza and naturally student attendance was down.

Mr William Gregg O'Neill, the local police constable and a churchwarden, replied on 28 October 1868, saying that the average school attendance was only 12 pupils, not including his own family. George Lane was also criticised in this letter for his poor attitude, because on a day when only one student had turned up he preferred to go bushwalking, rather than spend his time looking at four corners with the boy in the midst!



Christ Church School, teacher Henry Field and students, 1870  
Photographer Beaufoy-Merlin, Blundell Collection

As a result of these criticisms, Lane resigned from his position at the school on 11 December 1868. The future of Christ Church School was becoming increasingly insecure as pupil numbers dropped. Henry Field was the last teacher appointed and the school struggled on until 1870 when it closed. The public school in Queanbeyan had begun in 1864 and its early years were very difficult. In 1875, Soares and George Campbell, as trustees of Christ Church School, agreed to allow the disused Christ Church School to be placed at the disposal of the public school.<sup>[18]</sup> Their attitude had changed over the years, as they had previously been opposed to public education.

Today, 150 years later, the small school house with its two additions and Soares' signature twisted chimney remains as a frequently used part of the Christ Church precinct and despite some damning reports it need to be remembered that it provided education for the ordinary local children in an age and country where this was still quite rare.



**Queanbeyan and District Historical Museum Society Inc** invites you all to discover how you can help conserve our rich historical heritage by becoming a volunteer in an active and dynamic local Museum and Historical Society. Recipients of a 2010 NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Award.

Queanbeyan Museum, 10 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan. (02) 6299 7449; (02) 6297 2730

## HERITAGE WEEK 2011 IN QUEANBEYAN

**Put yourself in Queanbeyan's History**  
Thursday April 7, at 5.45 pm at  
Queanbeyan City Library

**Launch of Queanbeyan Heritage Festival followed by the  
Queanbeyan History and Heritage Network Meeting**

Join us while the Mayor, Cr Tim Overall, officially launches the 2011 Queanbeyan Heritage Festival followed by a gathering of the Queanbeyan History and Heritage Network to hear a special presentation of fascinating stories from the local district.



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**Saturday 16 April, 11am-4pm, at the  
Museum of Queanbeyan & Printing  
Museum**

**Queanbeyan Museums' Open Day with the presentation of the  
Queanbeyan City Councils 2011 Heritage Awards**

Inspect the next stage of the *Story of Queanbeyan*, See the old printing presses in action and enjoy an exclusive performance from renowned folk performer John Warner. Come and hear students from Queanbeyan High Schools as they present amazing stories from Queanbeyan's intriguing past. Free. Refreshments available,

11am - 4pm. Queanbeyan Museum and Printing Museum. Farrer Place



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## NICOTINE

Arthur Baldwin  
as told to Bert Sheedy Captain's Flat September 1975

I can tell you a snake yarn about nicotine.

Foxlow was alive with snakes; every day I'd kill snakes. I had a whip - I've still got it here - with the handle nearly worn out from hitting the stirrup on it. A groom gave it to me. He said 'It might be handy to you.'

The cook, McIntyre, had a beautiful pipe, crooked stem with silver mounts. I had a long wattle with a fork on it and I put it near the door of the feedhouse to catch a snake. Some of them used to leave the door open and in goes a snake, eating mice.

I went one Saturday and here is a big fellow asleep just inside the door, curled up with his head out, just waiting for me to put it over his neck and hold him. I did, and I called out to Charley McIntyre 'Charley, come down here! I want you very particular!' Down comes Charley. I said 'Come here'. He came near and he said 'I wouldn't go near that terrible looking fellow'. I said 'He's safe. I've got hold of him. I want you to hold him and I want to give him some of the nicotine out of your pocket, out of the stem.'

I got a feather and I pumped it out. He said 'How are you going to give it to him?' I said 'You hold him and I'll open his mouth with two little sticks.' I stuck this feather down his neck and pumped it. The nicotine dripped off it. I said 'He's only got five minutes and he takes fits.'

When five minutes was up he shivered all over in a fit; he was poisoned. I said 'He's got poison but I've got stronger.' I said 'In ten minutes I'll tie him in a knot and show you.' Ten minutes was up and he was flat out dead. I tied him in a knot and threw him down.

