



ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY WARNING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this newsletter contains images and names of deceased persons

How quickly 2022 has disappeared! It has been an eventful year with floods in Forbes, Molong, Eugowra and surrounding areas. COVID 19 is still with us. Central West Libraries launched Recollect Central West www.centralwest.recollect.net.au in March. It is filled with lots of photos and documents – wonderful sources for your family history. It was a sad time when Queen Elizabeth II passed away in September.

Thank you to all our contributors this year. We have had some very interesting articles.

2023 will be OFHG's 40th year. The Orange Family History Group was founded in 1983. There will be celebrations and activities to celebrate this wonderful achievement. We would love to hear about the Group's early days from some of our older members.

We wish all our members and readers and their families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy 2023.

Julie Sykes
Local Studies Librarian, Central West Libraries

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was born on 21 April 1926 to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. Prince Phillip and Princess Elizabeth married in November 1947. When her father died in February 1952, she became Queen of the Commonwealth. Sadly, Queen Elizabeth died on 8 September 2022 aged 96 years.

In 1953, following her inauguration, the Queen and Prince Phillip visited 13 countries including Australia and New Zealand, on a seven-month tour. Bathurst was the closest city to Orange on this visit.

The Queen's visit in 1970 marked the bicentenary of Captain James Cook sailing up the east coast of Australia in 1770. The Queen, Prince Phillip, Prince of Wales and Princess Anne visited Australia. On 30 April 1970 the Queen and Prince Phillip arrived at Orange Railway Station at 10 am for Email Limited tour. They then changed to an open car in the grounds of Orange High School and progressed down Summer Street to the Orange Community Centre in Eyles Street. Inside the Community Centre the Queen and Prince Phillip greeted invited guests. Prince Phillip spoke with many of the crowd waiting outside the Community Centre. At noon the Queen left the Community Centre for the Orange Airport. Everyone was excited to catch a glimpse of the royal couple.



Queen arriving at Email Limited in 1970
Photo Courtesy of Central Western Daily Negative Collection



Central Western Daily 30 April 1970



Central Western Daily 30 April 1970

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE BYNG BUNYIP / YOWIE?

The Central Western Daily dated 29 December 1959 exposed the tale of the hunt for a creature seen at Byng. Hunters armed with spotlights and rifles formed a hunting party to track down "the Byng Bunyip". It had been sighted on the road by three men from Sydney. The bunyip was described as 3 foot 6 inches (305 centimetres) tall, with eyes 1 and a half inches round and about 9 inches apart, motley in colour but mostly grey. One elderly couple were terrorised by an unknown animal and did not return to their isolated rented farmhouse.

Denis Gregory in his book *There's some bloody funny people on the road to Broken Hill* described how Freddy Nunn who had hunted the Byng Bunyip for 30 years, finally came face to face with the bunyip.

The red-eyed hairy bunyip that had haunted him was one of his best mates: pint-sized panel-beater Graham "Darby" Offen. Darby was lucky to be alive. He retells a tale in the book how one night the small hole he looked through in the hairy hessian suit got stuck on his nose and blinded, he did not know which way to run. Luckily, he managed to get off the road and his mates grabbed him before anyone shot him. That night he decided to retire his bunyip boots.

LAKE CANOBOLAS PUMP HOUSE NATIONAL HERITAGE RECOGNITION

On Monday 14 November 2022 a new plaque was unveiled at Lake Canobolas Pump House. Engineering Australia added Lake Canobolas Pump House to its list of Heritage Markers, designed to highlight key examples of Australia's engineering heritage. This gives national engineering industry recognition to a little-known example of early 20th Century engineering in Orange.

Members of Engineering Australia joined Orange Mayor Jason Hamling for a ceremony at the Lake to unveil the latest marker, one of more than 2,000 markers located across Australia.



The plaque recognised an important part of the city's history. The Lake Canobolas Pump House is a remarkably intact collection of pump equipment that dates from more than a hundred years ago. When it was built in 1915, it became a crucial piece of Orange's water supply, together with a new dam wall at what was then called Meadow Creek, and later Lake Canobolas.



Among the engineering challenges in 1915 was that this site is downhill from Orange. The problem was how to get huge amounts of water back to town. The solution was a to build a pump house, with pumps strong enough to pump water in a 300mm water pipe about three kilometres uphill to a new tank on Cargo Road. From there, the water would run downhill to the community of Orange.



The pumping equipment that was used came from England, from Richard Hornsby and Sons in Lincolnshire. It included an engine powered by its own coal-powered gas plant. The 128-horsepower engine worked two sets of pumps, capable of lifting 88,000 gallons (333,000 litres) of water every hour. A caretaker was employed by Council to look after the equipment.

The pump house equipment was used from 1915 to 1957. Later, other water sources for Orange were brought online. Spring Creek dam was completed in 1931 and then Suma Park in 1962. Historical examples of equipment of this standard are now very rare. The award for this plaque will let this site gain the recognition it deserves.



ELIJAH EYLES

Elijah Eyles and his brother William were the first people to commercially grow fruit in the Orange district. The pair arrived in Orange in 1874 and established a fruiterer's business in Summer Street. Three years later they purchased 16 acres of land in the Canobolas foothills which they named Glenfern and planted out with fruit trees. They purchased a further 25 acres on Bathurst Road: City Garden. The two orchards contained 3,100 apple trees, 150 cherry trees and numerous pear, peach, quince, and plum trees.

