

QUEANBEYAN

Volume 6, Number 1
April 2013



NAMING THE CAPITAL.

IN all four hundred guests are to be invited to visit the Federal capital, in order to be present at the naming ceremony, which is to be performed by Lady Denman. The party will travel to Queanbeyan by train, about 200 persons leaving Sydney and Melbourne respectively on March 11. The seven miles between the railway terminus and the capital will be covered in motor cars, and arrangements have already been made for concentrating 50 machines on the spot. *Queanbeyan Age, February 25, 1913.* Photo Mildenhall

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. 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.

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

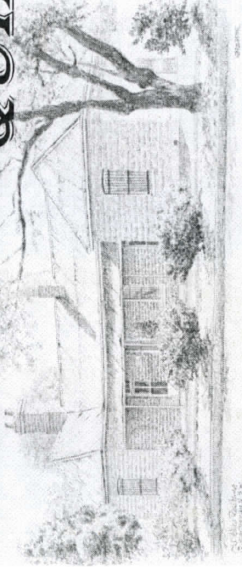
Contact us:

email qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au

THE MUSEUM OF QUEANBEYAN

QUINBEAN

Volume 6, Number 1
April 2013



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Society continues its usual high level of activity as we move into 2013, Queanbeyan's 175th birthday year. The Museum is staffed on the weekends, the cataloguing is proceeding apace, the garden and museum precinct is constantly tended to and visitors continue to be impressed.

Our Secretary has picked up our beautiful glass Imagine Award for Collection Management which will go on display at the Museum. As well, the 175th birthday Oral History project has already resulted in two interviews and is on schedule.

Our Theatre Curtain with advertisements from local businesses has been on display at The Q, with good press coverage in the Canberra Times and the Queanbeyan Age and the Society had considerable input into the successful Moving Memories film afternoon and night at The Q.

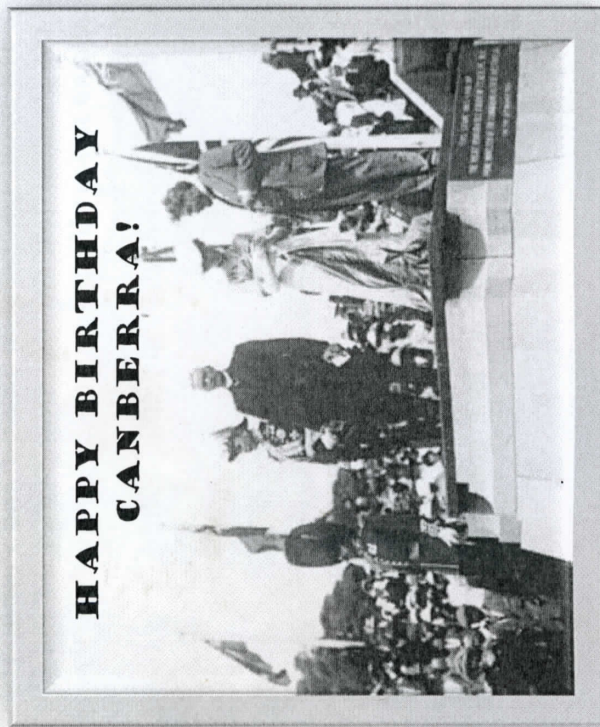
The President was also involved in a Queanbeyan Player's production of an historical play by Ian Warden *The Battle of the Sites* about the choice and naming of Canberra and has been interviewed on QBN FM and 2UE about our activities and Queanbeyan's history.

The preparations for Queanbeyan's Heritage Festival are in train and the Museum's The Way We Wore Exhibition of exquisite wedding gowns and historical photographs, curated by Gillian Kelly, is already looking a winner, it must not be missed, so put the dates in your diary now! Opening 12 April at 6pm and on display 13 - 27th April at The Q.

The CIT museum studies students are organising to mount an exhibition From Flyscreens to Electricity; opening on Friday 19th April at 6pm and we have our Museum Open Day on Saturday the 27th April 11-4. Check out the flyer and the website for all the other exciting events for our 175th Birthday Queanbeyan Heritage Festival.

Members are off to Bega for Significance Assessment training in March and if you want to find out about how to become involved in this vibrant organization we have a Working Bee at the Museum on Saturday 23 March

John McGlynn
President



Lord Denman, his wife Lady Denman, Prime Minister Andrew Fisher (centre) and King at the ceremony to lay the foundation Stone for Canberra 12 March 1913. QDHMS

FROM THE EDITOR

Queanbeyan is extraordinarily lucky with its enormous wealth of material that records its history. By the 1860s John Gale was reporting the daily life of the town and photography had become a reality with photographers roaming the countryside recording likenesses of families.

Then along came Henry Beaufoy Merlin. In 1870 Merlin advertised in Sydney that he had worked extensively in Yass, Braidwood, Goulburn and Parramatta. Indeed he had! He left this town with a remarkable and rich collection of photographs of streetscapes, houses and people so we can clearly envisage Queanbeyan in 1870.

Move on 100 years. In the early 1960s a remarkable record of the history of the town was written, with painstaking and accurate research, by Errol Le-Scarlett who was already a noted local historian. His book, *Queanbeyan District and People*, (1968) has become the standard text for the early history of the town and district, and *no serious Historian of the locale can be without it*.

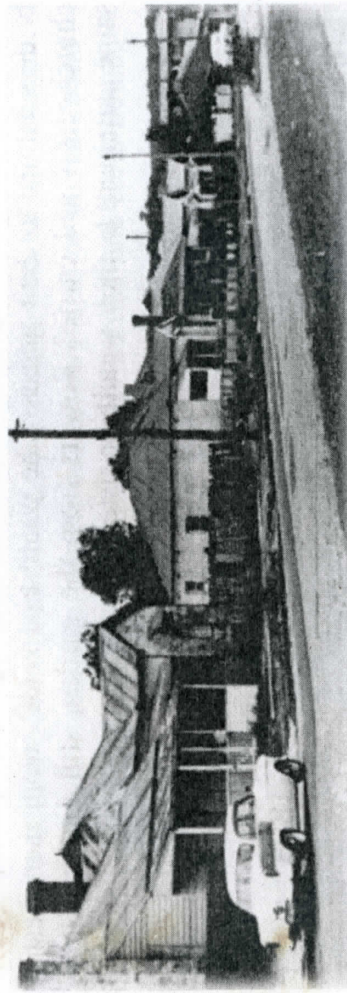
Look now to the 1970s. At the completion of his history of our town Errol Le-Scarlett turned his thoughts and considerable skills to producing a vast collection of photographs that are as skillfully and thoughtfully composed as Merlin's. They give us an unbelievably clear picture of how the town had changed and developed in the 100 years since Merlin's visit. Much is unrecognisable.