I said 'Look at that, Charley. Throw your pipe in the river, although it's really too good to throw in the river.' He said 'I couldn't do that because I am too long smoking it.' I said 'You'll have to die like a snake in years to come!' It killed that 4'6" tiger snake.

## A CHAT WITH CLIVE WEBBER...

Jacki Keys

*Recorded by Jacki Keys as a Year 10 History assignment on the Effects of the Depression in Queanbeyan' for Karabar High School in 1987. It is recorded on an audio tape with a transcription handwritten by Clive.*

My name is Richard Clive Webber and I was sixteen years old when the depression began.

I had been living at Weetangerra ACT on a mixed farm then moved to 33 Hayes Street at Queanbeyan with my parents and two younger brothers and a sister who went to Queanbeyan Isabella Street School.

I had six years schooling at Weetangerra school and a final two years at Telopea Park Canberra. I was fifteen when I left school.

Weetangera had one teacher for the whole school with 15 children of all ages being taught. Telopea Park had many children and many teachers.

My father sold his farm at Weetangerra because his lease did not have long to run – all land in the ACT was only leasehold. So he rented a house at 33 Hayes Street in Queanbeyan so that the younger children could finish their schooling. He then purchased another farm in the Bredbo area and moved all stock and equipment to the new farm.

He secured excellent prices for wool, wheat and farm produce so much so that he paid a big deposit on the new farm and estimated that with continued good prices and seasons he would soon pay the farm off. I was working and living on the farm at this time.

The first year went well but the next three years drought and depression came on together and the farm repayments could not be met as most stock had died and what were left could not be sold. So the banks closed on the property and all was lost except an old one ton Chev truck stored in the back yard in Hayes St.

When we lost the farm I went back to Hayes Street. We had no work and there were no jobs about. Rather than go on the dole I suggested that with the £3/10/0 I had in the bank I could register the old truck for three months and start wood carting as people had to have wood to cook their food and keep themselves warm in the winter.

So I gathered wood from around Jerrabomberra and cut it up with an axe for stove wood and open fires. I found that business was very good and I couldn't keep up with the orders. However it brought in money to pay the rent, keep ourselves warm and feed ourselves.

I was able to expand this business because one of my best customers for wood was a large business man in the main street. I noticed an unused saw bench in his back yard in good condition and suggested that if he let me use his saw bench I would keep him in wood, free, whilst I used it. He agreed.

A big long leather belt, 5" wide came with the saw bench, so when I bought a load of long wood into the yard I threw it off, jacked up one rear wheel of the truck, fitted the belt over the tyre to the pulley on the bench, started up the truck, put it into gear and away went the saw and in no time I could cut a full load of wood into any length the customer required and business was excellent.

In summer there wasn't much demand for wood but, being raised on a farm I knew a lot about carting in hay, wheat, wool etc and took on moving furniture and general carrying etc. I soon found I needed a bigger and new truck and an engine to run the saw bench and business was so good I was able to succeed where some had failed. I even purchased the old house in Hayes Street and lived there with my folk till I was married some 46 years ago and have lived here at 10 West Avenue ever since.

Many people were like us either purchasing a new farm or machinery or home only to find that when income was not forthcoming the only thing was the dole. It was not like the dole today - people had to move from town to town and endeavour to secure work and could only get the dole by moving on.

I'm sure the depression changed my sense of values and I tried to keep out of debt as much as possible and worked very hard in whatever I undertook.

## THE MANGLED MANGLE.

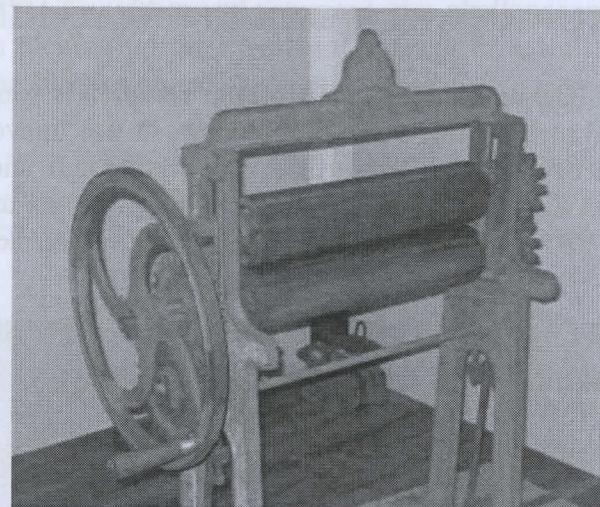
A mangle or wringer is a very effective, albeit old-fashioned, method of squeezing excess water out of washed clothing and linens before hanging them out to dry. It consists of two rollers in a heavy cast iron frame, connected by cogs and powered by a hand crank.