By 1882 the Eyles Brothers were exhibiting "splendid specimens of vegetables and fruit" at local agricultural shows. Such was their success that, in August 1884, the *Australian Town and County Journal* recommended that cereal farmers follow the Eyles Brothers example and plant fruit trees. The newspaper reported that the Eyles had sent a sample of fruit to England to test the possibility of potential future marketing. The fruit had arrived in "a sound and marketable state" and was highly praised by the recipients. Their cherries "surpass for size and lusciousness any ever before grown in the colony."



Elijah Eyles, mayor of Orange, 1889
Image courtesy Orange City Library

The brothers were regular exhibitors at the Hawkesbury Agricultural Show where their fruit and vegetables were usually awarded first or second prize.

In early 1886 the brother sent eight cases of apples and a case of quinces to London for display at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. Opened in May by Queen Victoria, some 5.5 million people viewed the exhibition.

Elijah Eyles was born at Field of Mars in 1848, the fourth of eleven children of agriculturalists William and Matilda Eyles. He married Margaret (Maggie) Fitzgerald in Orange in 1876. The Fitzgerald family was prominent in the early development of the Mullion Creek district. The couple had six children, two of whom died in infancy.

In March 1885 Mr Eyles was elected alderman with Orange Municipal Council following the resignation of Patrick Kenna. He served on council for until 1891, with one term as mayor 1889-1890. Known for his generosity and unassuming but diligent nature, Elijah was popular and widely respected by the local community. He was also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity.

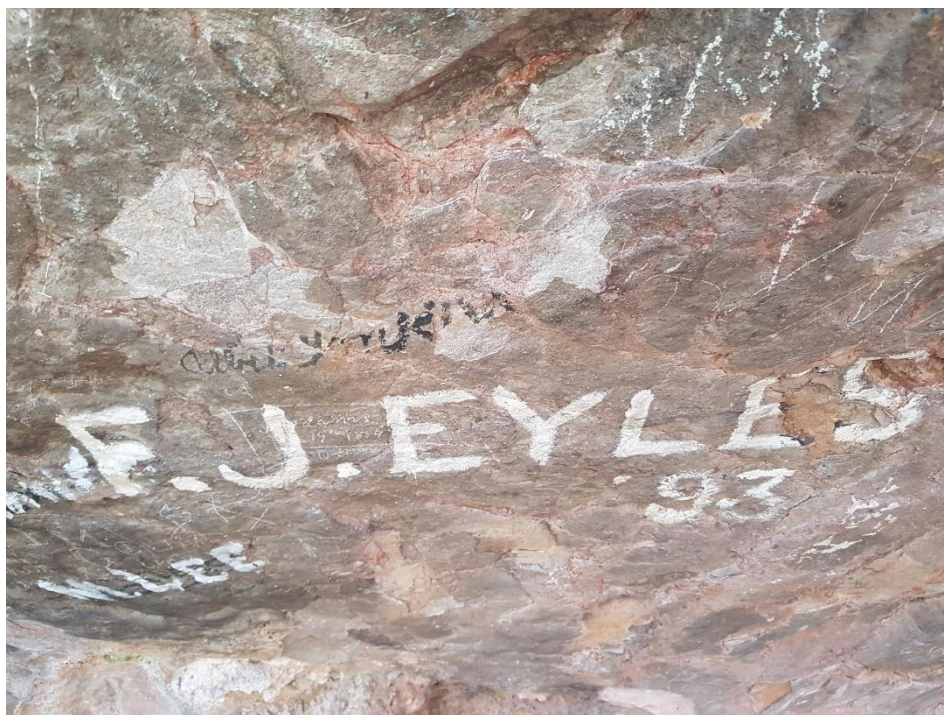
Mr Eyles fell ill in early March 1892. He failed to recover and passed away on 11 March, aged just 43 years. He was buried in Orange General Cemetery the following day. Eyles Street in Orange is named in honour of Elijah and his brother William.

Three months after Elijah's death Margaret successfully applied for a publican's licence to operate the Standard Hotel in Anson Street. She ran the hotel for eight years, until June 1900. By 1933 Margaret, aged 83, had moved to her daughter Beatrice's house in Summer Hill, Sydney. It was there that she died on 22 November 1934. She is buried in the Catholic section of Rookwood Cemetery.

Trudi Mayfield
Heritage Research Librarian
Central West Libraries

HISTORICAL GRAFFITI AT BORENORE CAVES REVISITED

I recently researched the history of former Orange mayor and pioneer orchardist Elijah Eyles and recalled that I had seen the Eyles name graffitied at Borenore Caves. I returned to the caves and found FJ EYLES '93 emblazoned on a wall in thick white paint. Curious to learn who FJ Eyles was, and wondering if he was related to Elijah I decided to look into his history.



FJ Eyles graffiti image

Frederick James Eyles was born in Sydney on 28 July 1868, the second son and fourth child of pioneers William Eyles and Ann Drew Eyles nee Hitchcock. Frederick's father William was the brother of Elijah, so, it happens that Frederick was Elijah's nephew. He grew up at the family

home on the corner of Dora Street named *Wanganui*, later a private hospital and more recently a veterinary clinic.

In 1893 25-year-old Fred visited Borenore Caves and left his mark there. Interestingly, most of the surrounding names are etched in a much finer and less obtrusive style. I was not entirely surprised to discover that Fred later became a well-known signwriter!

Six years later, on 24 January 1899, Fred married Katie May Stone in Bathurst. "May" (as she was known) was the second daughter of Glanville Dennis Stone and Catherine Gartrell, and was born in Pennsylvania, USA, in 1876. Two years later the Stone family moved to Bathurst where Glanville was the manager of Corporation Gas Works.

