CENTRAL WEST NEWSPAPERS ON TROVE
As 2014 approaches there is an increasing focus on the celebrations to mark the centenary of World War I. Central West Libraries was successful in its application for a Country Libraries Fund 2011-2012 Grant of $94,600 to digitise local newspapers covering the years 1912 – 1920. We can now announce that these have been digitised:

- Canowindra Star and Eugowra News 1910 – 1922
- Cowra Free Press 1911 – 1921
- Forbes Advocate 1911 – 1921
- Forbes Times 1912 – 1920
- The Leader (Orange) 1912 – 1921
- Molong Argus 1909 – 1921
- Molong Express 1912 - 1921

These are available on the National Library of Australia’s TROVE site http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspapers

FINDMYPAST
Central West Libraries has subscribed to the family history and genealogy website findmypast which may already be familiar to some researchers. Like some other online genealogy sites, access is available in the library only from the public computers and allows two researchers to be logged on at the same time. A condition of our subscription is that findmypast resources are used for one’s own personal research.

You may search the Australasian (Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands), the United Kingdom and the Irish records using the links on CWL website (http://www.cwl.nsw.gov.au) under “heritage & history” Online resources. Click on the Australasian, Irish or United Kingdom links (http://www.findmypast.com.au or http://findmypast.co.uk).

findmypast partners with UK, Australian and New Zealand family history
organisations and government archives in each country so that you may find records that are not available elsewhere online. The Australasian collection includes:

- Over 700,000 cemetery records from across Australia
- A vast collection of Australian and New Zealand electoral roll records
- Over 15 million government records including government gazettes, police gazettes and blue books
- Probate, land & court records, migration records, criminal reports
- Millions of religious records
- Over 10 million directories and almanacs to aid your search
- A large collection of Military records that cover the Boer war, WWI & WWII, Maori campaigns and more
- Rare and unrivalled specialist records – perfect for adding fine detail to your ancestors' lives

RAILWAYS

There have been a number of road accidents involving fuel tankers and once again the question of having heavy traffic on the roads has cropped up again.

I have been grumbling for many years about the way the railways have been allowed to deteriorate and in a lot of cases been actually closed down. Slowly and quietly governments have helped the demise of a lot of our railway systems.

All of our heavy freight – what, flout, timber, fuel etc etc, should all be mainly carried by rail. It only makes sense. The roads are becoming more and more crowded and not able to cope with the pressure – ad the road toll in lives is showing the result. Also governments are now not able to keep the road repairs and new roadworks up to the required standards.

Our railways were always first class and people used them. With neglect, people decided it was better and easier to travel by car. That may be inevitable, but the carrying of heavy freight should be re-thought and sent by rail – with old lines re-opened and upgrading and continuing with existing ones. There should not be cancellation of incentives for that.

I go back to when the railways were well run and very productive. My Uncle Les Evans was 2nd in charge of Railways when they ran like a well-oiled clock and continued that way for many years until governments started “cost-cutting”.

Bring back the railways – and start with the carriage of heavy freight.

Shirley Duckworth
THE METHODIST (UNITING) CHURCH, MILLTHORPE

On 1 February, 1852, my great grandfather, John Evans and his wife, Jane (Carlyon) arrived in Australia on the Joseph Somes from Cornwall. They first went to the Cornish Settlement at Byng, and then later selected land a Millthorpe – a farm that they called “Penrose” after the property on which John had worked in Cornwall. He became a prosperous farmer, and they raised a family of 1 girl and 8 boys. In 1885, John donated the land for the Methodist Church at Millthorpe to be built. On 27 October, 1885 my father, Sydney Evans – son of William Evans, oldest son of John and Jane Evans – was the first child to be baptised in the church.

William Evans had been a lay preacher at the church and was the first Superintendent of the Sunday School and there is a stained glass window there with the words – In Memory of William Evans Died 1899 First Supt. Sunday School The Best of All, God is With Us.

