



## ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



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Dear Friends

December already in what has definitely been a very strange year! I hope that you have all remained well and retained your sense of humour. Working on the philosophy of 'every cloud has a silver lining' spending more time at home has provided the perfect opportunity to focus on researching your family history. I know that I was far more productive due to some 'forced' down time.

By the time you read this Newsletter I will have retired and made the move from beautiful Orange to spectacular Tasmania. It has been an enormous pleasure to work with members of the Orange family History Group and with family historians from across the state, especially in conjunction with our Conference in 2017.

I wish you all health and happiness – and good luck in finding those elusive ancestors.

Warmest wishes

Jan Richards AM  
Manager Central West Libraries 1994 to 2020

## ORANGE CEMETERY UPDATE

Good News and Bad News!

Bad news first. The final version of the Orange Cemetery database, complete with photos and GPs co-ordinates, will probably not get onto the website until the end of 2021.

Good news - you can download a map of the cemetery and an excel spreadsheet of all the entries for the cemetery from the Orange City council website <https://www.orange.nsw.gov.au/orange-cemetery/>

The spreadsheet contains over 26,000 entries with all the information that is available minus the photos. Many of the entries have the GPS co-ordinates which will make it easier for you to find if you are actually in the cemetery searching for your relative or you can use it to find the location on a map. There is a 'Comments' section which will often contain references to funeral, death, obituary or probate notices giving you the newspaper dates and pages. In some cases there may be a query re the entry eg the headstone date of death does not correspond with the Births Deaths and Marriages entry.

You can search as you would normally in a spreadsheet and once you have downloaded it you won't need to be on the internet to use it. You will notice that in the Comments field there may be "Photo" written. The photos will not be available on the web until the final version is uploaded, however you can request that the photo be sent to you by contacting the Orange Family History group through Julie Sykes [jsykes@orange.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jsykes@orange.nsw.gov.au). There may also be mentions of entries in the "Orange Leader" and the "Central Western Daily". These are also available through Julie if you are unable to attend the Orange City Library yourself.

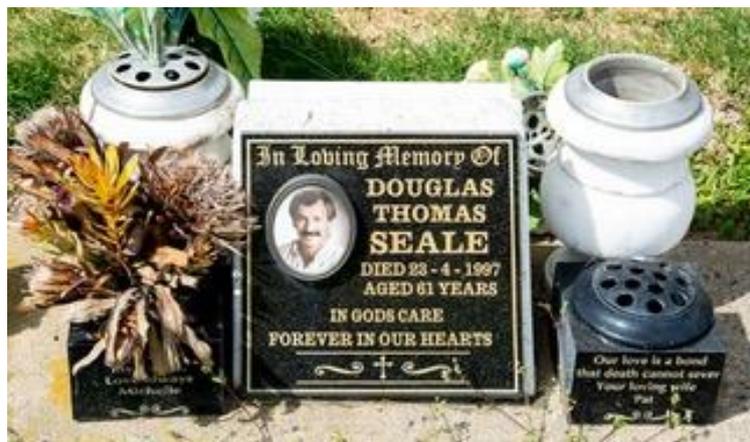
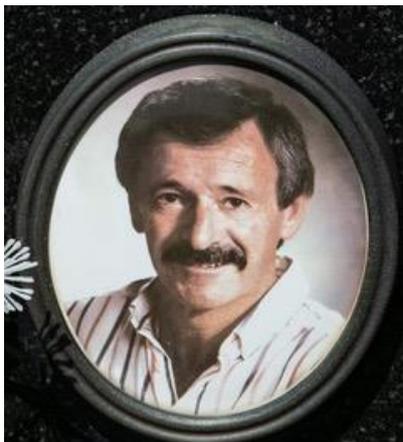
We have also put in the unmarked and unknown entries. Unmarked entries have no headstone but we do know that this is the area in which they were buried. Unknown and unmarked entries are also shown but in that case we do not know if they are vacant, reserved or have an unknown occupant. To help indicate where the allotments are we have put in a photoshop marker on the photo of the area. This is not an actual marker as it only exists on the photo. eg.



You will notice that Raymond Fell is buried in that area (Church of England Old section 1 Number 4) but has no headstone while Unknown is also shown (Church of England Section 1 Numbers 5-6).

Both of these entries show that there is a photo for them but as you can see it only gives you an indication of where they are by showing graves on either side in order to help you locate them.

A normal entry with headstone may have more than one photo as we have tried to show the location, a close-up of the headstone and even a close-up of the photo on the headstone if there is one eg:



We are hoping that by putting the spreadsheet on the web that people will be able to obtain the information that they need but also that if we have something incorrect that they will be able to give us the correct information by supplying us with such things as a copy of the death certificate or identifying where a person should be located if we don't have that information. Remember that in the beginning (1853) the churches were responsible for the information and not all churches were as accurate as we would like. The Council did not take responsibility until the 1970's.

Hoping that this is of some help to all of you researching those relatives buried in the Orange City Cemetery.

Lynne Irvine

## **NEWS FROM STATE ARCHIVES**

Two new indexes have recently published on the State Archives' website thanks to the work of volunteers and staff.

### **INDEX TO CONVICT ASSIGNMENTS**

On arrival to NSW a convict was either employed by the Government for labour on public works or assigned to an individual. Very few assignment records have survived. This index covers two of the surviving convict assignment records for the period December 1821-1825:

- NRS 12193, Register of artificers and other labourers assigned, 24 Dec 1821-31 Dec 1825
- NRS 12194, Register of prisoners who were not artificers and who had been assigned, 24 Dec 1821-31 Dec 1824

The index records the convict's name, ship, date of assignment, to whom assigned and remarks. <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/convict-assignments>

### **TRAMWAYS**

Happy news for those researching ancestors who worked for the Tramways for the years 1879-1911. These registers have been indexed by volunteers and the index containing 10,000 entries has been loaded onto the website. Even better, the registers have been digitised.