By 1900 Fred had entered into a partnership with fellow signwriter William John Gartrell



Eyles and Gartrell advertisement

In June 1904 Fred announced that he was starting his own signwriting and painting business. The *Leader* at the time observed "Mr Eyles already has a reputation in this respect and should do well."

In 1905 May's father was appointed engineer and manager of the Wanganui Gas Works in New Zealand. Fred and May joined them there in 1906 and Fred's artistic capabilities soon drew attention. In December 1907 the *Wanganui Herald* reported: "Mr F Eyles possesses admirable taste as well as skill in design and has created some splendid specimens of up-to-date signwriting." Despite living in New Zealand Fred and May were regular visitors to Orange. They returned in December 1920 for Fred's parent's 60th wedding anniversary.

Tragically, May died in Wanganui on 7 March 1924 aged just 49. Fred decided to return to the family home in William Street, Orange. Less than three weeks after May's death the *Wanganui Herald* featured an advertisement from the auctioneer W J Cuttle "under instructions from Mr Fred Eyles, signwriter, who is leaving New Zealand, to sell his beautiful roughcast bungalow of

five rooms, replete with every modern convenience and in perfect order". Possessions included "a magnificent upright grand piano in walnut case."

Fred continued his work as a signwriter in Orange and continued to make many visits abroad. In April 1933 the *Leader* referred to him as "the nomadic Orange artist who is constantly flitting from Orange to New Zealand and other parts or the antipodes."

In early 1946 Fred was in New Zealand when he met with a serious accident, badly breaking his leg. He remained in hospital for two and a half years. Frederick James Eyles died at Rangimarie Private Hospital in New Plymouth on 12 May 1948, aged 80 years. Fred's obituary in the *Central Western Daily* on 21 May 1948 noted: "some of the old signboards in Summer Street still remain as monuments to his distinct ability."

Fred's early graffiti at Borenore Caves is certainly distinctive. Just below it, also in white paint, is the name M Lee. It is probable that Fred and M Lee visited the cave together. The identity of M Lee remains a mystery. The sad thing is that while their graffiti has endured 130 years (and looks set to last a further 130 years) it has obscured older and more delicate offerings, including what appears to be a sketch of "Dolly." But that's a story for another day...



Dolly graffiti image

NB: You can view the original article on the Historical Graffiti at Borenore Caves in the August 2020 edition of Orange Family History Group Newsletter. [Click here](#) or access any of our newsletters through the Orange Family History Group website available on cwl.nsw.gov.au.

Trudi Mayfield
Heritage Research Librarian
Central West Libraries

Snake in Child's Lap

HOBART, Friday. — When Mrs. John Weston, of Pontville, 17 miles from Hobart, went to look for her 22-months-old daughter Gail yesterday she found her sitting in the domestic woodheap with a 4ft. 6in. black snake curled in her lap.

ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

DARWIN, Thursday—Seven full-blooded aborigine children, aged from five to seven, have been refused enrolment at Darwin public school.

The administrator of the Northern Territory, Mr. Driver, said today that it was against the government's policy to permit aborigine children to attend main schools.

The seven children concerned would be educated in their own school, he said.

Mr. Driver added that there had been a feeling of discontent when aborigine children had attended the public school.

EMPLOYMENT.

BARMAIDS.—Hotel Canobolas requires Barmaids. Apply Assistant Manager.

COTTAGE MOTHER

INTERESTING, useful and satisfying work at the Fairbridge Farm School, Molong, as a Cottage Mother to twelve to fourteen boys or girls, aged from seven to fourteen.

To have general care and control of the Cottage and the children including mending and ironing, and supervision of the housework, most of the actual work being done by the children themselves.

Also supervision of their meals, and the preparation of a light evening meal, the main meals being had in the Main Dining Hall.

Most important of all, the ability and willingness to train the children in manners, morals, and social and personal habits.

Comfortable quarters and board, day off each week, and four weeks holiday a year. Wages £4 per week. Own child or children acceptable.

Interviews may be had at Mr. Bowie Wilson's office, Union Bank Chambers, 68½ Pitt Street, Sydney on Wednesday or Thursday, 9th and 10th February, or apply by letter or in person to the Principal, Fairbridge, Molong. (PHONE 77 Molong).

GENERAL HELP required for country home, two adults and

"THE V.C."

Ex-Orange Playwright Lauded.

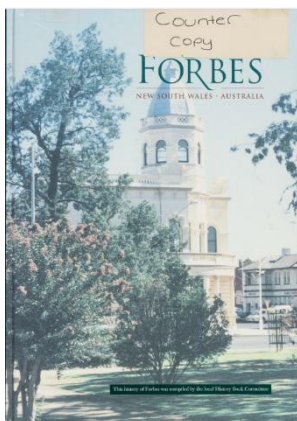
Press criticisms of the five one-act plays, produced by the "Workshop Theatre" players at Burdekin House recently acclaim "The V.C." a poignant little one-act post war play by an ex-resident of Orange, Mrs G M V Kearney, as being a small work of outstanding merit, at the same time reproving the producers for having had the temerity to attempt the staging of five of these short dramas in a single night. The result was that each play suffered by drastic cuts, and 'The V.C.' most of all.

The action of the play is laid in an orchard, at the town of "Wallahbah" which is in reality a camouflage of Orange, the writer having in mind Mr J H Hamilton's orchard when engaged on the work. The story is tense, with no dearth of pathos, and cannot fail to make a deep impression on those fortunate enough to witness its staging, as being a splendid work, which was also highly commended by other authorities.

Orange residents will very likely have an opportunity of seeing the play staged in Orange during the "Back-to-Orange Week" celebrations. The OP Club having been resurrected with a view to staging suitable plays. "The V.C." on account of its exceptional merit and local interest, will probably be one of the pieces selected.

