



## **ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017**

The beginnings of Autumn and as those of us who live here know there's a hint of Autumn in the air. Time for us to think about the five months that separate us from the NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference in September (22-24). Behind the scenes we've been finalising the program including some pretty special social events.

Thank you to everyone who's emailed wanting to register - great to see such enthusiasm! We anticipate having registrations open after Easter. We just need to tweak a few things first.

If you haven't already done so head to the [web site](#) to register your interest and we'll let you know when registrations are open and put you on the mailing list for other updates. While you're there you can also read the Newsletters we've produced to date.

### **'FORTUNE-IN-CASE' MAN'S FOSTER SISTER TRACED**

*Central Western Daily* - 3 August 1946 (Page 1)

Foster sister of Heinrich Hesse, 72, who died in an Orange boarding house, leaving an estate valued at more than £7,000 in a battered suitcase, has been traced in South Australia.

After his death in a Peisley Street boarding house on May 30, war bonds, debentures and other securities now valued at £7,000 were found in his room.

Inquiries at the Orange Court House disclose the systematic manner the C.P.S. (Mr R C Sheridan) as agent for the Public Trustee, has been conducting investigations for next of kin of the old man.

Though the name Heinrich Hesse is typically German, the old man was an Australian, adopted by a German family, when he was only three years of age.

Replies to letters have been received from Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.

Deceased, although bearing a German name, was an Australian the child of English parents and was born in Western Victoria in 1874.

His birth registration has actually been traced, and both his Christian name and surname are typically English.

His mother, having been deserted was compelled to look for some kind person to rear the little boy, who was then three years of age.

A middle-aged German couple, Otto Hesse and his wife. Henrietta, whose family consisted of two daughters, were only too pleased to take over the little fellow.

Their eldest daughter had married, and the little boy would be company for their other daughter, who was then 10.

Having no son of their own, they made him especially welcome.

**BAPTISED 'HEINRICH'**

So the child was handed to them, and in September 1877, he was taken to the little Lutheran Church and baptised 'Heinrich' by the pastor.

The entry has been found in the old church baptismal register.

The little boy grew up in the old German settlement and attended the Lutheran school and church with his playmates.

Soon he learned to speak and write the German language.

Over 30 years ago, hearing of the advantages of land settlement in New South Wales, he came to this State.

He selected land in the Matong district between Ganmain and Narrandera.

Here the training received on his adopting parents' farm came to his assistance. He prospered and as the years rolled by, disposed of his property and lived in retirement moving from town to town as he felt inclined.

He never forgot the German couple to whom he owed so much.

He carefully preserved all their letters written mostly in German as well as those from

his foster sisters.

Both Mr and Mrs Hesse lived till their eighties, and died in the early part of this century.

On one of his visits to the old home, deceased inspected their graves, and arranged with a monumental mason to erect a suitable memorial.

#### EMBARRASSED DURING WAR

His name during the war years, caused him a certain amount of embarrassment, and, as he was of a retiring nature, he was treated with a certain amount of suspicion.

However, there was no doubt about his loyalty, and he frequently made substantial donations to the Red Cross Society.

The German colonists who came to Australia 90 to 100 years ago loved their adopted country, were fine settlers, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren fought with the Australians.

However, Heinrich, although he knew of this adoption, out of loyalty remained a Hesse until his end.

His ten-year-old foster sister, now an old lady of 82 years, has been traced in South Australia.

It is expected she will be able to supply the little information which is still outstanding.

#### **THE GYPSY'S WARNING NO GOOD, AS COUPLE A'WOING IN WESTRALIA**

*Central Western Daily* - 9 August 1946 (Page 2)

Sydney, Thursday

Married at nine years of age to a 10-years-old Gypsy boy, a Sydney girl at 14 is the mother of an infant daughter, and is strongly opposed at any attempts to break up the marriage.

This was stated by counsel in the Divorce Court today when the girl's father, Spero Johan, of East Sydney applied to have the marriage annulled on the ground that the couple at the time of the marriage were less than the legal age 12 for a girl and 14 for a boy.

He said at the time he thought the girl was 12 but he now knew she was nine years and one month then.

