



ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2024



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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY WARNING

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

Welcome to the August edition of the Orange Family History Group newsletter.

Once again, our newsletter is full of interesting articles. Sharon Jameson has provided an update on the valuable Forgotten Diggers project at the Orange Cemetery, an amazing project we hope to have completed by the end of the year.

Another research project is being conducted by Jenny Howarth, building on previous efforts recording the burials in the Wesleyan Cemetery and the Cornish Settlement located at Byng.

History of Orange Rural School as told through a 1926 article taken from the Orange Star newspaper is featured which shows the changes that have occurred in education over the years. This article describes not only the school and its history. It has details of the Blacksmith Shop located in the school in which the boys received instruction one day a week while in the girls' department they received training in all branches of cookery.

If you haven't visited [Recollect Central West](#) recently it is certainly worth a look to view the recent additions and updates including Oral Histories, photographs and documents

Thank you to all who have contributed to this newsletter. Contributions to future newsletters are always welcome.

Ruth Bingham
Local Studies Librarian Orange City Library

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UPDATE – FORGOTTEN DIGGERS PROJECT

It has been a while since I have done an update on the Forgotten Diggers in Orange cemetery.

We ended up with 47 war graves. The majority are completed. Those soldiers who for one reason or another couldn't have a war grave will have plaques placed for their service on the Wall of Remembrance in Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney.

The wall is now complete with the names of soldiers we know are in the cemetery but just don't know their location. Thanks for this must go to the RSL in Orange.

This has left 50 soldiers requiring headstones. Forgotten Diggers has managed to obtain funding from several organisations - Cadia Mines, Department of Veteran Affairs, Orange City Council and the Orange Ex-Services Club. These donations amounting to \$32,500 covered the cost of the headstones. McMurtries Stone Masons have been contracted to erect them and have generously offered to do this free of charge (with an approximate cost to them of \$5,000).

The first 10 templates have been checked and are back with McMurtries awaiting delivery of the Eugowra granite to start production.

It is very satisfying to know that has been a community project. We are hoping they will be completed by the end of the year.

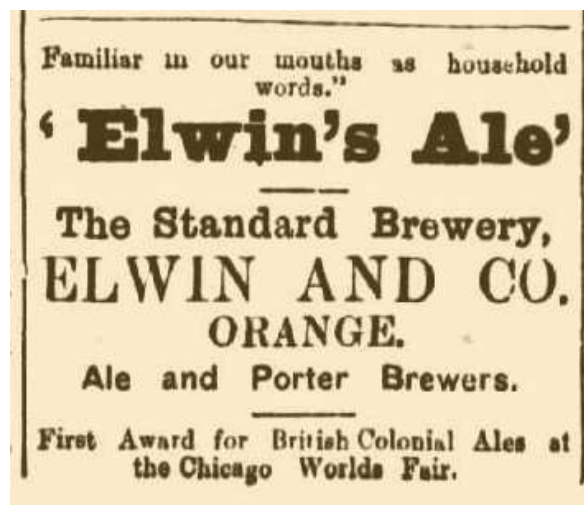
David M Eagleman wrote: *"There are three deaths. The first is when the body ceases to function. The second is when the body is consigned to the grave. The third is that moment, sometime in the future, when your name is spoken for the last time."*

These men will now join their comrades and be remembered.

Lest We Forget.

Sharon Jameson
Researcher Orange Family History Group

Leader (Orange, NSW : 1899 - 1945) - Wed 4 Jan 1899 Page 1.



GWEN MEREDITH: 1907 - 2006

Gwen Valmai Meredith was born in Orange in 1907. This article reproduced with kind permission from the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc Newsletter – No 569 April 2024.

Gwen Meredith, writer of *Blue Hills*

A talk on the life of Gwen Meredith was presented by Ian Mackey at our March Meeting. Gwen, who lived much of her life in the Southern Highlands, was well known as a playwright, author and scriptwriter, and won fame for her radio serials broadcast by the ABC. *The Lawsons* ran from February 1944 to February 1949 and was replaced by *Blue Hills*, at one time Australia's most popular radio serial, heard week-days at 1pm, for 15 minutes, until September 1976.

Audio of the theme music, an interview with Gwen, and extracts from episodes of *Blue Hills* were played at the meeting. For those unable to attend, here is the life story of Gwen as presented at the meeting.

Gwen Valmai Meredith BA, MBE, OBE (also known by her married name Gwen Harrison) was born at Orange in 1907 and died at Bowral in 2006. She was the only child of George and Florence Meredith. They were a middle-class family and moved to Sydney when Gwen was young. She attended Sydney Girls High and in 1929 completed a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Sydney. The details that follow are mostly drawn from two published sources:



1. Gwen Meredith's biographical entry in *The Golden Age of Australian Radio Drama, 1923-1960*, a history through biography by Richard Lane, 1992; and
2. A tribute to Gwen by Dr Michelle Arrow, Macquarie University, published by *The Sydney Morning Herald* in October 2006, shortly after Gwen's death.

Back in 1930, with the Great Depression in full swing, Gwen's father believed that there were too many people needing jobs and she should stay at home. She obeyed and managed the housekeeping for a while but then, in 1932, opened a library/bookshop called the Chelsea Book Club, which she owned and operated until 1939, located in the State Shopping Block in Market Street, Sydney.

A drama group, the Chelsea Drama Club, was set up attached to Gwen's bookshop/library. Here Gwen started writing stage plays, as did several others involved in the enterprise. In Lane's biography, he states that "Gwen's first play of note was *Wives Have Their Uses*, a three-act stage comedy of quite unusual wit and sophistication for Australia, at all events, at that time. It concerned a man who used the fact that he had a wife to protect him as he pursued dalliances with other women. It was first presented by the

Chelsea group, had successful productions in most Australian capitals, and was published in 1944. Like most writers of the younger school, Gwen began writing for radio in the late 1930s."

In December 1938, Gwen married a Sydney engineer, Ainsworth Harrison. According to Dr Arrow, it was the start of a long, happy union. He was a devoted and supportive husband, travelling around Australia with Gwen as she researched aspects of her serials.

After their marriage, Gwen and Ainsworth lived at Castlecrag, Sydney, moved to Melbourne for a time, then back to Sydney, and would also establish an ongoing connection with the Southern Highlands. They travelled overseas several times.

Gwen's big break came in 1943, when the ABC rural and drama departments asked her to produce an educational serial for the *Country Hour*. Gwen was chosen because of the success of her existing work.

The serial would depict the problems of rural life during the war and communicate new farming methods – Gwen later remarked that it was to be "sugar-coated pill propaganda". At the time she was in Melbourne, where her husband was working. She was brought to Sydney, under contract to the ABC's Rural Department. It was then found they were not ready to begin the proposed serial to be called *The Lawsons*, so during the hiatus Gwen wrote documentaries for the ABC. Lane says that "with her lively mind and keen ability as a researcher, she proved herself a first-rate documentary writer".

The Lawsons debuted on February 23, 1944, and its combination of information and drama was an enormous hit. It played five days a week at 1 pm, lunch-time, for the convenience of country people, especially those working on farms. But it quickly became apparent that this was not a serial for country folk alone. Very soon it had hosts of listeners all over Australia, in town and country alike, and was repeated daily at 6.45 pm so that city workers could hear it when they returned home.

The serial is described as 'human-hearted, observant and lively' in Lane's biography. Every episode was produced by veteran ABC producer Charles Wheeler who told his actors at the beginning that it was to be played differently from most radio they had done. 'These are not people in a play. They are everyday Australians, relaxed and natural in their speech.' He set the style not only of *The Lawsons* but of *Blue Hills* which was to follow. Gwen gave Wheeler much of the credit for the success of *The Lawsons*.

When Gwen started writing *The Lawsons* she used a typewriter; halfway through she changed over to a

Dictaphone. After that everything was dictated.

Around that time, in 1947, Gwen and Ainsworth moved to Moss Vale, living at Lynton, 618 Argyle Rd. The scripts may have been posted to the ABC in Sydney or perhaps she regularly travelled to the city and helped supervise the program. Whatever way she handled it, by early 1949, she had scripted the serial for five years, and felt she had provided all she could about the Lawsons and their friends, says Dr Arrow; Gwen wanted to broaden her horizons, introduce new characters, develop new themes.



After 1,299 episodes of *The Lawsons*, Gwen created a new serial, *Blue Hills*. It began on the Monday after *The Lawsons* ended on Friday 25 February 1949. It was named, Gwen said, because "everywhere you go in Australia there are blue hills in the background". Several of the most popular characters from *The Lawsons* were brought over, notably Hilda, the cook, and her niece Emmie, played by Gwen Plumb. It was estimated that at 1pm all over Australia nearly half the sets then in use were tuned to *Blue Hills*.



In 1954 Gwen and Ainsworth returned to Sydney, living at Braybrook in Seaforth. Maybe this move was so she could be more available for the ABC. Dr Arrow states that if *The Lawsons* made Gwen famous, *Blue Hills* made her a legend! "It was a drama of character, rather than plot, and Gwen was masterful in her creation of a family of believable, warm characters. Whereas many commercial radio serials relied on sensation to advance their plots, Gwen depicted the drama of middle-class life, with a distinctively Australian accent. Within this, she dealt with a range of social issues – alcoholism, migration, Aboriginal assimilation – all with a sure, even hand, even if they sometimes sparked controversy."