The following registers are being indexed:

- NRS 12918, Tramways staff register, 1892-1904
- NRS 12919, Tramways extra staff register, 1891-1911
- NRS 12920, Tramways extra staff register, 1892- 1904

The index records: name, service entry date and date of birth.

<https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/tramway-employees>

### **ARMIDALE EXPRESS: 24 JANUARY 1874**

At Gosling Creek, near Orange, recently, Simon Willow Kelly fell from a tree which he had ascended after a native bear, and was killed.

## **SIGNIFICANT CENTRAL WEST RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE MINUTE BOOK GIFTED TO ORANGE CITY COUNCIL - TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2020**

A rare Minute Book from the Central Western Rugby Football League's Inaugural Meeting on 20 April 1912 has been gifted to Orange City Council by Grant Jaeger and his family.

The book had been stored in a shed at the back of Jack Jaeger's shop at the Five Ways. The book was then passed onto Jack's son Trevor (former Orange City Councillor), and then onto Trevor's son, Grant Jaeger. Grant said *"such a rare book with this important local history needs be given back to the city. This way it can be looked after and preserved for future generations."*

Mayor Reg Kidd said, *"The Minute Book is significant because it tells the sporting history of early football in Orange and the district"*.

It reports on the inaugural meeting of the Central West Rugby Football League, held at Forrester's Hall in Lords Place, Orange with the aim to start a new sporting competition where players, if injured, would receive payment to cover out of pocket expenses. This first meeting was held Saturday 20 April 1912 with Frank Ford as the Chair. Keith McClymont moved the first motion to form the league which was seconded by Roy Gardiner. Teams represented at the meeting included Our Boys, Pirates, Spring Hill and Waratahs.



**Donation of Rugby League Minute Book**  
Grant Jaeger, Local Studies Librarian Julie Sykes, Library Manager Jan Richards,  
Orange Mayor Cr Reg Kidd

There are more than 200 pages about Orange's sporting history written in the book from 1912-1914. Old family names from Orange, team names, the first challenge and rules of the completion all receive a mention.

Rugby League was established as a new code when players broke away from Union in c1908. The league clubs wanted to compensate working class players for time away from work for rugby tours and injuries. Teams were reduced from 15 to 13 players, and the play-the-ball was introduced to lessen the need for scrums. The changes made league the more popular code among spectators with the increased gate money paid to benefit the players.

Mayor Reg Kidd said *"This is a wonderful acquisition for the City of Orange."*

The Minute Book will be conserved, digitised and made available for the public to view via online platforms. Members of the community will be able to read decisions made and endorsed by the committee during the two-year period it covers. Such items include: Balmain coming to Orange to play on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1912, competition rules, presentations and match results.

Mayor Reg Kidd said he was grateful to the Jaegar family for their generous gift to the City of Orange.

#### ***Molong Express – Saturday 18 July 1925 (Page 16)***

... A Molong resident, Mr George Schmich, has just returned from a most enjoyable trip around New South Wales. Mr Schmich left Molong in his new Hudson car, went through to Sydney and stayed there a week, from there down South to Goulburn, on to Cootamundra, Gundagai, Leeton, and then to Wagga and Albury. From Albury he came back round the main road to Sydney, and from Sydney down the South Coast to Kiama and return. The car behaved splendidly throughout the whole trip, notwithstanding the heavy rainstorms encountered down South. The total trip was something over 3,000 miles. The car is a Hudson Super Six, latest model, the petrol consumption was an average of 17 miles to the gallon, and the balloon tyres did not get a puncture. There was only Mr Schmich and his driver, but there was fifteen cwt of camping outfit aboard as well. Mr Schmich enjoyed the trip thoroughly, and declares that it is the best possible way to take a proper holiday – go where you like, stop where you like, take your own time, and (if weather permits) camp where you strike a particularly good spot.

## **TOMBSTONE WITH A VIDEO SCREEN**

While reading the Cleveland Family History Society (England) Journal - October 2020 page 11.

A tomb with a View: Robert Barrows of Burlingame California has filed a patent application for his design of a tombstone. (more Information).

If you google "*a tombstone with a video screen*" it has more information.

I think it would be creepy walking through a cemetery and hearing from the dead.

Carol Sharp  
Volunteer Research Officer  
Orange Family History Group

## **FINDING INFORMATION – NOEL VINCENT BENNETT**

On checking information on this headstone (Air Force insignia) 73346 Corporal N.V.Bennett, Royal Australian Air Force, 28th May 1969 aged 51 years.

I was looking for his full name and I tried to find the service number given on the headstone. I found the following information:

- Noel Vincent Bennett - died 28/5/1969 B.D.M. Father Harold, Mother Pearl
- C.W.D. 29/5/1969 Noel Vincent (Ted) Bennett - 28/5/1969 at hospital Orange late of 137 Margaret St., Orange. Husband of Mena. Father of Lorraine (Mrs Blandford, Orange). Brother of Harold, Wellington aged 51 years.
- National Archives of Australia -Noel Vincent Bennett. Service no A25746
- Web-site: - DVA's Nominal Rolls - Australia Government - Department Veterans affairs: Bennett Noel Vincent - also known as Hyde Noel Vincent - born 12/2/1915 Wellington - Service no: A2576 (73346) - enlisted Orange - next of kin Philomena Bennett.
- No record of him as Hyde Noel Vincent - on National Archives of Australia.
- N.S.W. Birth - Hyde Noel V. 12/2/1918 - Mother Pealie M. - Wellington
- N.S.W. Marriage - Pearl M. Hyde 1921 - Harold Bennett - Wellington.
- N.S.W. B.D.M. Marriage - 1939 - Hyde Noel Vincent - McCullough/ Skinner Philomena - Coonamble.