He photographed buildings by the dozen, street after street, and properties and places in the surrounding district. He copied old photograph of families and events long gone thus preserving social as well as physical history.

Lea-Scarlett was meticulous - he noted where every photograph was taken, and in the case of copied material, he recorded every original photographer.

Errol Lea-Scarlett's photographs of Queanbeyan, its people and district are as important as those of Merlin 100 years earlier and deserve to be recognized as such. Errol has very generously gifted many of his photograph albums to the Library and in order to conserve the originals a major digitisation project will need to be undertaken before access can be provided to them, but this will take time, so reader be patient!

Archie McInnes, A L Coppin, Bill & Arthur Harris, E P Webb, Young's Horse paddock, Ayliffe, W J Hill (postmaster), Bill Quigley, Jim Jamieson, Mitchell's Cottages, QCC Library



Morisset Street 1970s

Photographer: Errol Lea-Scarlett

Gillian Kelly
Editor

THE WAY WE WORE

When speaking of weddings, there is something in human nature that impels us to ask "What did the bride wear?" but another question might be "Why did the bride wear that?"

From the Middle Ages on weddings were often more than a union between two people. Marriages amongst the wealthy and the politically important were usually more about political alliances and transfers of wealth than about love.

Brides dressed in a way that reflected their status in the best possible light. The rich wore expensive fabrics and rich colours and their gowns were the height of fashion for the day. The quantity of material and its cost reflected the wealth and social standing of the bride's family to their guests. The poorest of brides wore their best church dress and carried flowers from the garden, still making the same statement as their wealthier sisters.



1890

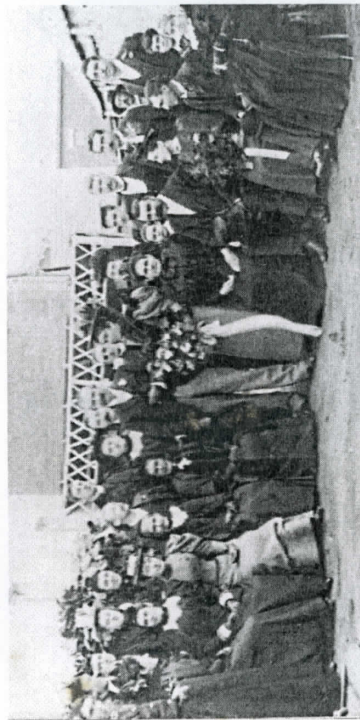
William B Jackson
married Annie
Feagan of the
Googongs

Western wedding dresses were usually within the range of white and included shades such as eggshell, ecru and ivory and everything in between. The style the gowns reflected the fashion of the day.

Many people assume that the color white was intended to symbolize virginity. This was not the original intention: blue was the colour connected to purity, piety, faithfulness and the Virgin Mary. White was a colour of wealth because pure white was difficult to achieve and even harder to maintain and it became another symbol of wealth.

The first recorded white wedding was that of Phillippa of England who wore a tunic with a cloak of white silk in 1406. In 1559 Mary, Queen of Scots married the Dauphin of France in a white gown because it was her favourite colour - despite it being the colour of mourning for French royalty.

White wedding gowns became widespread in England in the 1840s after Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in a gown that was largely designed to incorporate hand-made lace from the village of Honiton and silk woven in Spitalfields in London.



1895

John Lee married
Mary Jane
McNamara on July
3rd. A reception
was held at the
Commercial Hotel.

Victoria chose the lace to encourage support for the English cottage lace industry in a time of industrial turmoil.

The tendency for a wedding gown to reflect the fashion of the day continued until the 1970s when it became popular to revert to long, full-skirted designs reminiscent of the Victorian era and surprisingly still influenced by Royalty. The brides of the Queanbeyan district were no different.

The principals of the earliest recorded marriages in the district were convicts. Very few free women ventured as far as the edge of the settled districts and those that did came under the protection of their husbands. The registers of Christ Church record marriages from 1838 and St Gregory's from 1843 but undoubtedly, given the Irish convict population of the district, the note books of the itinerant Father Therry would record even earlier events.

From 1860 families often recorded their special occasions by presenting the *Queanbeyan Age* with flamboyant and very detailed descriptions of the gowns, the food, the guests and the gifts. By the 1870s photographers recorded the bride and the groom – sometimes



1904

Part of the wedding party of Fanny Collett and John J Gay outside the Collett home in Monaro Street, where the reception was held.

after the event when an itinerant photographer reached town.

QDHMS' special exhibition to mark the Heritage Festival in the city's 175th year, *The Way We Wore*, exhibits gowns that were worn by brides of this district. They clearly demonstrate how important the wedding gown was to all brides. Many are extremely fragile and many were lent to us by generous families. With each decade the changes in style and fabric fabric become apparent. Stories abound:

In 1936 Mary Morrison married William McCormick in the little church at Tuggeranong that had been built by her brothers. The ceremony was held at the remarkable hour of 7am, followed by a wedding breakfast at Mount Campbell, Royalla. The arrangements were made to accommodate the happy couple's departure on the midday train from Queanbeyan to Sydney.

They were running very late, when serendipitously the Sergeant of Queanbeyan's police realized that a dangerous situation had occurred on the train and a thorough search needed to be undertaken before it could leave. By some miracle, just as the bride and groom arrived at the station the said Sergeant completed his search and found the train safe to proceed to Sydney.



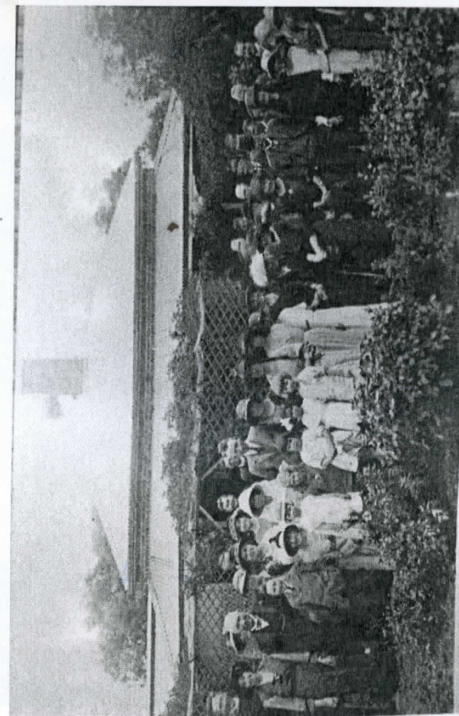
1918

Alexander Bradley of Sawpit Creek married Rose Morris of Hall on May 3rd. The bride motored from the home of Mrs A McInnes to Christ Church. The wedding is noted as the first 'motorised' in town.

