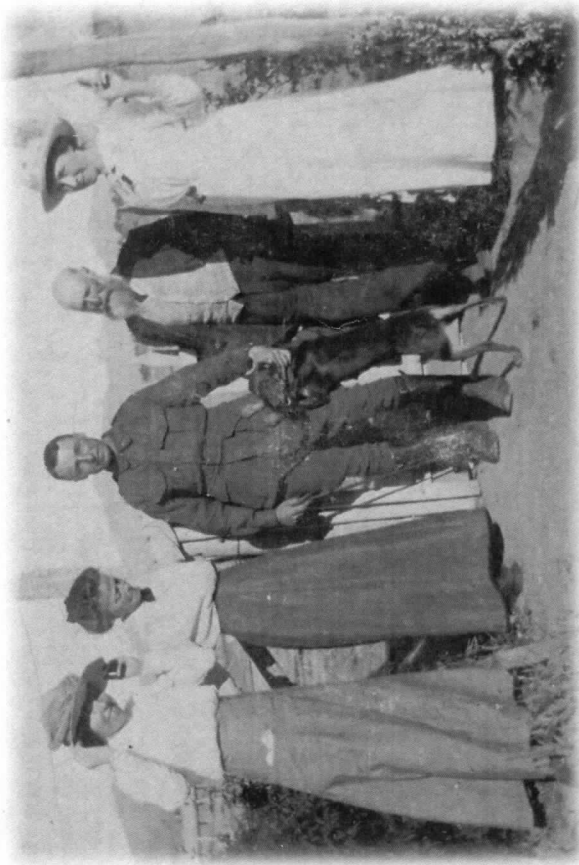


QUEANBEYAN

Volume 5, Number 1,
April, 2012



Lance Corporal Eric Fabius Fane de Salis in uniform late 1915 at the front gate of Soglio when he returned home prior to his departure for the war zone on December 6th, 1915 with the 6th Light Horse Regiment. Pictured with Nina (sister), Mary (mother), George (father) and Charlotte (sister).

The Journal of
The Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc

QUEANBEYAN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL MUSEUM SOCIETY

QDHMS is a local history society aiming at preserving the history of the city and its wider district and sharing this, with the strong support of the Queanbeyan City Council, through the context of the Museum of Queanbeyan.

Find us on the net at www.queanbeyanmuseum.org.au

Contact us:

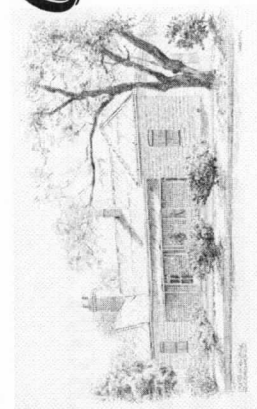
by phone at 6299 7449 or

email qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au

THE MUSEUM OF QUEANBEYAN

The Museum is open from 1pm to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays or by arrangement.

It is found at 10 Farrer Place Queanbeyan, next to the Police Complex and opposite the State Office Building.



QUINBEAN

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CONTENTS

Notes from the President, <i>John McGlynn</i>	2
Editorial, <i>Gillian Kelly</i>	3
Lance Corporal Eric Fabius Fane De Salis, <i>Adrienne Bradley</i>	4
THE BATTLE FOR TEL EL KHUWEILFE, from the notes of <i>A Bradley & P Proctor</i>	12
Life Saved by a Romance, <i>Rosemary Curry as told by Clarrie Munns</i>	13
Convicts of the early Canberra-Queanbeyan District, <i>John Cope</i>	16
The Hotel Queanbeyan, <i>Contributed material Brendan O'Keefe, notes Kelly</i>	23
The Curious Case of the Committal of Andrew Tyrie for Horse Stealing, <i>Eric Rawlings</i>	26
Museums Australia NSW Symposium & its Implications for the Queanbeyan Museum, <i>Kerrie Ruth</i>	29
From the Press, <i>Researcher G Kelly</i>	33
John Bull, Queanbeyan's Second Mayor	36

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is my first report as President and I am conscious that, despite the grandiose title, I am really only one cog in a smoothly functioning machine that keeps the Society and Museum going.

First of all I would like to congratulate Kerrie Ruth, our outgoing President and thank her for all the work she has done in guiding the Society through some important achievements which took a great deal of her time and dedication.

Of course this could not have happened without the hardworking group of Committee members and other volunteers and the support of Queanbeyan City Councillors and Council staff. The crowning achievement is the new storage building, finally completed with the addition of a new room which was always on the plans but had to be postponed due to initial lack of funds.

At the same time as the building and renovations were in progress, the core work of the Museum and Society was continued as items were accessioned, the collection cataloged, historical research published in *Quinbean*, while volunteers staffed the museum every weekend and welcomed school and tour groups during the week. Other conspicuous achievements are the new garden and the mural. However, anyone visiting the museum can observe that everything, from the displays to the appearance of the buildings and grounds, is a testimony to the work of many.

John McGlynn

President

FROM THE EDITOR

It is again almost ANZAC Day – the 97th anniversary of those awful events at Gallipolli when we remember all those who were lost.

This edition of *Quinbean* tells us about Eric Fane De Salis. It is a poignant story that so clearly illustrates that Eric, like the thousands of others who lost their lives or suffered shocking injuries, belonged in a family and that family belonged in a community. No official description of any event of war or any medals or stories of bravery can ever reflect what a family or a community lost.

Through diaries, letters and photographs Adrienne Bradley has allowed us a glimpse of her great uncle Eric. She has set the home scene for us, taken him to the Middle East to the battle that took his life, and then with her husband, retraced his footsteps there, and his memorials Canberra. It is a fitting tribute to a young soldier.

Heritage Week is again almost upon us. The museum has continued to grow with the completion of storage building, the mural almost to its completion, small gardens in place and with new exhibitions on show. The theme for Heritage Week this year is *Inventions and Innovations*. Come and follow our trail through the museum where you can learn the stories of our gas lights, our mortising machine, Australia's contribution to beating polio with Both's innovation to the original iron lung.

Gillian Kelly

LANCE CORPORAL (CHARLES) ERIC FABIUS FANE DE SALIS

No 1874 2nd Australian Machine Gun Squadron
4 May 1891 - 6 Nov 1917



Eric was born at *Cuppacumbalong* on the Murrumbidgee River, at Tharwa via Queanbeyan, on the 4th May 1891. *Cuppacumbalong* was owned by Eric's grandfather, Count Leopold Fane De Salis, who started the Australian branch of the De Salis family in 1844. Eric was the last child and third surviving son of George Arthur Charles Fane De Salis and Mary St Lawrence Irving Smith. He was the grandson of the Rev Pierce Galliard Smith of St John's Church in Canberra and god son and nephew of William James Farrer, Australia's famous agricultural scientist and wheat breeder, of *Lambrigg* (near Tharwa).