Carol Sharp  
Volunteer Research Officer  
Orange Family History Group

**BLOOMFIELD / ORANGE HEALTH SERVICE AND W. E. AGLAND  
MEMORIAL WAR MUSEUM DOCUMENTATION PROJECT  
PART OF ORANGE, BLAYNEY AND CABONNE SUSTAINABLE COLLECTIONS PROGRAM**

A small group of dedicated volunteers have been working since October 2013 on the documentation of the Bloomfield / Orange Health Service and more recently the W. E. Agland Memorial War Museum, Orange. The project has been supported by the Orange Blayney and Cabonne Sustainable Collections Program (SCP), with funding by Create NSW. The SCP is an innovative, national award winning program, involving 12 museums from across the Central West of NSW. It aims to improve, coordinate and promote museum planning, policies, practices and activities for the long term benefit and a sustainable future of the towns and communities across Central NSW. Of particular importance is the need to identify, documents, conserve and interpret valuable heritage collection held in the regions smaller volunteer operated museums.

Under the guidance of Museum Consultant, Margot Jolly, a small team of volunteers were trained in collection documentation and inducted as Orange City Council volunteers. The team consisted of Charlie Everett, Judy Kilby, Lisa Chidlow and Alison Wu who worked out of Sunset Lodge and the old museum building located at the Bloomfield Hospital site. Working conditions were not ideal in the old buildings of Bloomfield Hospital, good heating was rare. This didn't falter the group as they worked through the documentation and photography of two dimensional objects including: images, posters and books, and objects such as medical equipment and objects from some of the trade workshops that were once at Bloomfield when it was in full operation as a mental hospital. Bloomfield Hospital served the local community for over 80 years as a place of respite, training and employment.

During 2015 and 2016, the team were led by Rebecca Pinchin, Museum and Heritage Support Officer and in 2017, Orange Regional Museum, Collection Manager, Allison Campbell, assisted the team of volunteers. The volunteers worked each Tuesday, clocking up over 1,600 volunteer hours cataloguing over 2,000 objects.

Some of the significant objects that they volunteers catalogued included: early plans for the Bloomfield site, portraits of patients, very early mental health texts, a timber walker possibly made on site and a patient's suitcase with personal memorabilia. All items for the documentation work such as catalogue sheets, camera, pencils, storage boxes and mylar were provided through the award winning Sustainable Collections Program.

There was no stopping or separating the team, they then moved onto the WE Agland RSL MBE Memorial Museum in Anson Street (next to the RSL) in March 2017. The volunteers chose to work Fridays to better suit the opening times of the museum. New volunteers joined but new commitments got in the way and some left. The RSL Coffee shop became a spot for morning tea.



Charles Everett at work  
cataloguing  
*Image courtesy Margot Jolly*

Volunteers Judy Kilby, Cliff Hall, Alison Wu  
and Charles Everett  
*Image courtesy Orange City Council*



Charles Everett, Alison Wu, Alli Campbell from  
Orange Regional Museum and Cliff Hall  
*Image courtesy Orange City Council*

Since 2017 the volunteers catalogued and digitized approximately 1,300 objects, images and books. The store room at the back of the museum was fumigated and all uniforms were frozen at the Orange Regional Museum. Picture frames not on display have been individually wrapped and textile items placed in conservation boxes.

The digital records can be found on e-hive: <https://ehive.com/objects?accountId=5886>

Charles Everett compiled a tally of the hours the volunteers have worked, another 1700 volunteer hours was spent on documentation of the RSL Museum Collection. Les McGaw, the Secretary of RSL Sub Branch was helpful with determining names and identifying items. Ros Davison and Chris Colvin also from the RSL were helpful in the later stages of the work. The group ceased work during COVID-19 but were nearing completion of the work when restrictions were implemented.

Margot Jolly, Rebecca Pinchin, Ros Davidson, Charles Everett and Alison Russell from Orange City Council met up on Tuesday 14 July 2020 as a thank you for all the work the volunteers achieved and to reminisce about the past 5 years.

This project should not go without acknowledgement and gratitude of the fantastic work that volunteers undertake within our communities. Many have competing priorities, Alison Wu is employed four days a week and Charlie Everett is a member on many committees, but the group has persistently met to see the two collections documentation projects completed. We're currently looking for the next project for this great group of dedicated volunteers.



Judy Kilby, Ros Davidson, Rebecca Pinchin, Charles Everett and Margo Jolly  
*Image Courtesy Orange City Council*

Alison Russell  
Community Museum and Heritage Manager  
Orange City Council

## GWEN MEREDITH

Known Australia-wide as the author of long-running radio plays, Gwen Meredith was born in Orange 18 November 1907 to George and Florence Meredith, and was their only child.

She was educated in Sydney, first at Sydney Girls High School then the University of Sydney where she graduated in 1929. Her father believed that, with the Great Depression, there were too many people needing jobs and that she should stay at home. She managed the housekeeping and, from 1932 to 1939, owned and operated the Chelsea Book Club. This soon expanded to include a drama club, Chelsea Theatre Group that performed some of her earliest plays.

From 1939 to 1943, she worked as a freelance writer, before beginning a 33 year long career with the ABC writing radio plays, serials and documentaries. She created *The Lawsons* radio serial in 1943. She is best known for writing *Blue Hills*, which ran for 5,795 episodes over 27 years from 1949 – 1976.

Meredith was also a noted playwright. She retired in 1976 and moved to the Southern Highlands where she died on 3 October 2006, aged 98.



Gwen Meredith  
Image courtesy Orange City Library

## GEORGE FINCH

An international pioneer of modern mountain climbing techniques, George Ingle Finch was born near Orange on 4 August 1888. George went to school at Wolaroi College in Orange. The family moved to Europe in 1901, when George was aged 14.

A trained scientist, Finch developed the use of oxygen cylinders to be used climbing high altitude, low-oxygen mountain peaks. It was an approach that was criticised by traditional climbers.