When Amy Denham of Bellmount Forest married George Monk of Barracks Flat in 1940 Australia was at war, and her choices were limited but a trip to Goulburn's Rockmans sourced a lovely sleeveless evening gown. In the 1940s it was inappropriate to enter a church with bare arms or a low neckline so Amy perfectly matched the satin and inserted traditional long sleeves to complete her outfit.

By 1943 fabric was scarce and its purchase was controlled by ration cards. One source of fine fabric that was being continually woven for the production of parachutes was a fine silky fabric in the appropriate white - known as parachute silk. Brenda Keep was able to obtain such a length to make her beautiful gown for her marriage to Robert Land.

A photographic exhibition of many weddings around the district enhances the gowns on parade and adds to our knowledge of the way the brides and grooms celebrated the occasions of their marriages. Come along a share this exhibition with us at The Q Performing Arts Centre,, 253 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan from April 13-28 Monday to Friday 10 until 4 and Saturdays 10 until 3.



1922

Guests gathered at Karabar on February 28th at the marriage of Daisy O'Hanlon to John Carragh Gordman, of the Googongs.

THE NATION GAINS A CAPITAL

Capital cities usually evolve but there are a few notable exceptions in the world, Canberra being one. When a city is begun from scratch, there is a ceremony marking the occasion. When such an event occurs in the bush with the nearest rail link some seven miles away and no permanent accommodation anywhere it becomes a logistical nightmare. What do you do with the many very important persons who would attend such an event?

The *Queanbeyan Age* of March 4th 1913 had the answer:

CAPITAL CELEBRATION

The train conveying the Sydney guests to the Federal capital celebration on March 12 will leave Sydney at 11.25 p.m. on the 11th inst., and arrive at Queanbeyan at 6 o'clock the following morning. They will be conveyed by motor to an hotel in the township for breakfast, and afterwards leave for Canberra. This will be reached about 9 o'clock. Refreshments are to be made available until 10.30 a.m. After the ceremony there will be the official lunch, and the guests will be taken by motor back to Queanbeyan for dinner. The return train for Sydney will leave at 8.30 p.m., and will arrive in Sydney at 6.30 a.m. Apart from the Governor General and Lady Denman and suite and Federal Ministers, invitations have been issued to Federal members and several officers of the Parliament, the judges of the High Court, surviving members of the Federal Conventions which drew up the Constitution, the Premiers of the States, and members of the New South Wales Parliament, and to a number of Federal officials, representatives of Chambers of Commerce and Manufactures, representatives of the Trades and Labor Councils, and others. Provisions, together with cooks and waitresses, are to be sent from Sydney.

WAL MASON and HIS BROTHERS

Queanbeyan Bricks and Football

On October 28th, 1926, the 'Queanbeyan-Canberra Advocate' wrote: "In the past our town has been severely handicapped by the absence of brickworks, builders being compelled to buy bricks from Bowral or Sydney." (most old fireplace bricks Queanbeyan buildings up to this time will be found to be stamped Bowral).

The newspaper continued: "However we now have three brick companies, all turning out a first class product. Mr W H Mason is building a modern three story hotel containing every convenience. In this building there will be 80 bedrooms."

Wal Mason, who had arrived in Queanbeyan in 1924 from Ballarat in Victoria, set up his enterprise of brick and tile making with his brother Stan. (Stan Mason lived in 'Helman Cottage,' later the 'Tumbled Tree Bistro.'

Mason advertised his bricks at five pound per thousand, and had hoped to provide bricks for building Canberra, but failed to meet the required specifications.

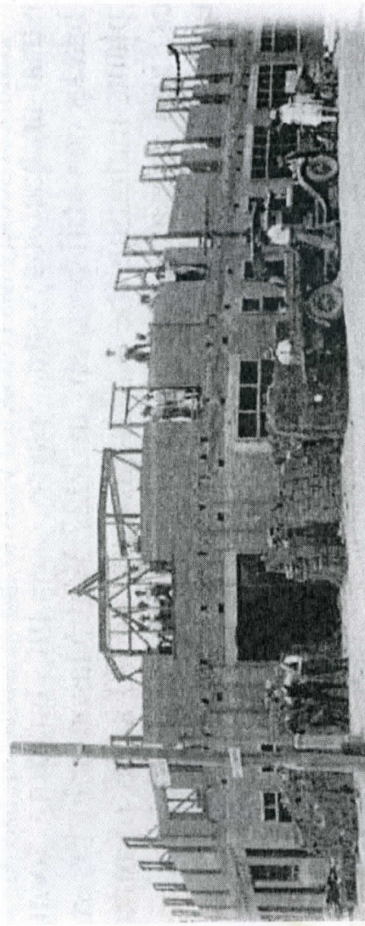
However, undeterred, his enterprise did proceed to bring many changes to 'old Queanbeyan.'



The Hotel Queanbeyan became his major effort, totally constructed of bricks and roofing tiles made at his brickworks. Since the demolition of the town's Brewery, it was to become Queanbeyan's first three-story building.

Mason had subdivided a large paddock at the corner of Crawford Street and Uriarra Road, in 1925, retaining the corner block as the site for his hotel.

J

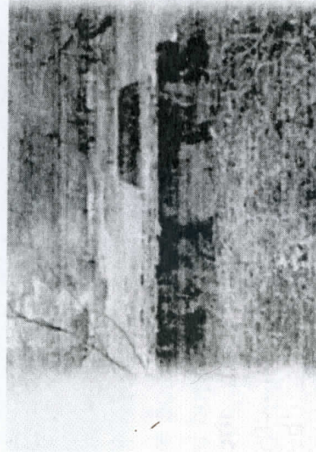


Hotel Queanbeyan Under Construction, 1926 Photo QDHMS

On its announcement, there was some objection in the community at another drinking place. Queanbeyan citizens were already embanassed by the bad reputation given to the town as a 'den' for Canberrans, where prohibition was still in force. Mason succeeded in overcoming the initial objections of the Licencing magistrate, and was able to transfer the licence of the Gundaroo Hotel from Patrick Reid. On February 1926, he received permission to proceed with construction.

Mason completed his 55 room hotel, costing 52 thousand pounds. It enormously increased accommodation for the town, and it stands proudly unaltered, except for the front entrance damaged by a car during a police chase in the 1980s. Mason's bricks erected a number of buildings including his own residence, 'Carinya', in Stornaway Road, which in later years was used as a Mental Health facility.

Mason's brickworks operated from a clay pit on the Captains Flat Road, and its remains can still be seen, from the Captains Flat turnoff, on the left, four miles from Queanbeyan. The Queanbeyan Historical Society has conducted visits to this industrial-archaeology-site, where clay pit, building footings and bricks can still be seen. In 1927 Wal Mason sold his stock and plant, including the whole property of 70 acres of mineral leases, and it was auctioned by Woodgers and Calthorpe on December 17th.