In Gwen's biography, Lane says that she never wrote about anything she hadn't researched, nor about any place she hadn't seen. Her research took her all over Australia – to a sugar cane farm in north Queensland; to the red centre for a Flying Doctor sequence; and,

when she was writing a story about immigration, she went to London so she could return on a migrant ship, assimilating colour and collecting material. Authenticity was always a cornerstone of *Blue Hills*.

Blue Hills started at five episodes a week, but as time went on Gwen grew weary, and the serial was reduced to four days a week. Many times, Gwen felt she had had enough, but the program had become such an integral part of Australian life that she yielded to management pleas to continue.

Gwen and Ainsworth moved back to the Southern Highlands in 1972, settling in Berrima, so once again they had to manage being at a distance from the city. After several more years, Gwen decided she could go on no longer with the scriptwriting. She was then in her late sixties. The final episode of *Blue Hills* went to air on 30 September 1976. It had run for 27 years, and Gwen wrote almost all of the 5,795 episodes.

In regard to the life of Gwen and Ainsworth in the local district, the BDHS is fortunate to have learnt more about them thanks to Jill Lees. Jill worked for real estate firm Burton of Bowral and has been a member of our Society for 50 years, joining in 1974.

Jill was a friend of the Harrisons and recently spoke with Ian Mackey. She first met Gwen at the St Jude's Flower Show where Gwen presented the prizes. Jill was around 12 years old and Gwen in her early 40s.

Gwen and Ainsworth had extensive interests in property, both locally and in Sydney. When they first moved to the local area in 1947, besides purchasing Lynton at 618 Argyle Street Moss Vale they also owned a property in Argyle Street, where Moss Vale Motors now stands, and two Blues Point units in Sydney. Lynton was split into two flats plus another flat above the stables.

Jill started work for Burton of Bowral when she left school. Burton's had the property management rights for all Gwen and Ainsworth's properties from 1954, this being after they had moved back to Sydney. Jill was delighted to find that the Harrisons were clients.

When Gwen and Ainsworth then moved back to the Southern Highlands in 1972 and settled in Berrima, they owned three properties in Wingecarribee St at different times, ending up on a property called *River Bend* on a bend of the Wingecarribee River.

After finishing with the *Blue Hills* serial in September 1976, Dr Arrow says that Gwen took up watercolour painting and she and Ainsworth enjoyed their garden, friends and family at Berrima. Dr Arrow described Gwen as "elegant, charming, and with an appealing mischievous air, she was quick-witted and gracious."

Gwen and Ainsworth decided to move to Bowral in the 1980s and asked Jill Lees to sell their Berrima property. As it did not have a name, they asked her to select one and she came up with *River Bend* which they accepted. *River Bend* is still a Berrima property today and is currently owned by Jimmy and Jane Barnes. The Barnes's co-wrote a cookbook called "Where the River Bends".

After moving to Bowral, Gwen and Ainsworth settled into life at *Kenilworth Gardens* in Kangaloon Rd. Jill was very good friends with them and often visited.

She remembers spending many enjoyable days in their company and always responded to an invitation to "come around for a laugh". Jill describes Gwen as a genuine, funny, no-frills person.

Ainsworth had interests in the motor car industry. He drove a Bentley and on occasions used to carry bricks in it. When asked "Why do you carry bricks in your Bentley?" he used to remark "the car has to earn its keep".

He was related to two sisters, Tempe and Penelope Manning, who lived in Bowral. Tempe was an artist and painted a portrait of Gwen with plaits tied above her head. Later, the painting turned up in a sale and Gwen went but couldn't park, so she missed out on seeing it. Jill later noticed it at a Burradoo residence.

Gwen went to London as a journalist in 1953 to cover the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Megan Machin stood in for her during the absence and wrote some episodes of *Blue Hills*. This piece of information was recently provided to us by Michael Sharpe, a relative of Megan's, who lives in Bendooley St, Bowral. She had worked with Gwen before and in 1950 they co-wrote an ABC serial called *Ask Ginger*.

All of Gwen's life she collected buttons. Clothing that was discarded had the buttons removed and stored in boxes. Towards the end of her life, she asked her niece if there was any keepsake that she would like – and she replied – yes, your button collection.

Gwen Meredith received an MBE in 1967 and an OBE in 1977 for her contribution to the literature of radio broadcasting. Gwen was writing a novel at the time of her death in 2006, at the grand age of 98.

Compiled by Phillip Morton with thanks to Jill Lees and Ian Mackey for their contributions



WHEN RESEARCHING HISTORY OF HOUSES HOUSE NUMBERS AND STREET NAMES MAY CHANGE OVER YEARS

An interesting enquiry was received from Peter Mills who was trying to identify a house in a photograph with some family members standing out the front. The address of the house did not match the current house at that address.



I was wondering if the library/family history group had information that would assist me to identify the house in the picture I have attached to this email. The picture is of my grandmother, Charlotte Elizabeth Mills (nee Dean) (1902-1937) and her brothers, Neville Dean (on her left in the picture) and possibly Rupert Dean.

The Dean family lived in Orange from about 1905 having moved from the Millthorpe/Greggahamstown area.

Their parents were, Samuel Dean and Letitia Northey. I have found a reference in Trove that confirms Charlotte's grandmother (Letitia's mother), Elizabeth Northey was living in a house called Erica when she died in 1932. The article states that the location of the house was in Moulder Street but does not provide a street number.

The newspaper article below would match the photograph provided.

Leader (Orange, NSW: 1899 - 1945) - Fri 9 Sep 1932: Page 5.

MRS. ELIZABETH NORTHEY

An old and much-revered resident of Orange, Mrs. Elizabeth Northey (formerly Edwards), wife of Mr. Joseph Thomas Northey, of "Erica, "Moulder Street, passed away at her home at 10.30p.m., on Wednesday, at the age of 78. She was a native of Flintshire, Wales, and came to Australia as a child. After spending many years in Victoria, where she married, she came with her husband to this State, and resided for some time at Brown's Creek, before removing to Orange. Her husband, who is the same age, is now retired, after having been in business as a storekeeper. Mrs. Northey was highly respected by the many people of the town and district, and her passing will occasion keen regret. She was of a robust constitution until her health began to fail about two years ago, and her death terminated a fairly lengthy illness. In addition to the widower, she is survived by Mrs. S. Dean (Warrendine), Mr. Joseph Northey, jnr. (Sydney), and Mr. Ernest Northey (Sydney), daughter and sons, and about 14 grandchildren and a similar number of great-grandchildren. A brother (Tom) and sister (Mrs. Lydia Grimes) of deceased reside in Sydney and Stuart Town respectively. One son was killed in the Great War, and a daughter died about 17 years ago. Corporal Alfred Northey was the deceased son, and he was killed at Polygon Wood, in the Ypres section in 1917. His name is inscribed on the Honor Roll at the Memorial Hall, and Mrs. Northey enjoyed the distinction of being the first citizen to place a wreath in the Hall of Remembrance on Anzac Day. A tablet to perpetuate Cpl. Northey's name was erected in the Orange cemetery, and last Anzac Day the returned soldiers laid a wreath on it in remembrance of those who fell to the Great War. The funeral will take place today.

Her husband Joseph Northey died in 1935 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Samuel Dean in Moulder Street. This article lists the address as 77 Moulder Street but from what I can see of the present Victorian house at 77 Moulder Street through Google Street view it doesn't match to the "Erica" photo. Is there any way that you would be able to confirm the street number of the house "Erica"?

Leader (Orange, NSW : 1899 - 1945) - Wed 9 Oct 1935: Page 1.

OBITUARY. MR. JOSEPH THOMAS NORTHEY

Death has claimed, after an illness extending over a period of eighteen months, another of the district's well-known and respected residents, in the person of Mr. Joseph Thomas Northey, at the age of 82 years. Mr. Northey was born in St. Clair, Cornwall, and at the age of eight years came to Australia, his family settling at Ballarat in 1861, ten years after the gold rush had commenced on fields that are reputed to have been the richest in the world. Mr. Northey was a young man when he left Ballarat in 1877 to seek his fortune in this State, and in that same year he and his family arrived at Brown's Creek, near Blayney, where they established a store. Later he came on to Orange and secured employment at Brown and Brown's, in Summer Street, where he won the friendship of countless people during the number of years he was an employee at the store. Mr. Northey was interested in most local and world events, and always entertained a deep regard for the people about him. He remembered the feverish search for gold and during his life collected various minerals which were regarded by experts as a splendid collection. For a number of years Mr Northey resided at Stuart Town. His wife predeceased him by about three years, and Mr Northey, about eighteen months ago, fell and fractured his thigh. Pneumonia supervened and he passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Samuel Dean, 77 Moulder Street, on Monday morning. A daughter predeceased her father and one son, Alfred, as killed at the war. Messrs. Ernest and Joseph Northey, of Sydney, are the surviving sons. There are four teen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. The funeral left his daughter's home in Moulder Street yesterday afternoon, and after a short service at Holy Trinity Church his remains were interred in the Church of England portion of the Orange cemetery. Mrs. F. Ford and Co conducted the mortuary arrangements.



Recent photograph of house – previously known as 77 Moulder Street
Currently known as 83 Moulder Street

In response to Peter's email I was able to search our records and found that the numbers of the houses in Moulder Street, as with many others in Orange over the years had changed. The house previously known as 77 Moulder Street is now 83 Moulder Street. I sent Peter a current photograph of the house with further information on his family and was able to assist him with solving a family mystery.