As a member of the second British expedition under General Charles Bruce to climb Mount Everest on 23 May, 1922, Finch and Captain Geoffrey Bruce reached an elevation of 8,321 metres. This height set an altitude world record that wasn't beaten for 29 years when Edmund Hillary reached Everest's peak.

Finch also wore a bright green jacket of his own design made from hot air balloon fabric and filled with eiderdown feathers, the forerunner of the 'puffer-jacket' clothing that is now standard for high altitude climbing.

Finch later became Professor of Applied Physical Chemistry at London's Imperial College and in 1944 he received the Hughes Medal, given by the Royal Society of London *"in recognition*



*of an original discovery in the physical sciences, particularly electricity and magnetism or their applications."* Other winners of the medal included telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell (1913) and world famous astrophysicist Stephen Hawking (1976).

His son was the academy-award winning actor Peter Finch.

George Finch died in London on 22 November 1970.

George Finch, 1922  
Image courtesy *Alpine Journal*  
/ *Wikimedia Commons*

***The Sydney Morning Herald Mon 24 Sep 1860***  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH**

Michael Flanagan was indicted for that he, on the 9th day of May, 1860, at Orange, in the colony of New South Wales, did feloniously, willfully, and of malice aforethought, kill and murder one Bridget Flanagan. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. He was defended by Mr. Stephen. It appeared, from the evidence of Emily Flanagan, daughter of deceased, that her father and mother had been drinking the day previous to that on which the sad occurrence took place; on the Wednesday morning, he wanted more drink and wished his wife to join him. Her mother refused, he then struck her on the nose with his fist; after that he went to sleep on the bed, her mother being in bed at the same time; witness kept about the home during the day; and in the evening she looked into the bedroom, and saw her mother lying naked on the floor, with blood on her head; her father was asleep on the sofa in the sitting-room; did not see her mother again till next morning; she was then quite dead, and lying on the bed; saw an axe with some blood upon it after her mother was dead; saw, also, the clothes in possession of the constables – they were those her mother had been in the habit of wearing. James Dixon, a constable in the Orange police at the time of this occurrence, deposed that he knew the prisoner; from information he received on Thursday, the 10th May, went to prisoner's residence where he saw the body of prisoner's wife dead and perfectly naked lying on the bed ; there were several pools of blood; Dr. Warren also saw the body exactly as it was found; there were considerable quantities of blood about in pools, quite fresh; found a quantity of clothes covered over the body, amongst which were a chemise and a flannel singlet; brought away several of the articles ; the prisoner was not present ; afterwards found him at a place called Jack the Drover's about three o'clock on the same afternoon; he was asleep on a stool by the fire; handcuffed him before he awoke; he had on a pair of Bedford cord trousers, an old cabbagetree hat and a coat, on all or which were marks of blood; told him that he was apprehended for the willful murder of his wife, to which he said "*I don't care, they can't hurt me;*" cautioned him in the usual manner, and after taking off the clothes he had on, gave him into custody; the shoes he had on were not bloody; went back to the house and found a pair of boots much stained with blood; did not find any shirt at that time; found an axe at the head of the bed on the floor, the handle was bloody, it was fresh blood but dry; saw constable Mears take a patch-work quilt out of a large iron pot the water in which was red with blood; on the Saturday, the 12th after the prisoner was committed found a shirt at his residence stained with blood on the left sleeve. (Here witness produced the articles which have been before enumerated covered with stain of blood.) Other evidence of a corroborative character having been given, Dr Warnet described the nature of the injuries, which, he said, were sufficient to cause death, and could not have been the result of a fall, or falls. After an absence of forty minutes, the jury returned into Court with a verdict of manslaughter. Sentence - ten years' hard labour on the roads, or other public works of the colony. The Court then rose, this case having occupied the entire day.

Michael Sharp  
Orange Family History Group

## NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*The Maitland Mercury* - 9/5/1876:

The Western Examiner (Orange) of April 29th says a Chinaman named Ah Kow died in the Orange goal on Sunday 23rd April. He had been found on April 15th in an old unfinished hut close to the railway on the flat and said he was very bad. The hospital being full, he was admitted into the goal on a charge of vagrancy. He was unable to walk and said he was 78 years old. Dr Codrington found that he was suffering from bronchitis and diarrhea and not withstanding all that was done for him he died on Sunday the 23rd.

\*\*\*N.S.W. B.D.M. -Death - Unkown Chinaman - 8892/1876 - aged 78 years - died Orange.

*Central Western Daily* - 21/11/1945: Obituary - Mr Frank Darvall Cobb.

The Mandurama district lost one of the oldest residents on Sunday when Frank Darvall Cobb passed away at his residence "Nunaham Park" Mandurama. The late Mr Cobb was born at "Bienhelm" Carcoar and was educated at the Church of England Grammar School North Sydney. Throughout his life which was spent firstly at "Fernalde" Garland and later at "Nunsham Park" Mandurama, he supported all movements beneficial to the district and enjoyed the esteem and confidence of all his associates. He is survived by his widow three sons Frank, Farrington (of Mandurama) and John (Sydney) and one daughter (Mrs P. Rootes, Orange) as well as two sisters Misses E. K. Cobb (Carcoar) and two brothers Rowland (Mandurama) and William (Woodstock). The funeral moved from St Stephen's Church of England, Mandurama to the Lyndhurst cemetery where the interment took place. The Rev. Pearce officiated. The pall bearers were members of Lodge Belubula No472 UGL of N.S.W. The deceased was one of its oldest members. The Masonic Service was read by Wor. Bro. A.T. Young in the presence of a large number of the brethren.

*Central Western Daily* - 23/11/1946: Well-known traveller thrown from tram.

Mr Les Brainwood country representative for Messrs Gordon and Gotch who has been paying monthly visits to Orange for many years was recently thrown from a tram. He was in Orange yesterday sporting a black eye a deeply bruised temple and jaw. Mr Brainwood has a friend a blind returned soldier whom he was placing on a Glebe Point tram in the city after spending the afternoon at his home. When he had placed the blind man in a seat and was about to step out the tram unexpectedly moved off, throwing Mr Brainwood to the roadway.