Also in the church is a plaque saying – To the Glory of God This tablet was erected to mark the Jubilee of this Church 1885 – 1935 and in memory of JOHN EVANS. A Foundation Member, Donor of the Land & Faithful Steward for Many Years. Unveiled 10 Nov 1935.

After my father, Sydney Evans died in 1941, I decided I wanted to have a plaque in the church for him, so I arranged for it to be made. I unveiled it at a service in the church. It reads – In Memory of Sydney Evans. The First Baptism in This Church. 27 Oct 1885. Died 26 Jan 1941.

John Evans who died 27 July, 1913 and his wife Jane who died 18 December, 1906 are buried in the Methodist Section of the Millthorpe Cemetery; also William Evans (my grandfather) died 17 January, 1889 is buried in the Millthorpe Cemetery; and my father Sydney Evans who died 26 January, 1941 is buried there. My father’s grave is nearby the others, but he is in the Church of England section. My mother was Church of England and I was brought up Church of England. Dad often went to the Methodist Church (in Orange) and I sometimes went with him, but we followed the Church of England Church – and my mother decided on that for his burial.

Shirley Duckworth

RESEARCH INQUIRIES:
If you recognize your family or can help with information etc., please contact the research officer:

Orange Family History Group;
P.O. Box 35,
Orange N.S.W. 2800
email: familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au
Larance:
Requested by Damon La'Rance.

Clark/Strathen/John & Christian Grimm South Australia/ Caroline Grimm South Australia.
Henry Taylor Clark died 1914 Orange. Christopher Strathen died 1907 Lucknow.
Requested by Barry Clark

Gallagher:
Requested by Joy McCurie.

Hennessy:
Information on H.A.C.B.S - Hibernian Australian Catholic Benefirt Society in Orange.
Requested by J.F. Hennessy

Moller & Murphy:
Moller John Grave wife Elizabeth Ellen Middleton: Son John Neils Berg Moller wife Lila Kate Murphy. Her father James Murphy (Green Gate Hotel) Orange and Prudence Read. Her 1st marriage Joseph Whye 2nd marriage to James Murphy.
Request by Mary Flemming.

Moore & McKivat:
Request by John Moore.

James:
John Charles James (Inspectors of Mines) wife Martha B. Shaw - daughter Louisa
Elizabeth James born 1896 Lucknow married John A. Saleh. She died 1931.
John James died 1892 mining accident Stuart Town wife Elizabeth Douglass. She
died 1919 Orange.
Request by Kerry Moore.

Dighton:
Frederick George Percival Dighton born 1842 Mudgee married 1874 Gunnedah to
Florence Isabella Jane Jones aka Swaffer Born 1859 near Tamworth. Issue: Walter
Wallace Dighton Born 1881 (he always said he was born in Orange, but on his
marriage certificate has born Sydney); Ann Elizabeth Heness; George William
Donaldson Dighton (known as Bill); Alfred Henry Dighton; William Edward Dighton;
Frederick Geroge Dighton; Florence May Janette Upritchard; James Herbert
Mansfield Dighton; Amy Violet Edith Griffiths; Francis Thomas (Frank) Dighton; Clara
Eve Mabel Dighton & Sydney Stanley Dighton.
Request by Peter Whitehead.

Hutley:
Mary Ann Hatch: 1st Marriage Williams - 2nd marriage William Hutley 5/5/1844
Caleula -died May, 1865 Orange. Trying to find out where Mary Ann Hutley is buried.
William Hutley died 1881 Lismore: Children: Eliza Munn; William Benjamin Hutley;
Charles Hutley & Frederick John Hutley.
Requested by M. Hewitt.

Kitchener/Kitchner:
William Kitchener, born 1820 Wisborough Green, Sussex, no record of William
Kitchener death can be found. His wife Agnes Kitchener(née Atkinson) married
James Dunn at Orange in 1876 as a widow. Children: James Atkinson Kitchener,
Robert Kitchener married Mary Priest Sanders, (three of their children were born
near Orange, Eliza Kitchener born 1876 Orange; Blanche May Kitchener born 1878
March; Darcey Herbert Kitchener born 1880 March they had other born in Wetherill
Park.) Mary Kitchener died 1852 England; William Kitchener Died 1854 Ashfield
Parish NSW.
Requested by Merv Wearne.

