



ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2017



Copyright © 2016 by Orange City Council. This work is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>

THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN!

The graphic features a teal rectangular box on the right containing the text "YOUR FAMILY STORY: TELLING, RECORDING & PRESERVING". To the left of this box, the text "NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES CONFERENCE 2017" is displayed in orange and teal. A dashed orange line with circular nodes connects the text to the teal box. Below the main text, "ORANGE 22-24 SEPTEMBER" is written in orange.

NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION OF
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES
CONFERENCE 2017

**YOUR FAMILY STORY:
TELLING, RECORDING & PRESERVING**

ORANGE 22-24 SEPTEMBER

This is the last edition of this Newsletter before we host the 2017 NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference 21-24 September. We have had a *fantastic* response to our program and at the time of writing have over 250 delegates registered with more arriving daily. It has been a delight to check the mail and see who is coming!

The Conference will open with a Welcome Reception on Thursday night. This was originally going to be held in the new Orange Regional Museum but we quickly outgrew the space and now it will be held next door in the Orange Regional Gallery. A great chance to reconnect with old friends, and make new ones.

Friday is devoted to the Family History Fair where societies and organisations will 'set up shop' and talk to you about what's new in the Family History world. The great thing about the Fair (which will be held in the Orange City Library) is that its open to **everyone** – you don't need to be a conference delegate to attend. For those who registered early we're also running a series of workshops on Friday (sorry totally 'sold out').

Friday night provides an opportunity to explore a different perspective on our theme *Your Family Story: telling, recording and preserving* when celebrated and performer, William Yang presents his life story at the Orange Civic Theatre. Residents of the Orange Community and surrounding are invited to work with William over five days to craft a story which they are willing to share with an audience as an entrée to William's presentation on Friday 22 September 2017 (if you're a 'local' details of how you can be involved are available later in this Newsletter). As an added extra William's haunting photographs will be on display at the Orange Regional Gallery.

On Saturday and Sunday things ramp up as we move into the Conference proper with a range of fabulous speakers on stage at the Orange Civic Theatre. Our keynote on Saturday morning will be given by Christina Henri who will recount the stories of our female convict ancestors as relayed through her Roses of the Heart project. As an added bonus there will be an installation of bonnets at the adjacent Orange Regional Museum. Christina will be followed by talks on Gaolbird ancestors; telling the family story through food; dating family photos through dress and Irish famine orphans.

Actor and author William McInnes will lead off on Sunday morning and those of you who have never heard William speak are in for a treat! His books always revolve around his family stories and he is a raconteur in the finest tradition. We will then move on to learning about businesswomen in Australian history; using the web to tell your story and the ANU Archives project to digitise the Tooth & Co Hotel records (which family doesn't have a publican somewhere?)

On top of this we have walking tours, visits, dinner ... the list goes on. For further details visit our website. See you in September!

<https://yourfamilystoryinorange.wordpress.com/>

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

We are very excited to be working with the Orange Civic Theatre and William Yang in bringing local stories to the stage for one night on 22 September.

The Story Only I Can Tell is the generic story of William's life. His forebears migrated from China to Australia over a hundred years ago and subsequent generations adapted to western culture. William grew up in North Queensland on a tobacco farm, and has made his way in the world as an architect, a playwright, a photographer, a visual artist, a film-maker, and now a story-teller. He has led a varied life, working alongside many of Australia's best-known artists from all artforms, including Patrick White, Brett Whitely and Jenny Kee. This basic story is adapted to suit with optional, additional themes: like photography, being Chinese in the West, China, landscape, being gay and cultural diversity.

The Artist

Photographer and performer William Yang is one of Australia's most celebrated independent artists, renowned for his poignant work, exploring social diversity, belonging and travel. He was born of Chinese Australian parents and grew up strongly identifying as Australian although he looked Chinese. He suffered because of the way he looked as he was not as he appeared to be. He was also gay. He liberated himself from social expectation, and his search for identity is one of the main themes of his work.

The Workshops

Residents of the Orange Community and surrounding are invited to work with William over five days to craft a story which they are willing to share with an audience as an entrée to William's presentation on Friday 22 September 2017.

Workshops will run Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm each day with a lunch break from 1pm to 2pm. This is William's preferred option but he realises some people may work and so this can be adjusted to accommodate this.

The selected participants need to come with a family story – either from the past or from the present along with associated photographs from that story (as many photographs of the principal character/s as possible plus associated photographs of places associated with the story as they can find!).