*Central Western Daily* - 7/7/1950: Died from kick by a horse.

A finding of accidental death was returned by Deputy Coroner Mr R.C. Sheridan at an inquiry yesterday into the death of Charles Joseph Smith 79 of Nile Street, Orange. Mr Sheridan found that Smith died in Orange Base Hospital following a kick by a horse. The coroner was told that Smith had taken a draught horse from his residence to a paddock in Dalton Street. Stanley Bede Faucett shop assistant said that he was a grandson of Smith and his grandfather was in the habit of taking the horse to a paddock each morning.

Lying in paddock. An Orange jockey Rowley Rowe said that at 10 a.m. on June 29 he saw a

man lying in a paddock between Nile and Autumn Streets. The man was lying about three yards from a gate which had been opened wide enough to allow a horse to pass through. Rowe said that a draught horse and dog were in the paddock. Rowe told the Deputy-Coroner that he went and told Smith's relatives about the accident. Clarence James Moore 197 William Street, carrier said that when he turned out of Nile Street, East Orange, he saw a horse race along the side fence of a paddock facing Dalton Street. He said that he saw Smith lying on the ground with injuries to his face. A rope halter was found about three feet from where Smith was lying. Dr W.F. Matthews said that Smith had suffered from a fractured skull compound fracture of jaw and cerebral hemorrhage. The injuries received by Smith were consistent with a kick in the head by a horse.

*Central Western Daily - 4/8/1953: Obituary - Mr P. Healey.*

The death occurred recently after a brief illness of Patrick Healey a well-known resident of Clinton Street. Fifth son of a pioneer couple of the Bathurst district he was born at Kelso on his father's property. He was educated in Bathurst and remained there until early manhood when he took up land in the Wellington district and later at various other parts of the Central West. About twenty-five years ago he moved to Molong and acquired a business remaining there until 10 years ago. Disposing of the business he moved to Orange to live in retirement. He married Miss Kathleen McAllister daughter of the Mr and Mrs F.J. McAllister of Anson Street and she with his only child Kevin Healey of Sydney are left to mourn his death. In addition to the following brothers William (Bathurst); Morris (Balladool); Frank (Dunedoo); Edward (Windsor) his only sister was buried the day he died.

**\*\*Orange Cemetery: unmarked grave - Patrick Joseph Healey - died 25/7/1953**

(Note: his son John Kevin Healey - born 27/3/1925 Molong - World War 11 - died 1979. B.D.M. Death - John Kevan Healey).

Mary Jane Healey - died 23/7/1953

*Central Western Daily - 23/2/1954: Obituary - William Charles Peters.*

The death occurred last Friday of Mr William Charles Peters at the age of 80 years. Born at Goulburn. Mr Peters when a young man drove a horse team with his parents to Gunnedah, where he married the daughter of a local couple well-known in that district. He visited many parts of the far west of N.S.W. as a shearer, drover and building contractor. Mr Peters came to Orange with his family about 40 years ago buying the property known as "Kathell" which was named after his two daughters. He was one of the pioneers in the pea-growing industry in that area and later established an orchard. "Kathell" near the Pinnacle, became well-known as a holiday resort and guest house for 10 years preceding the war. The property was then sold to one of the sons and Mr Peters and his wife retired to a home they built in Margaret St., Orange. His wife, two sons and a daughter died before him and he is survived by a daughter. Mrs Gleeson of Bourke and six sons Gordon; Frank; Mervyn; Allan; Jack and Ron. There are 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

*Central Western Daily - 17/6/1954: Mrs L.E. Kenkes (should be Henkes)*

A former well-known and esteemed resident of Orange, Mrs Lily Eva Henkes, died at her

residence at Haberfield on Wednesday at the age of 84 years. Mrs Henkes who was born at Trunkey Creek spent the greater part of her life in Orange, where her husband, the late Mr Harry Henkes conducted a bakery business in Peisley Street for many years when Orange was a much smaller place than it is today. Mr Henkes was a prominent member of the Methodist Church. Mrs Henkes had been living in Sydney for a long period but generally came back to Orange to spend the summer months with her son Keith and his wife at Clergate. The body is being brought straight from Haberfield to the Methodist cemetery at Orange, where a burial service will be conducted by the Rev. A.R. Gardner this afternoon. A service will not be held at the local church, as one was conducted at the Haberfield Methodist Church yesterday afternoon. Many of Mrs Henkes old friends in Orange and also of the relatives may desire to attend the burial service at the time stated. Mrs Henkes is survived by two sons and one daughter: Raymond (Haberfield) and Keith (Clergate) and Claire (Mrs English, of Rose Bay). There are eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

*Central Western Daily* - 12/7/1954: Mr N.S. (Cappy) Rix dies at 83.