GREAT GREAT GRANDMOTHER JANE STONE

My great great grandmother was Jane STONE, daughter of Edward STONE and
Elizabeth VINCENT. She was baptised in 1817 in the Parish of Hindon, County
They had sons, Henry James HURLE (my great grandfather) born 6 October 1839
and George.

In the 1851 census, Jane HURLE was living in the parish of Monkton Deverill in
Wiltshire with her two sons, and was listed as Head of Household. In the 1861
census she is listed as Widow, a servant, living in London. I have never been able to find when or where Great Great Grandfather, James HURLE died but I am still searching.

Great Great Grandmother Jane (a widow) married John Webster on 9 March, 1864 at Summer Hill, near Orange, NSW – she was aged 45 and he was 52. I have done a lot of searching, but have not been able to find exactly when she arrived in Australia nor on what ship. They lived on a farm / orchard at Canobolas on the outskirts of Orange. Jane (HURLE) WEBSTER died in Orange on 15 March 1883 aged 66 years. John WEBSTER had died 19 September 1879. The informant on Jane’s death certificate was her son, Henry HURLE (my great grandfather). It said on her death certificate that she had been 19 years in NSW so I assume that she must have arrived about 1863 or 1864 – not very long before she married John WEBSTER.

My research yielded that Great Grandfather Henry James HURLE (Jane (Stone Hurle) Webster’s son) had arrived in Australia on 12 February 1857 on the “Hindostan” aged 17, together with his wife Emma GLETTO, also aged 17, both from Wiltshire. His parents are both listed as dead, but as this is obviously incorrect, perhaps because of his age, he needed to say that to get an assisted passage. He and Emma went to Adelong for him to work in the goldfields there. Emma died 22 December 1858 there, leaving a 6 week old son (William George HURLE) who died soon after.

Great Grandfather, Henry James HURLE later married Elizabeth BROWN at Wellington in 1863 and they came to live in Orange. He died in 1903 and one of his sons, Thomas Charles HURLE was my grandfather.

I still hope I can fill in the missing bits to the picture and find when and where James HURLE died, and also when Jane HURLE arrived in Australia. With more resources becoming available, hopefully I will be lucky.

Shirley Duckworth

FROM THE NEWSPAPERS:

_Bathurst Free Press_ 27/4/1850: Cornish Settlement: Fire - On Wednesday last, at the Cornish settlement, two huts, recently built and connected with the mine of Richard Lane, Esq., were burnt. It appears that the fire first passed through one of the slab-built chimneys to some loose grass that had fallen during the process of thatching which immediately ignited and communicated with the roof: and notwithstanding very great exertion, in less than a quarter of an hour both huts were reduced to ashes. The families who had just before removed into these huts have sustained serious loss by this disaster; most of their clothes and stores having been burnt. Had the fire happened during the night no doubt a loss of life would have been the result. An infant of Mr Thacker’s was rescued whilst the fire was falling on the bed where it lay asleep. We understand the misfortune of these families (one of seven and the other of four children) has excited the commiseration of the settlers of
our neighbourhood and no doubt will induce them to afford timely relief.

**Sydney Morning Herald:** 10/8/1858 - Cherry 29/7/1858 accidentally drowned at Orange, John Cherry aged 26 years. Late of Tipperary.

**Sydney Morning Herald:** 26/3/1859 - Marriage. On Saturday the 12th instant by special license by the Rev. Dr. Lane, Mr William Thomas Jordan, draper, native of Newbury Berkshire England to Miss Jane Davis daughter of Mr George Davis, farmer of Orange, a native of Cornwall England.

**Sydney Morning Herald - 8/4/1865 - Page 8:** To the next of kin of John Cock late of Lucknow near Orange, gold miner, deceased intestate. Whereas it is represented to us in our Supreme Court that the said John Cock departed this life on or about the thirtieth day of March last past, having at the time of his death goods, chattels and credits in the said colony. We hereby cite you to appear personally or by your proctor before our said Court at the Court House in King St., Sydney on the twenty-eighth day of April now instant, then and there to accept or refuse letters of administration of the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased or to show cause (if you know any) why the same should not be committed to William Pepperell of Lucknow near Orange, gold miner, a creditor of the said deceased.