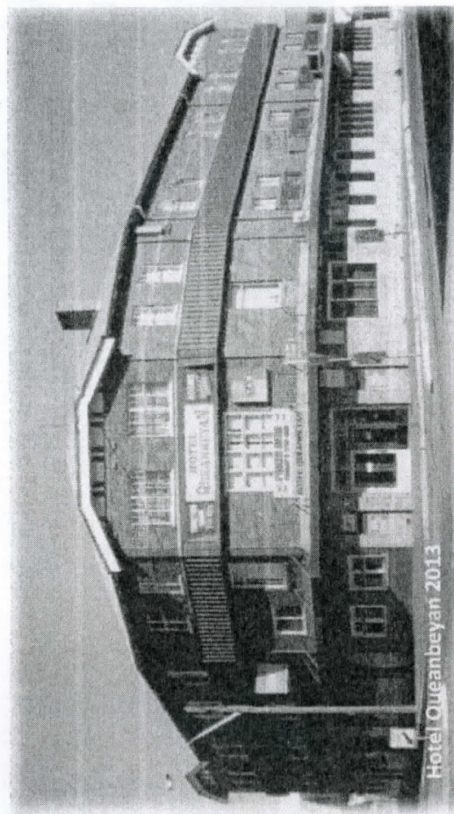


Footings of Mason's building at
Mason's clay pits on the Captain's
Flat Road

Mason's efforts in the community did not end with his commercial business as a Master Builder. A keen sportsman, he formed the first Australian Rules Club in Queanbeyan in 1925, assisted by other members of his family, Stan (a carpenter), Fred



(a plumber) and Joe (a brickmaker). He is remembered as the 'Father of Australian Football' in Queanbeyan, his name being on the Tiger Club Wall of Fame. The team he began with adopted the colours of red and white, and was known as 'Mason's Team'.



Rosemary Curry

References

Queanbeyan People and District: Errol Lea-Scarlett
Industrial Archaeological sites, Captains Flat Rd, Barina 97
Wall of Fame: Queanbeyan Tigers Club
Queanbeyan Historical Society Excursion Notes: Bert Sheedy
The Queanbeyan-Canberra Advocate, Oct 28, 1926

A TOWN IS BORN

175 years of the history of white man's way of settling is a hard thing to quantify, but there are common themes that determine whether a place survives or dies. A town needs a site, it needs water and it needs a connection to the rest of its nation. Queanbeyan had all those and then along came Canberra...and this changed its personality, its financial status and the way it developed. In 2012 I was asked to give a five minute overview of how we got to where we are. In brief, A Town is Born:

Gillian Kelly

QUEANBEYAN TOWN IS BORN

In Sydney on September 28th, 1838 it was proclaimed that this site on the Queanbeyan River had been fixed upon for a village. Surveyor Larmer's was appointed to draw up plans and his square mile was bounded by Atkinson, Isabella, Lowe and Antill Streets and already William Skate had a smithy shop and Hunt and Buckle several huts and a store.

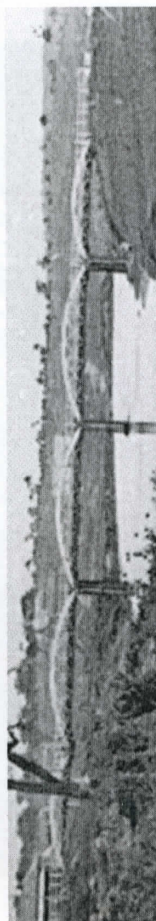


16

A BRIDGE IS BUILT

The first bridge was a makeshift affair that was finally damaged by floods. It was the troublesome thought of having a dray of Bradbury's beer stuck in the river bed so close Hunts Inn, and likewise Wright's store inaccessible to most of the residents who lived on the other side that seemingly prompted the push for a substantial bridge. In June 1857 the first piles were driven into the river bed and each time the pile driver hit its target, the policeman of the day fired a shot in the air to the cheers of the crowd.

The new bridge officially named The *Queen's Bridge* opened in August 1858. By 1874 its superstructure needed replacing - in 1891 a severe flood caused further damage and the pretty arched bridge met its end in 1899 when its destruction made way for another.



A PLAN BECOMES A TOWN

By the early 1860s a substantial town had grown on the edge of the Limestone Plains.

It boasted its own courthouse and police station, a hospital, a post office, many stores, three churches, three schools, and Oddfellows hall inns and taverns and many brick houses. The population by 1861 was 526 townsfolk and a further 3600 in the district.

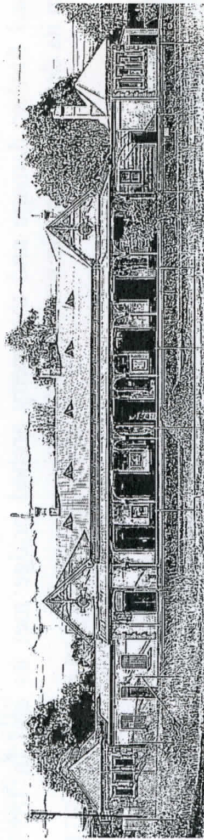


17

ISOLATION ENDS

The railway reached Bungendore in 1885 but it was another two years before it got to Queanbeyan. This was a tough 26 kilometres that had 139 cuttings to be blasted out of hard rock. 14 men lost their lives on this stretch and the final obstacle was the river crossing. The great new railway bridge was completed and station was built – it was to be the last of the elegant style of railway stations built in NSW. The station was officially opened on a cold and miserable day in September 1887.

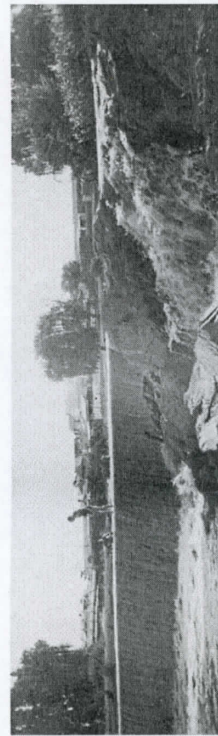
Sydney was now within hours rather than days travel even if only on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Queanbeyan was no longer an isolated town.



WATER

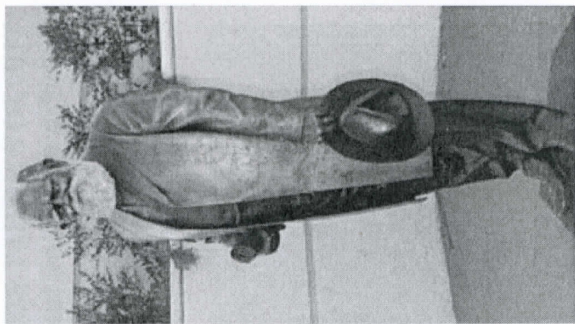
Droughts and damaging floods have always been part of life here – but for town life household water was a continual problem. Rain did not provide enough water for families so carriers drew water from the river. In the dry months even this was difficult.