The photographs should be scanned to a USB ready to go on day one. We may need to rescan depending on the resolution format required for the projector. It is preferred if

the participants have their own laptops to work on – but if not this can be accommodated and the stories transferred/reacted on computer with the help.

The Process

William has requested that people provide a one paragraph precis of their story, along with their age and gender. He will then select the four most interesting to develop.

Submissions close 5pm, Monday 28 August 2017. Please attention Michelle Pearce at Orange Civic Theatre, mpearce@orange.nsw.gov.au or PO Box 35, Orange NSW 2800.

DEAD COUPLE IN 'BLACK WEDDING'

Albany New York

Central Western Daily – 16 May 1947 (Page 2)

The last wish of a young couple fatally injured in a car crash, that they should be married, even in death, was carried out here by Rabbi Slonin.

The ceremony was a 'black wedding' rarely performed outside the countries of Eastern Europe, where it originated.

On the day their engagement was to have been announced Miss Johannes Wohl aged 20, a student, and Norman Saltzburg a 25 year old ex-soldier attending a local law school, were returning from a shopping tour when their car overturned.

As they lay dying in hospital the couple, who had met only six weeks ago, asked that their marriage plans should be carried out even if they died.

At the request of their parents Rabbi Slonin conducted the black wedding, which is not part of the Hebrew religion, but is an old sentimental custom.

Attending the ceremony, held at the flower-banked coffins of Johannes and Norma, were their fathers and two uncles. No women were present.

The rabbi placed a gold wedding band on the girl's right index finger.

Two features of Hebrew weddings were omitted: there was no wine and no wine cup was broken. In the girl's coffin was placed the writ of marriage.

Then the couple were buried side by side in a cemetery near her home.

**WALTER - THE MAN WHO SAVED THE LIFE OF A FOAL AND RISKED HIS OWN
ON OPHIR GOLD FIELDS** by Robert Sloan

Western Magazine, Week commencing December 9 1996 (Page 11)

The few specks of Ophir colour we were finding in our gold pans were becoming less with each dish of gravel washed.

The billy was boiling and the aroma of burning eucalyptus twigs beckoned, "time for a cuppa"

My sons Andrew and David were only too happy to down tools, for the lack of paydirt in Eau-De-Cologne Gully was not encouraging.

Since moving from Orange to Gerringong on the south coast, my visits to Ophir are unfortunately less frequent, however my love of fossicking and interest in Ophir's history ensure my return whenever possible.

Sipping on a mug of black tea, I listened to Andrew describe how Noel Rawlinson, one of only two miners operating a shaft on the Ophir fields, would like to see the Government produce the gold medals for the Sydney 2000 Olympics with gold from Ophir, I hope Noel's great idea goes ahead, and what an honour for Tom and Lister, the local men who first discovered payable gold at Ophir in 1851. It takes courage, willpower and supreme effort to win a gold medal. Let me relate this to the story of an old timer from Ophir, Walter Uren, who used each of these attributes (to the limit) to save a little foal who had fallen down a disused mine shaft.

W R Glasson, a grazier from "Gamboola" Molong, and author of the book *Romance of Ophir*, told me this story when I was a young lad. He had written a small booklet about Walter's brave deed, and called it *Valour of the Goldfield*.

Walter Uren was born at Ophir, and was one of 14 children. His father was a miner, and Walter, who never married, stayed at Ophir prospecting and mining for most of his life.

Returning one evening to his hut, he noticed his saddle mare did not have her little foal beside her.

Being tired, he went to bed after an early tea, but sleep he could not, thinking perhaps the foal was not resting in the long grass, but could have fallen down on an old mine shaft, situated in the corner of the house paddock.

He quickly dressed and taking a hurricane lantern hurried to the site of the old mine. To his dismay the light from his lantern showed a fresh break in the timber covering, and his mare whinnying in distress, at the opening.

With all possible haste, Walter rushed back to his hut returning with a long length of rope. He fastened the rope to a nearby tree and lowered himself down about 60 feet.



*Walter talks to Johnny Nixon about prospecting for gold
(photo taken at Ophir by Roberts Sloan around 1960)*

Nearing the bottom he could hear the foal answering its mothers cries from the top.

The foal was unharmed, thanks to a bed of dried leaves that had accumulated on the floor of the disused mine, and had cushioned the foal's fall.

Walter put the little animal across his shoulders and began the arduous climb to the entrance, lit only by his lamp which he had left up top. As Walter neared the opening of the shaft, his tired body was being thrashed by the legs of the struggling foal, and he realised his mare, smelling her offspring may plunge into the shaft.

Fearing the worst, Walter sensed both he and the two horses would die, if he continued upwards. There was no alternative but to return the foal to the depths of this dark and narrow shaft.