The Museum of Queanbeyan was given such a machine many years ago. It is a large and heavy piece of laundry equipment curiously much larger than a household would use or have room for and was unfortunately removed to an external area where the weather and time played havoc with it. The paint disappeared and the wooden rollers rotted, leaving a sad relic of what it had been.

Two events have turned the tide.

First came Peter Johnston who immediately recognised it as the mangle that had belonged to his grandmother Nurse Johnston who had lived at 75 Campbell Street where she ran *Yvonne*, a private maternity hospital. It had been donated by his father Ancel Johnston who had decided the weights that were necessary to compress the rollers were a danger to children, so left them behind. It was Peter himself who later delivered them, carrying them from *Yvonne*, across the Park, to the museum so the mangle was again complete.

Then members from The Men's Shed were working on our picket fence. Among them was Brian Lay, a carpenter, boat builder and wood turner of this town who amongst others said 'Yes, we can do this!' And they did – the mangle now has two beautiful hand turned rollers and a new wooden handle to operate it.



Almost restored – the mangle with its new wooden rollers and handle.

All that remains is for the cast iron frame to be treated so the beauty of the frame is clear and the mangle will be back on exhibition. Come along and see it in the continuation of the *Story of Queanbeyan*, to open on April 16th – this time focussing on some of the old building methods in our city and our World War II soldiers.

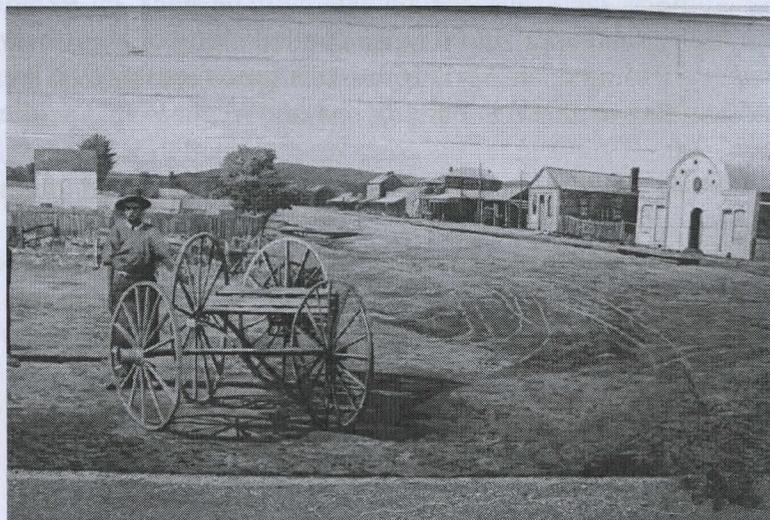
**Gillian Kelly**

## THE MURAL – AN ART WORK IN THEM MAKING

**THE WALL:** The rear wall of the Museum complex is some three metres high and runs the full width of the block. It was uneven, dull grey and quite depressing. Its surface was porous and uneven so before any work could commence Louis & Marilyn Folger and Fred Monk cleaned and bagged it and then painted it with a surface coat.