A weir a gravel and charcoal base filter was proposed across the Queanbeyan River. It took time, but in 1901 the weir was built, followed later by a higher wall to conserve even more water but without the filtering system.



DEPRESSION AND A NEW START

The 1890s was a period of severe economic depression for the whole country, followed by a drought from 1898 to 1903. No one was spared – neither the townsfolk, nor the farmers. The leading citizens of the day, with John Gale's vision, saw a way to head the town and district back into financial security through building a city on its doorstep. In 1899 the Queanbeyan Federal City Committee was formed to present the case. Finally it won and the Yass/Canberra district was chosen but from the start it was unclear which 100 square miles of the district would be selected. Surveyor Scrivener included the town of Queanbeyan, and the Queanbeyan and Molonglo River catchments in his vision of the territory.

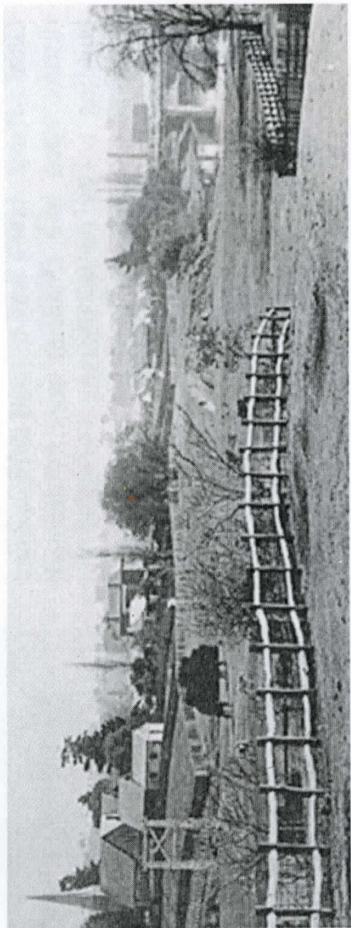


VOTE NO!

In 1910 there were strong suggestion that Queanbeyan seek inclusion in the Federal Capital Territory so that while Canberra was being built Commonwealth business could be undertaken here. The question was asked in a referendum of Qbn residents in 1911. Ratepayers rejected the idea by a wide margin.. The residents of Queanbeyan town preferred to stand alone.

THE TOWN THAT BUILT CANBERRA

Queanbeyan truly became the town that built Canberra. Canberra was a skeleton of a community. The teams of builders, administrators, surveyors and the like chose to live in here where there were shops, schools, churches and pubs in a real community.



THE 1920s BOOM YEARS

As Canberra took shape the government of the day decided that those who worked there would also have to live there if they were to receive the Government bonuses and incentives to move from Melbourne. This was a bitter blow to Queanbeyan's economy, but Canberra had introduced prohibition, giving Queanbeyan at least the opportunity to offer good times across the border and the town became known for beer and jazz! There were two movie theatres and a racecourse, cafes and pubs, frequent dances, picnics and sports days. The Royal Hotel and the Hotel Queanbeyan were both built in anticipation of the masses who would visit Canberra, especially for the opening of Parliament House in 1927. Both provided a welcome escape from Prohibition City.

THE TOWN BECOMES A CITY

By 1972 the town had grown to the extent of easily meeting the requirements of population and independence for a change in status. On June 14, 1972 there was a new proclamation – Queanbeyan was a city.

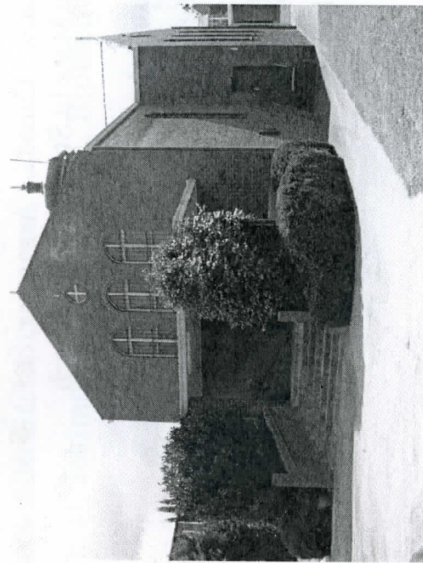
SAINT MICHAEL'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

In 2012, Saint Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church celebrated the 45th anniversary of its consecration.

Ukrainians began to migrate to Australia following World War Two, with Ukrainians settling in Canberra and Queanbeyan in 1948-49.

The first priest who served our Ukrainian Catholic community was Father Petro Diaczyszyn, who came to Australia from England in 1952. Father Diaczyszyn was much loved and bound our community together in these formative years. From 1952 to 1959 Father Diaczyszyn came to Queanbeyan from Sydney once a month and celebrated Holy Mass in St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church.

In 1960, parishioners decided to build their own church and a Building Committee was formed to oversee the construction of Saint Michael's Church. Mr & Mrs Beysiuk donated land on the banks of the Queanbeyan River, with the architectural plans for the church designed and donated Mr. A. Lacheta.



The Sisterhood of Our Lady of Perpetual Help was established in January 1960, and played a vital role in the life of Saint Michael's Church. Five of the original members of the Sisterhood, Olha Domitriyak, Sophia Jacyszyn, Sophia Lytwynsky, Helena Beil and Olga Lysewycz are still members of our Parish.

Parishioners began construction of St. Michael's Church in 1963, using their own generous financial donations and unpaid labour. On 18 August 1963, the foundation stone was blessed by Bishop Ivan Prasko. Work continued over the next four years. On 14th May 1967, His Excellency Bishop Ivan Prasko consecrated St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

In 1967 the Building Committee was dissolved, and The Brotherhood of Saint Michael was established to coordinate activities of the parishioners. The first President of The Brotherhood of Saint Michael was Michajlo Jacyszyn.

In 1999, Bishop Peter Stasiuk with Bishops from the Roman Catholic Church celebrated Mass at St. Michael's Church, to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia.

Over the years eminent church dignitaries and priests from Ukraine, the United States, Canada, Argentina, Brazil and Europe have celebrated Holy Mass in St. Michael's Church.

From 1952 pastoral duties in the Queanbeyan were performed by the following Parish Priests:

P. Diaczyszyn, I. Szewciw, M. Ivanchko, D. Seniwi,
W. Rozek, B. Shemechko, W. Wolochy, Z.
Kolomyjec, Z. Racki, O. Stefanyshyn and A.
Myktyyuk.

Parishioners have sung reverently in Saint Michael's Church, lead by the late Mrs. M. Petriwskyj and Mrs. O. Domitriyak, and assisted by our Parish Priests.