Eric is mentioned regularly in his father's diary starting with the year he was born.

Mon 4 May 1891 Mary confined 3.30 this morning - Nina and Maud attend - Mrs White a few minutes late. Edlington fetched Mrs Graham - 5 hours. Mary and boy (Charles *Eric Fabius*) well. Lovely day. Charlie Edlington takes letter to Canberra (this would have been to inform his grandparents Rev Pierce Galliard Smith and Emily Philippa Davis of Eric's arrival).

Tues 5 May 1891 Mary and baby very well.

Mon 31 Aug 1891 Charles *Eric Fabius* christened (by his grandfather, Rev Pierce Galliard Smith). Farrer (uncle) and Keatinge (friend) godfathers and Jennie Armstrong (aunt) godmother

Eric spent his first three years growing up at *Cuppacumbalong* with his four older sisters, two older brothers and many cousins. In 1894 they all moved to "Lambrigg" the home of Eric's uncle William Farrer and his wife Nina De Salis. They spent six years there on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River only five miles from *Cuppacumbalong*. When Eric was about 13, George and Mary and their seven children bought a property they called *Soglio* at Michelago on the road to Cooma.

Their neighbours were Col Granville Ryrie (later Brigadier Ryrie, Commander of the 2nd Australian Light Horse Brigade in the Sinai and Palestine) at *Micalago Station*. Eric's sister, Charlotte, was a tutor to Col Ryrie's twin daughters.

Things were tough then on the land and everyone had to pitch in and help. His father notes almost daily the things Eric did to help around the property in the years before he went to school in Sydney.

Thurs 3 Aug 1905 Eric got the post. He and Willy J are picking up stones etc about the Barracks all forenoon - they were rabbit shooting this evening.

Fri 1 Dec 1905 Eric and I raced the sheep from the House pad, turning out a lot of ewes and lambs that had got in – we left the strangers in the yard.

Mon 15 Jan 1906 Very pleasant day. George and Eric got from the trucking yards about 60 of our sheep that had got boxed with Ryrie's – the wind on Saturday had blown down the gate from the bridge pad and the sheep had got through

Wed 7 Feb 1906 S wind all day yet very hot – cool evening as usual. Up at 4 and lit the kitchen fire and fed the horses. Eric, Dyball and McMahon took 523 ewes with lambs to Angle pad. Eric got home about 3 the sheep had travelled well considering their condition.

Thurs 8 Feb 1906 Eric, Bobby and I muster Muldoon and Millpost sheep in the afternoon and raced the ewes from the lambs in readiness to take to the Range tomorrow. In forenoon Eric, Bobby & I cocked the hay in No 2 pad

Mon 12 Feb 1906 A few drops of rain, looked very promising in early part of day but strong NW wind blew all clouds away. Eric and Bob Carthew took all the cattle, except 6 milkers, over to Dyball's. Fri

16 Feb 1906 Very hot – cloudy tonight. Eric, Bob Carthew and I started before 7 with 198 lambs and 24 ewes for Booth's Range – they travel very well considering their condition and we reached the river shortly after 12 – had dinner there – got them over the river with Mick Cotter's help and started on at 3 reaching Cotter's about 7 – did not lose any sheep – are camped at Cotter's tonight.

Thurs 22 Feb 1906 Blowing hard all day from W – heavy clouds and a few drops of rain. Eric and I with the help of Paddy Murphy put up a wire enclosure down near the Church to trap rabbits but after all our trouble there was not one in it when we went down tonight. The baits laid in No 2 pad were scarcely touched last night.

Sat 31 Mar 1906 Eric got 12 sheep from Jack McTernan's

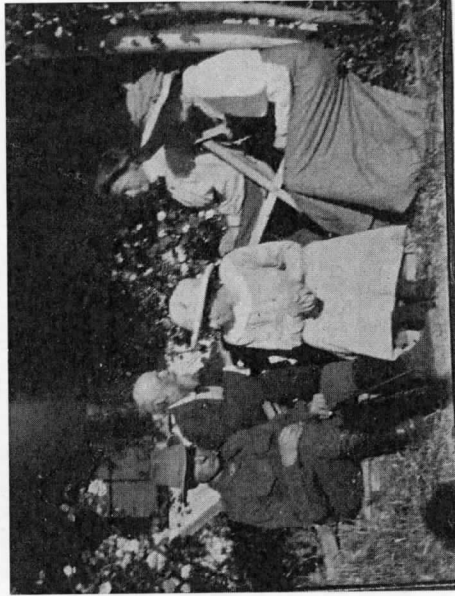
There were also picnics, fishing and shooting parties, swimming, cricket matches, etc with family and the neighbours.

Eric would have been schooled at home until he was 16. After his two older brothers had been to school for a couple of years each, Eric was

sent off to The King's School in Parramatta for two years in 1907-8. After he left school he spent time working in Queensland

He was working at the Stock and Station Agents, Dalgety & Co, in Sydney, when WWI broke out. He joined Unit 13/6 Australian Light Horse on 20 August 1915, enlisting at Holdsworthy and describing himself as a wool classer and station hand.

Eric returned home to *Soglio* in his uniform in late 1915 to say goodbye to his family before embarking on HMAT *Aeneas* on 20 December 1915 as part of the 6th Light Horse Regiment, Regimental No 1874.



The de Salis family on their front verandah at Soglio farewelling Eric before his departure for the Middle East. L to R: Eric, father George, sister Charlotte, Mother Mary and sister Nina.

On Wednesday 6th September 1916 Eric wrote home to his sister Charlotte from Moascar, Egypt. This is the only treasured letter from On Wednesday 6th September 1916 Eric wrote home to his sister Charlotte from Moascar, Egypt. This is the only treasured letter from Eric that Adrienne owns. She has seen no others.

My dear Charlotte

Some more mail has been coming in this week and on Friday I received Mother's cable of Aug 25th, it had gone to Kantara before coming here. I sent a reply on Saturday and you will probably have it before now. It only costs 20 piastres for about four 'bob' to send weekend rates from any post office over here which is cheaper than reply paid I think. There is a fairly decent dust storm on the move today but it takes something pretty rough to worry us now we are used to them and the summer has just about had its run though the days are hot enough still to raise a perspiration at the thought of work. Saturday and Sunday last I had luck to miss all guard and piqued (sic) duties and spent the time round the town and started the old Kodak on the move again after giving it a good long spell, the films are not developed yet so can't say what they are like. There are some very nice avenues and gardens down in the European part of the town and the fresh canal makes some very pretty views if I can only get them in the proper light, the trees make it too shady except at certain times of the day. On Sunday several of us had a look over the Aerodrome near our camp and had a close view of the machines we have seen flying over us every day. They had all been on an air raid the previous day and two machines had been lost behind the Turks lines though the pilots were rescued by other machines. Several of the machines can do 110 miles an hour but are only used for scouting. They have a fine big battle-plane with two machine guns in front and the propeller at the rear, all the others have theirs in front and have to get side on to use their guns. They can carry about ten or a dozen 20lb bombs on a raid and should do some damage if they fell in the right spot. I've been getting some good bundles of newspapers from home please thank Mother for them. The parcel of honey and Bengers Food, tin of cake and biscuits arrived yesterday in first class order and last week I opened up the last one of cake, victor tobacco, mosquito net, etc, the net comes in very useful to keep flies off during the midday siestra (sic). You will be wondering when your stamps are coming but anyhow I am enclosing the first instalment up to 10 millimes which was