**Sydney Morning Herald:** 30/3/1867 - A boy named Curran was thrown from his horse whilst racing at Springside near Bathurst, a few days since and died instantly of concussion of the brain. (B.D.M. Death - Thomas Curran - 1867 - Father Hugh Mother Ellen)

**Australian Town & Country Journal:** 24/6/1871 - Mr Samuel Maxwell, miller at Messrs Dalton Brothers, Orange, expired suddenly last week in the street, by the bursting of a blood vessel on the lungs. Deceased leaves a widow and five children unprovided for.

**Australian Town & Country:** Marriage 20/11/1872 at Lewis Ponds near Orange by the Rev. A.W. Gardiner, Thomas J. Singleton, hotel and storekeeper to Margaret second daughter of Mr Peter Cunneen of Redfern, Sydney. (B.D.M. - Marriages Singleton Thomas Isaac to Cummum)

**Sydney Morning Herald:** 26/1/1874: Missing - My husband, James Cummins having left me on good terms in Bathurst about six months ago, saying that he would return within a week and nothing having been since heard of his whereabouts, I will be deeply obliged to any person who has seen or heard anything of him since the time above mentioned, if they will apprise me thereof. He is brother to Michael Cummins, a quarryman at Pyrmont. Ann Cummins, Lucknow near Orange.

**Sydney Morning Herald:** 12/2/1876 - Ricketts Mrs T. who in the year 1865 was residing at Lucknow near Orange and prior to that date was a teacher in the Randwick Destitute Children’s Asylum. Send your address to Joseph P. Abbott - Solicitor Murrurundi.

[Note: Births Orange - John Joseph Ricketts 1864; Mary Frances Ricketts 1865 - Father Thomas Mother Margaret Kean.]

**Illustrated Australian News Melbourne:** 24/8/1881 - The body of a farmer named
Edward Grew, residing at Cave Creek near Orange was recently found in a culvert terribly crushed and disfigured. It is supposed the horse he was driving fell in, dragging down the deceased who was mangled by the violent efforts of the horse to extricate itself. (note information also in Australian Town & Country - 6/8/1881.

(Coroner's inquest: held 19/8/1881 - Cave Creek near Orange - Edward Grew - 50 years - Died Orange. Born Ireland - Injuries accidentally received - Value of property possessed by deceased: Farm & Furniture).

Sydney Morning Herald : 18/2/1888 page 7 - Private sale - Withywinnie station - Kerr's Creek near Orange.

Australian Town & County Journal:- 14/9/1889: Accident - A boy named Martin residing at Springside near Orange was thrown from his horse on Friday and broke his thigh. He was conveyed to the hospital.

Sydney Morning Herald: 27/8/1891 - Dr Rooney died at Lewis Ponds suddenly last evening. As the circumstance surrounding his death are considered to be suspicious the coroner has ordered that a post-mortem examination be made of the remains. (B.D.M. Rooney James) (Coroner's Inquest: Held 17/8/1881 - Lewis Ponds district of Orange - James Rooney - 43 years - Born Westmeath Ireland - Died Lewis Ponds near Orange - Natural Causes - Property possessed by deceased: 25pound in cash. Household furniture and drugs valued at 30pounds.

Bathurst Free Press: Wednesday 23/1/1895 - Accident near Orange: A very serious accident (says the Orange Advocate) happened Mr Edward Martin, son of Mr Thomas Martin, of Springside, on Saturday afternoon. He, with a number of other young men, were having a short spin on horseback for a bridle, when his horse bolted, running him against a tree. Apparently, Martin seeing he was unable to escape the tree put out both hands to lessen the force of the blow, both his wrists being dislocated. He struck the tree with his head, sustaining concussion of the brain and his face was very much bruised and lacerated. His body was also bruised somewhat. He was at once brought into Orange in an unconscious state to his sister's and was attended by Dr's Cruise and Codrington. It is expected the sight of one eye is lost, and it may not be possible to save the other, but in his present state we understand it in not easy to say what will happen to them.