Mrs Kearney was commissioned by Mr Moscovitch to write a play for him and another of her works was sold to J. C. Williamson, some time ago for £50 and royalties, but all but the first act were destroyed in a theatre fire. Several of her smaller dramas are now under consideration in London.

HISTORY OF FORBES – DIGITISED VERSION NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE



Forbes Shire Council Heritage staff have generously made available a scanned copy of the very popular [History of Forbes](#) book published 1997.

Follow the download link from the [Forbes Shire Council website](#).

www.forbes.nsw.gov.au/community/history-of-forbes

You will need Adobe Reader to access.

Note that it is a large file 835MB

RESEARCHING SOLDIERS IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



This website aims to give you the tools to find out about your local soldiers, organised into eight themes. It complements our **downloadable research guide**, which outlines the online resources available for soldier research and how best to use them. You will find links to the guide, local soldier stories, and YouTube video guides for each major resource. Discover key questions to ask about your local soldiers' experience of war: why they enlisted, what the nature of warfare was really like, and how Australia has commemorated them, 100 years on. www.rahs.org.au/researching-soldiers-in-your-local-community/

DO YOU HAVE RELATIVES FROM THE MANILDRA AREA?



In 2007 Central West Libraries asked the Manildra community to share photographs of people, homes, farms, shops, buildings and landscapes relating to Manildra to build our Local History Collection. In a short space of time we had amassed 100 photographs for the collection depicting just some of the industry, buildings, scenery and characters that make Manildra unique. This included sons going off to World War 1, pioneering farmers in the field, early shop owners, significant buildings such as the Flour Mill, Railway Station, School, Scout Hall, Baptist Church and amazing aerial shots.

You can view the 'Manildra Memories' project via the Central West Libraries website cwl.nsw.gov.au or follow this link manildramemories.cwl.nsw.gov.au

Orange Family History Group Newsletter
December 2022

Hurrah for the Gold Diggings.

THE undersigned having contracted with the Government for the conveyance of the mail from and to Orange and Ophir, three times a week, begs to inform the public that he has commenced running a

Two Horse Vehicle

to carry four passengers, to leave Orange every

SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY,

immediately after the arrival of the mail from Bathurst, and return every

MONDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY,

in time for the return mail to Bathurst.

Passengers wishing to proceed from Bathurst to Ophir by way of Orange can make sure of a seat by coming up to Orange in Mr. Rotton's mail.

FARE:

From Bathurst to Orange, 12s.

„ Orange to Ophir, 8s.

BOOKING OFFICES:

H. Rotton's Bathurst.

Mr. Peisley's, Orange.

Post Office, Ophir.

JOHN PEISLEY,

Coach & Horses,

Orange

July 19th, 1851.



Amplify is a platform managed by the State Library of New South Wales that enables participating libraries to upload audio files such as oral histories and have an automated transcription of the speech into text.

Central West Libraries have joined this project and uploaded Interviews from the [Email/Emmco/Munitions Factory](#).

We are asking interested members of the community to participate in the transcription of these oral histories.

First time transcribers can create their own login via the link below.

You can read through the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and the Tutorial. Both are accessible from the Amplify landing page.

<https://amplify.gov.au/centralwestlibraries>

ORANGE CEMETERY DATABASE



You can search for your ancestors using our Grave location search via the Orange Cemetery Database. This can be accessed by clicking on the image above, or visit the Orange City Council Website www.orange.nsw.gov.au/orange-cemetery/

NB: Please always be mindful when obtaining information from other sites such as 'Find a Grave' or 'Woo Woo'. Our Cemetery record is true and correct. We often hear of people using these other sites and finding incorrect information connected to their relative.

PUBLICATION FOR SALE

IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH. HOW MEDICINE HELPED SHAPE ORANGE'S HISTORY by Elisabeth Edwards

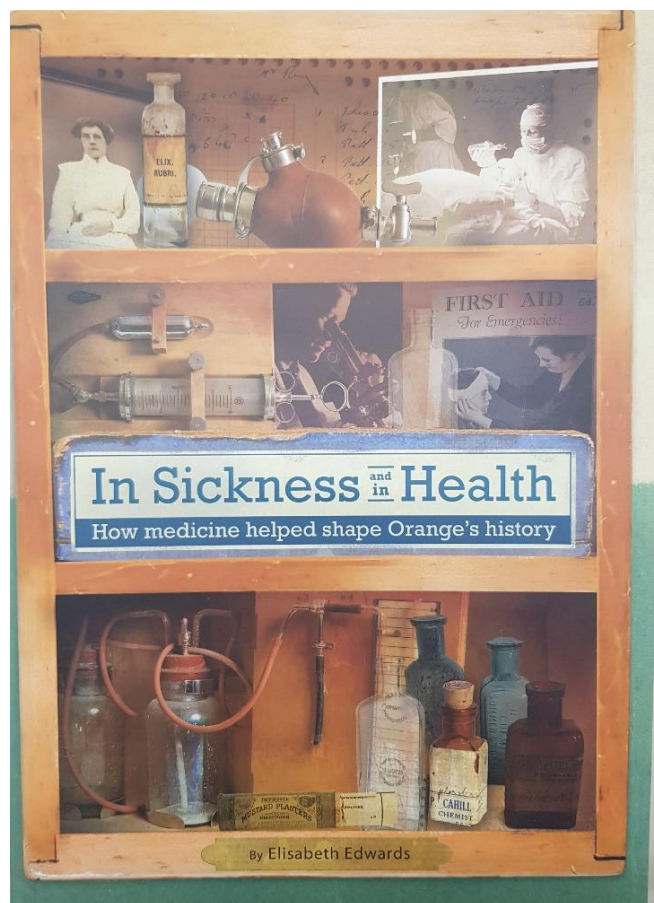
In sickness and in Health takes an original approach in exploring how medicine shaped the history of Orange and the surrounding districts from the earliest days of settlement. It depicts the hardships experienced by settlers before there were doctors, dentists or hospitals, and the evolution of the public hospital from the small District Hospital in Anson Street to the 21st century Base Hospital on the Bloomfield campus. It also shows how the myriad small private hospitals played a significant role in caring for maternity cases as well as the sick and injured. It records the development of medical technology and its vital role in providing quality health care. Most importantly, it tells the stories of the doctors, nurses, ancillary staff, volunteers and benefactors who have collectively ensured the very best care for patients over many years.