Striking matches, Walter saw as best he could, for he had lost an eye some years earlier in a mining accident, that the foal was temporarily settled.

After hauling himself to the entrance (yet) once again he promptly tethered the mare to a stout tree.

By the time Walter had brought an axe and cut some saplings to erect a tripod, dawn was beginning to break over Ophir's rugged and rocky hills.

Walter, totally exhausted from his rescue efforts during the night, gained an inner strength as the sun rays filtered down the musty shaft.

With the aid of the roughly cut tripod and an old wooden pulley, the little foal was soon lifted to the surface and returned to its delighted mother.

A week later Walter had filled the dangerous shaft with rocks and rubble, and the foal was galloping around as frisky as ever.

A brave and unassuming man had risked his life to rescue a little foal from the depths of a deserted mine. The old shaft was remote and Walter had few visitors – had the hero of this story been killed the mysterious disappearance of Walter Uren may never have been solved.

"That's a good story Dad," said David, "I wish Walter could be here with us now."

"He is," I replied. "His spirit will always be here – Ophir was his life and his home, and if any man deserved a gold medal he did!"

THE SONG OF THE BIRDS

On 22 April 1917 Orange horticulturalist, John Douglass Sandison, serving on the Western Front in France, wrote a letter home to his parents in March Street. He was enjoying a "military rest" from the horrors of the front line, and finding solace and beauty in the renewal of Spring.

I am still quite well, but you must excuse letters arriving a little irregularly, as we can't get them away when we would like to. We have been back for two weeks' rest, right away from the sound of guns. It was really a "military rest," which is much different to any other kind. On Easter Sunday we had a very solemn little service. We marched to Pozieres, where the cross which had been erected in memory of the fallen at that place, was dedicated. The ceremony was most impressive, and there was more than one eye that was not altogether dry when it was finished.

The country we are in now is rather pretty, slightly undulating, with a shade of green showing, and not all spoilt by shell fire. The trees are also becoming a little greener. The other morning I woke up, and the sun was shining brightly - it rises earlier now. There was not the sound of a gun firing, and the little skylarks were bucking into it for all they were worth. It sounded so good, so peaceful, and quiet. For the nonce I was right back in good old Australia, but boom went one of our guns, followed by others of both sides, and the lovely spell was broken - I was back in France.

I don't know what the birds think of the war, I am sure; but whatever they think they sing every chance they get, so I am taking a pattern from them. Some distance back I noticed where one little bird had built its nest in a tall shell-shattered tree which was quite dead from the knocking about it had received - the best place she could find to nest in. When I saw her she was sitting on the top of the gaunt tree looking at her nest. I could guess what she was thinking of, but still she managed to break into a bit of a song. It wasn't much of a one, but still it was the best she could do, and she did it. So, I suppose, we had better all carry on in the same way.'

Just ten days after writing this letter John was killed in action in the Second Battle of Bullecourt. He was one of twenty men from the Orange district who died in the two-week long offensive; eleven of them on the opening day of battle, signifying the district's greatest loss of life in a single day in a theatre of war. Most of these men have no known grave.

Submitted by Trudi Mayfield
Research Librarian – Orange City Library

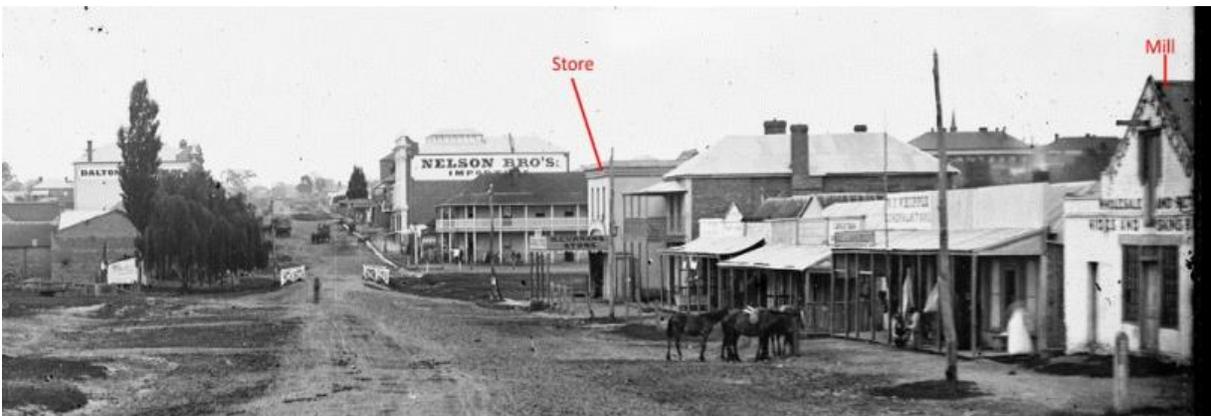
HENRY CURRAN – GOLD RUSH STOREKEEPER

At his death, my great-great-grandfather, Henry Curran (c.1814 -1866) was described as a storekeeper of the small town of Orange, New South Wales, Australia. He was more than this, however, as records point to his involvement in sheep grazing (1), inn keeping (2) and [flour milling](#) as well as storekeeping.