all the post office had in stock at the time, but they stock also a two and five piastre stamp so will send them later on. I am enclosing them all inside the envelope as they would probably be pulled off the envelope if posted outside. Harry Vernon will be glad of your papers, he used to like a look at the *Heralds* you used to send me in *Queensland* and he is a pretty good reader. I would like to strike him over in England as he knows *Hull* and *Manchester* very well and could show me round there a bit. Nancy *Cunninghame* sent me a parcel of *sox* and cards last mail and Mrs *Holdsworth* sent some *sox* so there should be no chance of me getting cold feet.

Hope the nephew is doing well, *Rodolph* wrote me from *Wagga* and he seems to be kept going pretty well over there in the bank. Much love to all from your loving brother *Eric*

After attending a School of Instruction in Egypt, he joined the fighting in Palestine. In November 1916 he passed a Machine Gun Course at Zeitoun, as a 1st Class Gunner and was promoted to Lance Corporal in the 2nd Australian Machine Gun Squadron.

From Eric's war records we know Eric was at Maadi, Tel el Kebir, Abbassia, Et Maler, Zeitoun, Hassaniya and Port Said throughout 1916 and 1917. He was in hospital a couple of times and slightly wounded in April 1917 but did not evacuate. He fought across northern Sinai, in the battles for Gaza and was at Sakaty, north of Beersheba, during the famous Charge.

Eric was killed in the battle of Tel el Khuweilfe on 6th Nov 1917 fifty miles north of Beersheba. The Turks had retreated north from Beersheba after the Charge. Allenby's plan was for the British to keep the Turks busy and under the impression that he intended striking for Jerusalem up the Hebron Road whereas Allenby's intention was to capture Gaza and strike toward Jerusalem from the west. Allenby

wanted the Turks to concentrate there efforts in eastern Palestine, so sent XX Corps of Infantry, four divisions strong, together with the Desert Mounted Corps and the Camel Brigade to the east. At the same time XXI Corps was to move against Gaza.



Wells of Yel el Khuweilfe on the day Eric was killed.

Casualties were heavy, especially in the infantry of the 53rd Division. Among the Australians of the 3rd Camel Battalion, Captain R W Crewsell, and Lieutenant C H Lyon and twenty other ranks were killed, and two officers and fifty two other ranks wounded. According to an eyewitness, Eric De Salis' unit "had to gallop into action to save the flank of the Camel Corps and when they arrived under the hills they got their guns mounted and commenced firing. The Turks were amongst the rocks close by. De Salis was No 1 on his gun and, when firing it, was hit by a machine gun bullet."

Eric was buried in the field near where he fell and the whereabouts of his grave is unknown. His name is commemorated on a plaque in the Jerusalem War Memorial Cemetery, at Mt Scopus, Panel number 60 on the right hand column for the Mounted Machine Gun Squadron. Eric was posthumously awarded the Military Medal. Eric's father George received the medal on Eric's behalf at The Kings School in Sydney.

Adrienne, great niece of Eric, and her husband Paul Bradley, were the first members of Eric's family to visit the Mt Scopus Memorial Cemetery, in October 2007, as members of the Australian Light Horse Association's 90th Anniversary Tour to Beersheba. A small ceremony was held here in memory of Eric.



Adrienne at the Memorial Cemetery at Mt Scopus, Jerusalem in October 2007.
Lance Corporal Eric Fabius De Salis' name is marked with a poppy.

Adrienne Bradley from her the family notes, research and personal experiences.

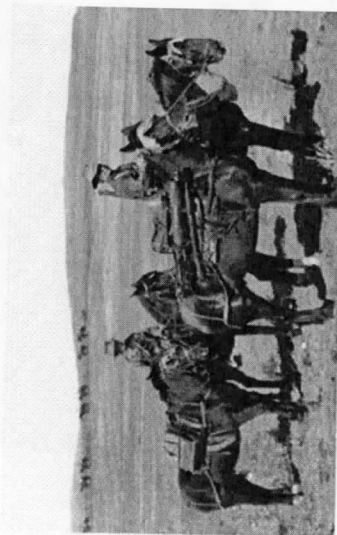
THE BATTLE FOR TEL EL KHUWEILFE

The record of the Battle for Tel el Khuweilfe in which Eric De Salis died was written by Henry Gullet, the official historian of the Australian Light Horse in

Sinai and Palestine. His description is complex in his military detail. Historian Peter Proctor explains:

Water was crucial to the operations of the Light Horse. After Beersheba was captured in October 1917, the next target with sufficient water supplies for the Light Horse was Tel Khuweilfe.

On 6 November 1917 the British and the Imperial Camel Corps attacked the Turkish positions at Tel Khuweilfe but met with stiff resistance. According to an eyewitness, De Salis' unit "had to gallop into action to save the flank of the Camel Corps and when they arrived under the hills they got their guns mounted and commenced firing. The Turks were amongst the rocks close by. De Salis was No.1 on his gun and, when firing it, was hit by a machine gun bullet". He died later that day from his wounds. The official history records that the Light Horse machine-gunners "rushed their guns up the hill within forty yards of the Turks, and, although they were shot down almost to a man, their very gallant action caused the Turks to pause" helping to save the Camel Corps' position.