Copies are available from Orange City Library

\$49.50 each

Postage an additional \$8.00 within Australia.

[To download your order form click here](#), or send an email to library@orange.nsw.gov.au and order your copy today.



Visit the [Orange Family History Group publications page](#) to view this and many other local publications we have for sale.

RECOLLECT CENTRAL WEST



Recollect Central West is a digital platform that increases community engagement and online accessibility to the Central West Libraries heritage collections.

Here you'll find digital copies of maps, plans and out of print books as well as places in the region, the Orange & District Historical Society Central Western Daily Negative Collection; and the Orange Civic Theatre, Orange City Council and Orange City Library collections.

Register as a member and share material on this site to social media or between individuals. Please add images of Orange and the district, old school photos, family history photos or information about anything you find relating to the district. The aim is to continually grow and add to the Orange and Central West's stories and collections.

Contact
recollect@cwl.nsw.gov.au
02 6393 8120

Image: Tennis Classes at Wade Park, Central Western Daily, 3 September 1957
Image courtesy Central Western Daily Negative Collection, Orange & District Historical Society

centralwest.recollect.net.au

CentralWest Libraries

SOME INTERESTING ARTICLES I FOUND WHILE RESEARCHING

Desmond Lindsay Toole was born 30/1/1926 at Grenfell. His father was John Leo Royden Toole, his mother was Mary Ann Vida Toole (nee Fenton). He joined the army in World War II his service number was NX195344. He died on the 16/1/1946. He was buried in the Cowra War Cemetery and has a headstone.

Book - *Cowra Military Training Camp*- Negative no5121 - Year 1946 - month January - Toole Funeral of Soldier accidentally killed, Mrs M. Toole 5 Oliver St., Orange - Funeral.

****Central Western Daily* 17/1/1946 page 1 -Second Cowra accident victim dies.

Lindsay Toole, soldier of Orange, second victim of the Cowra car smash on Tuesday died at the Cowra District Hospital yesterday at 4.40pm. Toole was admitted to the hospital suffering with a fractured skull and internal injuries. Nurse Winifred Jackson of Carcoar Hospital was killed instantly when a Roger's meat wagon overturned after a collision with another vehicle.

Two brothers had incorrect year of birth on their enlistment.

Kevin Stanley Anderson - Nominal Roll - World War II - Kevin Stanley Anderson - Australian Army - Service number 2104159 (NX902) - Born 2/9/1920?? Orange - Enlistment 7/4/1941 Paddington. Next of Kin: Linda Anderson. Date of discharge 19/3/1946 - Rank Bombardier - posting at discharge 2/9 Field regiment.

The year he was born should be 1922 (N.S.W. B.D.M.). He married 1947 Beulah Pounder and he died 6/9/2008 Melbourne Victoria. *Herald Sun Melbourne* 16/9/2008- death - Kevin Stanley Anderson - 2/9/1922 - 6/9/2008.

Norman Anderson - Nominal Roll - World War II - Norman Anderson - Australian Army - service number NX42136 - Born 25/3/1922 ?? Orange - Enlistment 6/8/1941 - Place of Enlistment Paddington - Next of Kin Linda Anderson - Date of death 20/1/1944 - Signaller - 8 division signals - Prisoner of war.

Leader Orange - 9/5/1945- Personal: Mr. and Mrs. Bert Anderson, of Hill Street, have been informed that their son, Norman Anderson, died in Thai (Japanese prisoner-of-war camp), Burma, on January 20, 1944. The information was received after 15 months, due to the Japanese withholding the news for this time. The bereaved parents received a message from, the Minister for the Army, which stated that Signaller Anderson died of dysentery, and expressed the Minister's sympathy. Deceased enlisted in the A.I.F. at an early age and was taken prisoner at Singapore. He was only 20 years of age at the time of his demise.

It would appear Norman would have only been around the age of 17 years.

Their parents were Herbert David Anderson - Born 19/10/1884 - died 12/8/1947 Orange and Linda Anderson (nee Powter) - died 24/2/1984.