Henry had arrived in New South Wales in 1838 from County Down in Ireland. He was accompanied by his brother Hugh. A younger brother Thomas arrived in 1851, and a sister, Mary (Mrs Peter Hazard) in 1855.

According to one account:

“In 1853 Henry Curran ... was a tenant farmer on the Gosling estate (then owned by William Lee) across the creek from “Bloomfield”. He was said to be an exemplary tenant, always paying his rent on time! During this time he was contracted by Joseph Moulder to take some horses to Adelaide. He later purchased 63 acres in the Gosling Creek/Springside area.” (Kerrin Cook, *A history springs to mind: A history of the village of Spring Hill, New South Wales including the surrounding villages of Bloomfield, Gosling Creek, Huntley, Spring Terrace and Springside*, Orange City Council c.2002, p. 116)



Henry Curran's Store and Flour Mill, Summer Street Orange – 1870s (State Library of NSW)

Other posts that may be of interest:

<https://borclaud.wordpress.com/2017/06/27/curran-family-newspaper-obituaries/>

<https://borclaud.wordpress.com/2017/06/15/henry-currans-flour-mill-in-orange/>

Article submitted by Robert Curran

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The Orange Leader - 21/5/1926: Thrown from sulky.

A severe accident occurred on Wednesday morning at about 10.30 a.m. when a horse, driven by Mr Joseph Tanswell of Springside, who was accompanied by his wife, bolted with the result that the occupants of the sulky were thrown heavily to the roadway. Mr & Mrs Tanswell were on their way to Orange and when near the Bloomfield turn-off, the animal took fright. The latter fell out of the sulky at the horse's first jump, but Mr Tanswell stuck to the reins until the wheels passed over some obstructions, when the vehicle all but capsized. The injured man was taken to the Orange Hospital by the ambulance, in a semiconscious condition, where he was admitted suffering from abrasions to the face and shoulder and concussion. Mrs Tanswell was uninjured.

The Orange Leader - 21/5/1926: Obituary - Mr Henry Marr.

There passed away at Sydney early on Wednesday morning Mr Henry Marr, eldest son of the late William Marr and Mrs Marr of Byng Street, East Orange. Deceased who was 49 years of age, was an employee of the railway and up to the time of his death was in charge of a squad of cleaners at the Central Railway Station. While in his youth, he was the victim of a serious accident at the Bathurst yards, he was knocked down during shunting operations and sixteen trucks passed over him cutting him about dreadfully. Although after a time he was able to resume work, he was wrecked man for life. He finally succumbed to a severe attack of pneumonia. Deceased leaves a wife and three children: Ken; Keith and Nellie. Besides the following brother and sisters: Harold (North Sydney); Mrs Ben Penhall (Orange); Mrs W. Spicer (Dubbo); Mrs G. Brown; Mrs N. Brown; Mrs H. Titheridge and Miss Violet Marr (all of Orange). His straight forwardness had won him many friends in the West and his death will be widely regretted. The remains were interred in the Methodist cemetery at Rookwood last Friday morning.

The Orange Leader - 16/6/1926: Mr William Shelley

The death took place on Monday of Mr William Shelley at the age of 55. He was a married man and had for some years been employed on the railway. Suffering from thrombosis, he entered a hospital for treatment and whilst there pleurisy and pneumonia supervened, causing his death. He leaves a grown-up family. The remains were laid to rest yesterday afternoon, in the Church of England portion of the local cemetery.

The Orange Leader - 16/6/1926: Personal – Mr George Cheney.