The Western Daily Advocate: 8/4/1904 - Local and General - Valedictory. Mr E.M. Groundwater, son of Mr E. Groundwater of Orange, intends leaving Orange next Thursday night, in order to sail by the “Masuka” which leaves Sydney on Monday week, 15th instant for Vancouver, his destination being Philadelphia U.S.A. and thence across to Canada. Mr Groundwater intends to study while in Philadelphia at the optical profession and will be resident for that purpose at the Optical College, studying during his residence there under Dr C. Brown, the leading opticist of America. Mr Groundwater anticipates being away in all for about 12 months, during which time he will take the opportunity afforded of visiting the Niagara Falls and various manufacturing cities in order to obtain a thorough knowledge of the optical art. On his route home he will travel through Great Britain (London, Edinburgh and Cornwall) visiting, particularly relatives in Cornwall and also in the North of Scotland. We wish Mr Groundwater a pleasant and prosperous voyage and hope to hear from him frequently of his future welfare.
The Leader: 7/5/1909: Lewis Ponds - Captain William Reynolds an old and respected resident of Lewis Ponds, sold his farm and residence to Mr H. Williams last week. For years the Captain successfully managed the Mt. Britanuis, Icely and Tom's mines. He is considered one of the best authorities on copper in the district. Captain Reynolds has lived in and about this locality for almost 40 years. He is still undecided whether he will go to Bodangora (where his son resides) or remain at Lewis Ponds. It is to be sincerely hoped that the latter will be carried out, as his departure from here would be very much regretted. Mr H. Williams is a resident of Emu Swamp and is already installed in his new home.

The Leader: 17/7/1912 - Archbishop Kelly on mixed marriages: Archbishop Kelly, speaking at the recent Marists' Mission communion breakfast, used very strong terms in connection with mixed marriages. He said that Roman Catholic men should on no account marry non-catholic wives. The man who voluntarily deprived himself of the helpmeet God had granted him in a good Catholic wife did not desire to be pious, and did not desire his children to be good Catholics. It was an awful thing for a man who believed sincerely in his religion to contemplate. God forgive the man who deprived his children of the privilege of being reared by a Catholic mother. The non-Catholic woman must be cancelled from the rest of those who become the partners for life of Catholic men. He was never more earnest on any matter than on this. The mandate of the church had gone forth and the people understood the prohibition: it was for them to obey. The church desired to prevent the murder of souls and the spread of spiritual indifference. That was why it had taken the course it had to prohibit mixed marriages.

The Leader: 20/12/1920: Obituary - Mr R.T. Greene. The many friends of Mr Robert Theodore Green, of "Wentworth" Orange will regret to hear of his death, which occurred at his residence on Saturday. The deceased, who was 38 years of age, was a native of England and with his parents came out to Tasmania when quite a child remaining there for several years. When the South African war broke out he enlisted and whilst there contracted the trouble which despite all care and attention eventually caused his death. He married a Miss Cortis daughter of Dr Cortis who at one time practiced in Bathurst and came to reside in Orange about fifteen years ago, having been engaged in orchardry for the whole of that period. Though of a retiring disposition attributed chiefly to his continuous illness, he was a learned and cultured man and possessed more than an ornery grip of present day politics. He was broadminded to a degree and valued every man's opinion, carefully weighting it before giving his own. Had it not been for his ill-health he would have certainly followed his brother's (the Hon. Messey Greene) footsteps and entered Parliament. "Bob" Greene had many staunch friends and it was a pleasure to engage in conversation with him on any topic whatever, as he was a particularly a well-read man and a political economist of no mean caliber. Besides a sorrowing wife he leaves two sons to mourn their irreparable loss. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon, the remains being interred in the Presbyterian portion of the Orange cemetery. Rev. Alex. Simms officiating at the graveside.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette: 25/10/1935 - page 10
Sergeant Rowe Retires - Three Stations in 31 years- Sergeant W.J. Rowe was stationed at Windsor and has been relieving in this district on several occasions
since his transfer to Parramatta, has retired from the police force. He married Miss Vaughan, daughter of the late James Vaughan, of Pitt Town Road. He was attached to only three stations, Windsor, Hornsby and Parramatta. Sergeant Rowe was born at Byng near Orange and prior to joining the police was engaged for some years in mining in the Orange district. In his young days was a prominent cricketer in the Orange district, being particularly noted for his batting.