Mounted Machine Gunners, WWI,
photo from collection
Adrienne Bradley

From notes of Adrienne Bradley and Peter Proctor

LIFE SAVED BY ROMANCE IN QUEANBEYAN, 1926

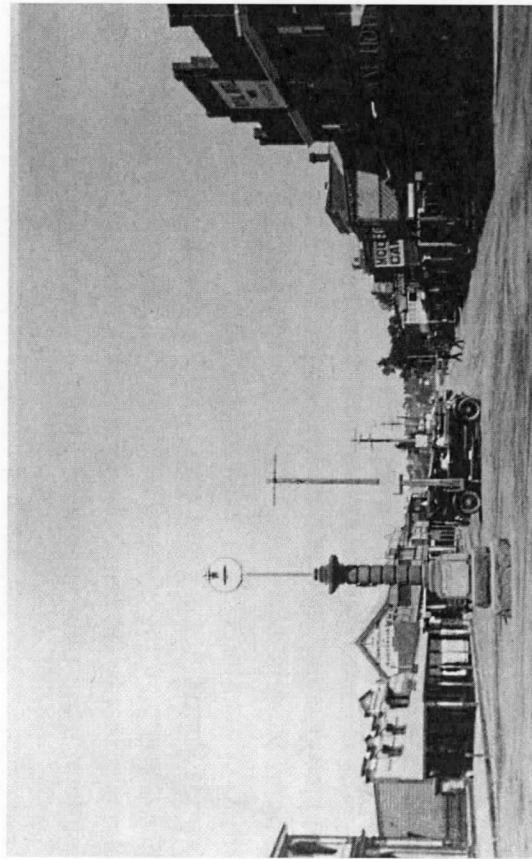
CLARRIE MUNNS

"My job was in Canberra as a junior technician and night telephonist at the Telephone Exchange at the Post Office at Acton. I shared a room at the Bachelor's Quarters, Acton, with another male telephonist. Canberra was a pretty dull place for a young fellow of 17, so Queanbeyan was the centre of attraction. You were very lucky if you ever saw a female in Canberra. There was nothing there. The men that came over to Queanbeyan frequented the pubs. You'd take a car over with five fellows, and they mostly drank.

For me as a 17 year old, the old Triumph Theatre pictures and the Parish Hall dances were popular. I became very friendly with the Telephonists at Queanbeyan, and one especially was responsible for saving my life.

As you may know, the ACT was a prohibition area, and the whole male population came to Queanbeyan of a weekend for refreshments and entertainment. Cars leaving Queanbeyan for the return trip about 1am, would all meet at the monument at the centre of Monaro and Crawford Street, and blow their horns. Everyone would come running to return to Canberra.

This night, having lingered too long with my friendly telephonist, I missed the car home. That night the car crashed on the Canberra Bridge, and three were killed.



The 1 am meeting place - the Boer War Memorial, then in the centre of the Monaro & Crawford Streets. The lamp above the memorial was gas lit with the gas tank buried beneath the base. Photograph 1928, QDHMS

Thinking back to Queanbeyan then, I remember buildings up towards Christchurch, and the Catholic church the other side of the river, also a few houses up around the Parish Hall.

Not much out Cooma Road, or Tharwa Road. Down Morisset Street there were a lot of old homes right down to the river. From there up to Lowe Street I can't remember much at all. The Masonic Hall, each side of it, out on the footpath, there was a great big Camphor Laurel, and on the other side there were pine trees right up to it. I remember a car being bogged opposite the now Tourist Hotel, also a lamp on the town side of the bridge, and a bell on the north side. The fellow (who

used to light the lamps) I've seen him get up on his bike, and light the light.

Cars were parked in the centre of the main street, and there were taxi ranks in front of the Royal Hotel. Petrol pumps were on the foot path in front of Moors Garage (now Cassidy's Arcade), and opposite also in front of Freebody's (now Shoprite and Webbers Bridge Motors.)¹

All the main football matches were played in the showground, and the Queanbeyan Blues were the team of the district. They did not play for money in those days. I left the Canberra / Queanbeyan area after Parliament House was opened, but I returned in 1938 with my wife, and raised a family of six. Do not let anyone tell you that Queanbeyan is not a good place to live."

Clarrie Munns lived at 19 Surveyor Street where we interviewed him, although he was born in Sydney. Clarrie married Pat Greenwood, whose family came from Majors Creek. Pat was born in Auburn lying in hospital', Queanbeyan.

Recorded by Rosemary Curry from an interview with Clarrie Munns, 1990

¹ Lawrence House 2012

CONVICTS OF THE EARLY CANBERRA-QUEANBEYAN DISTRICT

Between 1788 and 1868, when the last convicts arrived in Western Australia, it is thought that approximately 160,000 convicts were sent from the British Isles and Ireland into Australian colonies.

It is not surprising therefore, that quite a number found their way into the Canberra-Queanbeyan district. Statistics show that in 1833 there were 510 people in the district and 63% were convicts. Three years later, this percentage had dropped to 50% of 1728 people and then in 1841 33% of the 2111 people were convicts.

Generally these convicts were assigned to local residents, often landowners, and with good behaviour they were granted a ticket-of-leave and later a certificate of freedom. Some, however, didn't proceed along these lines but escaped from the people to whom they were assigned and joined bushranger gangs.

Set out below is an account of some of the district's convicts who later came good and made a contribution to the district communities. This is by no means an exhaustive list of such people. Readers might like to submit stories of others who made a contribution to the district.

BAMBRIDGE, Edwin Elijah: born at Burslem, Staffordshire in England on 5.10.1815 and arrived in Sydney on 4 March 1831 on *the Lady Harewood* as Elijah Bainbridge, a convict transported for 7 years at the Staffordshire Assizes on 13 March 1829 at the age of 15 for stealing bacon, having previously come before the courts and receiving a flogging and a month's imprisonment. His convict's indent shows that

he was only 4 feet six inches tall, could read but not write and had a ruddy and freckled complexion with light brown hair and brown eyes. In England he had been a potter's boy in Staffordshire and by 1842 he was a shoemaker at Duntroon. He lived by the Molonglo River as a lessee on the *Canberry* Estate and planted many willows along the Molonglo. He was well-known for leading the singing at St John's Church where he was a pew holder and also a church warden from Easter 1864 to Easter 1866. In 1840, he married Eliza Aldridge at St. James Church in Sydney and they had 11 children, 3 of whom died in infancy. He died on 13 August 1879. Eliza died on 11 April 1911 aged 90. They were both buried at St. John's.

BRAYSHAW, William: born in Yorkshire in 1811 and came to Australia on 2 January 1835 on the *Henry Porcher* as a convict, on a 7 year transportation. At his trial in Yorkshire at which he was found guilty of stealing, he was 24 years of age and working as a sawyer. He was five feet six inches tall, with a dark sallow complexion with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. On coming to the district in 1839, he worked as a sawyer, grazier at *Boboyan*. In 1844 he married Flora Crawford at Cooma. He died on 17 November 1888 at *Boboyan* and was buried at Adaminaby. Flora, who was 10 years younger, died on 10 May 1891.

BYRNE, Martin: born in 1806 at Carlow in Ireland. He came to Sydney on 29 June 1834 on the *James Laing* as a convict found guilty at Wexford on 30 July 1833 when he was 28 years of age for robbery and sentenced to transportation for life.

His convict indent shows that he could read but not write, was five feet seven and a half inches with a dark sallow complexion,, black hair and hazel eyes. He came into the district at Gundaroo in 1839, then worked on his uncle James Hughes' property at *Mugwill*. On 14 September 1842

he was granted his Ticket of Leave and in that same year he married Sarah Nightingale at Nanima and they had 12 children.