Mr George Cheney, whose death took place at Blayney, during last week, was one of the pioneer carriers of the state, for many years driving his team of horses across the Blue Mountains between Sydney and western towns. He was 83 years of age and was born in Staffordshire County, England, coming to Australia with his parents when eight years of age. When old enough he engaged in carrying, and after marriage went on the land at Perthville, but still continued his carrying. Later he purchased a farm at Barry, which his son, Cr A.A. Cheney, still holds. At Mudgee 37 years ago he met with an

accident that left him partly a cripple his wagon passing over and severing half of his foot. The deceased possessed a fine character and was well liked by all who knew him. His wife died 27 years ago. Eight children are left of a family of ten viz: George; Thomas; Ernest and Albert all of Blayney district and Mrs Jas and John Gleadhill; Mrs A. Hildebrandt and Mrs A Fardell. Four brothers and three sisters of deceased survive, including John and Thomas of Bathurst; Mrs E. Hamer of Perthville and Mrs G. Fardell of Lewis Ponds.

The Orange Leader – July 1926: Mrs G. Bourne.

The death took place on June 23, of Mrs G. Bourne of Stanmore, for many years resident of Orange from an internal malady. She underwent four operations without success and three weeks ago the malady affected her heart bringing about her sad end. Mrs Bourne was a daughter of the late Mr James Egan one time of Cave Creek and Orange. The deceased lived here until she was 21 years of age, when she left to reside in Sydney. In her early days she was a pupil of the Orange Convent School. She was well-known in Orange, her bright and cheerful disposition winning her many friends. She leaves a sorrowing husband and two young sons to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and loving mother. Her aged mother also survives her as well as three sisters: Mrs W. Fanning of Mullion Creek; Mrs T. Fardell of Harden and Mrs McCarthy of Stanmore. The remains were laid to rest in the Rookwood cemetery beside those of her father.
(Ellen Sarah Bournes)

The Orange Leader - 31/10/1927: Mr Allan Field.

Mr Allan Field, formerly proprietor of the Metropolitan Hotel, Orange was married at the Church of England Forbes on Tuesday evening to Miss Elizabeth Mildred Spencer, eldest daughter of the late Mr Spencer and Mrs Spencer of Forbes.

The Orange Leader - 2/11/1928: Obituary - Mrs E. Kitchie.

There died at her residence, Parramatta, on the 16th of last month, Mrs Ettie Kitchie, the wife of Mr H.C. Kitchie, aged 37 years. The deceased was a daughter of the late Mrs R.A. Sutton and leaves besides a sorrowing husband, two children, Phyllis and Verna; also three sisters, in Mrs P. Callahan; Mrs E. Moore and Mrs W. Thomas all of Orange and one brother, Mr E. Smtih of Sydney. The deceased was buried at Rookwood, Mr & Mrs Thomas and Mrs Moore motoring down to attend the funeral obsequies.

Samuel Daniel Walsh

The Orange Leader - 4/9/1929: Obituary Mr S.D. Walsh.

Passed away in Sydney last Thursday, Mr S.D. Walsh, at the age of 85. Mr Walsh was the youngest son of the late William Walsh, who with his three sons, William; James and Samuel, followed the early gold digging of Australia and their claim at Lucknow was known as "The Snobs" owing to Mr Walsh snr., being a shoemaker. From the

results of his trade he supplied the necessary capital to his three sons for prospecting purposes. The deceased never married and after leaving Lucknow went to the Grenfell diggings, but later returned to Orange settled on the land, where he intended to stay. However, the lure of the yellow metal was too great to withstand the call and when Wyalong broke out he threw down the plough share for the miner's pick and shovel and took his place among the diggers there. Luck was not his partner and consequently he sank many "duffers" but stayed on the field for many years, until a few years ago he again set out for fields and pastures new. He was an ardent protectionist when the policies of freetrade and protection exercised the minds of the community. The deceased is survived by one sister, while Mr Sam Walsh, of the Charbon Cement Co., is a nephew.

The Orange Leader - 23/6/1930: Obituary: Mr Henry Crabtree.

The death occurred suddenly on Friday night, of Mr Henry Crabtree, who had resided at Four Mile Creek for many years and during which time he had earned the respect of the whole of the community. He was 78 years of age and was born at Yass. He is survived by his wife and one daughter, Miss Gladys Meria Crabtree. His widow only returned to her home on Friday morning after being an inmate of the Orange Hospital for some time, as the result of injuries she received when she fell from a box whilst endeavouring to plug a hole in the roof of their cottage.

The Orange Leader -22/1/1934: Coming of Age Party.

When Miss Mavis Cook youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Cook of Byng Street, East Orange, celebrated her 21st birthday in Adelaide, recently her friends planned a welcome home and birthday party to the popular young lady. Their efforts were reflected in the party that was given in her honour at the home of her parents on Friday night. Dancing, games and singing provided the happy gathering with several hours enjoyment, after which the sumptuous repast was served and toasts honoured. Miss Cook was the recipient of several handsome and costly presents.