More recently the Brotherhood & Sisterhood was dissolved and a Parish Council established. Parishioners together with the Parish Priest take care of St Michael's Church and organise functions, both religious and cultural, including the Feast of the Archangel Michael

Although the number of parishioners at St. Michael's Church has decreased in size, the younger generation carry on the work and traditions ensuring its continued existence. Today we remember our departed parishioners and we acknowledge the work of our pioneers who built this beautiful church.

We express our gratitude to the Parish Priests who have served us faithfully and have kept the spirit of our Ukrainian Catholic Church, cultural and traditions alive so far from Ukraine, over these past 60 years.

Building Committee Chairpersons:

J.Stefanchuk, D. Jakimow, M. Grabowski, Brotherhood of Saint Michael

Presidents: M Jacyszyn, B Kachyckyj, M Nadurak, O Domitriyak,

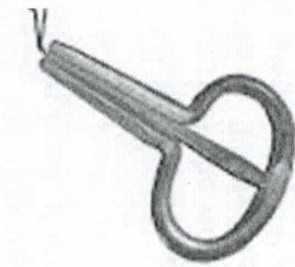
Sisterhood of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chairpersons: M. Petriwskyj and O. Domitriyak 18 November 2012

Marusya Jacyshyn 2012

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT IN QUEANBEYAN

OR THE SHOWS GO ON

MUSIC AND DANCING IN QUEANBEYAN in JANUARY 1861



Joseph Edgar, the defendant in the case of a breach of the publican's act, reported above, was charged by District-constable Ditcham with permitting certain music and dancing in his licensed public-house, not having the necessary per mission.

The case was a very trifling one. It appeared by the evidence that during a thunderstorm on the 18th inst., some man who had taken refuge in the bar had been playing a Jew's-harp, to the sounds of which one or two men had been, as defendant admitted, "stepping a little." Case dismissed.

GRAND DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT IN QUEANBEYAN IN 1895. The Queanbeyan

Musical and Dramatic Society have arranged another of their entertainments, which have been so popular in the past.

On Friday night, 22nd inst., the grand drama *The Golden Plough* will be staged, under the management of Mr. R. J. Vincent. The piece has been under careful preparation for some time, and contains eleven

characters, all of which have opportunity for displaying histrionic ability.

An orchestra and the town band will assist during the play and between the acts. The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to the purchase of property for the use of the society. As the society has not given an entertainment for some time the Golden Plough should attract a large audience, particularly as the prices of admission have been fixed at 2/- & 1/- and 6d.

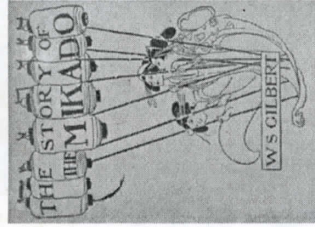
A TRIP TO CHINA TOWN.

The Howard Vernon Opera Company returned to Queanbeyan to perform two of their best pieces.

On July 7, 1900 the company played the laughable musical comedy *A Trip to China Town*, during which some of the latest musical hits were introduced. The next night comic opera, *The Grand Duchess* was performed. The company advertised the best singers it had had for years.



Howard Vernon



QUEANBEYAN PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY IN COMIC OPERA. Some weeks back when it was announced to the public of Queanbeyan that the members of the above Society intended staging Gilbert and Sullivan's famous opera *The Mikado*, so well and favourably known, many were quite sceptical as to how it would take and how the members of the Society, many of

QUEANBEYAN PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY
12th ENTERTAINMENT
—Drama—
THE PROTESTANT HALL
Friday Evening, Feb 22nd
DO NOT MISS IT!
NEW and ENTIRELY ORIGINAL MUSICAL
DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT IN TWO
ACTS
THE GOLDEN PLOUGH
ACT I—The Welcome—The Murder—
ACT II—The Offshoot—The Murder—
ACT III—The Offshoot—The Murder—
ACT IV—The Offshoot—The Murder—
ACT V—The Offshoot—The Murder—
Before the last Act will be played by
the Society
Front Seats, 2s; Back do.,
1s; Gallery, 6d.

whom are quite novices on the stage, would acquit themselves. So on Wednesday night an eager and expectant crowd waited in the Protestant Hall the rising of the curtain. This is the third entertainment given by the Society and it must candidly be admitted that each one is a marked improvement on its predecessor. The grand opening overture by the orchestra, numbering close on 15 instruments, was brilliantly executed, and: throughout the opera in no small way assisted the soloists and choruses though, at times, the instruments were rather loud in effect, drowning the words of the performers. *Queanbeyan Age 31 March 1910*

STAR THEATRE

At this theatre on Friday night next, the Stanley McKay Pantomime Company will produce, for the first time in Queanbeyan, the comic opera, *The King of Dunnowhereski*. with a full orchestra and ballet... A matinee for children of all ages will be given on Saturday afternoon, entitled *The Arcadian Shepherdess*. This pantomime is a sparkling musical fantasy, full of the fairy atmosphere that children love. In this programme will be seen, as in all the pantomimes, The Australian Wonder Rascals, a clever and artistic company of child acrobats.



Stanley McKay's Opera Company on the move.

THE MESSIAH By Queanbeyan

Choir The choir attached to the Queanbeyan Musical and Dramatic Society will produce Handel's popular and impressive oratorio, *The Messiah*, at the Triumph Theatre, on Tuesday evening, December 18, 1928 For many weeks this choir of 60 selected voices, under the conductorship of Mr. Llewellyn Hughes, has been rehearsing at its own club room; and on the same night of the performance will invite the assistance of the full strength of the Queanbeyan orchestra. This presentation of a standard oratorio will be the most ambitious musical indidction ever staged at Queanbeyan, and it is expected to attract a large audience from this and surrounding districts.

RIGO GRAND OPERA
Appearance At Queanbeyan on Tuesday next. The Rigo Grand Opera Company, will pay a visit to Queanbeyan on Tuesday next, March 19, and will give an operatic performance there at St., Gregory's Hall. Mr W. J. Fitzgerald, the representative of the company, stated yesterday that the tour of the Western and Southern towns of N.S.W. had been not only a financial success, but an artistic triumph, and had revealed in Molly de Gunst an operatic star of the first class, who will go a long way in opera if , she gets an opportunity abroad to show her worth.