This is a good reminder when researching the history of houses that house numbers and also street names may have changed over the years.

Ruth Bingham
Local Studies Librarian
Orange City Library

500 CHILDREN IN AND AROUND ORANGE UNABLE TO SWIM

Orange Star (NSW : 1926 - 1927): Fri 17 Sep 1926 Page 7.
Town and District News.

According to an estimate of the Education Department there are about 500 children in and around Orange unable to swim, and arrangements are to be made to give instruction to classes during the Christmas vacation. Now that Orange has swimming baths, every youngster should soon learn to swim. The Municipal Council is convening a public meeting of citizens for next Wednesday afternoon to meet Mr Hardwick, a swimming instructor from the Department of Education.

BYNG CEMETERY (THE CORNISH SETTLEMENT)

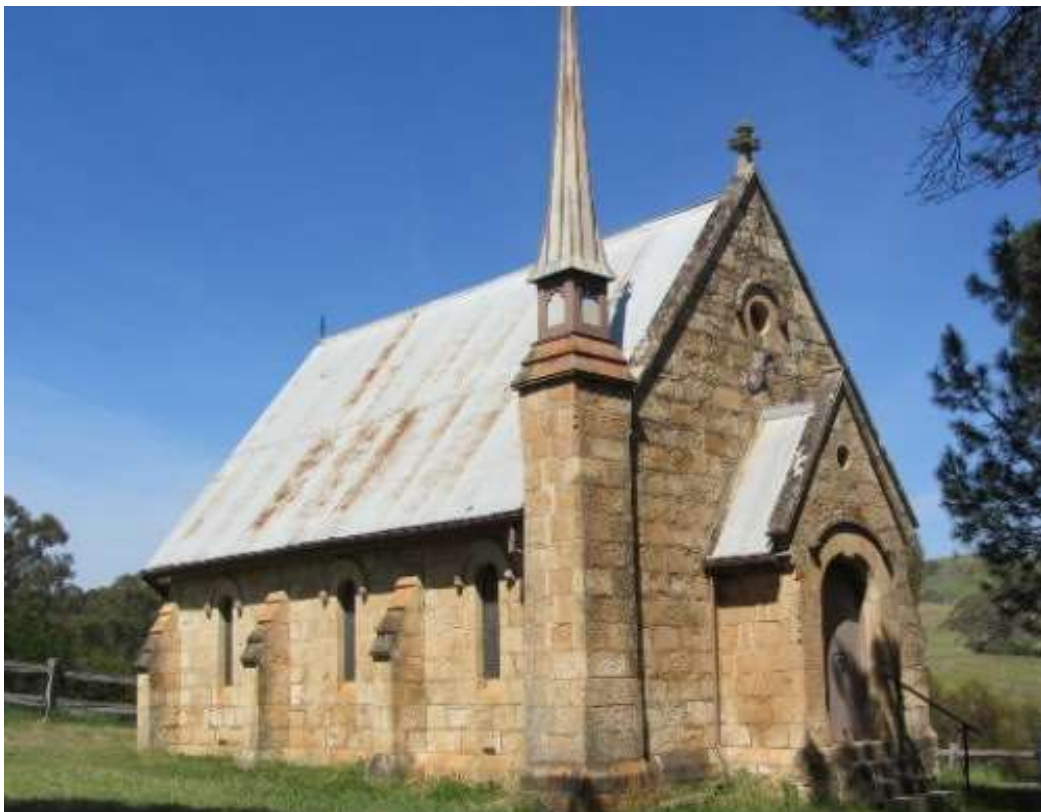
Byng has a wonderful early history of being settled by the Tom, Lane, Glasson and Hawke families since the late 1820's. During that time the early settlers also would have employed the use of labourers, house staff and convicts creating a growing community.

The 1850's saw copper mining production begin with the Carangarra Copper Mine and a large influx of miners and their families joined the community and lived and died in the area.

Byng was named after British Admiral John Byng who had been sent to relieve the British garrison at Fort St Phillip in Minorca in their fight against the French. Upon his arrival there, he saw that the French had already won, and refused to send in more men to die needlessly. Upon his arrival back in England, he was charged with failing to do his utmost to win the battle, and he was court-martialled and executed in 1757.

In 1854 the then Governor Fitzroy approved for the village reserve to be known as the Parish of Byng, County of Bathurst soon after the discovery of gold at nearby Ophir. The area became a growing community of Cornish immigrants, hence its' name as the Cornish Settlement.

The village boundaries were gazetted in 1881, and the village was proclaimed at the Byng Goldfield in 1893.



The first place of worship was constructed in 1842, with the renovated still-standing beautiful sandstone church built in 1872 (see photograph above)

Also sitting opposite the church is the current cemetery, the land for which was sold by the Glasson family to the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1872. Although early recorded burials in the cemeteries of Little Byng begin in 1847 and the Byng Cemetery from the 1860's, the latter is still in use today as a working cemetery.

I am currently undertaking a research and review of the burials within the Byng Wesleyan Cemetery, and also burials listed as Cornish Settlement, Cornish Town and even burials at Carangarra (another early reference for Byng).



Byng Wesleyan Cemetery - Image courtesy Jenny Howarth

Some of the local families featuring multiple times in this research are the: Bartimote, Bennet, Bray, Cornwell, Fardell, Field, Glasson, Goodlock, Harvey, Hawke, Howarth, James, Jenner, Lane, Martin, Oates, Randall, Richards, Spicer, Thomas, Tom, Webb and Williams.

The Blayney Family History Group did a marvellous job in researching the burials in the early 2000's and created a list of 321 burials. There are still gaps in this research with other burials I have found that have not been recorded before now.

The current list of burials is sitting at 363 individuals covering both burial grounds at Byng.

I would love to hear from any of your members who may know they have a family burial in the cemetery, or even if they wonder if there is a family member featured in the list of burials found so far.

There are many graves that do not have a headstone naming who is buried there, but do have rocks marking their burial (see photograph), possibly next to another family member, and it would be great to hear from any families who can identify who they know is buried there.

Please feel free to contact me directly on jenniferhowarth@bigpond.com or via Orange Family History Group.



Jenny Howarth
Researcher Byng Cemetery / Cornish Settlement

Molong Argus (NSW : 1896 - 1921): Fri 1 Dec 1905 - Page 10.

<p>Hot Day Comfort</p> <p>Avoid too much liquid refreshment. Take small drinks, infrequently, with a LITTLE Wolfe's Schnapps to give them piquancy and quench thirst. It is a famous beverage in hot climates.</p>	<p>WOLFE'S AROMATIC SCHIEDAM SCHNAPPS</p> <p>FOR THAT TIRED FEELING." Something upon which you can rely.</p>
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ORANGE RURAL SCHOOL WHERE 36 TEACHERS INSTRUCT OVER 1,000 PUPILS

It is a far cry from the day that the first school was opened in Orange to the present day (pens the schools' writer of the "Sunday News").

The western inland city of Orange, with its 15,000 people within a radius of five miles of the post office, was at that remote period little more than a camping ground for the bullock and horse teams that took the wool to Sydney from the far western stations and went back loaded with rations. The first schoolmaster to teach the children of Orange to spell C-A-T cat, was a Mr Malcolm Grant. That was about 70 years ago, and his school was an unpretentious building whereon, today, stands the Orange Civic Club in Anson Street. The present school buildings are among the largest in the country districts of the State, and on the roll there are 1,050 boys and girls under the charge of 36 teachers, with the acting headmaster, Mr E F Trim, a gentleman who as an educationalist holds the esteem of his teaching staff. His official heads, his scholars, and their parents. He possesses a first class certificate, is keen in every branch of sport, but without a street disciplinarian. It was Mr Trim who organised the first schools swimming carnival held in Orange and drilled 1,000 children of the districts' schools for a display in Orange that was considered the best ever seen in the west. His pupils secured four of the five A's gained in all the rural schools at the last examinations, and he is also president of the Orange District Teachers' federation. When Mr Trim was teaching at the Bourke Steet Public School, Sydney, he taught, in the same class, the present Minister for Justice, Mr T McKell, Ken Bracken, the champion jockey, who rode Poitrel when he won the Melbourne Cup, and Johnny Watkins, the champion footballer. They are still true friends of their old teacher.

Opportunities for Pupils

Orange school is the district rural school, the head mistress being Miss E R Johns, and the head mistress of the infants' school Miss F Cassidy. Primary and super-primary work is taught – the latter to the intermediate standard, and the pupils may enter the high school in their fourth year. The super-primary boys are allowed specialisation to fit them for their walks in life, and may choose an agricultural, technical or commercial avenue for their abilities. Orange Rural School is responsible for turning out many men who today hold high positions in public and private life; among them is ex-Senator Albert Gardiner, and the late Alex McKay who was Commonwealth Commissioner for Taxation.

Hobbies for Scholars.

This year many hobbies have been initiated among the scholars, and have become exceedingly popular, such as philately, painting, photography, electricity, leather work, elementary mechanics, etc. This year a shorthand class has also been established in the commercial course for boys, and efforts are being made to secure typewriters for them – the girls having been already provided with them.