The Orange Leader - 17/5/1935: Obituary. Mrs Amy Elizabeth McCoy.

Many people in Orange will regret to hear of the death of Mrs Amy Elizabeth McCoy wife of Mr A.J. McCoy, who for many years was headmaster of the Orange Rural School, which occurred in Sydney on Sunday. It is many years since the family left Orange for Sydney and at the time of her death Mrs McCoy was residing at 203 Rowe Street, Eastwood. Mrs McCoy with her husband was very well-known in Orange and district and although devotion to her home and family prevented her from taking as prominent a part in public affairs as her husband, she was an ardent worker for the Methodist Church and other organisations and her pronounced humane attributes her for the work she undertook. Her efforts during the war period and later when she went to Sydney demonstrated the great love she had for her neighbours. She is survived by a sorrowing husband, five daughters (Trixie; Marjory; Elvie; Winnie, Jean) and two sons (Charles and William).

The Orange Leader - 5/7/1935: The late Mrs Hugh Hazzard.

As briefly reported in the last issue of the "Leader" the death took place in Sydney recently of Mrs Hugh Hazzard, relict of the late Hugh Hazzard, who predeceased her a few years ago. The late Mrs Hazzard was a native of Forest Reefs, where she and her husband lived for many years on part of what is now known as the Garryowen Soldiers Settlement. Mr Hazzard sold his farm there to Messrs Noonan Bros, to purchase the Railway Hotel, Millthorpe, where he was very successful. He retired with his family to Sydney after disposing of the lease but still retained the freehold. The late Mrs Hazzard is survived by a family of ten children. Mrs Stan Higgins; Mrs J. Collicott and Mrs M. Lennox are well known to all Millthorpe people.

The Orange Leader - 8/7/1935: An old and esteemed ex-resident of Orange.

An old and esteemed ex-resident of Orange, in the person of Mr John Henry Frederick Soltau, died at the home of his son in Sydney last Tuesday. He was a member of the old Orange volunteer fire brigade, and was associated in business with the late Mr John Withers. He was a member of the Oddfellows' Society and an old handsman. His remains were interred in the Church of England portion of the Botany cemetery.

The Orange Leader - 10/7/1935: Mrs Henrietta Ethel Holland.

A member of an old pioneering family, in the person of Mrs Henrietta Ethel Holland, has died at the age of 64 years. She was born in England and soon after her arrival in Australia settled at Belgravia. Her husband the late Mr Charles H. Holland, for many years carried on business in Orange and Mrs Holland was well-known and loved by many during her 30 years residence in Orange. She is survived by five sons, Messrs Harold; Stan; Redyers; Victor and Arthur (all of Sydney) and two daughters Mesdames E. Blakeley (Cullen Bullen) and E. Burke (Sydney). Her remains were interred at Rookwood cemetery.

The Orange Leader - 4/9/1935: Obituary. Mr A.J. (Abe) Willis.

At an Orange hospital yesterday the death took place of Mr A.J. Willis one of the best-known sportsmen, particularly in boxing circles in the early day, at the age of 66 years. Mr Willis was featherweight champion of Australia and had a meritorious career in the hempen square, going to America in the early 90's to fight George ("Chocolate"). Dickson for the world's featherweight title. He was defeated in that contest. He was well-known at the old Golden Gate boxing stadium in George Street, Sydney, in the early days and there are men in Orange who were tutored in the art of boxing science by Mr Willis, who was very popular with pupils and followers of the sport alike. At one time he fought the great Griffio, and also appeared at the Variety in Castlereagh Street, Sydney. He is survived by a wife and family. His remains will be interred in the Catholic portion of the Orange cemetery to-day. Mr P.J. McGowan having charge of the mortuary arrangements. (*Central Western Daily* - 20/4/2017 - Headstone - Adam James (Abe) Willis - Born 15/6/1868 - died 3/9/1935)

The Orange Leader - 16/9/1935: The Late Mrs J.P. Smyth.