Mr Justice Clancy was told by Johan that he did not want to break up the marriage if

could be proved his daughter was happy and well treated.

Mr Justice Clancy said he would still have to annul the marriage, unless it were proved the young couple had lived together since the girl's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, and he adjourned the case.

Mr B K White for the children, said the young couple were roving West Australia with a Gypsy band, and would not come back to NSW for fear the Court might break up their happy marriage.

## **NATIONAL TRUST LISTING FOR FAMILY CEMETERY**

*Central Western Daily* – 19 February 1995 (page 7)

By Mark Muller

The Grant family cemetery on 'Old Belubula' station east of Canowindra has been formally included in the National Trust Register of significant places.

In it are buried some 17 members of the Grant family, whose association with the district spans almost 170 years.

James Grant, transported from County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1811, first claimed land along the Belubula River in 1826 and went on to own more than 30,700 acres in the district.

The cemetery holds the remains of some of John Grant's descendants, including his eldest son John, the first to be buried there in 1906.

For Sue Holmwood, a direct descendant of the convict turned pastoralist, the recognition of the family burial ground's historical significance means a lot.

"My father (Kevin 'Pat' Grant, buried in the cemetery in 1991) worked hard towards the heritage and preservation of the cemetery and the national Trust listing is a recognition of the value of the site,' she said.

"I'd like to see it preserved. I love my family and think it is good they have somewhere to go together after they have died.'

In order to qualify for a National Trust listing a site must meet the following definition, as laid out by the trust: "Those places which are components of the natural or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, historical, architectural, archaeological, scientific, or social significance or other special value for future generations, as well as for the present community."

The National Trust form detailing the cemetery's registration states: "The 'Old Belubula'

Private Burial Ground commemorates the Grant family and their long association with this property. Like many private rural cemeteries this site evidences former isolation and settlement patterns. It is remarkable for the quality of the monumentation and its dramatic landscape setting.”

Current owners of ‘Old Belubula’, Karen and Lawrence Parrish, do not mind the fact they can see a cemetery from the house, indeed Mrs Parrish has spent a deal of time searching for the names of those buried in unmarked graves.

‘My children are fascinated by it. They knew Pat well and when he was buried here they came up to say goodbye to him,’ Mrs Parrish said.

Cabonne Council environmental services officer Alan Middlemiss said he was pleased the cemetery had gained its National Trust listing and felt it would not take too much to get it on the Council’s heritage listing.

‘It’s fairly significant for it to be listed by the National Trust. While the trust listing carries no legal obligations, it’s a recognition and it encourages people not to spoil the site,” he said.



**Places in the heart ... Sue Holmwood and Karen Parrish with Alan Middlemiss and Brent Parrish at the Grant family cemetery on ‘Old Belubula’, which has recently placed on the National Trust Register.**

## THE YEAR OF THE SHEEP OR WHY THEY LEFT SCOTLAND

Walking around the Presbyterian Section of the Orange cemetery you see places on headstones such as Scotland, Tranent and Loth, Sutherlandshire. Since Church of Scotland / Presbyterianism was, and still is, the main religion of Scotland it stands to reason that the older stones in this Section would earmark Scotland as a birthplace. But why immigrate?

Scottish land ownership is very different from what Australians experience. There, particularly in the 18th and 19th Century folk did not have the opportunity to “own” the land their croft stood on. Instead vast estates were owned by the Laird and tenants paid rent to live on his land. Tenants were never given the opportunity to purchase a piece of land so it became their own. Even today I have cousins who live in Scotland who pay rent on a house that has been in their family for over 300 years yet still is owned by the Laird of the Estate.

Is it any wonder that the Scots saw Australia as the land of opportunity, especially the opportunity of land ownership. The adventurer of the family set sail for Australia and indeed parts of Canada and America and then write home about how well they had done (in some cases) and whole families would follow.

Of course, in the mid-19th century there was the allure of gold; folk from all over the world came in the hope of attaining instant wealth.

Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Scotland experienced what has become known in Scottish history as “The Clearances”. John Prebble wrote a book called “The Highland Clearances” and if you find your family came from the Highlands it is well worth reading. The Duchess of Sutherland features prominently in the Sutherland and Caithness area. She had her factor (overseer) go out and systematically clear the land of its tenants. Small cottages, some no more than hovels, were razed to the ground and burned. The tenants barely having time to escape with the clothes on their back before the flames took hold. Weak, old, very young and dying had very little chance of survival. Families died from starvation and the extreme weather conditions.

Why you ask - because of the Cheviot sheep. It was discovered that these sheep from the Borders of Scotland also did well in the highlands. The Laird saw this as an opportunity to gain in wealth. How much easier would it be to have one shepherd and his family looking after 2,000 or more sheep than it would be to ensure the upkeep of the homes of the tenants on vast Estates? The people were cleared out and the sheep moved in.

Those who were left were herded to the fringes near the sea to become kelp gatherers and fishermen. Occupations that farming folk were not familiar with and therefore did not fare well.

At the same time the potato blight that had decimated Ireland also found its way to

Scotland. Homelessness and starvation were rife; any wonder the prospect of doing well in a land across the sea appealed to many of the Scottish? Schemes such as the Highland and Island Emigration Society (HIES) came into existence and the villages and glens emptied onto sailing ships bound for the unknown in a new land which hopefully, was filled with opportunity.

*Submitted by Sharon Jameson*

### **HERE'S A WRY SMILE**

*Central Western Daily – 19 November 1946 (Page 2)*

An old lady walked into the judge's office "*Are you the judge of Reprobates?*" she enquired.

*'I'm the judge of Probates'* replied his Honour with a smile.

*"Well, that's it. I expect"* answered the old lady. *"You see,"* she went on confidentially, *'my husband died detested and left several little infidels and I want to be their executioner'*.

### **PEACE WAS THEIR WEDDING GIFT**

*Central Western Daily – Tuesday 15 August 1995 (Page 3)*

When Terry and Maisie McGrath were married July 28, 1945, they had no idea of the wedding present in store when they returned from their honeymoon. Terry and Maisie had met in Orange as children in the 1930's having both moved here from Sydney. When World War II broke out Terry joined the Air Force and Maisie went to work in Orange's munitions factory (now Email).

Their romance had blossomed when Terry came home on leave throughout the conflict and, about 18 months before war's end, Terry popped the question. "I was back in Orange and finally summoned up the courage to ask Maisie to marry me" Terry chuckled. Maisie accepted but Terry had to head back to Papua New Guinea and they didn't see each other again until their wedding.

"The next leave I got wasn't until July, 1945," Terry said. 'I called Maisie to let her know I was coming home and to start preparing for our wedding'. On July 28 Terry and Maisie were married in Orange's Five-ways church. The groom's party were all in Airforce blue while the bridesmaids wore dresses made out of mosquito netting. Maisie laughed as she remembered this detail, explaining that, with the fabric shortages caused by the war, they had to make do with what they could.

The newlyweds spent their honeymoon on the coast before returning to Orange. They had expected to be separated again soon, but: "I can't quite remember whether it was our first or second morning back from honeymoon – we were down at Maisie's parents' place and we could hear all the whistles blowing in the town an di looked over at her and said 'It's over, it must be over'," Terry said. After a quick cup of coffee Terry went into town, where he was later met by Maisie, to join in the celebrations. 'I was so happy because I knew it meant I didn't have to leave Maisie again. 'After nearly five years of being away at war things were going to start going back to normal'



The McGrath's on their wedding day

#### **NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

*The Orange Leader* - 30/12/1899: Wedding Bells.

A quiet little wedding took place on Dec. 20 at the residence of Mr Bethuel Craze, East Orange, the contracting parties being Mr Robert Hatch and Miss Elizabeth Ellen Craze. Miss Ada Watson acted as bridesmaid. Mr Frederick W. McGlashan gave the bride away in the absence of her father, who was unfortunately confined to his bed. After the ceremony the usual congratulations took place as the cake etc., was being handed round. The Rev. F. Colwell who officiated, wished the happy couple every happiness under their pleasant and altered circumstances. Mr & Mrs Hatch left the same evening by mail train for Sydney. They have our best wishes.