### THE ARTIST, MARGARET HADFIELD:

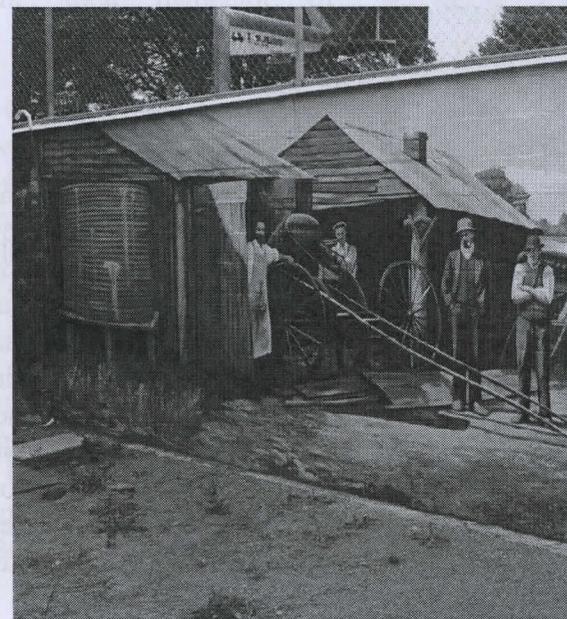
Ms Hadfield, who has been painting for more than 35 years, says she has never had a formal art lesson. "I just learnt a lot from my father, so I sold my first painting when I was 13 and I have never stopped," she said. "It gave me encouragement and inspired me and I just love to paint. It's just in me, in my Dutch blood."



**THE DESIGN:** Margaret accepted the challenge and had little trouble in picking up the members' concept of a wall that depicted parts of the story of Queanbeyan.

Working with many of the Society's old photos she developed a montage that integrates various views of the old town to form an artistic impression - - not in continuum, but linked with artistic licence

**THE PROGRESS:** Scene by scene our delightful mural creeps along the back wall. The process is fascinating. Call in and see this work in progress next time you are near.



## BEFORE THE LAW IN LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY QUEANBEYAN

### *John Cope*

A perusal of cases that came before the magistrates in the Queanbeyan court gives an insight into what life was like in Queanbeyan in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Police Court was usually presided over by local magistrates, often in pairs. During the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century there were usually up to eight local magistrates, all leading citizens, who could be called on to preside over the court. They heard minor offences and made judgements in these cases. They could also refer cases to the Quarter Sessions where a judge, known as the Police Magistrate, presided. The Quarter Sessions dealt with more serious offences and also appeals against earlier determinations.

The newspapers of the day provide the following picture.

### ALCOHOL AND BAD LANGUAGE

Not surprisingly, alcohol and bad language featured predominantly in the cases heard by the local magistrates. The rulings in such cases are interesting. In June 1886, John Booth and William Little were charged with being drunk and disorderly, and on being found guilty were fined 10 shillings (\$1) each. However, on the same day, Michael Quinn was sent to gaol when found guilty of being drunk, both because he couldn't pay his 20 shillings (\$2) fine and because he was a previous offender. In September of the same year, John Ryan was discovered by a police constable hammering on a hotel door at midnight demanding that someone serve him yet another drink; he was fined 10 shillings or 3 days in gaol if he couldn't pay.

In December 1887, the Police Magistrate presided over a case in the Police Court in which Nicholas White pleaded guilty to two charges of indecent exposure and using obscene language. The Police Magistrate pointed out that for the first offence he was liable to a flogging and imprisonment, but because the police had spoken in support of his good character, the Police Magistrate decided to fine him £2 (\$4) for each offence.

A case of particular interest to the townspeople was heard in the Police Court at the end of May 1888. The former Mayor of Queanbeyan, J.J. Wright, appeared before William Price on a charge of having used abusive language towards Isaac Meech, the then Inspector of Nuisances, outside Wright's premises. George Tompsitt, a prominent citizen of the town, was called as witness and stated that he had been standing opposite Pike's hay and chaff store when he heard Wright order Meech to "get off the footpath you d----- impertinent puppy!"



Mayor J J Wright

Well-known store owner, John Nugent, also testified that he had heard Wright say something similar. Tom Gribble and Edward H Land, who was later to become Mayor of Queanbeyan, came forward with the same evidence. William Price found Wright guilty and fined him £1 or 24 hours in the cells. Wright paid the fine.

Two weeks later, Wright was himself the presiding magistrate when Thomas Moore appeared and pleaded not guilty to a charge of riotous behaviour. Although there was one witness for the defence, Wright refused to hear him and even refused to hear what Moore had to say. Moore was found guilty.

J.J.Wright was certainly in the legal news at this time, because just six weeks after the above case, Judge McFarland heard two cases against him in the District Court. In the first case, Patrick Ryan, a butcher, claimed that Wright owed him £5/3/1 (c.\$10.31) for meat that Wright had bought from him. The judge ruled that the debt had to be repaid plus £6/12/8 (c.\$13.29) for the expenses of one witness. In the other case, Philip Pooley, hotel licensee, claimed that Wright owed him £12 for a case of champagne. Once again, the judge ruled that Wright had to repay the debt plus expenses of two witnesses.