Just now a section of the boys are busy laying out a flower and vegetable garden on the Sale Street frontage, where the lawns and blooms will form an attractive vista to the passersby, One penny per week is paid by the budding horticulturalists into a fund, to provide plants, shrubs, seeds etc for the garden plot, and the young gardeners revel in their work. A line pergola is now in course of construction which will be covered with climbing roses next year.

Another section of the boys' interest themselves in poultry-raising, and their pens of Rhode Island Reds are the pride of the school. Mr Scott, the manual training instructor, attend to these lads, and at the recent Orange A and P Show won first prize with them. So interested are the youngsters in their poultry that an incubator is on the list when sufficient money has been collected to purchase it.

A Blacksmith's Shop

Then there is the blacksmith's shop, and not every school possesses one. Here the youth with the mechanical turn of mind may be seen on the days set apart for the purpose, akin to the village blacksmith, swinging his 'heavy sledge with measured heat and glow'. A tradesman visits the shop one day a week, and instructs the students in the art of turning iron into useful articles for field, farm and home.

The manual training portion of the school ground is occupied by two special buildings, set apart especially for this purpose. And as many as 200 boys receive instructions there in wood work, metal work, technical drawing, rope work, house painting, concrete building, turning, etc, some of them being exceptionally clever. Many of the boys possess kits of carpenter's tools of their own, and turn out creditable articles of furniture for the home. Then there is the school farm, a tract of 12 acres, where the boys are taught to differentiate between the various kinds of wheat, oats and barley, and the most suitable grain to grow in the different districts. Two acres of this farm are reserved for orchardry, on which six different kinds of fruit are grown, while many different sorts of fodder grasses are cultivated in the experimental plots. Plots of potatoes, cereals and legumes are also set out, and the boys from Orange Rural School can converse on farm subjects with all the confidence of experts.

The Sports Side

In the sports section the boys and girls both join, the school having its cricket, football, tennis, basketball, vigoro and circles teams, and the senior boys hold the Dr W Matthews' silver cup for the cricket premiership of all schools in the district. They have also excelled in football, and last year played matches with Wellington, Parkes, Bathurst and Paddington (Sydney). Orange is the home of football. The sports master is Mr Doyle, and as he comes from a sporting family in the Dubbo district, he sees to it that his boys play the game in sport as he hopes they will play it in private life.

In the school grounds is a Public Works Department, under the aegis of Mr W Ratcliffe, the fidus achates of the scholars, ever ready to assist the scholars in anything that would be advantageous to them.

Girls Department

This article cannot be concluded without reference to the girls department, under Miss Johns and her competent staff, and it is an interesting fact that Miss Johns first went to school in the present building at the age of seven, qualified as a pupil teacher, then as first assistant, went to other schools, one of which was Broken Hill, and a few years ago was transferred back to Orange, as head mistress of her old Alma Mater, where she first learned her pothooks. Her department is one of the most important of the whole school, and is surrounded by hedges, English oaks, beech, poplar, sycamore, cedar, lilacs, and plane trees, planted by former school children and educationalists long since gone. A rose garden, with two pergolas, covered with climbing roses, is refreshing to students and teacher alike after the arduous duties of the day.

There is a cooking school, where 45 girls are now being trained to delight the hearts of their future husbands, by becoming experts in all branches of cookery. A Junior Red Cross League, with a membership of 100, is doing good work for those less fortunate than they are. Installed in the main classroom is an excellent gramophone. A fine reference library is also at their hand, making the girls' department of Orange Rural School one of the most replete in the State.

The Playground

While sweeping lawns, dotted here and there with English shade trees, and garden plots, of gaily coloured flower beds, form a delightful setting to the modern and commodious building which houses 400 little Australians, who are led along the paths of light and learning each year. This is the infants' school where Miss Cassidy presides, and each little dot loves her almost well as he or she loves their own mother. A morning visit to her department reveals the reason why the average attendance is over 80 per cent. Childish interests are catered for in such a manner that the little ones do not realise the awful forebodings of beginning school, as experienced by their parents. They have a large, airy assembly hall, the walls of which are covered with pictures, reproductions of the old masters, while ferns and palms are arranged on stands around the room, make the infants want to stay at school instead of the reverse. From the assembly room the various classes march off to the stirring martial music of the piano, to the well-equipped classroom's where the Montessori spirit rules.

Orange school and all its various departments is a credit to the west and to the Department of Education.

The foundation-stone of Orange Public school was laid in 1880 by the late Sir Henry Parkes. It is Gothic in design, but as the years crept on, and the population of the town grew denser, additions were necessary, and today the modern block of buildings, with the up to date classrooms, contrast vividly with the old building, but as a seat of learning it is steadily doing its duty and turning out men and women who are to be the future builders of the destiny of Australia.

Orange Star (NSW : 1926 - 1927) - Fri 17 Sep 1926 Page 2.



INTERESTING INFORMATION FOUND WHILE RESEARCHING PERSON WHO WAS KNOWN UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES

Central Western Daily - 6/8/1956.

One of the men who perished in last week's collier sinking off Sydney heads, was well known in Molong, where he lived for some time. He was Harry Dimitriou, also known as Harry James, who had a cafe in Bank Street until late in 1954. Dimitriou who was 35 left the business to go to sea after a run of bad luck.

Molong Express- 8/8/1956: Former Molong Businessman died in Collier Tragedy.

Former Molong businessman Harry Dimltrion (known locally as Harry James) was one of the victims of the collier "Birchgrove Park" tragedy which sank in heavy seas some six miles from the Heads when its cargo of coal moved because of a pounding by heavy seas and caused the vessel to overturn. Harry James conducted a cafe on the premises now occupied by Frank Fashions but later went to sea as an able seaman.

Trove Newspaper - "Charalambos Dimitriou"-able seaman – Plumpton

NSW BDM Death - 2/8/1956 - Harolabos Dimitrou - 28093/1956.

RESEARCH

Interesting article found while researching:

The Sun (Sydney) - 1/2/1944: page 5.

Much the same world - Mrs. Celia Haselden, Waime Avenue, Woollahra, whose 100th birthday is tomorrow, doesn't believe the world has changed very much since she was a girl. Mrs. Haselden was born at the old Sydney Gas Works in Kent Street, where her father, Francis Owen, was manager.

"The city itself has grown," she said, "but people haven't changed much in the past 100 years, and I don't suppose they will in the next 100." Mrs. Haselden was married at 18, and went to live at Orange, where she spent the greater part of her life. She had 13 children, and her eldest daughter is now 82. Mrs. Haselden admires modern women, likes modern ways and modern clothes, but thinks shorts are "ridiculous." *"Life is easier now," she said. "When I reared my family we didn't even have sewing machines. "I used to make all my children's clothes by hand, requiring hours and hours of stitching. "There are greater opportunities for women now, but I have had a good life. "If I had to make my choice now it would still be an early marriage and babies."* she added.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Central Western Daily - 27/5/1946: Obituary - Mrs Ellen O'Donnell.

At the age of 91 years Mrs Ellen O'Donnell (Lord's Place, Orange) died on Saturday night at the Base Hospital after a short illness. Born at Waree in the Molong district, deceased had lived in Orange for last 30 years, where she was almost as well-known as in Stuart Town, where she spent the early years of her life. She was predeceased by her husband Mr Patrick O'Donnell by 50 years. Four children are living and they are: Hubert (the eldest, living in California); Mrs Sloane (Summer Hill); John (Petersham) and Mrs Alicia Griffin (Lord's Place, Orange). There are nine grandchildren. Burial will take place at Stuart Town today, the funeral leaving St. Joseph Church for the Roman Catholic portion of the cemetery at Stuart Town.

Central Western Daily - 24/6/1948: Mr A.T. Goldsack.

Mr Arthur Thomas Goldsack died suddenly at his residence 91 Franklin Road, yesterday morning at the age of 51 years. Mr Goldsack was a native of Balmain and came to Orange 12 months ago. He leaves a wife and one brother Harold and one sister Miss Hilda Goldsack of Balmain. His funeral will leave the Methodist Church after a service today for the Methodist portion of the Orange cemetery.

****Orange Cemetery - unmarked grave - Methodist section N31.**

Central Western Daily - 18/10/1948: Full recovery for child shot in lung.

Doctors consider that Peter Joseph Kelly 3 ½ who had a lung punctured with a 22 pea rifle bullet at Orange recently will not suffer any permanent ill effects. Peter is the son of Mr & Mrs Joe Kelly of Summer Street and yesterday he was out of bed for the first occasion since the accident last week. The child was shot when he found a loaded pea rifle which he had found in a room at his home, exploded. The bullet passed through the child's liver, puncturing a lung and inflicting a nasty wound in his back. Several blood transfusions were given to the child. Yesterday Mrs Kelly said that the child was doing as well as could be hoped. He is doing remarkably well. "He was up for a while today and I do think that in a few weeks he will be quite recovered". "Peter is being spoiled by everyone now at home and of course while he was in the Base Hospital the nurses were wonderful to him". The Daily Mirror photograph show Peter at the Orange Base Hospital recently.

Central Western Daily - 10/11/1948: Obituary - A. Hepperlin.