Carol Sharp
Volunteer Research Officer
Orange Family History Group

VALE DR ROBIN MCLACHLAN OAM

SHARED FROM *BATHURST CARILLION CHIMES* – NOVEMBER 2022



Vale Dr Robin McLachlan OAM Dr Robin McLachlan was a remarkable historian who described himself as a “public historian”, a historian who used his knowledge, skills and expertise to make history accessible to the community. Dr Rob, as he was affectionately known, contributed significantly to telling the story of early Bathurst in so many ways including interpretive signage for the wonderful Delightful Spot Walk around the original colonial settlement, the stories of 101 people recorded on the Pillars of Bathurst, his recent conversation with Stephen Gapps to shed light on the Bathurst Wars, guided walks, public talks and so much more. He was an amazing storyteller who brought history to life with humour and his penchant for the quirkier stories. Dr Rob was incredibly generous in sharing his knowledge and assisting others with their projects. Bathurst Family History Group benefitted from his help in understanding and locating the site of the Bathurst Female Factory, and more recently in conversation with Lyn Innes, author of *The Last Prince of Bengal*. For many years Dr Robin McLachlan was a stalwart of the Bathurst District Historical Society where he was made a Life Member. He was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to the Bathurst community in the 2022 Australia Day Awards. Dr McLachlan passed away in Bathurst on 6 October and sadly his wife Joanna passed away just days later. Both will be greatly missed by many sectors of the Bathurst community, including our Group.

CORONERS INQUEST

I found indexes of coroners inquest compiled by Lorna Hawkins and Pam Lawry. Which I was then able to find newspaper articles and checking the N.S.W. B.D.M. deaths their date of death. Below are some of the names found.

Coroners Inquest - Richard Vickers - held 3/10/1850 - Orange - Accidentally killed.

Bathurst Free Press - 12/10/1850 page 5 - Fatal Accident.

Richard Vickers, formerly overseer to Dr. Gammack, met with an accident on Friday last, which terminated fatally about four hours afterwards. In riding from Staunton's inn to the pound, he was thrown from his horse against a tree with great violence. A concussion of the brain was the consequence, and although he was immediately attended to by Dr. Favell, who happened to be convenient to the spot at the time, medical aid was of no avail. An inquest was held on his remains on the following day, and a verdict of accidental death returned. Deceased has left a wife and several children to mourn over him.

Coroners inquest - Wright Sarah - held 23/9/1857 Orange - Accidental burning.

***N.S.W. B.D.M. Death - 23/9/1857 - Sarah Wright - Father John, Mother Eliza

***Empire Sydney - 29/9/1857- Another fearful and fatal accident of death by burning has this day brought to her last resting place a fine girl of six years old making the fourth accident of this nature in this town within the past three months three of which (children) have terminated fatally. The poor child was in the act of making a fire on Tuesday morning last, when her clothes caught fire, and in a few moments burning her, so severely on the lower parts of the body that she expired on Wednesday morning after enduring great agony. The mother had her hands greatly burnt in trying to strip the clothes from her child. The family name is Wright, residing near the pound, Blackman's Swamp.

Coroners Inquest - Unknown Male - held 3/8/1868- Pretty Plains (Orange) - Starvation and exposure.

Sydney Morning Herald: 11/8/1868 - Found Dead.

According to the Western Examiner a Magisterial inquiry was held at the residence of Mr. Jamas Townsend, Pretty Plains, on Monday, August 4th, before Mr R. Barton J.P. on the body of an aged man, name unknown, who had been found in a paddock, a short distance from the house. Deceased was in a most emaciated and destitute state, and from the posture in which the body was found, must have stepped into the paddock to perform the functions of nature, and been unable to rise again. Medical testimony went to show death was the result of literal starvation, no appearance of food being noticeable in the stomach, and, the body in a wretched state of attention.

Coroners Inquest - Unknown - a man of colour (supposed to be named Ennie) - Held 5/6/1867- Guyong - natural causes.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Central Western Daily - 15/11/1947: Strange coincidence in death of brothers.

It is a strange coincidence that two brothers whose lives ran so parallel should pass suddenly away so many miles apart within a few hours of one another. They were Mr Robert J. England who died at Orange on October 21, while mowing the lawn in front of the Canobolas Shire Council Chambers and his brother Mr Thomas J. England who died suddenly on the same day while holidaying in Adelaide. The brothers were members of one of Dubbo's oldest and largest families. They were born and educated in Dubbo and both served their apprenticeship together as blacksmiths and from some years carried on a blacksmithing and wheelwright business in Talbragar St., Dubbo. The partnership was broken when Bob moved on to Orange about 25 years ago where he set up in business on his own and carried on till five years ago, when he disposed of the business and joined the staff of the Canobolas Shire council as a blacksmith and tool sharpener. Tom continued in business in Dubbo until failing health compelled him to sell a few years ago. The quiet unassuming nature of both men endeared them to all who came in contact with them.

Central Western Daily - 2/12/1949: Obituary: Hector Melville.

The death occurred on November 30 at his residence 29 Minna St., Burwood of Mr Hector Pope Melville aged 69. Mr Melville was formerly a staff inspector of the Department of Education and at one time had control of education in the Central West. He married Miss Beatrice Arey, second daughter of the late Mr Robert Arey for many years manager of the Orange gasworks and Mrs Arey who lived for the greater part of their residence in Orange at the cottage at the Gosling Creek reservoir. It was hospitable home. In addition to his wife Mr Melville is survived by three sons and two daughters.

Central Western Daily - 1/5/1951: Orange soldier reported killed in action in Korean War.

Private Jack McBride, son of Mr & Mrs J. McBride, of Alton Street, Orange is reported to have been killed in action in Korea. His father has received a telegram from Military Headquarters, Melbourne, regretting to inform him that his son Private Jack McBride, No2/400/144 was missing believed killed on April 24, 1951, and expressing deepest sympathy. Private Jack McBride was born at Nyngan 23 years ago and came to Orange with his parents when only 12 months old. He received his education at Orange East Public School and was later employed at Rogers Meat Works. He spent more than two years with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan, returning to Orange about 18 months ago. The first day recruits were called for the Korean campaign he left his work at the abattoirs to enlist and was the first volunteer to leave Orange. In addition to his parents he is survived by four sisters and one brother.