An interesting decision was handed down in the Queanbeyan Police Court by magistrate George Tomsitt on 26 December 1890. Benjamin Langford went to Queanbeyan gaol for 24 hours when he couldn't pay his 2 shillings (20 cents) fine for drunkenness, his 4 shillings fine for obscene language and his 4 shillings fine for assaulting Police Constable Willis. It's hard to imagine today a person being given the same fine for obscene language and assaulting a police officer.



George Tomsitt

## LARCENY

It seems that larceny has always been around and it certainly was in Queanbeyan in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Of particular interest is the type of items that were stolen in those days.

In April 1886, Mrs. Morgan was found guilty of stealing three turkeys and a drake, the property of Mrs. John Reilly of Molonglo Bridge. For her crime she was sentenced to six weeks in Queanbeyan gaol.

Matthew Rice, a labourer from out of town, was found guilty by Magistrates Wright and Gale in February 1899 of stealing a magazine from the School of Arts. He was sentenced to seven days in gaol and ordered to pay 4/- (40 cents) which was four times the value of the magazine. Failure to pay the fine within seven days would mean a further 21 days in gaol.

## MENTAL HEALTH CASES

The treatment of mental health patients is of significant concern in our 21<sup>st</sup> century society, but things were very different in the latter years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is sad that people with mental health problems were dealt with in the courts.

Anthony Johnston appeared before Police Magistrate Woore in the Queanbeyan Police Court in April 1886 on grounds of being of "insane mind". He was remanded back to gaol for three days so that he could have medical treatment. On returning to court he was discharged into the care of his family following Dr. Fitzpatrick's report that he had been quiet and civil during his three medical examinations and Sgt. Cornett's report that he had acted in a quiet and sane manner while in gaol. Not all such people were as fortunate.

Edward Gambell had his case dealt with benignly even though he had been sent to Gladesville Mental Asylum three times before. He, too, was sent to Queanbeyan gaol for three days of medical treatment, but was then discharged having had no additional signs of "mental aberration".

Alfred Gifford, a young lad, appeared in court in August 1887. It was alleged that his condition was worse than the previous time on which he appeared. He was committed to the Gladesville Mental Asylum.

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

In the period under consideration, parents were obligated to ensure that their children attended school on a minimum of 70 days per half year. From time to time parents were brought before the court for not meeting this obligation.

In May 1886 several cases were heard by Dr Richardson, Charles McKeahnie and the Police Magistrate. John Johnston, Thomas Yates and Thomas Sullivan were fined 2/6 (25cents) each and 5/6 (55 cents) costs. Alexander McIntyre must have been a previous offender, as he was fined ten shillings (\$1). Mrs. Aldridge was fined one shilling (10 cents) on each of two charges plus 5/6 costs.

### MISCELLANEOUS CASES

In June 1886, Charles Joseph Jones, licensee of the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle Hotel was charged with having unlawfully played cards for money in his hotel. It seems that a 10 year-old Syrian-born boy named Zachariah Jones, who was a hawker, found that he could not make sales at the hotel, so the licensee offered to play him at cards with the intention of returning any money he won to the boy. Police

Magistrate Woore ruled that the licensee had lured the boy into playing cards against his will and fined him £7 (\$14).

Albert Schofield appeared before the Police Magistrate in July 1886 having been sued by Isabella Nowlan for maintenance of his illegitimate female child. He had previously been under orders to support the girl for two years, but now refused to continue, saying that he couldn't support two families. The Police Magistrate ruled that Isabella Nowlan had to take some responsibility for the girl out of the ten shillings per week she earned at McNamara's Hotel. Schofield was ordered to pay five shillings per week plus professional costs of one guinea (\$2.20) for professional costs and 5/6 for court costs.

Ah Wong, "a repulsive-looking Chinese" was charged in the Queanbeyan Police Court before Magistrates Byrne and Williams with maliciously wounding Ah Su. The incident occurred in Quin Wing Ti's shop where Ah Su used a room. He was committed to the next sitting of the Queanbeyan Quarter Sessions on £80 bail. At Quarter Sessions before Judge McFarland in November 1886, the jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to 18 months in Goulburn gaol with hard labour.