The Leader : 9/2/1938 - Scalding accident causes death. Cerebral haemorrhage caused by shock and burns was the verdict given by the Lithgow Coroner (Mr J.A. Chamber) when he conducted an inquest on Monday into the death of John Downey, formerly of Forest Reefs, which occurred in the Lithgow Hospital recently following a scalding accident at his shop. Mrs Elsie Emily Downey, his wife, said that on January 15 she told her husband that she intended to have a bath. He said he would carry the water upstairs while she got a towel. While witness was in her bedroom she heard a noise like a fall and heard deceased say, "oh" She ran downstairs and saw her husband lying on the floor at the foot of the stairs covered in water and steam. Deceased told her he was on the second last stair to the first landing when his foot slipped. Dr T. M Bartlett said that Downey suffered from extensive burns to the right side of the body. In hospital he developed a cerebral haemorrhage. The coroner expressed sympathy to the widow remarking that Mr Downey had been a fine old gentleman and a well-known figure in Lithgow. He was a good husband and father and undoubtly Lithgow was the loser by his passing.

Central Western Daily: 28/5/1945: Personal. - The death on Wednesday last is reported from Sydney of Mr William Leveridge who for many years resided in Orange prior to removing to Sydney. he was employed at T.J. Robinson's foundry for a long time, transferring to Walker's brewery and thence to Sydney, where he was employed in the engineering workshops during the construction of the Harbor Bridge. A brother was the late Mr Horace Leveridge, well-known in the engineering business in Orange and the West many years ago.

Cowra Guardian: 2/9/1947 - Old Eugowra Resident passes on. Mrs Mulligan came to "Gilgies" in 1890. On Sunday week one of the oldest residents of the Eugowra district, Mrs Martha Mulligan, died at the age of 89 years. Born at Ophir near Orange she came in 1890 with her husband, the late James Mulligan and three small children, to live at "Gilgies" a property they had purchased on the Eugowra Road. There in virgin bushland, they carved a prosperous farm and comfortable home for this family. Until the last illness "Grannie" as she was affectionately known, of their arrival by dray, of the hardships they had to endure. In 1920 James Mulligan passed away suddenly. With the exception of the last few months spent in Eugowra hospital the late Mrs Mulligan lived at "Gilgies". A standing memorial to these two pioneers in the Church of St. Mary's, Gilgeries, which is erected on land given by the late James Mulligan and which has been attended by members of the Mulligan family ever since. After a service at All Saints' Church of England, on Monday the funeral cortege moved to the Canowindra cemetery, where the deceased was laid to rest alongside her late husband. Rev. Drury of Eugowra, conducted the service, which was attended by a large congregation of relatives and friends. Mrs Mulligan was predeceased by her husband, one daughter Mary (late Mrs F. McClintock) and one infant son Herbert. She is survived by one daughter Lou (Mrs J. Copeland of Eugowra) and five sons Alfred (North Bangaroo), John (Forbes), Frederick
Central Western Daily: 9/9/1961 - Oldest Person in Australia dies aged 109 - James William Hull died peacefully in his sleep at his Molong home early yesterday morning. Mr Hill's parents brought him to Australia from London in 1855, at the age of three - because doctors told them he would not survive the harsh English climate. Nation-wide attention had focussed on his last nine birthdays - all celebrated in the weatherboard house he built for himself in Phillip Street, Molong, 81 years ago. Mr Hill lived nearly all his life in Molong. He was buried in Molong cemetery beside his wife, Annie, who died 21 years ago and a daughter Stella (Mrs Amos of Molong). When 108 Mr Hill said he considered he had a "pretty rough life". "I've been kicked by a horse, fallen off a load of hay and was thrown from a car when I was 96" he said. Mr Hull lent against the car's door while travelling to Orange and received scratches on the face and severe shock. Mr Hull had a very definite "recipe" for long living. "Well, I guess I've just looked after myself" he said several years ago. "I've never tasted strong drink, never had a smoke, and I never learned to dance, so I was usually in bed early" he said. "But a big thing is that I never worked on a Sunday. That meant I was always well in trim when the week's work began". His amazing memory of the district's early days never failed him. He often vividly recalled the days of the bushrangers around Molong. Miss Jessie Hull, who has looked after him for many years, said yesterday: "He had a wonderful life and thoroughly enjoyed it". Mr Hull is survived by five daughters - Mabel (Mrs J.H. Caldwell, of Molong); Lucy Francis (Mrs Couch of Kempsey); Lilian Ada (Mrs Beghin, of Molong); Hilda Claudia (Mrs Brennan, of Jamberoo) and Miss Jessie Hull. Two daughters - Stella (Mrs Amos) and Minnie (Mrs Lee) and a son Cecil predeceased him. He is also survived by 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and six great great grandchildren, living throughout Australia. (Wife: Annie Frances Hull died 30/7/1937 84 years daughter Jessie Belle Hull: Born 1897 Died 2/3/1993.)