RIGO GRAND OPERA

Thirty-five towns had been visited and the tour would conclude with performances at Queanbeyan and Braidwood. *Canberra Times 1929*

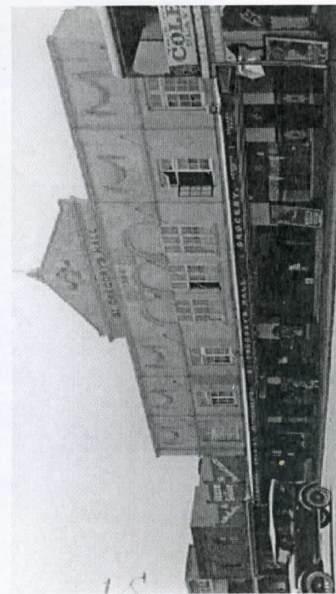


MUSICAL SOCIETY INAUGURAL MEETING IN QUEANBEYAN In October 1932 an enthusiastic meeting of Queanbeyan talent resolved to form a musical and dramatic society and to produce the Gilbert & Sullivan comic opera *Trial by Jury*, early in 1933. The meeting which was convened by Messrs. W. T. Lindsay, L. Hughes and A. K. Johnston, was the result of considerable preliminary work and attracted a large representative gathering. The first presentation coincided with the Hospital Carnival week in January, 1933, and was staged for that purpose.

The following officers were elected: Patron. Mr. H. W. Y. Dean; President, Mr. W. T. Lindsay; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. T. R. Murphy, P. W. Hammond and A. K. Johnston; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. M. Tate; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Sheppard; Musical Director, Mr. L. Hughes; Pianists, Misses Walker and Easterbrook, Mrs. Turner and Mr. A. Beazley; Selection Committee, Miss Walker, Messrs. Hughes, and Lindsay.

ST. GREGORY'S HALL CHARLES ROLFE THE POPULAR COOMA BARITONE

After His World's Tour at St. Gregory's Hall on Tuesday, March 23rd 1926 is assisted by the following SYDNEY ARTISTS : MRS. W. L. HEARD, Soprano; MISS MARY BOURKE, Contralto ; Miss LORNA O'REGAN, Violinst; MR. TOM DUNCAN, Humorist. Seats 5/5 (Reserved), 3/3 and 2/- Plan at Boland's Music Shop.



The MERCHANTS AND TRADERS ASSOCIATION PTY LTD COUNTRY TRADE DIRECTORY 1947

QUEANBEYAN Part 2

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Lawler, J. Plumber
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Leon, E. Fish & Oyster Saloon
Lewis, Mrs. Florist
Lewis, E. G. Hairdresser
Lindbeck, J. C. Butcher
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Martin, W. P. Snow Pure Cordials
McNamara, T. V. Milk Vendor
McMartin, M. I. (Mrs.) Dealer
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Maguire & Maguire Solicitors

Maheer, W. A. Builder and Malanos
Confectionery, etc.
Marchiori, A. Lime Merchant
Marshall, L. W. Dental Surgeon
Martin, J. Carrier
Martin, W. Cordial Manufacturer
Mason Bros. (S. P. Mason) Funeral
Directors
Modern Plaster Works (Pola,
Rumble & Sykes
Moffatt, Mrs. Confectionery,
Moffatt & Warwick Store
Moore Bros. Pty., Ltd. Motor
Garage
Moore, N. Painter
Moran, J. Taxi Proprietor
Morris, C. Boot Repairer
Morton, David, & Son Grocers and
Ironmongers
Morton, G. Baker
Morton, N. C. Electrician
Morton, Ray Grocer
Mullins, W. H. Tourist Hotel
Murphy, P. C. (Mrs.) Tobac. and
Fancy Goods
Naddier, A. Softgoods
Marsden, J. Bumart Furniture
Neich, Mrs (Est) Kent Private Hotel
Nicholls, C. CarrierNoinos, T.
Cafe Royal Norris, W. E. Motor
Repairer Norton, W. J. Plumber
O'Connor. F. J Builder

O'Rourke, M. H. Funeral Director
 O'Rourke, R. Duco Sprayer
 Ogilvies Pastrycooks
 Penney, K. A. Spray Manufacturer
 Petroleum Products
 Phillips, E. (Mrs.) Dressmaker
 Pollard, B. N. Butcher
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 Painting Contractor
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 Rayner, R. Fruiterer
 Reilly, E. E. (Mrs.) Grocer, etc.
 Richardson, H. J. Royal Hotel
 Robertson, R. Plumber
 Robinson, W. J. Carrier
 Roffe, T. Garage
 Rogers, V. J. Plasterer
 Rolfe, A. J. Chemist
 Ross, E. I. (Mrs.) Fish Shop
 Rottenbury, F. Taxi Propr.
 Rowley & McCauley Duco Sprayer
 Rowley Bros. Shearing Contracs.
 Rowley, R. F. Carrier
 Royal, G. (Mrs.) Mixed Business
 Royal, R. Hairdresser
 Ryan, A. H. R. & R. Dry Cleaners
 Sacagio, C. Builder
 Sacagio, V. Builder
 Sandas, G. Fruiterer and
 Greengrocer
 Sandling, J. G. Jeweller &
 Watchmaker

Saren EC Monaro Grill
 Schow, G Builder
 Shannon, M (Mrs) Ladies Hairdresser
 Shaw J. (Mrs.) Florist
 Sheehan, Geo. Wood Merchant
 Shell Co. of Aust., Ltd.
 Sherd, Mervyn Motor Trimmer
 Smallhorn & Geary Builders
 Smallhorn, W. Tailor
 Snow, R. A. Queanbeyan Hotel
 Solomon, J. Draper
 Sorandis, E. J. Cafe
 Southwell, A. Dairy
 Southwell, B. E. (Mrs.) Fancy Goods
 Southwell, Elias Furniture Dealer
 Southwell HE Confect & fruit
 Southwell, V. Painter, etc
 Spencer, T. Plumber
 Spendelove, E. & E. Victoria Hotel
 Stanoff, E. Carrier
 Stathis, N. Store
 Stuckey, H. Hairdresser
 Sullivan, M. A. Walsh's Hotel
 Swan, A. R Butcher
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 Tavor Bros. (C. Taylor) Carriers
 Tavor H. Electrical Repairs
 Taylor, H. C. Boot Shop
 Tetley's (FA Tetley) Garage
 Thomas M Painter
 Thompson, A. Contractor
 Thomson, L. G.
 Plumber Upton, J. Carrier Vacuum
 Oil
 Venables, E. (Mrs.) Refreshments
 Venables, J. W. Saddler, etc.
 Vogt, C Photographer
 Wall, W Carrier
 Warren, A. Bicycle Sales and
 Repairs
 Warren, F. Florist

Watson, J (Mrs) Fancygoods
 Whitby, L. M. P. (Mrs.) Cakes and Mixed Business
 White Signet Pty., Ltd. (E. T. Jones)
 White, Stan Carrier
 Wilkie's Tyre Service Co.
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 Williams, Frank Pastrycook
 Williams, F. L. Grocer
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Miss Edith Seer at Jolly's Gateway Garage, 1957 QDHMS

NATHAN MOSES LAZARUS (1823 -1901)

Mayor of Queanbeyan 1891



Nathan Moses Lazarus was born in London in 1823, the son of Moshe Lazarus and Lydia Nathan.