In a sitting of the Queanbeyan Police Court in May 1887, Emily (alias Lizzy) Clark, reputed to be a prostitute, was found guilty of vagrancy and sentenced to three months in gaol. Then 12 residents (including Mayor Wright) were fined five shillings plus 3/6 costs for allowing animals to stray in public thoroughfares. Just five months later, the Mayor was in court again for the same offence, this time allowing two cows to stray in Trinculo Place. Wright was in the body of the court and moved to take his seat as a member of the Bench. He proceeded to censure the police constable who had brought the

charge, at which the Police Magistrate and Magistrate McKeahnie showed their disgust at his behaviour by leaving the Bench. The *Queanbeyan Age* commented that "Mr. Wright has exhibited a petulance of action and temper which must sadly militate against the dignity of the office he holds."

### JUVENILE CASES

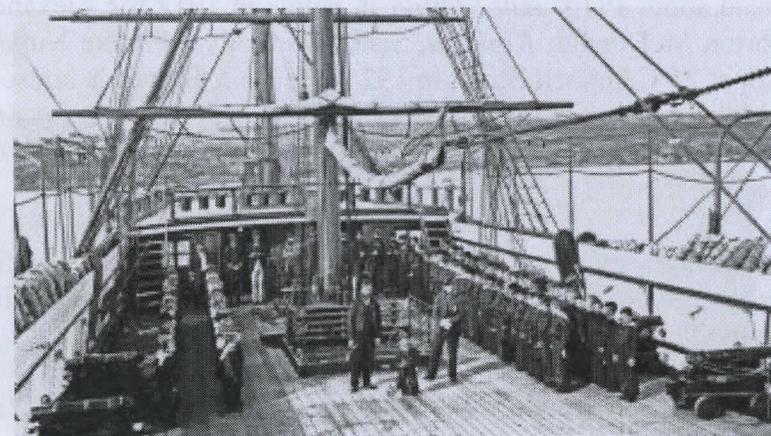
Boys will be boys and they certainly were in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Arthur Collett, John Scott, Allan O'Neill, Robert O'Neill Thomas Jordan, Charles O'Neill, George Young and Walter Thwaites, all aged between 11 and 14, appeared in court in September 1886 charged with riotous conduct on the night of 15 September in Irish Town. They were alleged to have made noises outside the home of Mary Anne Bowes, an elderly widow. When she got out of bed to open the door to see what was happening, she was hit with a volley of stones and the boys also broke some windows. They ran away when a neighbour, John Ford, appeared. The next day, the boys came to apologise to Mrs. Bowes, telling her that they had been affected by alcohol. Each boy was required to find sureties of £10 for six months, otherwise they would go to gaol. The sureties were paid in each case.

A young lad named Ernest Smallhorn was charged in April 1888 with stealing a cash box and £2/9/6 (\$4.95), the property of Wesley Ling Ching. Ernest had hidden the cash box in a cess pit near the Protestant Hall and it was found some ten or twelve feet down when Ernest took the police constable to the site. In court, his father stated that the boy was incorrigible as he had frequently stolen things even though he was only nine years old. He went further and recommended to the Bench that he be sent to gaol. He was sentenced to three days in gaol and if he appeared again, he would be put on board the *Vernon*. (see below)

In June 1899, a nine year-old boy, named Day, was sentenced to three years in the reformatory for stealing a leg of mutton from Byrne's butcher's shop.

### THE VERNON

The former merchant sailing ship *Vernon* was purchased by the Government in 1867 and refitted to become a Public Industrial School to provide relief for neglected children and place them in a supportive environment where they were given moral training, nautical and industrial training as well as elementary schooling. Originally sited between the Domain and Garden Island, it was moved off Cockatoo Island in 1871. By the time young Ernest Smallhorn was put under the threat of going on the *Vernon*, the Superintendent had introduced a system of strict discipline, surveillance, physical drills and also grades and rewards to set the boys on a right path. (taken from Mark Dunn, *Vernon Nautical Training Ship 2008*)