In 1846 he was granted both his Conditional Pardon and his Absolute Pardon. By 1847 he was an innkeeper at the Travellers Rest Inn at Gundaroo, then in 1850 he built Byrne's Hotel in Queanbeyan (which later became the Royal Hotel) which at that time was the only building beyond Crawford Street. It was demolished in 1826 to make way for a grander hotel building which we know today as the Royal Hotel. In 1862 he took over Woden Station with his son Charles and following the death of his wife, Sarah, on 5 July 1869 aged 44, he returned to Queanbeyan where he built and operated a flour mill in 1883 at a construction cost of £3,500; it still stands today.

It was he who provided the land, formerly Judge Callaghan's estate, for the building of the Benedict Convent on the corner of Isabella Street which began in 1879 with five pupils. He had bought the estate in 1872 following the tragic death of Judge Callaghan back in 1863 when he died from injuries received when a horse pinned him against a fence. He was also a Queanbeyan magistrate in the 1880's and in December 1885 he was elected as the first President of the Queanbeyan Volunteer Fire Brigade. He died on 21 March 1892 at Queanbeyan's *Mill House* and was buried in the Catholic section of Riverside cemetery where Sarah had been buried earlier. Their son, Martin Joseph, who was born in 1856, took over the licence of the Royal Hotel from 1890 to 1925.

MAYO, Alfred: born in 1820 at Buckingham in England, he was convicted to 15 years' transportation when tried at the Buckingham Quarter Sessions on 1.1.1839 for burglary as a 20 year old farm labourer. His convict indent shows that he could read but not write, was five feet eight and a half inches tall with a sallow complexion, light

brown hair and hazel eyes. He also had scars on both legs and the side of his neck. He arrived in Australia on 1.9.1839 on the convict ship *Parkfield* and was granted a ticket of leave in 1845.

He was assigned to G.T. Palmer as a labourer at *Palmerville* in 1847, then he moved to Duntroon in 1848 and worked as a timber splitter at *Mugga Mugga* and then as an overseer there from 1867. In November 1849 he was granted his Conditional Pardon. He worked on the construction of St.John's Church and subsequently held two seats at the church. In February 1884, he accepted an offer from Rev. P.G.Smith to clean the church for £10 per annum. He was declared insolvent in March 1866 with debts of £72 and assets of £5. On 14.2.1846 he married Mary Ann Smith, who was born in Ireland in 1824, and they had 9 children (eight boys), one of whom did not survive infancy. Mary had arrived in Australia as a bounty immigrant on the *Arkwright* on 8.2.1840. Alfred died on 20.7. 1897 at Duntroon and was buried at St.John's. Mary died on 9.11.1897 at Majura and was also buried at St.John's.

MURTY, Michael: born c. 1813 in London, he was tried at the Surrey Quarter Sessions on 4. February 1835 for highway robbery and transported for 15 years. At the time of his trial, he was a 22 year old glass blower who could neither read nor write. He was five feet seven and a half inches tall, with brown hair and hazel eyes; he had three scars on his face and others on both legs. He arrived in Australia on the convict ship *Surry* on 17.5.1836 as a convict and assigned to Mr. Daffarn. He received his Ticket of Leave on 14.10.1845 and his Conditional Pardon in 1849 after which he worked as a labourer at Ginninderra and Duntroon from 1849 to the later 1850's and then as a shepherd and groom at Yarralumla. Married Margaret Cameron, daughter of Donald and Ann, in 1848 and they had 7 children. Margaret died in 1861.

OLDFIELD, Joseph: born in Norfolk, England in 1805, he was sentenced to 7 years transportation at Norfolk on 16.10.1833 for stealing tusks. At the time of his trial, he was 29 years old, working as a shoe maker and married to Ann Griggs with two children. His convict indent shows that he was five feet five inches tall with brown hair, hazel eyes and a carrotty beard. He arrived in Australia on 11.6.1834 on board the "Hive" and assigned to James Wright at *Lanyon*.

He was granted his Ticket of Leave on 20.11.1838 and his Certificate of Freedom in 1842 and became licensee of the Queanbeyan Inn in 1854. While still a worker at *Lanyon* in 1839, he captured a gang of five robbers who had made a robbery at John Gray's store in Queanbeyan. Resided at *Lanyon*, *Cuppacumbalong* and Naas 1867-1886. Later at *Lanyon* in 1842 married Mary Keegan who was 18 years younger than Joseph and had arrived in 1842. They had 8 children, all born at *Cuppacumbalong* between 1843 and 1854. Joseph was declared bankrupt in March 1864 when he worked as shoemaker. He died on 8.8.1886 at Naas and Mary died in 1907.

PREECE, Thomas: arrived in Australia as a convict on 11.6.1834 on the *Hive* and much later became a farmer at *The Grant* Gooramon Ponds, where he lived till his death in 1888. He was born in Bristol in 1814 and at the time of his trial he could read and write as a 19 year old blacksmith's boy. His trial took place at Gloucester on 10.8.1833 and he was sentenced to transportation for life for stealing a copper furnace. He was five feet four and a half inches, with a sallow complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes. On 29.11.1834 he was granted his Certificate of Freedom. His wife Jessie died in 1876 and they had 3 children.

ROLFE, William: born in 1804 at Oxborough in Norfolk England, he arrived in Sydney on 25.2.1836 as a convict on the *Recovery* having been convicted at the Norfolk Assizes on 28.3.1835 to transportation for

life for poaching. At the time of his trial, he was a 30 year old farm servant who could read but not write and was still single. He was five feet five and a half inches tall, with a ruddy complexion, brown hair and grey eyes. On 14.5.1844 he was granted his Ticket of leave and in that same year he was employed by J.J.Moore at Acton and then at *Springbank* in 1848. In 1861, he opened a butchery in Queanbeyan and in the following year he was the publican at the *Hand and Heart* in Queanbeyan until 1864.

The 1875 electoral roll shows that he was living at *Tea Gardens* in 1875. His first marriage was to Jane Yates (nee Ridings) and they had 6 children and when Jane died on 5.2.1860 at Queanbeyan, he remarried Frances Wright (nee Bayleycorn) in 1861 at Queanbeyan, but they had no children. He died on 3.2.1864 at Queanbeyan and he was buried in the Catholic section of Riverside cemetery.

YOUNG, James: born in 1816, he came to Australia as a 19 year-old convict on 17.1.1836 on the *John Barry*. As a lad he worked as a tailor at Southwark, but in January 1835 he was before the court twice on charges of stealing. On the first occasion on 10.1.1835, he was charged with stealing two waistcoats (valued at 21/-), one pair of trousers (17/-), one pair of drawers (1/6) and one handkerchief (threepence) which belonged to James Kilminster. Kilminster's wife had the items in a bundle under her arms as she walked along the street, when at 8.15pm a man (probably Young) snatched them and ran away. She called "Stop thief" and chased him until she fell on a step.