Orange and district lost one of its best-known citizens though the death yesterday of Mr N.S. Rix. Mr Rix died at his home, 83 Hill Street, in the early hours of yesterday morning after a short illness. His funeral will take place this afternoon. The late Mr Rix who was born at Camden just over 83 years ago had been a resident of Orange for almost 40 years and during that time had made friends throughout the city and district. He was widely known as a skin buyer for Riley Newman Pty. Ltd and in that capacity had dealing with many district farmers and graziers. Coming to Orange shortly before the end of World War 1 after having been invalided out of the Army following three years' service overseas, Mr Rix was appointed manager of the Orange branch of Riley Newman Pty. Ltd. Under his management the business thrived and he soon was considered one of the keenest buyers in the State. In this his early life in Queensland stood him in good stead. Before enlisting in the 1st A.I.F. Mr Rix had earned a reputation in Queensland and the North Coast of N.S.W. as a wonderful judge of the value of skins and was in business on his own account. He enhanced that reputation in the Orange district and was manager of Riley Newman's at Orange for 25 years. In all he had 36 years' service with that firm before being compulsory retired three months ago at the age of 82 years. During his residence at Orange, Mr Rix became associated with many local organisations. He was a foundation member of the Orange sub-branch of the Returned Soldiers League and several years ago was made a life member of the league in recognition of his services. He was also a foundation member of Orange Diggers' Race Club and was the prime mover in the formation of the now defunct Orange Diggers Mechanical Coursing Club. He did much in the early stages to place the latter organisation on a sound footing and was an active member of the club. In recent years he had raced dogs at Wade Park with some success. The late Mr Rix (or "Cappy" as he was familiarly known to a very wide circle of friends) was a keen sportsman and he liked nothing better than to get out into the country for a day's shooting at week-ends. He was remarkably active for his age and led a busy life until his retirement. He had a warmth about him which naturally endeared him to all and sundry and his death will be sincerely mourned by many people throughout the district. Mr Rix's wife predeceased him 12 years ago. He is survived by two sons Messrs, Clarry Rix (who lived with his father) and Alan Rix of Coramba, in the Coff's Harbour district. A brother, Mr William Rix of Willoughby and a sister Mrs Taplin of Camden also survive. The funeral will take place this afternoon.

**\*\*Headstone - Orange Cemetery: In Loving Memory of Gunner 48728 Snedell Rix, died 11 July 1954 aged 83 yrs. Neheimah Snedell Rix, died 11 July 1954 aged 83 yrs.**

*Central Western Daily - 16/10/1954: Obituary - Mr J.A. Wright.*

A well known and esteemed identity of the Orange district Mr John Annesley Wright of "Ballykeane" Cadia Road, died at a private hospital early yesterday morning at the age of 60 years. He had been ill for only a brief period and his unexpected death came as a shock to his many friends. Mr Wright had been living on the Cadia Road property since 1914 the year his mother then a widow and a very charming lady acquired the property and made her home there with two sons John and Frank and one daughter Thelma (now Mrs J. Taylor, of Mudgee). The family conducted the orchard for some years Mr John Wright married Miss Ida Edwards, a daughter of a Presbyterian minister and a member of the teaching staff of the Education Department 17 years ago, shortly after she had joined the staff of the Orange Rural School. They spent the whole of their married life at "Ballykeane" a name chosen for the property when they went to live there. Mr Wright's mother died in 1939 and his younger brother Frank, died at Bathurst last year. "Jack" Wright as he was familiarly known to his friends had always been a prominent resident of Orange, from the time he came here at the age of 20. A successful orchardist and business man it was not long before he became closely associated with the Orange Producers Rural Co-operative society eventually becoming one of the foundation members of its cool store section when it was inaugurated 25 years ago. Like his wife, he took a leading part in the activities of St John's Presbyterian Church, being one of its elders for many years while he was also a member of the council of the Presbyterian Ladies College. He will be sadly missed by both those organisations. Jack Wright was a popular and active member of the Orange Bowling Club and for many years was a constant week-end player at the greens in Anson Street. Mrs Wright has also played a prominent part in local affairs being a staunch supporter and former president of the Country Women's Association for many years and she will have the sincere sympathy of its members and her many friends in the great loss. A service was conducted at St John's Church yesterday. The remains to Sydney for cremation at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium.

*Central Western Daily - 20/12/1954: Mrs Valerie McCarron.*

Mrs Valeria McCarron wife of Mr Hugh McCarron, died early on Saturday morning at her home in Fox Avenue, Orange. Her death was the tragic sequel to several months' illness during which unremitting medical and nursing attention and the loving care of her family and friends were given untiringly but vainly. Mrs McCarron was only 29 years of age. She was well-known and well-liked among a large circle of friends. A genial disposition, pleasing personality and a ready capacity for helping others made her deservedly popular. Like her husband she took an active interest in a number of local organisations of which she was a valued member. One of the most energetic workers in the Infants School Mothers' Club (Rural School, Sale Street) she was a former secretary of that organisation; a former treasurer and member of the board of directors of the Quota Club of Orange and one of its keenest members; a member of the Presbyterian Evening Women's Guild and former secretary of that church's Parents and Friends' Association. Mrs McCarron an only child was born in Wellington New Zealand. She came to Sydney in her early teens and was married to Mr Hugh McCarron in that city in 1945.

With the exception of two years abroad (1950-1951) when her husband was working in London she had lived in Orange since 1946. Only recently Mr and Mrs McCarron and their only child a daughter (Wendy) aged 8, moved into their newly-built home in Fox Avenue. Mr McCarron a partner in Orange Tourist Centre is one of Orange's best-known and popular young citizens and has been actively associated with many progressive moves aimed at the advance of Orange over the last few years. He is a prominent Apexian and senior vice-president of the World Council of this community is extended in the loss of a loved and devoted wife and mother. The funeral will leave for the Orange cemetery after a service at the Presbyterian Church this morning.

*Central Western Daily* - 13/11/1958: Obituary - Mr C.G. Miller.

Mr Claude Giffin Miller of George Street, Manildra, died at his home last Wednesday. Mr Miller had been in ill health for the past two years and was under constant medical attention. He was born in Manildra 71 years ago and was a son of the late Mr and Mrs Charles Miller pioneers of the district. He was engaged in agricultural and grazing on his father's property "Moolahway" on the Gumble Road on the outskirts of Manildra. In the Forbes district he was in partnership with Messrs Harold and Hurbert Griffith members of an old Manildra family. Later he returned to "Moolahway". He lived at "Moolahway" until his retirement a few years ago. Mr Miller was Chairman of the Molong Pastures Protection Board and a councilor on Boree Shire Council. He volunteered for service in the A.I.F. in the First World War and he was also on the Show committee. He leaves his wife Jossie, three sons Ronald, Douglas and Gordon all of Manildra and two daughters Velma and Joan. His surviving brothers and sisters are Gus (Manildra); Charles (Peak Hill); Florrie (Roseville) Ida (Coogee) and Alma (Killara). Another brother Wilfred died as a result of a level crossing car accident at Parkes and in which the deceased's mother was killed and himself injured. His funeral left C.J. Hylands funeral parlours after a service conducted by Rev. Gaden of Molong Church of England for the Canobolas Crematorium Orange.