*The Orange Leader* - 4/4/1923: Fire in Summer Street. Burle's Studio Damaged.

Shortly before 2 o'clock yesterday morning the alarm of fire was raised by neighbours



living in the vicinity of Bursle's photographic studio, in Summer Street. The brigade was quickly on the scene, and its members effected a most meritorious save. The outbreak occurred in the upper storey at the rear of the shop, which is the residential portion, in a room used for the storage of material and supplies. Since Mr W.H. Bursle removed to Sydney the only occupant of the place has been his son, Mr Cecil Bursle, who is at present on a visit to the metropolis. The cause of the fire therefore is a mystery as the shop had been closed during the holiday season. The flames were practically confined to one room, where damage to the extent of from 150pounds to 200pounds was done to the interior. No particulars of the extent to which the contents suffered, both by fire and water are obtainable, nor is it known whether these are insured. The premises are owned by the May estate and are insured in the Royal Insurance Society.

*The Orange Leader - 7/1/1925: Cargo - Disastrous Fire.*

There was much consternation on Sunday morning, when news reached here that a fire had taken place at Mr W.J. Fisher's (Oakleigh) when the homestead and contents were burnt to the ground. All of the members of the family (with the exception of Mr Fisher) were at church, at Cargo. Mr Fisher was engaged at a shed near-by when he noticed smoke rising from a lumber room and in a few seconds the whole building was enveloped in flames. A couple of men were also there but were unable to save anything from the fast-burning structure, the smoke being too dense to enter. The family, which consists of ten, lost every particle of clothing excepting what they stood up in. Mr Fisher had only singlet and trousers on having just prepared for a bath. Mr Arthur Thomas who is staying at "Oakleigh" but was away at Canowindra at the time of the fire, is also a heavy loser in clothing as well as a valuable fur rug. Only a few months ago Mr Fisher had an expensive hallow-wire-system light installed. A wheat crop in close proximity was saved with difficulty.

*The Orange Leader - 10/3/1926 - Wedding: Hall/Ash.*

The wedding of Miss Dulcie Ash fourth daughter of Mrs W. Norford Lucknow and Mr Alfred Hall youngest son of Mr & Mrs Hall, National Art Gallery, Sydney, took place recently at All Souls Church, Lecihhardt, the Rev. Robinson officiating the bride was given away by her brother Mr Richard Ash of Shadforth. She wore a becoming costume of ivory georgette trimmed with silver lace yoke and silver true lovers knots. She also wore an embroidered veil and orange blossoms (cap fashion). The bridesmaid Miss Edna Kelly wore pale pink georgette guire lace and hat to match and carried a pretty bouquet. Mr Hunt acted as best man. The bridegroom gift to the bride was a gold wristlet watch and to the bridesmaid a gold armet. Amongst the presents they received was a handsome Rosewood cabinet talking machine, presented by the bride's late employer Mr T.J. Sidaway. The honeymoon is being spent at Lucknow and the South Coast.

*The Orange Leader - 6/7/1928: Cemetery Improvements.*

Representions made by Mr Fitzpatrick M.L.A. on behalf of Mr Thomas S. Spicer, of

Lewis Ponds, to have a grant of 10pounds allocated for improvements to the general cemetery at that centre, have been unsuccessful, the Lands Department replying that no vote was provided in the estimates of the financial year just closed, for the maintenance and improvement of cemeteries. The department, therefore, had no vote from which any monetary grant could be made for such purpose.

*The Orange Leader* - 1/1/1929: Back to Orange.