Central Western Daily - 31/8/1953: Obituary. Mrs Phillippa Edwards.

One of the best known identities of the Euchareena district Mrs Phillippa Edwards died at the

Base Hospital early yesterday morning at the age of 90 years. Widow of the late Mr Edwin B. Edwards who died in 1921, Mrs Edwards was born at Moonta South Australia on November 2, 1862 and the greater part of her married life was spent at Euchareena where her husband had conducted a business for many years. Mrs Edwards who was loved by all who knew her was an extraordinary woman as she was never known to have had a day's sickness in her life until she entered hospital before her death. She knew however, what sickness and misfortune meant to many families in the Euchareena district and it was among these that her characteristic sympathy and kindness became manifest. She was as a matter of fact affectionately known as the "Bush Nurse". She is survived by three sons: Wilfred (Store Creek); Alfred (Poss) of Orange and Samuel (Barney) of Newcastle. The funeral will leave the Euchareena Church of England for the Church of England portion of Euchareena cemetery.

Molong Express - 2/3/1956: Mrs Ada Beadle was member of pioneer family (Contributed). The death last week at her home in Dulwich Hill, of Mrs Ada Beadle removed another of the diminishing links of earliest Molong. The late Mrs Beadle was the third daughter of the late Mr & Mrs John Woolbank, early western pioneers. The late John Woolbank came to Molong district amongst the first settlers in the early 1840's. He left Scotland in his teens travelling in a sailing ship which took nine months to reach Sydney and travelled over the Blue Mountains by bullock wagon whilst still in his teens. He never again left the district. He married district born Miss Eliza Johnson and brought up his family on a small property at The Shades. The late Mrs Beadle was the third daughter in a family of 12 and spent all her youth and early married life here. She and her husband the late Mr H.E. Beadle (also son of Molong pioneers) brought up their family on their property at The Shades, now owned by their son, Mr O.C. Beadle and grandson Mr Howard Beadle. The family made its home at Dulwich Hill in 1918 where Mr Beadle passed away some years ago. The late Mrs Beadle was a devoted mother and a conscientious member of the Church of England. Her family of four daughters and three sons survive her. They are Mrs Doris Hyland (Orange) and Misses Sylvia; Ruby and Bertha (Dulwich Hill) and Messrs Oswald (Orange) and Rupert and Norman (St Ives.). Of her six sisters and five brothers one sister Mrs E. Ball, of Molong survives. Deceased sisters were Mrs Fanny Wicker; Mrs Jane Lauer; Mrs Minnie Shannon and two infants. Brothers were Messrs John; William; Harry Silas and Alfred, all of whom lived their lives in Molong district. After a private funeral the remains of the late Mrs Beadle were cremated at Rookwood on Saturday, February 26.

Molong Express - 4/5/1956: Obituary: Henry George Langdon.

A native of the Molong district Mr Henry George Langdon passed away at Molong District Hospital on Wednesday night of last week. He was 84 years of age and had been a member of the MUIOOF Lodge for over 60 years. Deceased followed farming and grazing pursuits practically all his life, first in the Gumble and Pinecliffe districts and later in the Peabody Road area, where he and his wife and family resided for over 40 years. He retained his faculties and loved to reminisce and often spoke of working when a boy in his grandfather's flour mill which is still standing in Gidley Street. Of a friendly disposition Mr Langdon was always willing to help those in need. His many acts of kindness will be long remembered. General sympathy will be extended to his wife and family. They are son Albert (Mick) and Oscar, daughters Clara

(Mrs B. J. Bennett) and Ada. One son (Jim) and one daughter (Mrs K. Bennett) predeceased him by 16 years. There are eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren. The funeral which was well represented was from the Methodist Church when the interment took place in the Methodist portion of the Molong cemetery.

Molong Express -18/5/1956: Obituary - Frederick Stanford.

The death occurred at his home Hereford Street, Kelso on Saturday morning last of a former old and respected resident of Manildra in the person of Mr Frederick Stanford at the age of 72 years. He was a lifelong resident of Manildra and moved to the Bathurst district in 1944. He followed various rural pursuits in Manildra and was known as a conscientious hardworking man attached to his family and whose word was his bond. In his younger days he was a keen local cricketer and his sons followed in his footsteps in this branch of sport as well as excelling at football and tennis. Surviving him are his wife Mrs Emily Stanford and six sons Messrs Clarence (West Wyalong), Kenneth (Bathurst), Auburn (Lithgow), Frederick (Sydney), Leonard (Kandos), Geoffrey (Forbes). Three daughters May (Mrs J. Goodwin (Albion Park), Joice, Mrs Sence, Unanderra) and Millie (Mrs Rees, Bathurst). Surviving brothers and sisters are Messrs William and Thomas (Molong), Mesdames W. Evans, (Molong), E. Atkinson (Mandagery) and R. McLachlan (Sydney). Interment took place on Monday afternoon in the Methodist portion of Bathurst cemetery.

Molong Express - 1/6/1956: Obituary: Adam McKay.

The death occurred at Dubbo Hospital on May 9 of Mr Adam McKay at the age of 80 years. The late Mr McKay spent most of his young manhood in the Yeoval and Dubbo districts and later moved to Queensland where he worked for a good many years. He returned to Dubbo about 4 years ago and resided with his brother until his demise. He is survived by two brothers William (Yeoval) and James (Dubbo), two sisters Mrs Anderson (Wagga) and Mrs J. Mackay (Bethungra) predeceased him. Nephews and nieces in the district are Mr Norman McKay (Yeoval), Walter, Claude and Donald McKay (Dubbo), Mrs A. Markeham (Dubbo) and Mrs Osborne (Molong).