The death occurred in the Base Hospital on Sunday of Mr Albert Hepperlin a well-known resident of Mullion Creek at the age of 70. He had been ailing for a number of years but was conveyed to the Base Hospital only on Thursday last. Mr Hepperlin married Miss Charlotte Pulley a native of the Mullion Creek district where they had resided ever since. Before his illness Albert Hepperlin engaged principally in mining and sleeper cutting. He was one of the trustees of the Mullion Creek Hall and played a prominent part in most local activities. 'Bert Hepperlin was a very good citizen, and we are all going to miss him very much' said a Mullion Creek resident yesterday. In addition to his widow Mr Hepperlin is survived by one son John of Murrurundi and four grandchildren. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon and was largely attended, almost every family at Mullion Creek being represented. The remains were interred in the Catholic portion of the Orange cemetery.

Central Western Daily - 17/9/1954: Obituary - Mrs A.M. Roberts.

Many residents of Orange and the Spring Hill district especially will regret to hear of the death in Orange yesterday of Mrs Ada Mary Roberts at the age of 75 years. A daughter of the late Mr & Mrs John A. Davis an esteemed pioneer couple of Spring Hill, Mrs Roberts spent practically the whole of her life in and around Orange. When a girl she came in from the old family home at Spring Hill to assist in the shop of the well-known baker in Peisley Street at that time, the late Mr H. Henkes. In later years

she married Mr Ambrose Roberts then in the employ of Earl Brothers, now Brown and Brown of Summer Street. and subsequently Mr & Mrs Roberts conducted a store at the corner of Summer and Hill Streets with conspicuous success for some years. During that period the happy couple endeared themselves to a wide circle of friends throughout the Orange district. In recent years before Mr Roberts death about 12 months ago they had made their home at Spring Hill. Mrs Roberts had a charming personality and was well liked by all who knew her. She is survived by four sisters and two brothers Mesdame Arthur Eslick and Fred Bowyer (Orange) J. Carruthers (Temora) and E. Penney (Bondi), Messrs Fred (Orange) and Rowley Davis (Spring Hill). The funeral will leave the Methodist Church today for the Methodist portion of the Orange cemetery.

Central Western Daily - 7/12/1955: Mr H. D'Hudson.

The death occurred on Sunday of Mr Hubert McEvers D'Hudson at the home of his daughter Mrs H. Schultz in Johnston St., Wagga. He was born at Molong in 1868. He came to Wagga in 1901 and married Miss Eva Eggleton of Tumut. They bought the hotel called the Golden Age (now known as The Duke of Kent). It was sold when Mrs D'Hudson died 15 years ago. He owned property in Wagga and Orange. At one time he had an interest in a gold mine at Ophir. One son McEvers, of "Gilgai" Orange survived him. There are also two daughters Mrs B. Kaine of Strathfield and Mrs H. Schultz of Wagga. The funeral took place on Monday. The cortege left the St John's Church of England interment was in the Wagga cemetery. (Wagga Advertiser)

Central Western Daily - 28/7/1956: Left a big estate.

A retired Orange grazier who died in Wagga last December directed in his will that only the income from his 28,962 pounds estate should go to the beneficiaries - his two daughters, son and grandson. Probate of the will of the grazier Hubert McEvers D'Hudson a widower was granted in the Supreme Court yesterday. He said in his will "*It is my desire to safeguard my beneficiaries from falling into the error I have frequently observed in young people who have not had to work hard to acquire their money or properties*". Mr D'Hudson left his family only a life interest in houses and land they will always have a roof over their heads. He left shop properties at Orange and Wagga. Two farms at Wagga were left to Mr D'Hudson's two daughters Mrs B. Kaine, of Strathfield and Mrs H. Schultz of Wagga. Mr D'Hudson's son Mr McEvers D'Hudson has his own property Gilgia Molong Road, Orange. The two Wagga farms will eventually pass to Mr McEvers D'Hudson's son Richard. Love of Land. Mr D'Hudson senior, said his will was the expression of many years' careful concentration on the problem of properly disposing of his estate. Mr McEvers D'Hudson told the Central Western Daily yesterday afternoon that his father had always had a deep love for the land. "*He was born at Nora Creek, Molong and worked for James Lee at Larras Lake*" he said. "*He later dealt in stock, then acquired land and property gradually, the hard way. I would say the conditions of the will stem from my father's desire to keep the land in the family*". Co-executors of the estate are Mr McEvers D'Hudson and Mr H.L. Paton.

Central Western Daily - 2/7/1957: Mrs Eileen Earl.

The many Orange friends of Mrs Eileen Earl were shocked last weekend to hear of her sudden death in Edinburgh Scotland at the end of last week. Mrs Earl's husband a well-known agent in Orange for more than 30 years predeceased her three years ago. She sold her home in Clinton St., in February and with a sister from Western Australia left for a holiday in England, Scotland and the Continent. She was due to sail for Norway last weekend and had booked her return passage to Australia in November. Eileen Earl was a keen worker for Holy Trinity Church of England guild and the Orange branch of the C.W.A.

Central Western Daily - 23/8/1957: A memorial service for the late Mrs Eileen Earl.

A memorial service for the late Mrs Eileen Earl was conducted by Rev. Gordon Smee at Holy Trinity Church of England on Monday afternoon. Mrs Earl died suddenly in Scotland recently while holidaying overseas. She was staying with her brother Rev Whitehorn of England, who intended coming to Australia on his retirement to make his home with Mrs Earl. Close friends of Mrs Earl's members of Holy Trinity women's guild and the Orange branch of the C.W.A. were present at the service. Mr Smee spoke of the years of faithful service Mrs Earl had given her church during the years she lived in Orange and expressed his deep regret to her brother and relatives at her tragic and early death.

Central Western Daily - 11/7/1960: - Obituary - Mr J.C. Blaylock.

The death occurred on Saturday of John Calvert Blaylock of Casey Street, Orange, after a short period in hospital. He had been a well-known resident of Orange for 18 years. Mr Blaylock was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and served his apprenticeship there as an organ builder. He later went to South Africa where in World War I, he was engaged in the building and testing of aircraft. Coming to Australia about 35 years ago, he joined the well-known firm of Beale and Co. During his career there he made a trip to America on the firm's behalf later carrying on his own business as a pianola expert. Mr Blaylock was prominent in Masonic circles, but indifferent health prevented him from carrying on these activities to the extent he would have wished. He is survived by his widow, Mrs Margaret ("Meg") Blaylock of Casey St., Orange and by three sisters in Scotland. His funeral will leave Holy Trinity Church after a service starting today for the Canobolas Crematorium.

***Plaque - John Calvert Blaylock - died 9/7/1960 - Saint Jude's Cemetery - Randwick

Central Western Daily - 25/7/1961: Victims named.

Canberra - Friday - The names of eight Australian servicemen killed in a wartime Beaufort bomber crash in the New Guinea jungle were released today. The wreckage was discovered this week by a search party which investigated aerial sightings of previously unrecorded wreckage. The bomber had crashed into an 8,500ft mountain about eight miles north east of Myola in the Kokoda region in January, 1945. Killed were: Wing Commander Nigel William Barker, of Double Bay; F/O; Colin Laidler Chisholm of Bendigo; F/O; Alfred Vincent Eric Bate of Hampton (Vic); F/O. Allen Dalglish of Leeton; Flight Sgt William Henry Pratt of Preston (Vic); Flight Sgt Trevor Neil Hay of Portland (NSW). Sgt Reginald Thomas Barter of Epping; Lieut Col Autin George Fenton of Beecroft.

Minister for Air Senator Wade said R.A.A.F files revealed that the bomber belong to Number Seven R.A.A.F. squadron. It had taken off from Ward strip at Port Moresby for Lae. Low cloud and heavy rain was reported at the time. No message was received after the aircraft took off and it had disappeared without trace.

Central Western Daily - 25/6/1964: Death of Mr Alf Hodges.

Well known Orange garage proprietor Mr Alfred Ernest (Alf) Hodges died in Orange Base Hospital on Tuesday morning after a 12 months illness. Mr Hodges was owner of the Canobolas Garage and Engineering Works in Lord's Place. He was 46, Mr Hodges had lived all his life in Orange and was educated at East Orange Public School and Orange Rural School. His father the late J.F.C. Hodges owned and lived in the home that is now known as Buena Vista Boys' Home. Mr Hodges lived there until his marriage 25 years ago when he moved to a home in March St where he lived up to the time of his death. He married Miss Hazel Toole of Eugowra and Orange. After leaving school Mr Hodges worked as an apprentice in a number of Orange garages before starting on his own in Lord's Place. Mr Hodges' main interests apart from his work were fishing and shooting. He was one of the original members of Orange Light Car Club who helped put the club on its present sound footing. His father

donated the bells at Orange Congregational Church, of which Mr Hodges was a loyal supporter. He is survived by his wife, three children and four grandchildren. The children are Fay (Mrs C. Lockwood, Orange) Janice (Mrs A. Elith, Orange) and one son Graham who works at his father's garage. The funeral was yesterday after service at Orange Congregational Church and Orange Crematorium.

Nambucca Guardian News - 28/4/1967: Obituary - Mr Victor Davis.

The death occurred recently of Mr Victor Davis of Valla. Mr Davis resided at Valla Beach after coming to live in retirement from Orange. He was a member of the Orange sub-branch of the R.S.L. Living in Tasmania at the outbreak of war, he enlisted in the R.A.A.F in 1940 and spent 5 ½ years service throughout bases in Australia and Borneo. Discharged unfit, he became a T.P.I. digger and it was the result of his war service injuries that brought about his untimely death at the age of 60 years. Service carried out at the graveside by members of the Nambucca Heads R.S.L.