More visitors and Homers. Additional names have been written in the book provided for registering those who returned to Orange of for the Back to Orange Week celebrations and the visitors for the week were: Mr & Mrs Robert Gardiner, Taree; Mr & Mrs Jack Cameron of Concord West who left Orange 22 years ago. Mrs Cameron's mother who at one time resided in Sampson Street, returned with them. Mr Duncan Alex Cameron who left Orange 28 years ago, is with his wife and family staying with Mr & Mrs Colin Campbell, of East Orange. Mrs Ada Harding, nee Cameron, is the guest of Mr Geo Adams, of East Orange. Mr Thomas Mellen who arrived in Orange in 1892 and left in 1907 is holidaying with his wife and family and they are the guest of Mr & Mrs J. Foley. Mr & Mrs Mellen are now residents of Bexley. Mr Richard Trembath of Cairns, North Queensland, who was born at Cadia in 1863. Mr & Mrs Les Dartnell and son, Epping. Mr & Mrs Arthur Brown of Oberon. Mr Brown 23 years ago, was farming at March. Miss Edna Fyfe, who is a guest of Mr & Mrs P.J. McGowan of Hill Street. Mrs E.C. Northey of Campsie, Sydney, who resided in Orange for about 30 years. She is staying with Mrs J.T. Northey, of Moulder Street. Her husband is also revisiting his old town, in which he lived for 26 years. Mr Jack Northey also of Campsie, who spent 10 years of his life in Orange. Mrs Elizabeth Jane Baker, of Campsie, who left Orange two years ago. Mr & Mrs K. Stanford, of Epping. Mr & Mrs J. Folster, junr of Ashbury. Mr & Mrs R.H. Balmer, of Murga. Mrs Balmer is a daughter of Mrs J.C. McLachlan. Mr & Mrs A.J. McLachlan and Mr & Mrs Reg McLachlan all of Sydney. Mr Steve Bailey of Camperdown, Victoria. Mr Charles Moulder, of Sydney. Miss Olive E. Morrison of the Tasmanian University. Mr Jack Kendall of Turramurra, who was a resident of Orange for 20 years. He is a guest of Mrs G. Kendall of Bathurst Road. Mr & Mrs Walter Powley of Dundas, who left Orange five years ago, after a residence extending over 35 years.

*The Orange Leader* - 27/7/1932: Pioneer Teamster's Death.

Died at Condobolin last week, aged 86, Edwards Hemsworth, one of the fast disappearing teamsters of the old days when "the ships of the plains" starting from Orange and Bathurst, freighted goods tot he Queensland borders and returned loaded with wood. A native of Meadow Flat near Bathurst, in his young days he was a noted teamster and was engaged in carrying between Bathurst and Penrith. Then in 1876 he arrived in Condobolin selected land at the island, Moonbi, and resided on the property till 1891. Between times he was engaged in carrying from Condobolin to Orange and many times his loaded waggon and driven down Summer Street. he was recognised as a superior teamster and it was said of "Ted" Hemsworth that he could boast the best and fattest bullock team on the roads. On one occasion at Forbes, many years ago he arrive at the town on show day, unyoked two of his best bullocks and annexed a first

and second prize.

*The Orange Leader* - 27/7/1936: Personal: Miss Esther Thomson.

Miss Esther Thomson daughter of Mr & Mrs J.A. Thompson of "Braeburn" Springside has been selected to play in the N.S.W Team in the All Australia hockey carnival on August 29 in Sydney. This clever young lady, who since going to the University has been to the forefront in women's sports is also a member of the Australian team which will play in the world carnival at Philadelphia in September.

*The Orange Leader* - 8/9/1937: Personal.

Yesterday Miss Olive Hunt of McLachlan Street, Orange East, received a cable from Western Australia announcing the death of her brother, Mr Robert James Hunt, of Fremantle, at the age of 63 years. He had been ill only a short period. Mr Hunt spent most of his life in and around Orange where he was well-known and highly esteemed. He was a son of the late Mr & Mrs Henry Hunt of McLachlan Street. He is survived by a widow and four sons, two sisters Miss Olive Hunt (Orange) and Mrs Wheeler (Rozelle) and three brothers Jack (Fremantle, Western Australia); Harold (Bonny) and Alfred (Sydney).

*The Orange Leader* - 8/6/1942: Personal.

Recently returned from the Middle East, Sergeant Donald Lindsay Sproule son of Mr & Mrs D. Sproule son of Mr & Mrs D. Sproule of Kogarah, who was for years attached to the staff of the Rural Bank, Orange was married to Miss Heather Emily McIntosh, only child of Mr & Mrs J.J. McIntosh, of Bexley and niece of Ald and Mrs E.W. Christian of Orange. Over her chalk white frock the bride wore a jacket of marquisette, which was appliqued and beaded. Miss Gill Lovejoy the bride's cousin, who wore a frock of midnight blue crepe was bridesmaid and Corporal Gordon Page was best man. The church was decorated with autumn-tinted flowers, which came from Orange.