Molong Express - 22/6/1956: Tragic death of small girl.

The death occurred under tragic circumstances on Friday morning of Marie Margaret, seven years old daughter of Mr & Mrs J.S. McNamara of Amaroo. The little girl had been in good health until a short time before her demise and her death came as a great shock to her family. She had been to school at St Joseph's the previous Wednesday. Marie was one of a family of 11 and surviving members are Pamela; John; Robin; June; Angela; Noel; Brian; Michael; Patsy and Gloria. The funeral was on Saturday from St. Lawrence O'Tool Catholic Church.

Central Western Daily - 3/7/1963: Obituary. Mrs A. Nash.

With the death of Mrs Ella Nash recently the Cranbury Toogong district lost a highly respected and valued citizen. Born in Parkes in 1889 she was the only daughter of the late Mr & Mrs E. Bullock. In 1920 she married Allen Nash on his return from World War I and went to reside at Toogong. She enjoyed particularly good health until early this year when a severe illness from which she never recovered struck her down. The funeral service was from the Cranbury Methodist Church and was conducted by the Rev Parsons who spoke feelingly of her sterling work as a citizen and her particular interest in the activities of the church she loved. Afterwards a large cortege moved to the Toogong cemetery where she was buried beside her mother, Mrs Bullock. Mrs Nash was a keen gardener and had made a particular study of flowers, so much so that her services as a flower judge were widely sought in the Central West. She was a valued member of the Cudal Show Society where she had acted as a steward in the flower section over a very long period. Mrs Nash was a regular worshipper and supporter of the Cranbury Church and always supplied and placed flowers in the church for the Sunday services. She was a member of the Church Aid and was secretary for nearly 20 years and held other important offices. She taught in the Cranbury Sunday School right up until the time of her illness and it would be difficult to evaluate the influence of her teaching and example on the rising generation. The success of the Cranbury School in scripture examinations was largely due to her scriptural knowledge and the gift of imparting it to the children. Mrs Nash spent a lot of her spare time in sewing for church fairs, Red Cross and other charitable causes. She leaves a husband, Allen Nash daughter Marcia and brother Ben Bullock, of Newcastle.

Central Western Daily - 4/11/1967.

The death in Sydney yesterday morning of Mrs Alan Ridley's sister Hazel Scanlan. Hazel (Mrs Les Scanlan) was sad news indeed for those who knew her. Mrs Scanlan had made a big circle of friends in Orange over the years as she has been a frequent visitor to the Ridley home. She had been ill some time and she died in her sleep at a private Hospital at Cronulla. As Hazel Pritchard she was looked on in the early thirties as the Don Bradman of women's cricket. She visited England with the Australian Women Cricketers about the same time. She is survived by a husband, married daughter and a son. After a service at St Andrew's Church of England today cremation will follow at the Woronora Crematorium at Sutherland.

Hazel Doreen Pritchard - 23/12/1913- 3/11/1967 - cricketer (Wikipedia).

The Leader Orange - 16/9/1936- Wedding - Ridley/Pritchard. Miss Edna Pritchard interstate cricketer and N.S.W. Basketball Captain. Alan Ridley - famous international footballer.

Central Western Daily - 17/8/1983: Death of Elizabeth Stanford-Thomas.

Elizabeth Stanford-Thomas died in Sydney on July 23. Born Elizabeth Harbutt in 1916 in Sydney she moved to the Orange orchard Gwandalana with her family in 1932. In her final year at Orange High School she won the open vocal section of the Orange Eisteddfod. This talent in singing and acting led her ultimately to study singing and cello at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music under Dorothy Hemrich. As community life returned to normal after World War II

she went to London to continue her studies and became for five years a member of the Royal Opera Company at Covent Garden, initially in the chorus, but later in a number of solo character roles. During this time she met her husband John Stanford-Thomas a Welshman who was also a member of the Royal Opera. In 1952 she returned with her husband to Orange to live with her mother at Coolami, Gardiner Road. Elizabeth became well known in Orange circles giving recitals and teaching singing and cello. She was in demand as an eisteddfod adjudicator and for a number of years conducted the 2CR women's session. A highlight of her time in Orange was her production of Lerrier and Loewe's musical *Brigadoon* for the Orange Choral Society. In this Production she showed her great skills as a producer and for the first time brought to Orange professional standards in an amateur production - standards which have been maintained since. In 1964, her abilities were acknowledged when she was elected country representative on the Arts Council of N.S.W. Elizabeth, John and their daughter Belinda moved to Newport in 1965 where Elizabeth taught music in State High Schools as well as continuing to teach privately. In recent years ill health caused her retirement. Elizabeth is survived by her daughter Belinda, grandchildren Jenny and Graham, her sister Joan Wilkinson of Collaroy and her brothers Warwick Harbutt of Collaroy and Lloyd Harbutt of Orange.

38TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NSW AND ACT ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES INC

2023 Theme: "The Running Waters of History"

Conference Organisers	Wyong Family History Group
Dates	8 th , 9 th and 10 th September 2023
Venue	Toukley 50 Plus Leisure Centre

Visit their new website www.nswactfhs.org for all their latest news and events, or join one of their facebook groups.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ANCESTORS IN ORANGE AREA

If you are looking for information regarding your ancestors in the Orange area, please contact:

The Research Officer
Orange Family History Group
PO Box 35
ORANGE NSW 2800
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NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of Orange Family History Group Newsletter is scheduled for April 2023. Submissions should be forwarded to familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au before 24 March 2023.