Central Western Daily - 8/7/1967: Former Dudley matron dies: Mrs I. Veech.

A former matron of Dudley private hospital at Orange Mrs Irene Gertrude Veech (nee Cunningham) died in the hospital yesterday aged 70. She was known by hundreds of people in the Central West and was held in high regard for her ability as a nurse and her pleasant personality. Mrs Veech before her marriage took over Dudley hospital with her sister Imelda. About two months later, a third sister, Peg joined them. The three sisters with Mrs Veech as matron made the hospital one of the best known in the Central West. It attracted patients from as far east as Katoomba and as far west as the Queensland border. Mrs Veech was a keen golfer and because of the long hours she worked had to get up at 5am to practice. She won the Orange associates championship twice. Wellington. Mrs Veech was married in 1936 to Lesley Veech, of "Mountain View" Wellington. She left the hospital and lived at Mountain View until her husband died in 1961. Her sister Peg became matron of the hospital and held the position until it was sold in 1964. The Cunningham family came from Tarlo near Goulburn and all the girls were nurses. Mrs Veech trained as a nurse in Forbes. She is survived by sisters Peg (Matron Cunningham) Vera (Mrs Cecil Sloane) and Imelda, all of Orange, Kathleen (Mrs Ryan of Lismore) Josephine (mother Emerentiana, Good Samaritan Convent, Glebe) and Brother Ted, of Sydney. Her funeral service will be held at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Orange, followed by prayers at Wellington Roman Catholic Church. Mrs Veech will be buried in Wellington cemetery.

Central Western Daily - 7/8/1969: Obituary.

Obituary - General sympathy will be extended to Mr & Mrs A.C. Miller on the sudden death last week of their daughter Mrs Valmai Mumford at her residence at Artarmon. She had not enjoyed good health in past months, but her death came as a shock to her family and friends. Mrs Mumford was educated at Manildra Public School and "Redlands" College, Cremorne and was for a time in the nursing profession at the Children's Hospital, Camperdown. While in Manildra she had many friends and took an active interest in local social activities and was prominent in the former Manildra C.W.A Younger Set. She and her husband and family were frequent visitors here and she will be remembered for her pleasant and kindly disposition. She is survived by her husband Mr John Mumford a son David a daughter Dr Suzanne Whereat, brother Mr Ken Miller (Manildra) and three sisters Lorraine (Mrs M.B Lack), Beverly (Mrs Bitmead) and June (Mrs Taylor all of Sydney).

Central Western Daily -1/5/1982 -Death of former Orange teacher.

The death occurred in Sydney on April 10 of a former resident of Orange district, Mr Bill Knight aged 82. Bill Knight was loved and respected through his long teaching association with Orange Rural School, Orange High School and Wolaroi College, which covered almost 40 years. He had an outstanding teaching career but the highlights of his memories at Orange High School include

isteddfod winning choirs, undefeated Astley Cup basketball teams and happy, friendly classrooms. His understanding approach to his pupils through his manual arts subject, has left many fond memories for those he taught. His advice was sought by many employers for suitable staff and many an Orange person owes their early employment to his caring interest. He was an involved member of the Orange Baptist Church where he is lovingly remembered for all his work, especially that of his music and his work with the young people. A large proportion of district residents came under his influence through either classroom, sport, church, music or community work and he was known for having a deep interest in people of all ages. His wife Dorothy died in Sydney in 1972 and since that time Bill Knight has resided close to his two sons, Max and Leigh in Sydney. Bill Knight was man who cared for people and will be long remembered by many in this district who came in contact with him and who were influence by him.

Central Western Daily - 3/5/1994: Death of teacher.

Orange High School has been shocked by the sudden death of Irene Moroz, a teacher for 26 years who was loved for her gentleness and strength of character. The high school principal Pam Ryan said there would be service today in the school quadrangle to mark her passing. Ms Ryan said Miss Moroz was strong in a gentle kind of way and dealt with all people fairly, whether they were students of colleagues. She said the school community would greatly miss Miss Moroz's caring approach to her work and incredible dedication to her work as a teacher of English and modern history. Miss Moroz's endeavor to teach English was made more difficult by the fact she was of Ukrainian descent Ms Ryan said. Miss Moroz emigrated with her mother and father in 1949 and spent the following two years in the Parkes Migrant Hostel. She soon attended the Santa Maria Catholic School in Orange and in her final year received a scholarship to study a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of NSW. It was there she found her love for English and decided to spend the rest of her life teaching others about its weird and wonderful exceptions to the rule.

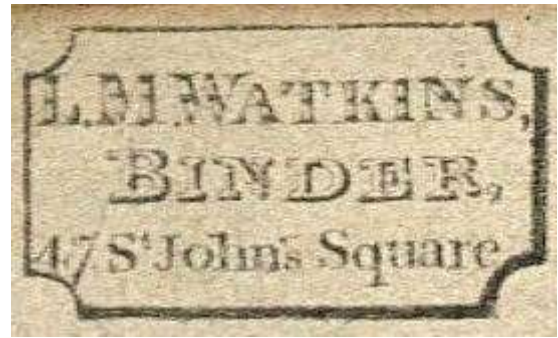
Molong Express and Western District Advertiser (NSW : 1887 - 1954) - Sat 15 Oct 1887 Page 3.

T. J. Robinson
Engineers, Iron and Brass Foundry
Boiler Makers, &c.,
Anson Street, Orange,
 Make and Supply the following:—
QUARRIES Crushing, Pumping, Winching, Sawing
 and Agricultural Machinery of every descrip-
 tion.
 Builders' and Bridge Contractors' Wrought Iron-
 work, Columns Pairsading, Monkeys, Cranes, &c.
 A large variety of Pulleys, Plumberblocks, Whip
 and Truck Wheels, and other mining requisites,
 also Duplicate parts for nearly all Reaping, Thrash-
 ing, Stripping, Chaff-cutting and Horse Works
 always kept in stock.
 We have now in stock Second Hand Horizontal
 and Portable Engines, 1 Steam Pump, 1 Double Set
 of Winding Gear, 2 Sets of Puddling Machine Gears,
 Chaff Cutters, Reaping Machines, and Crabs, winches,
 besides a quantity of other Mining Machinery.

Also one 20 H. P. REFRIGERATING MACH-
 INE, complete, and equal to new at a nominal
 price.
 Having purchased a shipment of the best Cydo
 Iron we can now supply Castings at 7½ per cent
 less than usual prices. Stamper S.ocs and Dies
 15s per cwt.
 All orders for repairs, new and second hand
 Machinery, will receive prompt attention. Expe-
 rienced workmen sent to any part of the colony.
 Charges Moderate.
 Several Portable Engines or Steam Chaff Cutters
 for hire.
 Cast and Wrought Iron Piping. Bar Iron, En-
 gine and Boiler Fittings.
 Old Cast Iron bought for Cash at £3 10s. per ton.
 Agents for Marshall and Sons, Engines, Boilers,
 &c.
 Machinery of every description bought and sold
 on commission.
T. J. ROBINSON & CO.,
 ANSON STREET, ORANGE.

TREASURE AT THE TIP

Last year a work colleague discovered an old English Bible at the Ophir Road Resource Recovery Centre. The Bible is annotated throughout, with some very interesting handwritten entries on the inside and back cover. These appear to have been written by five different people from three different families: the Chapman and the Woods family from England, and the Crowson family who brought the Bible to Australia when they emigrated from England in 1921.



Sadly, the Bible does not contain a date of publication. It bears a stamp - British and Foreign Bible Society - on the front cover. Known simply as the Bible Society, this non-denominational entity was formed on 7 March 1804 with the purpose of making the Bible more widely available.

The Bible was bound by L M Watkins of 47 St John's Square in Clerkenwell, London.

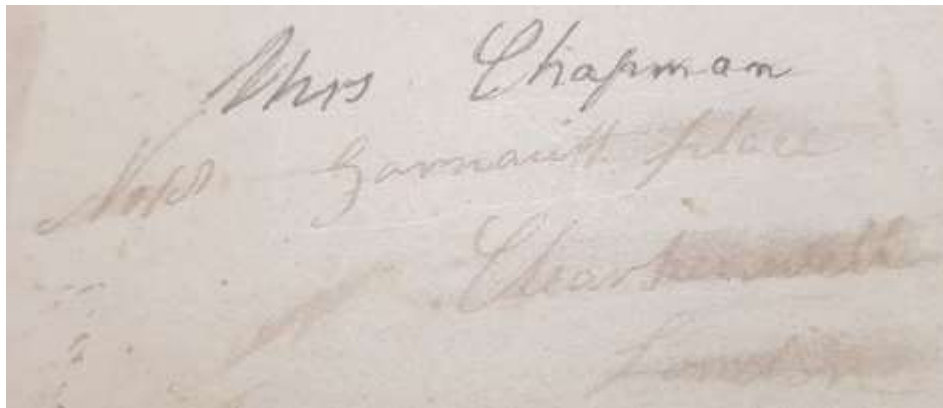
This building dates back to the early 18th century and is still standing today. In 1990 it was listed on the English Heritage Register.