Onboard the *Vernon* c 1870

## GILBERT ANDREW MCINNES – BUILDER OF PISE AND OTHER HOMES

Marilyn Folger

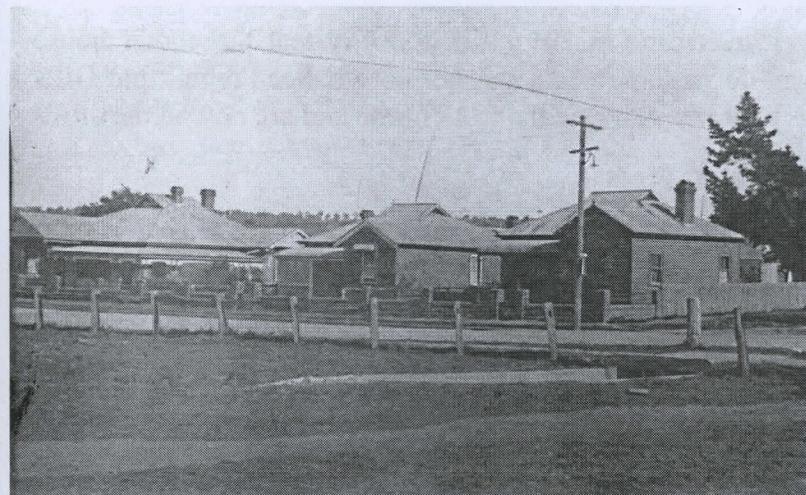
Gilbert Andrew McInnes (Gil) was born January 10, 1863 at Kowen and married (1) Jane Emily Land on March 2, 1885 (she died in 1907) and (2) Estelle (Stella) Butt on 22 May 1917 (she died in 1968). Gil died on 15 August, 1951 in Queanbeyan.

Gil was a remarkable man. As well as a builder, he was a crack shearer, a sportsman and a good community man who served several terms on the Queanbeyan and Yarrolumla Shire Councils.

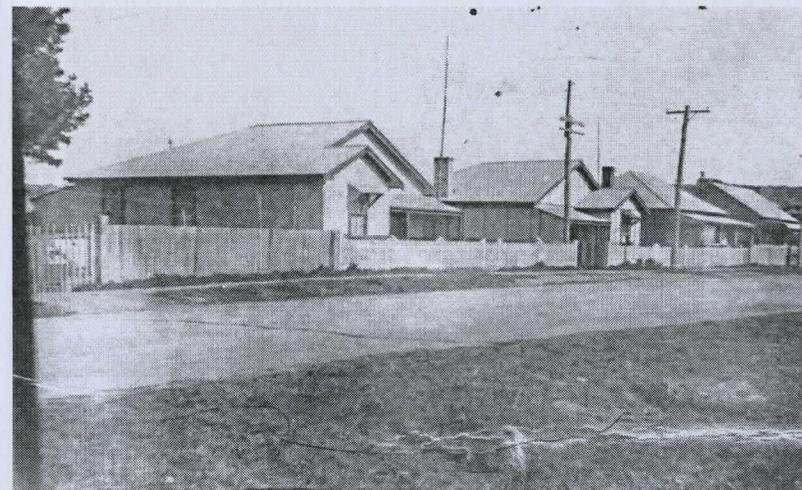
Some of his buildings included the *Majura Hall* in 1910 – substantially pise with a moveable stage; the McInnes *Kowen* pise homestead about 1910; *Hill Station* in Hume in 1912 for Alexander and Morton McDonald; *Kinkora*, Sister Darmody's Private Nursing Hospital, at 25 Campbell Street in 1924 and Mr J. Blewitt's house. It was said that he also built *Langdene* in 1880, although he was only 17 at the time – some of the McInnes and McIntosh families did however live there.

In 1925 he built his home at 27 Campbell Street which he named *Amungula* after the property *Amungula* at Sutton where he had lived from 1903.

About this time Gil also built four houses in Morton Street, including my grandmother's house at 6 Morton Street which she rented from about 1936 till it was sold in about 1965. (My Nan, Sarah Jane Maitland, was Gil's first cousin).



Campbell St (L to R) 27 Amungula home of Gil McInnes, 25 Sister Darmody's Private Nursing Hospital & 23 destroyed by fire (Albie McInnes collection)



Morton St (L to R) Numbers 2,4,6 and 8. No 6 was the home of Mrs Sarah McInnes, Gil's cousin and the author's grandmother. (Albie McInnes collection)

This is the streetscape in 2011 – it is a pity that the corner house which burnt down some years ago has not yet been rebuilt but Gil's houses have mostly survived the test of time and are now in the city's Heritage Precinct.