*Central Western Daily* - 21/8/1963: Death at 91 of Mr J.G. Weekes, Molong.

The death occurred last weekend in Orange Base Hospital of one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Molong. Mr John George Weekes aged 91. Mr Weekes was born at Molong and lived all his life in that district. He was the son of the late Mr and Mrs John Weekes who were among the earliest pioneer settlers of the Central West. For many years he conducted a market garden and also operated a green-grocery business in conjunction with his garden. He was a recognized authority on all vegetable culture and invariably received prizes in many of the agricultural shows in which he exhibited his produce. He was also a keen miner and after retirement from business he made many trips with companies to the old gold mining areas, often uncovering small quantities of gold. He also took a keen interest in all forms of sport, particularly in trotting in which his sons play a leading part in the Western Districts. His wife who was formerly Miss Ada Hillan, predeceased him by three years. He is survived by three sons, William (Queensland); George and Gus (Molong) and two daughters Ivy (Mrs Dunn, Bathurst) and Daphne (Mrs Gandry, Orange). He is also survived by 28 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren. The funeral left St. John's Church of England Molong, on Sunday afternoon for the Church of England portion of Molong cemetery.

*Central Western Daily* - 5/10/1963: Obituary. Mr H.A. Montgomery.

The death occurred in Orange Base Hospital last Saturday of Mr Henry Acheson (Harry) Montgomery at the age of 58. He was the son of the late Mr and Mrs H.A. Montgomery, of Sydney and had lived in Orange for 30 years. A returned soldier of World War 11, he saw active service in New Guinea as a member of the 2/3rd Machine gun battalion. On his discharge at the end of the war he entered the Repatriation Hospital at Concord. Except for about 18 months when he went to work at Emmco and found he was unable to carry on working. He spent the rest of his life in and out of hospitals. He was a member of the Returned Soldiers TPI Association. Mr Montgomery married Miss Edith Miskell a member of a well-known family of the Orange district. He is survived by his widow and two daughters Maria (Mrs Stanley Gouge) and Miss Carmel Montgomery. Also surviving are a sister Amy (Mrs F. O'Shea) and a brother Norman both of Sydney. After a service at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church last Sunday afternoon the funeral which was largely attended left for the Catholic cemetery Orange. The soldiers' service was conducted by the president Mr Claude Spencer.

*Central Western Daily* - 18/10/1967:

Millthorpe - The death occurred recently of Mr Bertram Aubrey Wenban at his home in Norman Ave., Eastwood, Sydney. He was 77 years of age and was the son of the late Mr and Mrs A. Wenban early pioneers of Millthorpe. Bert spent his childhood and many years of his later life in Millthorpe. A World War 1 veteran he enlisted for service in 1915 and was wounded in France in 1917. He lost his right arm and a finger and thumb of the left hand. Although seriously handicapped he overcame his difficulty and ran his own garage at Millthorpe. He later had a carrying business. Mr Wenban married Miss Frances Oldham at the Gregghamstown Church of England 42 years ago and he and his wife and children moved to Sydney 16 years ago. Bert Wenban returned to Millthorpe every Anzac Day for the procession and service with the exception of the last two years when his health began to fail. He leaves a widow daughter Dorothy, two sons Eric and Keith and four grandchildren. Two sisters Mrs Lil White (Sydney) and Mrs Ilma Lee (Sydney), also survive him. His sister Ula predeceased him. His funeral service was held in St. Mark's Church of England Millthorpe when RSL members recited their Ode and Act of Remembrance and placed a poppy on the coffin. The cortege then moved to the Canobolas Crematorium Orange. The Rev Evendon conducted the service in the church and at the crematorium.

*Canowindra Star* - 18/9/1968: Obituary: Edmond Jeffery.

The death occurred at St. Joseph's Home for the Aged in Dubbo on Saturday, September 7, of Mr Edmond Jeffery, 96, formerly of the Cudal, Eugowra and Canowindra districts. Mr Jeffery was 96 and would have been 97 in November. He was the last surviving member of a family of eight all of whom lived to their nineties - the youngest to die was 92. One lived to 98. The late Mr Jeffery was born in the Condobolin district in 1871 and moved to the Orange district where he married, Miss Cain of Cargo in 1901. The same year he took up a selection of land on the Eugowra Parkes Road. He later moved to the Canowindra, Cumnock and Burdett areas where he held farming and grazing interests for many years. He had a family of six sons Ted and Bill predeceased him. Surviving members of the family are Tom (Canowindra); Laurence and John (Penrith) Nell (Mrs Ron Middleton, Cobar). Also surviving are 18 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. The funeral took place in the Canowindra cemetery after prayers said

by Monsignor McMahon who also officiated at the graveside.

*Canowindra Star* - 25/9/1968: Death of Cudal's Mr A.L. Chapman.

Cudal's newsagent for many years, Mr Aubrey Lewis Chapman 85, died in the Orange hospital last Thursday morning. Mr Chapman and his wife migrated to Australia in about 1912, from England. After spending some time in Sydney the couple settled in Cudal. During his time in Cudal Mr Chapman was engaged in a number of businesses before taking over the Cudal Newsagency. He was an active sportsman particularly interested in golf and bowls. Mr Chapman was also keenly interested in the formation and running of the Cudal Dramatic Society and was a life member of the Cudal Show Society. His funeral took place in the Church of England cemetery on Sunday afternoon. His wife Annie died about 11 years ago. He is survived by his two sons Louis, of Sydney and Arthur of Newcastle.

*Central Western Daily*: 31/8/1970: Obituary - George Owen Patteson.