47-48 St John's Square, Clerkenwell - (Image courtesy britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)

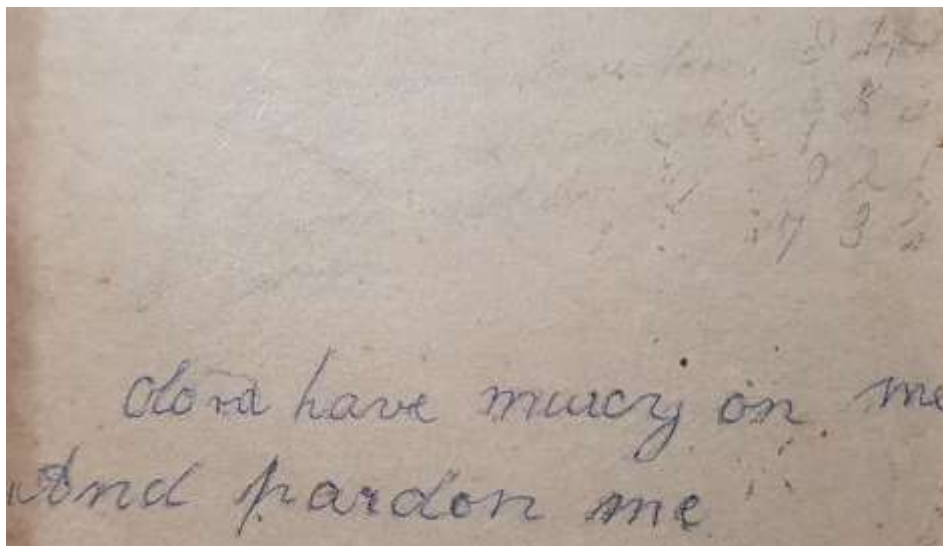
The very first inscription on the inside front cover reads:

*Mrs Chapman
No 1A [?] Garnault Place
Clerkenwell
London*



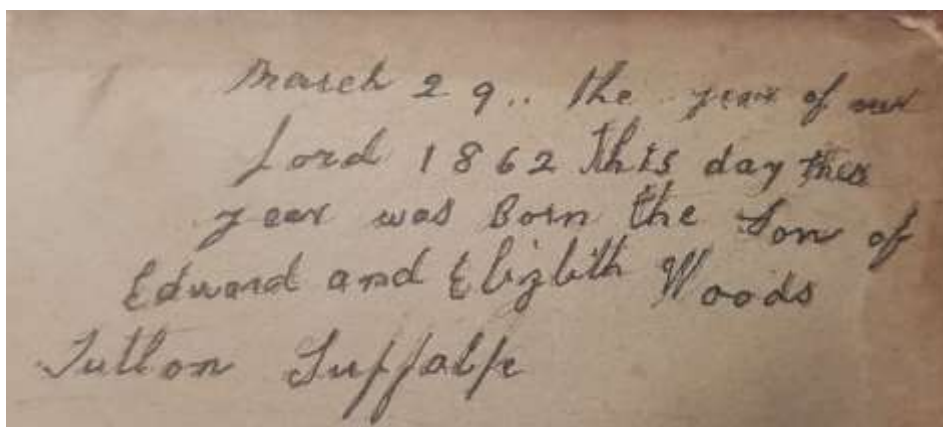
Attempts to discover the identity of "Mrs Chapman" proved fruitless, however it is interesting to note that Garnault Place and St John's Square are just one kilometre apart.

The following inscription is barely legible but appears to be a record of a purchase, presumably of fabric, since the word "yards" and prices can be observed. This entry is followed by the words: "Lord have murcy on me and pardon me."



The inscription on the very top of the inside back cover reads:

March 29, the year of our Lord 1862. This day this year was Born the Son of Edward and Elizabeth Woods, Sutton Suffolk

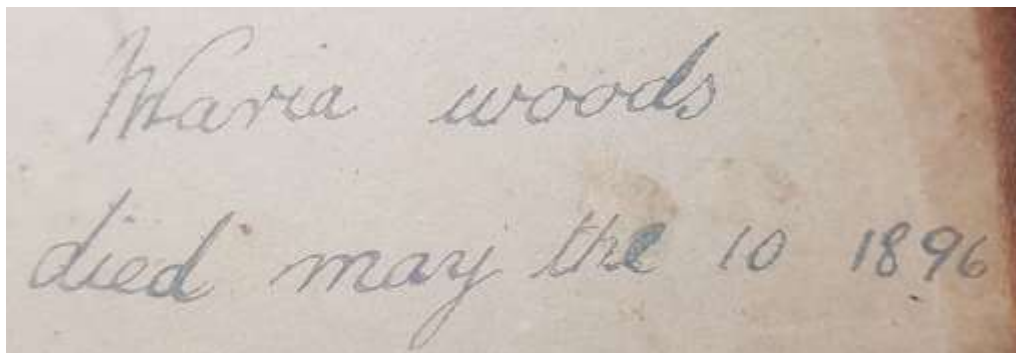


This entry refers to the birth of Charles Edward Woods, who was baptised on 17 August 1863. Charles was Edward and Elizabeth's second child. Their first child, Mary Ann, had been born in 1856.

The following inscription in the Bible reads:

Maria Woods

Died May the 10 1896.

A photograph of a handwritten inscription in a Bible. The text is written in cursive ink on aged, slightly stained paper. It reads: "Maria woods" on the first line and "died may the 10 1896" on the second line.

British probate notices for 1898 include the following inscription:

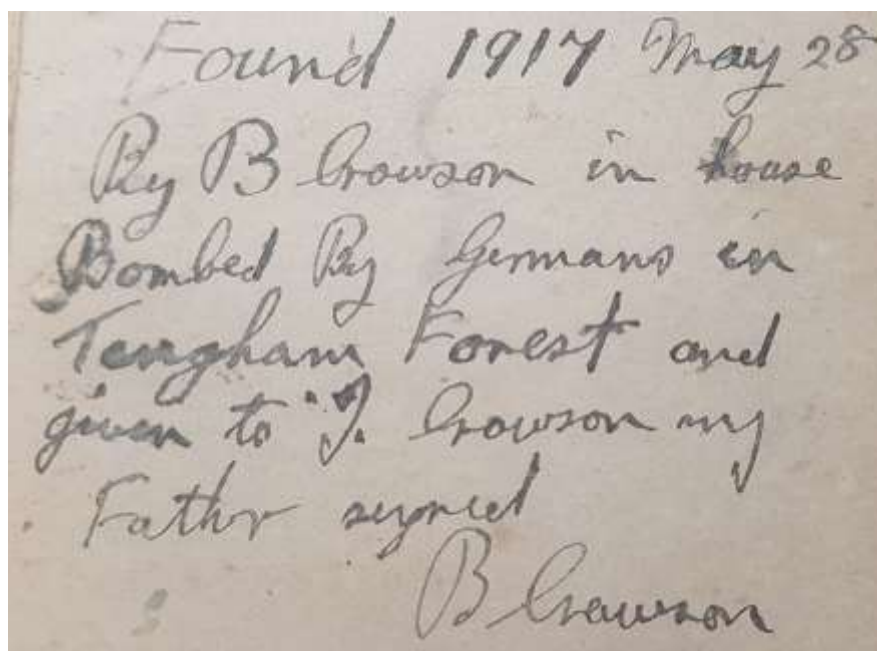
WOODS, Maria of Tangham, Suffolk (wife of Edward Woods) died 10 May 1896. Probate London 28 January to the said Edward Woods labourer. Effects £275.

I was unable to establish the familial link between Charles Edward Woods and Maria Woods. One Charles Edward Woods of Suffolk served in the British Expeditionary Force in World War I. He was killed in action on 9 May 1915. Whether or not this is the same Charles Edward Woods whose birth is recorded in the Bible is unknown. How the Bible made its way from Mrs Chapman to the Woods family is also unknown.

The following inscription in the Bible is perhaps the most intriguing. It reads:

Found 1917 May 28 by B Crowson in house bombed by Germans in Tangham Forest and given to J Crowson, my father.

Signed B Crowson, May 1917.

A photograph of a handwritten inscription in a Bible. The text is written in cursive ink on aged, slightly stained paper. It reads: "Found 1917 May 28" on the first line, "By B Crowson in house" on the second line, "Bombed By Germans in" on the third line, "Tangham Forest and" on the fourth line, "given to J. Crowson my" on the fifth line, "Father signed" on the sixth line, and "B Crowson" on the seventh line.

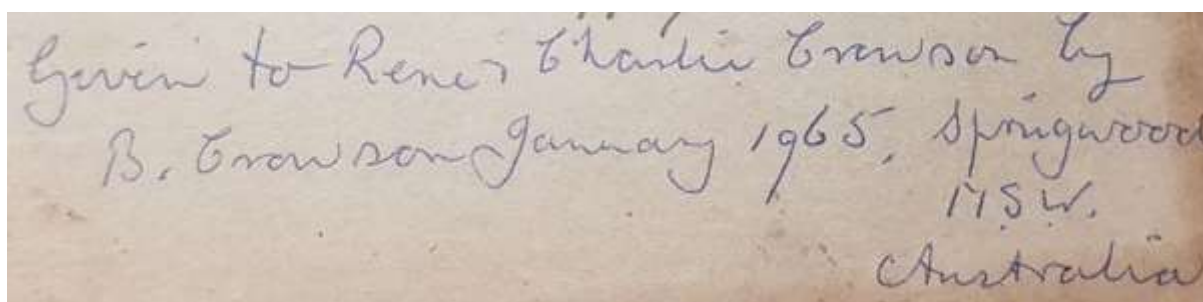
On the night of 24/25 May 1917 six Zeppelins approached the English channel with the intention of dropping bombs on London. They were thwarted by high altitude winds and only four of the Zeppelins reached the English coastline, where they proceeded to drop bombs on Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk. Tangham Forest is in Suffolk, but whether or not the Bible was discovered following this particular air raid is not clear.