Her brother was with her and testified that he thought the man who stole the bundle was Young as did a nearby resident who heard the shout of "Stop thief". The verdict on this occasion was "Not Guilty" on the grounds that the judge couldn't be absolutely sure that the culprit was Young. Not deterred, Young tried it again a week later. This time he

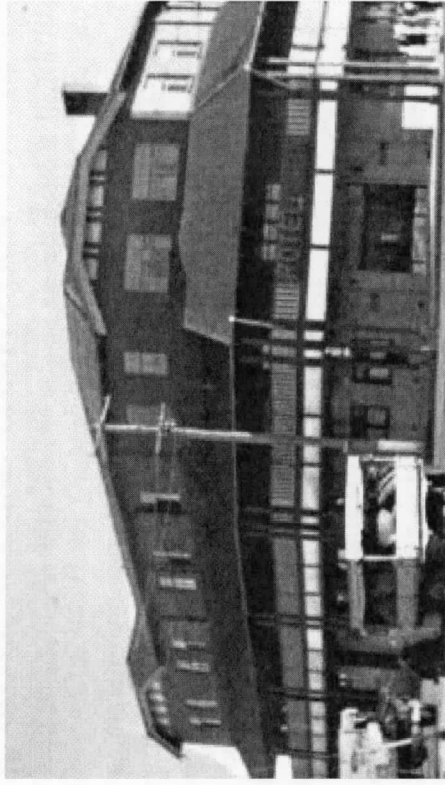
snatched a bundle from a Lucy Roberts as she walked along the street, again at 8.15pm. The bundle contained two shirts (valued at 1/-), nine handkerchiefs (1/-), two pairs of stockings (1/-), an apron (sixpence), one pair of breaches (10/-) and another handkerchief (sixpence). Lucy chased him and saw him join a group of young men, one of whom gave her back the bundle. However a nearby shopkeeper chased Young and when he caught him, Young didn't have the bundle. Young was then handed over to George Tindall, a 43 year-old policeman.

At the Central Criminal Court (the Old Bailey) on 2.2.1835, he was convicted for seven years for stealing a bundle. At that time he was five feet two and a half inches tall, with a slightly pock pitted complexion, light hair and grey eyes. Initially he was assigned to James Wright at Lanyon as a sheep watchman and moved with him to *Cuppacumbalong*. On being granted his Ticket of Leave in September 1840 and granted his Certificate of Freedom in the 1840's, he took up his own land at "Round Hill" (modern day Mt.Painter) by 1858, having working for James Wright for 27 years and become his right-hand man.

On 24.2.1846 he married Margaret McMahon at Queanbeyan Catholic Church and they had eleven children, the first five at *Cuppacumbalong* and the remainder at *Round Hill*. He obviously turned his life around, as he was a regular worshipper at St.John's and was a church warden there in 1862, 1863 and 1866. He died on 19.6.1884, aged 68. Margaret died on Christmas Day 1924, just two months short of 100 years. They were both buried at St.John's. On his death, the Queanbeyan Age wrote of James "He never had an enemy amongst his neighbours and he died leaving a memory fraught with deeds of kindness and benevolence"

John Cope

THE HOTEL QUEANBEYAN



Hotel Queanbeyan c 1940. Collection G Kelly

The development of this building was not without controversy. It certainly had a commanding view over the town but it was very close to the railway and the ACT border at a time when there was prohibition in the ACT and workers who travelled back and forth by train. In 1926 a Protest Group was formed to discourage the building of the hotel. While its efforts did not stop the building, it does seem to have produced some modifications and on June 11th the Queanbeyan Age stated:

THE STATION HILL HOTEL: *The new hotel to be built by Mr. W. H. Mason will include 42 more rooms than was originally proposed. The statement that it was only to be for the sale of liquor is disproved by the foregoing also that the bottle department will be done away with. The estimated cost of the hotel is £52,000. Mr Mason evidently has plenty of confidence in Queanbeyan.*

SAVE OUR CHILDREN !

During the past few months our town has gained for itself an unenviable notoriety for the number of convictions in the local court for drunkenness.

Application has been made to extend the facilities for this evil; hence the formation of a committee to oppose the establishment of a liquor bar on Station Hill.

With upwards of a thousand pay envelopes arriving by train from Canberra, it is not difficult to perceive the real motive of this inhuman proposal. The very plans of the proposed building are sufficient for any intelligent being having the slightest trait of human feeling to revolt against such a deadly temptation being placed before our good hard-working fathers, brothers and sons.

ACCOMMODATION FOR ABOUT 30 BOARDERS, AND ACCOMMODATION FOR ABOUT 300 DRINKERS!

Think, people. For the sake of the children—THINK!

Abraham Lincoln once said: "The man whose thoughts to-day are the same as those of yesterday is not worth tuppence."

If—perhaps, thoughtlessly—you have signed the applicant's petition, and now are able to realise the possible consequences of your action, a great guilt and responsibility will rest heavily upon your mind unless you muster the moral courage to do the RIGHT thing before the fatal day.

Think not of the interests of any individual speculator, who, regardless of any human wreckage he may create, would place within our midst a great octopus to sap the very best out of our young manhood, in order that he may, on the principal of—not the survival of the "fittest," but of the "sickest,"—get rich easily and quickly out of the sweat of our hardworking people; then flit away to retire on the sea-side, leaving blasted lives, shattered hopes, empty pockets and eternal drudgery in his trail.

But think of the environment of our children, for they will grow up and develop their character and treat YOU accordingly.

Make it your duty to your God, your children and your town, to sign the special petition against this proposed iniquity.

a (Rev.) W. EVANS, President.
H. R. BOWLES, Hon. Secretary.
For, and on behalf of, The Protest Committee.

On 24th March, 1927 the Queanbeyan Age announced:

NEW HOTEL NEARING COMPLETION Overlooking the town from a commanding hillside site at the junction of Crawford-street and Uriarra-road, the Hotel Queanbeyan, now in course of erection, stands out as a distinctive mark of the prosperity and advance ment of the town in recent years. The work, which was commenced in October last, is being carried out by the firm of W. H. Mason, Ltd., from the designs of Mr. Gordon Craig of Sydney, and it is expected that the last brick will be laid in June or thereabouts. The new building, which is being constructed of red brick throughout, will be of three storeys.

It will contain 70 bedrooms, each fitted with a telephone, and every modern device for the comfort and convenience of guests, including a radiation heating service and kitchen ovens for bread baking will be installed. Mr Mason, who last year sought the removal of the licence from the Gundaroo Hotel to Queanbeyan, and will conduct the new hotel, claims that the Queanbeyan, when completed, will rank as one of the most modern residential hotels out of Sydney.

Brendan O'Keefe Notes, Gillian Kelly;

THE CURIOUS CASE OF ANDREW TYRIE

Andrew Tyrie son of Thomas Tenant Tyrie and Eliza Hartigan was born 14 September 18 at Cumberland NSW and died 31 March 1907. Andrew married Ann Sarah Parker who was born 1833 Limerick Ireland and died 11 Jun 1923. Both are buried at Carwoola. Andrew and Ann had a family of 13 children.