Central Western Daily: 22/11/1961 - Mrs V. Crook - Obituary: The death occurred early yesterday morning of a well-known Orange woman Mrs Johanna Florence Crook. Mrs Crook age 71 was the wife of Mr Victor Crook. She was born at Grenfell and was formerly Miss Oxford. She came to Orange as a young woman and married at Orange, where she spent the remainder of her life. Her main interests were in the welfare of her home and family. She is survived by her husband and one daughter Joan (Mrs Peters) of Orange. There are also three brother, Daniel (Young) Manual (Young) and George (Fairfield) and two sisters, Belle (Mrs Blight, Marrickville) and Madge (Mrs Kerwin, St. George). There are two grandchildren. The funeral will leave Hotly Trinity Church, Orange after a service at 2.30 p.m. today, for interment in Orange Cemetery. (unmarked Grave).

Central Western Daily: 22/11/1961 - Oldest man in city dead, 103. Orange's oldest resident died peacefully at his Edward Street, home yesterday, aged 103. He was Mr John Bennett Wilson, who had lived in Orange since retirement about 30 years ago. Mr Wilson was well-known for his love of classical literature, but near-blindness int he closing years of his life robbed him of this pleasure. Mr Wilson told a C.W.D. reporter who visited him on his 103rd birthday on March 8 this year, he had been a great reader in his time. his favorite writers were Shakespeare and other great classical authors. On his 103rd birthday he received congratulatory telegrams from
Mr Charles Cutler M.L.A (Orange) and Mr John England M.P. (Calare). The Mayor Ald C.G. Machlin also paid him a visit. The late Mr Wilson was born at Alectown, where he spent the greatest part of his life. With his wife he conducted a store. Mr Wilson was also a well-known apiarist. On retirement about 30 years ago, the couple made their home in Orange. They had no family. Mrs Wilson predeceased her husband by three years. The funeral will leave the Congregational Church, Orange after a service today for the Canobolas Crematorium. (wife: Gertrude Alice Wilson of 31 Edward St., Orange - Died 19/11/958 - 91 years old).

*The Maitland Mercury*: 23/11/1871 - The Western Examiner reports a sudden death near Orange. A man named George Stewart was proceeding to Lucknow in search of work and was drinking heavily. He became ill on the road, but continued drinking spirits; he was unable to partake of breakfast, and went a little way from the house, where his companions, when they had finished their meal, found him dead.