Touching the recent death of Mrs J.P. Smyth which was touched upon in the "Leader" at the time of its occurrence the local paper at Deniliquin contained the following obituary notice, which will be read with sympathetic interest by many of the deceased lady's old friends in the Orange district: The late Mrs Smyth was a member of one of the Deniliquin district's oldest pioneering families, being the youngest daughter of the late William and Mrs Faulks who came to Deniliquin in 1874, about the same time as Mrs Smyth's parents conducted the well-known Rangemore district property Cropwell for many years. Deceased was aged only three years when she came to Deniliquin and received her education locally at Miss Brodie's private school. She was married in July 1896 at St. Paul's Church of England Deniliquin the late Archeacon Holt performing the ceremony and went with her husband to reside in Orange, where the family resided for 24 years before returning in 1920 to Deniliquin where deceased had since made her home. Of a retiring disposition Mrs Smyth's main interests were her home and her family though she also was very fond of croquet and golf at each of which games she won many trophies. Deceased was a life member of the Deniliquin Golf Club and derived much pleasure from playing on the links until her health became too indifferent to enable her to continue active participation in the winter sport. The late Mrs Smyth was also a life-governor of the Deniliquin Hospital and was always pleased to help in the cause of charity a deserving case never being allowed by her to pass without tendering assistance. Deceased is survived by her husband and three daughters - Ethel (Mrs Gordon Lee, Merriwa); Hilda (Mrs Lyndon Crockett, Deniliquin) and Vera (Mrs J.G.W Paxton, Melbourne). The services at the church and graveside were conducted by Rev. Lionel Sarroff. An indication of the high esteem in which Mrs Smyth was held by her many friends was the beautiful wreaths which were received from Melbourne and Deniliquin two cars being required to carry the floral tributes. Among these were wreaths from the president and members of the Deniliquin Golf Club and the associate president and members of that club. There was a very large assemble of town and district relatives and friends. In addition to the numerous relatives and friends from Melbourne and outside districts at the graveside to pay their last tribute to a highly esteemed lady and true friend.

The Orange Leader - 16/9/1936: Obituary: Mrs S.M. Attwood.

The last surviving member of a family of twelve. Mrs Sarah Mary Attwood of March Street, died at her home on Monday morning at the age of 82 years. A daughter of Mr & Mrs James Ivers, who were among the pioneers of the district. Mrs Attwood was one of the best-known and highly esteemed residents of Borenore from where she came to Orange with her son John, after the death of her husband who had been gatekeeper at Borenore, railway crossing for 27 years in 1917. Mrs Attwood was loved by many for her selflessness and a desire to do good for those around her. For the reason as well as for others, who will be greatly missed from the community. Two daughters one of whom was Mrs Martin Schmich, predeceased her and she is survived by one son Mr John Attwood of Orange a niece; Miss Kitty Ivers, who had resided with her for 23 years, besides four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her funeral took place yesterday afternoon and her remains were interred in the Catholic portion of the Orange

cemetery. Members of the Loyal Star of the West Lodge attended the funeral. McGowan carried out the mortuary arrangements.
Sarah Mary Attwood.

The Orange Leader - 21/4/1939: Personal. Orange Woollen Mills Manger Leaving.

Mr John Higginbotham manager of the Orange Woollen Mills (Amalgamated Textiles Ltd) is leaving Orange on May 3 to open in Sydney with Mr John Sutcliffe son of the late Mr G.M. Sutcliffe son of the late Mr G.M. Sutcliffe a proprietary company for the manufacture of textiles. Mr Higginbotham succeeded Mr Medley who went from here to Queensland and he will be succeeded here as manager of the Orange Mills by Mr Brearley formerly foreman of the weaving department at Orange who has been managing Amalgamated Textiles mill at Goulburn for the past eight months. During the period Mr Higginbotham has been in Orange he has interested himself in many movements including Rotary Club Technical Education Advisory Committee and the Orange Swimming Club. His departure will be regretted but his legion of friends in the town and district will wish both Mr & Mrs Higginbotham every success and happiness in their new home.

The Orange Leader - 12/7/1939: Obituary - Mrs Selina Roscoe.

Mrs Selina Roscoe died yesterday at the residence of her daughter, Mrs May of Lord's Place, Orange. Aged 74 years. Mrs Roscoe was a native of Mudgee, but had resided at Bathurst for 45 years and had been in Orange only two days. She is survived by two sons and five daughters. The sons are Mr Kingsley Martin (Orange) and Mr Edwin Martin (Homebush) and daughters Mrs Burt; Mrs Watts; Mrs Brown; Miss Martin (all of Petersham) and Mrs May (Orange). One sister Mrs Laverack (Mudgee) also survives. There are 19 grandchild and four great-grandchildren. The funeral will leave her daughter's residence to-day for the Presbyterian portion of the Orange cemetery. The Modern undertakers have charge of arrangements.

The Orange Leader - 26/4/1940: Obituary. Mr Joseph Daniel Ryan.