The Queanbeyan Age 10 May 1866

COMMITTAL OF ANDREW TYRIE FOR HORSE STEALING

The Monaro Mercury reports the committal of the above well known character, at the Cooma police court on Monday se'nnight for trial, on charge of stealing a grey horse, the property of John Feagan of the Googongs, near Queanbeyan. Feagan and his son distinctly swore to the horse, branded H F near shoulder, as being the property, he was lost on 22nd or 23d December last, he never strayed nor could be kept away except by being in a stable, paddock or hobbled.

Edward Montague Battye, Inspector of police for the Cooma district, being sworn, deposed the 23rd March last, about noon, I was near the prisoner's residence about a quarter mile from his place when I observed a man on foot leading a grey horse, saddled and also girl driving another grey horse that had apparently lately been hard ridden. I approached them, and when within about a couple of hundred yards, a man jumped on the saddled horse and made away at a gallop up the side of a mountain close to the prisoner's place.

I ordered the police to give chase, and to bring the party down to me at the prisoner's residence. The girl I spoke to I believe was the prisoner's step-daughter, he, the prisoner was shortly afterwards brought to me by the police, he was riding the horse now outside the court, which has now been claimed by one Feagan, of Googongs, the police then informed me, in prisoner's presence, that on their approaching him he galloped away from them and that he had to threaten to shoot him before they caught him. I asked the prisoner why he galloped away he said "I was out looking for a horse" I had no charge, at that time against the prisoner, and told him so. I at once released him. I was not aware the horse he was then riding was a stolen one, when I returned to Cooma I found that the horse prisoner

rode in every way corresponded with the horse stolen from Feagan. I consequently gave instructions for the seizure of the horse and apprehension of the prisoner.

To Mr Parker: I did not speak to the prisoner before he jumped on his horse. It is usual to ride after a stranger in the bush, especially if he is making away from the police, and to tell him to stand, and to threaten to shoot him if he does not. It was particularly so in this instance, when the police on that morning were in search of the bushrangers who attacked Harnett's house on the night previous and came up to Mr Clifford's house that morning. I charge the prisoner with stealing the grey horse from my personal knowledge of the man and finding him riding the stolen animal.

John McKenzie of Cooma police deposed- I was on duty with Captain Battye on 23rd March last. I was near the prisoner's residence. I was ordered by Captain Battye to accompany Senior Constables Moran and Carroll and gave chase to a man who was galloping away, he started up a flat and doubled over a peak of stones and rocks. I succeeded in getting within speaking distance, when I called upon him to stand, he did not do so. I told him I would shoot him if he did not stop. I galloped right up him, and found it was the prisoner Andrew Tyrie. I took him down to his own place where Captain Battye was, there was no horse before the prisoner, or anything that required him to ride so fast.

For the defence witnesses were called to prove that the horse had been left at Tyrie's place by a man who gave his name as Fletcher, and who was a stranger, said to be the man who was shot by the police at the Gulf. Bail allowed, himself in 400Pounds, and two sureties of 200Pounds each

A witness agreed that the horse was left by a person named Fletcher who was shot by police at the Gulf. There is mention of a gold diggings at Gulf Creek. There is a Gulf Creek identified in Southern New South Wales which starts below The Big Rocks at an elevation of 833m and ends at an elevation of 282m flowing into the Snowy River.

There was also a William Henry Fletcher who was shot and wounded by a young Police Constable on duty at Nerrigundah on 9 April 1866 when a gang of bushrangers known as the Clarke gang held up the township, and murdered Police Constable Miles O'Grady. Fletcher died one hour after being shot while the other gang members fled into the bush.

The Queanbeyan Age 31 May 1866

THE CASE OF ANDREW TYRIE

It will be in the recollection of our readers that this young man was lately committed by the Cooma bench on a charge of horse stealing. We have been informed by Mr Parker, Tyrie's attorney that the Attorney General can see no grounds for a prosecution, and Tyrie therefore will not be called upon to stand trial.

Eric Rawlings

Information extracted from Queanbeyan Ages of corresponding dates
Information regarding William Henry Fletcher from Heritage Branch Website.

Note : the word se'nnight Middle English, from Old English seofon nihta seven nights

MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA NSW SYMPOSIUM AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE QUEANBEYAN MUSEUM

I attended the Museums Australia NSW Symposium at Macquarie University in 2011. I was lucky enough to obtain a bursary to attend. It was stimulating and inspirational to hear speakers like Prof Galla. I enjoyed catching up with Regional colleagues I had met at the Galong Working Spaces sessions as well as people from the larger institutions, some of whom I had been in e-mail contact with but had never met. All were very friendly and down-to-earth.

There were two Key Note addresses:

End of Multiculturalism – Myth and Reality

Curatorship & Community Engagement at the Crossroads

Professor Amarendra Galla, PhD, Chairperson, ICOM Cross Cultural Task Force, Paris & Director, Pacific Asia Observatory for Cultural Diversity in Human Development, UNESCO Project.

Is 'state sponsored multiculturalism' ending? **Integration** is the buzz word, a platform opposed to simplistic **assimilation** to the dominant society. This talk addressed the dilemma for museums in curatorship and community engagement in complex societies such as Australia in the face of a leadership crisis on multiculturalism.

Message for Queanbeyan Museum – include multi-cultural stories in an integrated way so that people see their stories reflected as an integral part of the whole story. This encourages people to see the Museum as theirs. Key words were: including and valuing.

Renaissance, Reformation and Reinventing the Wheel: Seeking an Integrated Solution to Museum Provision

Alec Coles, OBE, CEO of Western Australian Museum

Alec discussed some of the possible models for ensuring that not only do museums work to mutual benefit, but above all for public benefit. He drew on his experiences in the UK and particularly the evolution, development of the Renaissance in the Regions program. He considered the relationships between national, state, regional and local museums; between public and private museums, between the volunteer and professional curators. How can these work best without turf-wars, duplication or jealousy? What are the structures that can enhance provision - and which get in the way? As we invent and reinvent our structures, does anyone remember about the public? In the UK they put millions of pounds into Regional Museums funded by a Heritage Lottery. The model Alec spoke about was a central hub Museum with up to 12 affiliated Museums. They funded professional re-design, upgrades, volunteers training, basically lots of support to assist in making the Museums more attractive to locals and visitors, all really well planned with full consultation. This led to a resurgence in volunteering and visitors to the areas. He is very keen on regional museums and is looking to making sure the WA Museum is for everyone and re-engaging with people outside the metro areas. Thinks that Australia's rural and agrarian history is not given enough profile in Museums. *Prof Galla agrees with him on this.*

Message for Queanbeyan Museum – Regional Museums like ours are important!! We need to lobby Governments for more funds for Regional Museums in Australia. At QM we also need to think hard about these issues over the next few years. What structure/s will ensure we continue to prosper and survive into the future?