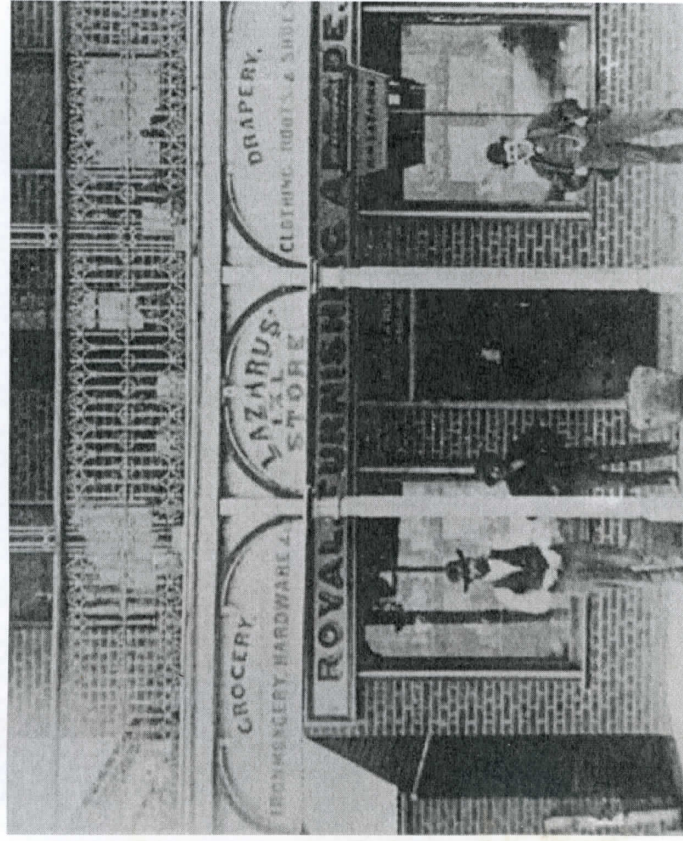
In 1841 he was at The Newy Tozadik (House of Justice) or more commonly called the Jews' Hospital, an institute established by the Jewish Community for the support of the aged and the education of young orphans. Here he was taught the trade of cabinetry.

Nathan had immigrated to Australia and went initially to Goulburn where there was a sizeable Jewish Community. B 1847¹ he had reached Queanbeyan and was employed by Abraham Meyers at his Railway House store in Monaro Street..

With job security and a growing town, he took a wife, marrying Harriet Grogan nee Tilden in 1856. The union produced ten children. With a wife and one small child Nathan suddenly found himself unemployed.

¹ Sydney Morning Herald Sept 7th

Abraham Meyers² took his family to England, closing his store in 1857 and leaving Lazarus to find his own occupation. He chose to establish his own IX L³ store in McQuoid Street. He built his residence opposite at what is now 38 McQuoid Street, with a workshop at the rear where he returned to his cabinetry trade, making coffins, and becoming an undertaker - the occupation he followed for the rest of his life.



Lazarus' IXL Store, McQuoid Street, c 1870 QDHMS

2. Members of the Meyer family lost their lives on the fateful voyage of the Dunbar.
3. Play on words? IXL + I excel?

1891 was an election year and Lazarus campaigned as a strong anti-alcohol advocate. He inspired John Farrell, local poet, to write:

Will he be Mayor? He may or may not,

The choice of the voters is often the oddest

But anyhow people keep saying "Great Scott",

Was ever a man so delightfully modest?

He don't ask our voice, but gives us his own,

Yet Friday will portion the thorns and the roses,

And when the numbers are publicly known,

We 'll see whether Nathan is reckoned our Moses.

Lazarus was elected Mayor for the next year. It seems to have been a relatively peaceful time not marked with either drama or great innovation. By the end of the year Nathan Lazarus was ill. In January 1892 he underwent surgery in Sydney. On his return to Queanbeyan he declared himself unfit to continue as Mayor or Alderman and subsequently did not seek re-election. Eventually his illness caught up with him and he died on June 2nd, 1901. He was described by his contemporaries as 'a great favourite, having been of a bright, genial temperament, fond of a joke, and with a great fund of good humour.'

Although there is a Jewish section in the Tharwa Road cemetery and Nathan was a Trustee, he specifically requested he be buried between the Anglican and Methodist sections.

Despite his large family and his contribution to his community of over sixty years, his resting place remained unmarked. In 1985 a grand daughter, Marjorie Parry, arranged an appropriate headstone that records Nathan Moses Lazarus as a founding father of this town,

an alderman from 1885 to 1891 and Mayor in the last year of his local government career.

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The Queanbeyan Age, esp 1890

A TASTE OF QUINBEAN, SEPTEMBER 2013.

In 1964 Bert Sheedy interviewed Sister Margaret Downey of 38 Donald Road, Queanbeyan. Sister Downey was born in 1890 in Queanbeyan and ! had an amazing memory of the town. Almost fifty years ago she said:

.....Mr and Mrs Charles Black had an oyster saloon where the Commonwealth Bank is today; they later moved to the opposite side of the street next to the Commercial Hotel. Mrs Black was the first lady hairdresser in Queanbeyan - well, actually in those days only men had haircuts. Mr Black used to parade the street on sale days dressed in along white coat and nailcan black hat, ringing a bell to let people know it was sale day.

I remember standing with some other school girls one lunch hour as he came along calling out 'Fifty head of prime fact cattle' and he cupped

his hands around his mouth, looking at us and laughing, and said 'as poor as bloody crows.'

I remember when a local milk vendor used to turn his cows out on the street at night and they camped under the verandah where Dunn's Newsagency is today.....

... I am a trained nursing sister and spent almost fifty years in nursing in various places, hospital appointments and private nursing, ten years of it in Sydney, mostly specialising at private hospitals. In my day applicants for hospital training school had to be twenty-one years old before they were accepted – and then on one month's probation. We frequently worked the round of the clock. Matrons were very severe.

I did my training at the Goulburn Base Hospital. It was an excellent training school as we got a very good training in infectious nursing. Quite a large wing was set aside for it. I trained during World War I and we had two large camps of soldiers billeted opposite the hospital. Hence we were kept very busy as there was an outbreak of meningitis in the camp and all cases were nursed at the Goulburn Hospital.

I enlisted for war service in 1917. Due to a shortage of war nurses, trainee nurses were allowed six months off their four years training if they enlisted for war service, which I did – but unfortunately for me the end of the war was in sight before I was called up. I was very disappointed but I benefited by the six months off my four years training. Our first year's salary was £1.1.8 a month, second year £2.3.4, third year £2.10.0 and fourth year £2.12.6.

Read the rest of her memories in our September issue, and imagine what the town was then...