Campbell St (L to R) No 27 Gil and Stella McInnes' *Amungula*; This home now has units built over the large garden that was behind it.

No 25 Sister Darmody's then in 1950s Ted Smith & family. In more recent years it was beautifully restored and renovated by Mrs Edie Clancy

No 23 – vacant block where house was destroyed by fire.

Photograph Marilyn Folger 2011



Morton Street looking towards towards Swimming Pool and Campbell Street. (R to L) No 8 Hardwicks in 1940s, Albie & Alma McInnes 1950s, then Vula family 1960.

No 6 Sarah Maitland 1930s-1960s;

No 4 Billie & Mabel Fowlie later Griffiths 1950s-1960s;

No 2 (obscured) Wallaces then Gill's daughter Thyra Corby later Hazelgrove;

Corner (vacant) originally Pike's Cordial Factory site, Clem & Ada Lees 1950s, Brogdens later.

Photograph Marilyn Folger 2011

## Cover Story

# FROM STUTTGART TO QUEANBEYAN THE *FORFEX*

Gillian Kelly

Tucked into our barber's display is an interesting little electric device - an early pair of electric hair clippers, C1930, whose prototype began a revolution in the world of hand tools.

In 1928 the German Bosch subsidiary Eisemann marketed a hair clipper device called the *FORFEX* that had a small electric motor located in its handle thereby defining the design principle of power tools.

The year 1926 has gone down in history as the year of the first big crisis in the automobile industry. Big companies like the German Bosch, in order to remain competitive, had to develop new products.

One day Robert Bosch went to see the head of his construction department, Hermann Steinhart, and said: "Mr Steinhart, we need other products to keep our production lines running!" Whereupon Steinhart showed Bosch a handy electric hair-trimmer. This device had been brought to him by Ernst Eisemann, founder of the company of the same name taken over by Bosch some years before.



Ernst Eisemann (1864-1941)

Eisemann was a gadgeteer who had designed and built this little machine in his own workshop. The handle of the machine contained a little electric drive motor, a considerable improvement on the traditional hair-trimmers with suspended motors and flexible shafts.

When Bosch had looked at the machine, he immediately commissioned Steinhart to develop the device further. In a very short time it was possible to present a marketable product. Resitex was used for the casing, an unbreakable plastic which had already been used in many products made by the Bosch factory.

The motor was worked over once more and provided with double insulation. In 1928, it was possible to present the new hair-trimmer to potential customers under the trade name *FORFEX*. Eisemann undertook the manufacture and distribution of the machine but the motors themselves were made by Bosch.

It now only remained to convince hairdressers that they could work better and more easily with the *FORFEX* than with traditional machines. For this purpose, a pilot series was made available free of charge to hairdressing salons throughout Germany by Bosch representatives. After only a few months, word of the advantages of the *FORFEX* - easier and less tiring work- had spread throughout the trade. The new poster by Georg Hoffmann, a Stuttgart painter and graphic artist, which was soon on display in many salon, also made a considerable contribution to this product's success.

Bosch engineers came up with the idea of using the same basic design to create hand-held power tools. The first tools were ready for use in 1930, and proved to be so good that Bosch launched the

design onto the market in 1932 as the “hand-held motor”, the forerunner of all modern lightweight power tools!

By the 1930s an original little *FORFEX* hair clipper had made its way into the Monaro Street barber shop of John Hardwick. Serendipitously it has survived and is now on display in the Museum. Some eighty years later it is hard to imagine even the home handyman’s shed, much less the construction business without power tools. Next time you pick up that electric drill thank Ernst Eisemann and his hair clippers and think of John Hardwick and his very modern barber’s shop!

**The Cover:** Georg Hoffmann’s poster that sold the *FORFEX* to the world.

**Bosch History Magazine, 2003, p 12**

### A CORRECTION – QUINBEAN December 2010



This photo was labelled “Estonian migrants at 15 Charles Street with Ludmilla Kallas” - it is actually Ron Baum’s mother Annette Baum at the left , Charlie Pohla next to her and Ron’s father Johannes on the right with his arms folded.