A Strategic Plan for the Visual Arts and Museum Sectors in NSW *Deborah Ely, consultant to the Arts NSW Project*

Message for Queanbeyan Museum – How does the Regional Museum sector gets more of the funding pie? Whether it is provided directly through organisations like MGNSW or Arts NSW or through Local Government was a debating point.

WORKSHOPS

The Fabric of History: Introducing the Australian Dress Register
www.australiandressregister.org

The Australian Dress Register (ADR) is a thematic online register which is attracting new audiences for collections.

Message for Queanbeyan Museum: This would be great for us to be involved in perhaps as a part of the threads theme for History Week this year?

DEMONSTRATION

Multi-touch technology for museums, galleries, learning and teaching – by Object Consulting and Red & Robin

For further information, visit www.touchingthesurface.com.au, with examples of the capability of multi-touch technology (including videos) at the Touching the Surface gallery:
<http://touchingthesurface.com.au/multi-touch-demo-gallery/>

Message for Queanbeyan Museum: This technology is becoming more affordable and could be purchased through grants – something for the future?

Creating Portable Local Histories: Berowra's Living History Project Rhonda Davis, *Macquarie University Art Gallery* Berowra's Living History Project was developed to document unknown stories pertaining to the locality by recording oral histories and personal recollections of a selected group of seniors who had lived in Berowra for an extended period of time. Initially developed under the auspices of the University Art Gallery and Australian History Museum, the project has since evolved into a portable and moveable package. Several exhibitions have been produced across the community within alternative spaces and venues. This strong visual presence of local history ignited tremendous interest and excitement throughout the community. With senior members took centre stage – sharing local knowledge through memory and stories – the younger generation were entranced and connected.

Message for Queanbeyan Museum: This could evolve out of an Oral History Project for Queanbeyan.

A Grenade: Imagine the Explosiveness of PURPOSE
Bill Storer, Museums Australia National Secretary All museums have a collection policy. Most museums have a Vision and a Mission Statement because the neo-cultural economists and business management experts say these formed a vital part of a Strategic Plan. But how many museums believe they have a Purpose – and what is it? Bill focused attention on collections, collecting and significance in the context of National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries.

Message for Queanbeyan Museum: A clear idea of our purpose and control over our collection and using our policies and Significance Assessment is the key.

TOUR

Tour of Macquarie University museums and galleries, which include the Australian History Museum, the Biological Sciences Museum, the Museum of Ancient Cultures, and the Sporting Hall of Fame.

Kerrie Ruth

FROM THE PRESS

The National Library's brilliant concept of *Trove* has opened up a whole new world of information through the digitisation of many of our newspapers, including the Queanbeyan Age and the Canberra Times.

Of particular interest to local folk are the articles that reflect the local perceptions of Queanbeyan's role in the building of Canberra. There were times when incidents became important enough to reach national papers but more importantly for Canberra and Queanbeyan people are the local details of daily life.

How many of us knew that in 1910 the Queanbeyan Municipal Council approached the NSW State Government to have the town of Queanbeyan included in the nation's capital? Or that in 1919 Melbourne folk were loathe to make the move to Canberra and needed to be enticed or ordered to do so?

Queanbeyan Age, January 6th 1911

QUEANBEYAN AND THE FEDERAL AREA - NOT PRACTICABLE TO RE-OPEN NEGOTIATIONS.

The Mayor Alderman A. H. Collett this morning received the following communication - Premier's Office, Sydney, 4th January, 1911;

Sir; With reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo, conveying the terms of a resolution adopted at a public meeting held at Queanbeyan, urging that that town be included in the Federal Capital Territory, I am directed by the Premier to inform you that the territory as at present defined has been offered and accepted by the Commonwealth Government, and the agreement has been ratified by Acts of the respective legislatures: It would, therefore, not be practicable at this stage to re-open negotiations in the matter. Yours, etc: J W. Under Secretary

We are informed by the Mayor that the question of taking a referendum of the adult residents will be discussed at the next meeting of the Municipal Council to be held Thursday next.

The Sydney Morning Herald, 28th March, 1919

FEDERAL CAPITAL, QUEANBEYAN, Thursday,

A representative meeting of citizens, presided over by the Mayor, decided to form an association entitled the Federal Capital Progressive Association of Queanbeyan. Its plans and objects are to make use of constitutional means to have the Federal Parliament removed from Melbourne to Canberra.

Queanbeyan Age, July 8, 1913

QUEANBEYAN-FEDERAL CAPITAL RAILWAY.

The above railway line, should be in running order by the end of October, and a direct communication completed between the town of Queanbeyan and the Federal Capital Site, it is certainly the duty of the Queanbeyan residents to take advantage of the situation and endeavour to provide a railway connection between the two places that will suit the large number of employees who will be employed at the Capital Site and who for obvious reasons, would desire to live in Queanbeyan, with the advantages of schools, shops, and dwellings, which must in the ordinary course of events, be separated from the Capital works for many years to come.

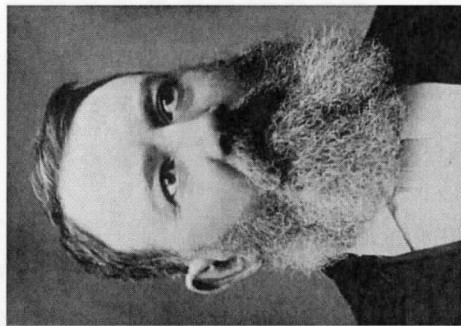
In the second place a large number of the employees have their permanent homes in Queanbeyan, others are in course of erection, and as it is well known, the Capital Territory is for leasehold only. It is evident that the ordinary citizen will not build there but confine himself to Queanbeyan, with its freehold allotments. It is therefore the duty of the Council to approach the present Government with the object of having a time-table arranged to suit the residents of Queanbeyan and workmen employed at Canberra in their travelling to and fro.

It is the Editor's intent to include more of these snippets in the lead up to Canberra's celebration of its 100th birthday, and Queanbeyan's much older 175th.

Contributions to this column would be very welcome!
Ed.

JOHN BULL

1838-1901



John Bull was born 21 August 1838 Liverpool and was educated at the King's School at Parramatta. He became a coach builder and worked in Goulburn until 1876 when he came to Queanbeyan and operated a store in Monaro Street. A year later he purchased 100 acres of land from Charles Campbell and this included the building known as The Oaks and extended across the railway line to (now) Henderson Road where he eventually purchased the leased house now known as John Bull's Cottage.

In this year he established, with his brother Henry, a woolscour and fellmongery on part of this land and became one of the biggest employers in the town. Three years later they sold out to George Tomsitt and John continued with his store in Monaro Street.

In 1885 he offered his services as an Alderman and was duly elected to the town's first council. In 1888, following a difficult year with John Wright as mayor, John Bull was elected to become the town's second Mayor – a position he only held for two years.

He died on May 9, 1901 and is buried in the Riverside in 1901.