**HELPING HAND**

Quite a few years ago a friend asked me to deliver something to an elderly lady who was in an Aged Care Hostel in Orange. The lady had a nice comfortable room there and showed me her surroundings and the set up, and told me how contented she was there. I was invited to sit down and we had a long chat. I feel she was a little lonely.

The chat ended up with my hearing a good deal of her life history. She was fascinated that I was interested in family history and so told me a story of hers.

Many many years before, she was expecting a baby and as the time came due for it to be born, she walked onto her front veranda and a rotten board gave way and she fell very heavily and sustained a few injuries. She went into labour and finally after a difficult labour, gave birth to a stillborn baby boy. She was seriously ill for several weeks and learnt about the baby after she recovered a little. Back in that time, mothers were ‘protected’ from information.

She tried over the years but was never able to find any official records of his birth – and had mourned for him all her life.

I was interested, so quietly undertook to do a bit of research. Every avenue I tried yielded nothing of his birth, and then I decided to try for anything regarding his death. And there it was. I was able to obtain a death certificated and took it to the lady. It was amazing to see how wonderful it was for her to have something to show he had existed.

She was just so grateful. It rounded off a chapter of her life that for decades had been unfinished.

Shirley Duckworth
The Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB or AuDB) is a national co-operative enterprise founded and maintained by the Australian National University (ANU) to produce authoritative biographical articles on eminent people in Australia’s history. It has long been a wonderful research tool for local and family historians.

The ADB project has been operating since 1957. Staff are located at the National Centre of Biography in the History Department of the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University. Since its inception, 4000 authors have contributed to the ADB and its published volumes contain 9,800 scholarly articles on 12,000 individuals.

On 6 July 2006, the Australian Dictionary of Biography Online was launched by Michael Jeffery, the then Governor-General of Australia, The website is a joint production of the ADB and the Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre, University of Melbourne (Austehc). http://adb.anu.edu.au/

Our researcher has unearthed a number of entries in the ADB with links to Orange:

He was born on 1 March 1901 at Orange, eighth of twelve children of native-born parents Walter James Roper, a draughtsman in the Department of Lands, and his wife Hannah Marie, née Gray. The family moved to Armidale in 1902 and to Mosman, Sydney, in 1916. Ernest Roper died of cerebrovascular disease on 28 June 1958 in St Luke's Hospital, Darlinghurst, and was cremated. The gates at North Sydney Boys' High School were named (1962) after him, as were prizes at the University of Sydney for students in Equity and corporate law. (Note more information on the web-site).

**STEWART** Malcolm Clarke (Max): (1935-1977) Racing Motrist. Entry written by Graham Howard:
Born Orange youngest of three children of Malcolm Herbert Stewart, clerk and his wife Isabella nee Clark. He married Margaret Mary Allen Baptist Church, Orange 1958. At Calder Raceway, accident on 19/3/1977, he died from injuries on the following day in Royal Melbourne Hospital. At Orange a park was named after him. (note more information on the web-site.) Father: Malcolm Herbert Stewart - Died 6/7/1968 - 75 years - Canobolas Garden Crematorium. Mother: Isabella Stewart - Died 25/6/1981 - 82 years.

**SCHLOESSERS/SLESSOR** Kenneth Adolf: (1901-1971), poet and journalist. Entry written by Dennis Haskell.
He was born on 27 March 1901 at Orange, second son and eldest of three surviving children of Robert Schloesser, mining engineer, and his native-born wife Margaret Ella, née McInnes, whose parents came from the Hebrides. Robert was born in London, where his father Adolphe had moved from Germany. The Schloessers were German-Jewish in origin, but without particular interest in Judaism; they were free-thinking, and included professional musicians in their ranks. Robert had studied at
Liège, Belgium, and made his children speak French at meals. He changed the family surname to 'Slessor' on 14 November 1914, just after the outbreak of World War I. Ken's father encouraged him to love music, food and books, and instilled in him a European sophistication. Kenneth Slessor died suddenly of myocardial infarction on 30 June 1971 at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney. In accordance with his will, he was cremated after a secular service and his ashes were placed next to those of Noël in Rookwood cemetery.

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Kind regards

The Orange Family History Group Team