B Crowson, who discovered the Bible, is Bertie Crowson, born in Leicester in April 1898, the second of seven children born to Joseph, a railway worker with Great Northern Railways, and his wife Annie.

In 1920 Joseph, Annie and their children Bertie, Joseph, Edith, Charles and Florence emigrated to Australia aboard the P&O steamship SS *Borda*. Their son Thomas, who served in WWI, remained in England. [Their first-born, Charlotte, had died in 1901, at the age of five].

The Bible obviously made the journey to Australia with Joseph and his family. The Crowsons settled in Sydney. The Bible was presumably handed back to Bertie following Joseph's death in 1928. The final inscription, some 37 years later, reads:

Given to Rene & Charlie Crowson by B Crowson, January 1965, Springwood, NSW



Charlie is Charles Henry Crowson, Bertie's younger brother, born in 1905. In 1926 Charles married Ruby Elizabeth Anne Kennewell at Parramatta. Their first son, Ronald, was born two years later. A second son, Arthur, and a daughter, Lorraine, followed.

Charles was a carpenter by trade. During the 1930s he and his family lived in Sydney, Mudgee and Condobolin. In January 1943 Ruby tragically died, having been electrocuted whilst attempting to repair a faulty iron.

In 1944 Charles remarried. He and his wife, Irene (known as Rene), lived in Lakemba. By 1965 Charles and Rene had moved to Springwood in the Blue Mountains, given the final inscription in the Bible.

Charles Crowson died in Sydney in November 1981. Rene outlived her husband by 33 years. She is buried alongside Charles in Springwood cemetery.

So many mysteries surround the history of this Bible, so many unanswered questions. Most importantly: how did it find its way to the Resource Recovery Centre in Orange?

What we do know is that the Bible was published in London between 1804 and 1862 and was brought to Australia by Joseph Crowson and his family in 1921.

Amen

Trudi Mayfield
Heritage Research Librarian
Orange City Library



Armidale Family History Group Inc.

Mail: P. O. Box 1378, Armidale NSW 2350

email: afharm@gmail.com Ph. 67720450 (Mon.1-4pm & Wed 10-4pm)

Web: <https://www.armidalefamilyhistorygroup.com/>

CALLING FOR CONVICTS

Do you have ancestors that were convicts and came to the New England Area? The Armidale Family History Group is looking for convicts that moved to the New England Area. If you have convicts that fit this we would love to hear from you.

Convict Name	Ship	Area Settled

CALLING FOR BURIALS IN THE OLD ARMIDALE BURIAL GROUND

Do you have ancestors that were buried in the first Armidale Cemetery (in use to 1862)? We are looking for people that may have been buried in the first Armidale cemetery.

Name	Date of Death

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Your Name	
Email	
Phone	

OLD ORANGE AIRPORT

Quote from OrangeWiki

"A feature of the Bloomfield site was a ground sign spelling out the word 'ORANGE' which was considered to be the most modern innovation in aerodrome construction."

Sydney Morning Herald - 24-1-1938: Council's Big Undertaking

So rapid has been the development of civil aviation that several important towns in New South Wales have been linked up by air services, and the establishment of aerodromes has constituted a significant chapter in their progress.

As one of the most important country centres in the State, Orange is not behind the times, and the establishment of the aerodrome on an area of about 100 acres, near the Mental Hospital, shows to what extent the town is contributing to the growth of air travel.

The Municipal Council, aided by the foresight of Dr A E Colvin, MLC is carrying out a work that will give to the town what is expected to be one of the biggest and best airports in the State, and it is to be congratulated on the selection of the location. Dr Buckingham's knowledge of aircraft and landing grounds was a valuable guide for the ultimate choice of the site.



Photograph - *Central Western Daily* – September 16 2020
'Restored and relocated sign remains historic draw card for Orange'

AMPLIFY



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

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

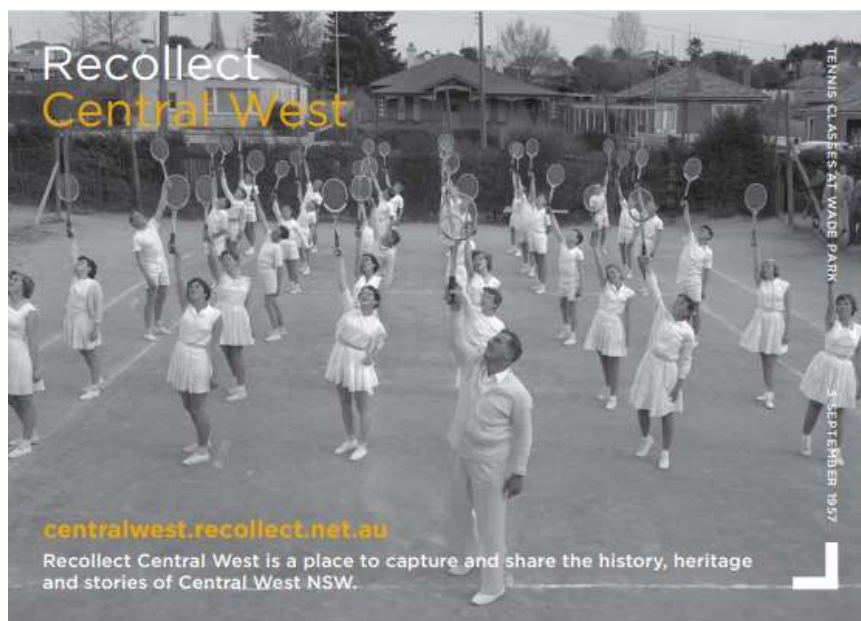
We are asking interested members of the community to participate in the transcription of these oral histories. First time transcribers can create their own login via the link below.

You can read through the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and the Tutorial. Both are accessible from the Amplify landing page. <https://amplify.gov.au/centralwestlibraries>

ORANGE CEMETERY DATABASE

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

RECOLLECT CENTRAL WEST



[Recollect Central West](#) is a digital platform where you'll find photographs, maps, plans and out of print books. View the Orange & District Historical Society Central Western Daily Negative Collection, Orange Civic Theatre, Orange City Council, Orange City Library collections and many many more.

Centralwest.recollect.net.au

2024 NSW & ACT FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE - A VIRTUAL MINI CONFERENCE

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc have advised that they will not be holding a state conference this year.

Instead, the 2024 NSWACT Family History Conference will be held via a virtual mini conference.

Theme 'Dig deeper in 2024'

Virtual mini conference

Date Saturday 14 September 2024

Cost \$10 per individual

\$50 per society



Visit their website for further details nswactfhs.org

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ANCESTORS IN ORANGE AREA

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

The Research Officer

Orange Family History Group

PO Box 35

ORANGE NSW 2800

or

email: familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of *Orange Family History Group Newsletter* is scheduled for December 2024.

Submissions should be forwarded to familyhistory@orange.nsw.gov.au before 22 November 2024.

JOIN OUR GROUP

Do you live locally and have a keen interest in family history research?

We are looking for new members to join the Orange Family History Group. Our group meets upstairs in the Orange City Library on the third Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm, except December. Everyone is most welcome.

We publish a newsletter three times a year, April, August and December.

We encourage our members to help others in their family history discoveries – by assisting people undertake research; helping with indexing projects and many more initiatives that we have planned!

The Genealogy collection at the [Orange City Library](#) has some great resources! [Click here to search the catalogue.](#)

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE – GREAT GIFT IDEAS

							
The life of Sir Neville Howse, VC, one of Australia's most outstanding soldier-surgeons, awarded the Victoria Cross for heroism during the Boer War	A small booklet on Banjo Paterson and his birthplace "Narrambla". Project of the Rotary club of Orange	A history of Motor car racing Gnoo Blas – Orange	Exploring how medicine shaped the history of Orange and the surrounding districts from the earliest days of settlement	A history of goldmining and local history for Lucknow / Shadforth	This book highlights and honours the men from the Orange area who served in the South African Boer War and the four local men who died while on service	A thematic study of the Chinese people in the Orange, Blayney and Cabonne Shires, and the Town of Wellington	Trooper James Daniel Duff – NSW Citizens Bushman died in Boer War South Africa – now buried in paddock near Moree.
\$19.95	\$3.00	\$29.95	\$49.50	\$29.00	\$15.00	\$32.10	\$20.00
Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional cost	Postage at an additional Cost
Post \$8.00	Post \$1.00	Post \$5.00	Post \$8.00	Post \$8.00	Post \$5.00	Post \$8.00	Post \$8.00

Order form including payment details is available on the [Orange Family History Group website](http://www.ofhg.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Publications-and-items-for-sale-CWL.pdf) Or [Click on this link](http://www.ofhg.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Publications-and-items-for-sale-CWL.pdf) www.ofhg.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Publications-and-items-for-sale-CWL.pdf Or Contact the Orange City Library for further details on 02 6393 8132