*The Orange Leader* - 24/1/1943: Personal – Mr Cecil Eyles.

The death is reported in New Zealand of Mr Cecil Eyles brother of Mr Fred Eyles of the "Leader" and of Mr W.D. Eyles of Summer Street, Orange. Deceased was born in Orange and left about 35 years ago to seek his fortunes in New Zealand and has made several visits to his native town in the meantime the last about four years ago. Whilst in Orange he served his apprenticeship as a painter and signwriter with Mr W.J.G Artrell, besides which he was a gifted artist. Mr Eyles was in his 59th year and left a family of two sons and two daughters. His wife predeceased him some years ago having been killed in a street accident in Christchurch.

*The Orange Leader* - 9/4/1943: Personal.

The death is reported from Melbourne of Mrs Cook, wife of Mr W. Cook, well-known

carrier of Orange. Mr & Mrs Cook came to Orange about 16 years ago and purchased a home on the intersection of Byng and McLachlan Street. In September last Mr Cook relinquished business and he and his wife went to Melbourne to live in retirement with a married daughter. Another daughter is Mrs H. Stibbard of Orange.

*The Orange Leader* - 30/4/1943: Mr George Morris.

Mr George Morris a native of Victoria died at the Base Hospital on Wednesday at the age of 76 years. He had been for the past 12 months a resident of Orange, coming here from Griffith, where he was well-known. His widow survives together with a family of four as follows: Mrs A. Green (Orange); George (Lithgow); Fred (Canterbury); Norm (Griffith) also two brothers and five sisters; Fred (Condobolin); Charles (Canbelego); Mrs Hudson (Canterbury); Mrs Gearing (Newcastle); Mrs Obar (Cobar); Mrs Budd (Canbelego); Mrs Glenn (Sydney). His funeral took place yesterday when he was laid to rest in the Church of England portion of the Orange cemetery, Rev. H. Taylor officiating at the graveside. Mr A. McGrath had charge of the arrangements.

*The Orange Leader* - 27/3/1944: Death of Orange native.

Mr Alfred Nonnenmacher passed away at his residence 44 Shoalhaven St., Nowra, on Saturday last at the age of 50 years. He was a native of Orange and the eldest son of the late Mr & Mrs W. Nonnenmacher. He had been an employee of the Postal Department for 30 years until eight months ago, when he was stricken with a complaint which brought about his death. The funeral took place at Nowra on Monday, the remains being laid to rest beside those of his only child, Alma, who predeceased him by 16 months. Much sympathy is being extended to his bereaved wife and two sisters, Mrs W. Bolton and Mrs N. Williams, both of Orange.

*The Orange Leader*. 29/3/1944: Farewell to Mr & Mrs Rumery

Farewell to Mr & Mrs Rumery who has been assistant Clerk of Petty Sessions at Orange for the past seven years and has been promoted to the Public Office as C.P.S was tendered a farewell presentation at the Orange Court House on Saturday and handed a fountain pen as a mark of the respect in which he was held by court officials and police. On Monday night at the Methodist Church, as chief steward he was farewelled at a social evening when there was a crowded hall. Both Mr & Mrs Rumery have been most ardent workers for the Methodist Church during their residence here and will be greatly missed. Rev. D.F. Almond on behalf of the Methodist adherents, presented Mr Rumery with a wallet of note. Both Mr & Mrs Rumery received gifts of books from the Sunday School and the Bible Class gave Mrs Rumery a fine wall mirror. Mr Rumery said both he and his wife would carry away many happy thoughts of Orange and its people.

Richard Alfred Rumery; Sarah Ellen Rumery - 113 Moulder St., Orange.

*The Orange Leader* - 18/8/1944: Obituary - Mr D.W. Parker.