The death has been announced from Sydney of Mr Joseph Daniel Ryan, well-known builder and contractor of Orange, who died at a private hospital at Lewisham on Wednesday at the age of 71 years. Mr Ryan was probably the best-known builder in the West of this State and there is scarcely a town on the western line in which his skill is not shown. He erected the Theatre Orange and the magnificent Tattersall's Hotel at Coonamble and supervised the building of some of the biggest Catholic buildings between Orange and Bourke. He is survived by a widow Mrs Teresa Ryan of Petersham; three sons Frank; Jack and Anthony and four daughters Mrs W.B. (Anna) O'Brien; Mrs J. (Eileen) Gallagher; Mrs M. (Teresa) Wheatley and Mrs F. (Betty) Bock. His remains were interred at the Botany cemetery yesterday

The Orange Leader - 7/1/1942: Miss Zella Steadman

Miss Zella Steadman who was killed by a shark in Bantry Bay on Sunday, was a sister of Mrs Des. Coonan of Hill Street, Orange. Her other sister Miss Phyllis Steadman is a well-known musical comedy actress and about 18 months ago was attached to the office staff of the Hotel Canobolas, Orange. A tribute has been paid the late Miss Steadman by a director of Prouds Pty. Ltd. the big city jewellers, where Miss Steadman was senior typist to the directors of the firm. "We are all deeply distressed" said the director, Mr R.O. Smith. "She was brilliant, methodical and conscientious" Mrs Coonan attended her sister's funeral yesterday morning, after a requiem mass celebrated at St. Vincent's Church, Ashfield.

The Orange Leader -1/9/1944: Survived Two Wars. Killed in City's Streets.

The death occurred recently in Sydney of an Orange identity who had survived the conflict of two wars. He was Arthur Connors and his death followed injuries sustained when a swaying truck trailer rounding a corner in the city struck him. Connors aged and served three years in World War 1 with the Australian Navy and following enlistment in the present war, served nearly three years both here and in the Middle East. He was the eldest son of Mrs M. Moore of Redfern who had resided in Orange for over 30 years and a nephew of Jim; Bob; Fred and Les Anlezark. In his younger days Connors like his uncles Jim Anlezark and Jack Connors, worked on the "Leader" office staff. However the lure of travel and big money proved too strong and he eventually left the paper. His Uncle Corporal Les Anlezark another World War 1 veteran at present residing in Sydney and attached to a garrison battalion was one of the pall bearers at his funeral.

Central Western Daily - 24/11/1945 page 2: Roger Greene.

Roger Greene a former resident of Orange who trained for the Air Force in Canada, has now received his discharge and has received an appointment with Qantas Airways. His Canadian wife and small son came from England with him to make their home in Sydney and have been enjoying a visit to Orange with his brother, Lieut. Bob Greene and his wife where they had previously resided in their home in Byng Street. They stayed at the Royal Hotel prior to returning to the city.

The Orange Leader - 23/7/1949: Obituary - Mr P.W. Bell.

The death occurred at Long Jetty on June 28 of Mr Percival William Bell, a native of Orange where he resided for many years. Some time ago he met with an accident from which he never completely recovered. During World War 1 Perce Bell was under contract to the Government to take horses to France. Since his retirement about three years ago he had resided at Long Jetty. Besides his widow he is survived by one son, Harold (Brother Aquin), of the staff of St. Joseph's College and one daughter Ita (Mrs F. Walters) of Sydney.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

JOHN NORMAN MCLENNAN AND SARAH EMMA COOPER

Searching for descendants of John Norman McLennan and Sarah Emma Cooper, married 1885 in Gundagai. I believe they had five children - Henry Alfred Norman, John Herbert, Susan Rebecca (became Nesbit), Ivy Elizabeth (became Merchant) and Sarah Emma (became Ryan).

At some stage in the very early 1900's(?) the family moved to Orange and owned a property called "Ashbrook". I might be getting confused but it could have been on Cargo Road (the two sons seem to have owned property together on Cargo Road). Ashbrook was eventually subdivided and sold. I'm only guessing it was a relatively large property close to the township and may have been well known in the area.

John Norman was a Macquarie Shire Councillor so he too may have been well known. I'd be happy for anyone who knows any history of the Ashbrook property or these McLennans to contact me.

Submitted by Kate Caro

DESCENDANTS OF EMILY AGNES SYKES (ADDIE)

Searching for descendants of Emily Agnes Sykes (Addie) born in Orange in 1900. She married Sage C S Murray in Orange in 1920 (Emily had a brother Henry born in 1898 who died as an infant in 1900).

Submitted by Kate Caro

If you recognise your family or can help with information etc please contact:

The Research Officer
Orange Family History Group
PO Box 35
ORANGE NSW 2800
email: familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au