The death of Mr George Owen Patteson one of the most well-known and popular citizens of Orange occurred recently. George "Patto" as he was familiarly known to all his friends came to Orange with his parents nearly 70 years ago. He went to school and grew up in Orange and when World War 1 broke out in 1914 he enlisted with his brother Bill and served for four years with the 20th Battalion AIF and took part in all the major battles on the Somme and in Flanders on the Western frontier of France and Belgium. On the cessation of hostilities he returned in 1919 to Orange where he married Gladys Clift a daughter of a very highly respected family in Orange. George continued with his occupation as a tailor and was employed by Mr Charles Curran who carried on a most up-to-date tailoring business in Orange for very many years. When the depression came many business houses suffered and employees were stood down. It was then that George "Patto" was given employment with the Orange Municipal Council's Electricity Department where he worked as a linesman and one of his first jobs was on the erection of the Electricity mains to the newly erected 2GZ transmission station at Amaroo in the early 1930's when wireless first came to Orange. He continued with the Electricity Department which became the Ophir County Council until his retirement in 1963. Always a staunch and loyal member of the City of Orange Sub-Branch of the RSL since its inception. His funeral which was one of the largest seen in Orange for some time was attended by many of his "Old Digger" mates and his work mates from the Ophir County Council. Besides his loving wife Gladys, he leaves a family of two daughters Marjorie (Mrs J. Hopley, Revesby) and Barbara (Mrs T. Barclay) and five sons John, Ray, Ken, Syd and Brian all of Orange and 19 grandchildren. Also sisters Mary Coghlan of Springwood, Thelma (deceased) and brothers' Bill (Deceased) Ernie (killed by Japanese on death march to Burma), Leo (Huskisson) Ray (Cronulla) and Jim (Pymble).

*Central Western Daily* - 8/9/1971: Obituary.

The death took place in the Orange Base Hospital of John Donald McLennan, after a short illness on Wednesday August 25, in his 51st year. He was born at Gowrie via Taralga and was the son of the late Mr and Mrs Allan McLennan. He served in the 2nd AIF and was a corporal in New Guinea. He also served six years in the Light Horse and Infantry and was military policeman. He and his wife and family came from Cowra nine years ago and settled on a

property in the Millthorpe area near the Carcoar district. He is survived by his widow Merle daughter Mrs Williams (Zena) and her husband of Carcoar. Judith of Mitchell College, Bathurst; Christine and Jacqueline of Carcoar and two grandchildren. His funeral took place on Thursday August 26, at St Mark's Church, Millthorpe. Members of the Lyndhurst Sub-branch of the RSL and Millthorpe and Blayney ex-servicemen attended and formed a guard of honor. The RSL Western District Councilor Mr F. Press gave the address at the graveside. The Rev. Brian Goff conducted the service in the church and at the graveside. Pall-bearers were Mr Geoff Maynard; Mr Rod Guihot; Mr Bill Maynard and Mr Ron Guihot.

*Central Western Daily - 7/9/1973: Death of former shire engineer.*

Mr Alfred Stephen after whom the Mount Canobolas Road was named died in Orange on Thursday. He was 89. The road was built during Mr Stephen's term as engineer to the Canobolas Shire Council. A bronze plaque at the Pinnacle gives details of the road's construction - it was built during the depression years and states that the road from the Pinnacle to the top of the mountain is named the "Alfred Stephen Drive. Respected. Alfred Stephen was one of the most highly respected citizens of Orange. He first came to Orange in 1912 as a surveyor with the Lands Department. In 1928 he was appointed engineer to the Canobolas Shire Council and served a record term until his retirement from the shire, he founded the firm of surveyors in Orange, which is now known as Alfred Stephen, Raymond and Rae. He retired from this practice in 1965. Mr Stephen was foundation member of the Canobolas Club and at the time of his death was the patron. He was a life member of the Orange Jockey Club and a member of Orange City and Newstead Bowling Club. Alfred Stephen was born in Sydney on July 14, 1884, the eldest son of Arthur and Alice Stephen. He is a descendent of Sir Alfred Stephen who first came to Australia in 1825 as Solicitor-General of Van Dieman's Land and who later became Chief Justice of N.S.W. He was also descended from William Cox, who came to Australia in 1799 as a member of the N.S.W. Corps and later became a leading pastoralist. In 1883 William Cox was commissioned by Governor Macquarie to build the first road over the Blue Mountains. The Stephen family has been distinguished in law, surveying and exploration the Church of England and literature. Alfred Stephen is survived by his widow and four daughters Mrs Charles McDermott (Darling Point); Mrs James Crawford (Mayfield, Orange); Mrs Douglas Sutherland (Gordon) and Miss Alison Stephen (South Yarra, Victoria). He was privately cremated at the Canobolas Crematorium on Friday.

## **CORRECTION**

### **ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER APRIL 2010 – PAGE 4**

#### **Births, Deaths, Marriages**

#### **Whitehead**

\*\*\**Sydney Morning Herald*: 22/12/1883 - Whitehead - December 18, accidentally killed at Borenore, near Orange, Thomas Henry, third beloved son of William and Rebecca Whitehead, aged 12 years \*\*\**The Sydney Mail* - 29/12/1883 - On Tuesday last (the *Western Advocate* states) a sad and fatal accident occurred, by which a boy about 11 years of age, son of Mr. William Whitehead, farmer of Borenore, met his death.

Mr. Whitehead was engaged with two of his sons and a man named Welch in reaping oats in one of his paddocks. The deceased was holding the horse which was attached to a reaping machine, when a hare ran out from the oats in front of the horse, and so startled it that it bolted. The little fellow hung on manfully for some time, endeavouring to quieten the horse, but was finally knocked down, and, coming in contact with the machine, was dragged for about 200 yards. When picked up by his father and brother he was breathing, but unconscious. The poor little fellow was much mutilated about the head and body, and died almost immediately.

Contact the Orange Family History Group if you would like further information.