A well and favourably known citizen Mr Daniel William Parker aged 85 years, passed away in the Base Hospital yesterday. He was a native of England and had resided in Australia for 60 years, the last five in Orange. One of nature's gentlemen and very active for his age, the late Mr Parker won a legion of friends during his sojourn in Orange and all will regret to learn of his death. He was a devout member of the Methodist Church and with other members of his family was always a staunch and loyal supporter. His wife predeceased him six years. Surviving members of the family are Elsie, Arthur and the Rev. John Parker all of Melbourne; and Albert of Summer St., Orange. The remains were taken to Melbourne for interment.

*The Orange Leader* - 12/1/1946: Mrs Lavinia Rosser.

On Sunday afternoon a few old friends gathered at "Wheatfields" for afternoon tea with Mrs Lavinia Rosser, Guyong's grand old lady, who passed the 86th milestone of life on Monday. Among the visitors were Mrs T. Holland (nee Miss Lillian Rodwell) of Gregghamstown and her daughter Mrs Roy Webster; Mrs G. Dean of Guyong and Mrs Letondeur of Blayney. Mrs Rosser's eldest son Bert of Blayney was there for the weekend as is usual. Granddaughter-in-law, Mrs E. Jenner, made and decorated the birthday cake and later on her daughter Marian (a great-granddaughter of Mrs Rosser) blew out the candles. The finding of gold and the subsequent boom the growth and decline of population and departure of small settlers was a subject on which she is an authority, for she was reared in the Commercial Hotel, opposite Bowen, which was owned by her father, the late Matthew Rose. Lister's place was about two miles down the old Byng Road and the story is local history. Mrs Rosser, sang when a child at the opening of Holy Trinity Church of England and played among foundation lines of the Rectory now Quinton homestead residence. Of her 11 brothers and sisters, three brothers and three sisters are still living. Of her own family, five sons and four daughters are living. She had 23 grandchildren living and 19 great-grandchildren. Two R.A.A. grandsons have returned from Tarakan and the Solomons and one from England. A fourth lost his life. A born nurse. Mrs Rosser was a "born" nurse and scores of babies were assisted safely into the world by her for as the lady proudly says "Not one did I lose" Day or night a call never found her unready. Through bush, swamp, darkness wet or fire, the strong kind dependable nurse went. Above all Mrs Rosser lived her life by the "Golden Rule" Her friends wished her happiness and peace throughout the coming days. Her granddaughter, Miss Scottman of Newtown, is holidaying with her.

*Central Western Daily* - 10/9/1948: Death of Mr Sid Brown. Colourful Character.

Following a sudden seizure on Wednesday night, the death took place at the Base Hospital last night of Mr Sydney Thompson ("Sid") Brown well-known charter accountant and one of the outstanding personalities in the commercial and sporting life of the city. Enthusiastic supporter of the Returned Soldier movement and a stalwart of all charitable organisations which had the betterment of the lot of the ex-soldier as their aim, "Sid" Brown was a World War 1 Veteran who won the D.C.M. He was a popular figure at Legacy Club and R.S.L. meetings and his mature advice on business matters

was sought and respected. His death yesterday, at the age of 53 years was a shock to his friends and associates who will mourn the passing of a good companion and a warm-hearted friend. He came to Orange 29 years ago and joined the staff of W.H. Bentley chartered accountants, of Lord's Place. In 1924 he accepted a position as Deputy Town Clerk with the Orange Municipal Council. He later became a partner in the firm now known as W.H. Bentley, Frazer and Co., of Anson Street. A born organiser, he was associated with nearly every sporting organisation in this city. For 14 years he acted as assistant secretary to the Orange Jockey Club, a position he held at the time of his death. A returned soldier of the 1914-18 war, he held the rank of captain, and for outstanding ability was awarded the D.C.M. and foreign decorations. Since coming to Orange, Mr Brown displayed keen interest in the Orange Sub-branch of the Returned Soldiers' League. The position of auditor was occupied by him for many years. Secretary of the Diggers' Golf Club since its inception, Sid Brown presented trophies at its tournament a fortnight ago. He has no family and is survived by his widow. His funeral will take place today after a service at Holy Trinity Church commencing at 3p.m. The remains will be conveyed to Sydney for cremation at Rookwood cemetery at 11a.m. on Saturday. Messrs Box and Jeffree have charge of the arrangements.