



Taralga Historical Society Inc

83 Orchard Street

Taralga NSW 2580



President: Maureen Long 0417 042 303

Secretary: Chris Ainsworth 0418 919 357

Treasurer: Judith Matthews 4843 3004

Aim: To preserve history of Taralga & District for future generations

Newsletter No 3, 2020

Presidents Report:

Another very disappointing few months have gone with no achievements for our Society.

At our meeting held 8th August, it was agreed that we have to continue to be cautious and not open the complex until the pandemic situation has changed considerably.

We will meet again 14th November for further discussion

This is the year for the Richlands Homestead to be open to the public in November. Stephen Horn has confirmed that this cannot happen this year.

We have all been deeply saddened by the death of Mary Robertson. Mary was a member in the very early years of the Society's establishment. She was a valued worker who also donated the profits from her pickles, chutney, jams etc to the Society over a lot of years. She had a great knowledge of Taralga's pioneering families of which she was one - (Whipps, Blays, Robertsons etc)

Mary will be sadly missed by us all.

2022 is the year when our Society turns 50 years - that gives us all time to come up with a celebration befitting the occasion. Please submit ideas.

Thank you to Annette Chalker for her hard work pruning the roses, the garden is looking very nice and organised!

Mat Chalker is still doing a wonderful job on the mowing. Thank you to members who are doing necessary maintenance etc, much appreciated by all.

We are very grateful to members who make donations to assist our organisation in its endeavours - thank you all so very much.

Maureen Long

President

NEXT MEETING 14TH NOVEMBER AT 2PM

Vale



Hilary Gordon

27.6.2020 aged 95 years

Son of: Bill and Dolly Gordon

Brother of:

Leo, Shirley, Greg (all dec), Terry

Husband of Margaret (Mitcham)

Father of: Margaret Maberley (UK)

Kate Lofthouse of Canberra

Elaine Garvey

27.6.2020

Wife of Allan

Mother of:

Kerry and Brian

Pic is of Elaine doing her
nursing duties in 1970



Mary (Blay) Robertson

3.7.2020 aged 97 years

Wife of Colin (dec)

Mother of:

Lynette (Hain), Allan, Graham

Karyn and Leon



Peter Stiff

26.7.2020 aged 56 years

Son of Clyde and Phyllis

Brother of

Walter (dec), Veronica, Ken

Husband and father

Sister of Bob Blay

Graham Gillespie

29.6.2020 aged 97 years

Husband of Myra (Chalker) (dec)

Father of:

Liz, Stephen, Sharon

Brother in law of Laurie Chalker

Pam Quigley

1.7.2020 aged 79 years

Wife of Bernie

Mother of

Brenttyn and Pettrina

Ann Whitfield

31.7.2020 aged 85 years

Wife of Peter

Mother of David & Joanne

Lived in Goulburn of late

Lived at Myrtleville for many years

Helen (Kelly) Chinnery

6.8.2020 aged 70 years

Daughter of Frank and May Kelly

Mother of Claire and Ty

and Grandmother.

PHILLIP CHALKER SUNSET LODGE TURNS 40 YEARS IN 2020

The lodge was opened 22nd March 1980

MILESTONE FOR COMPLEX

The reality of the Sunset Lodge Aged Persons complex at Taralga reached a milestone in its history on Saturday.

A special mid-afternoon service was conducted to dedicate the site and memorial plaque which was attached to a foundation stone quarried at Wombeyan Caves.

Visiting clergy were the Moderator of N.S.W. Rev. Campbell Egan (Presbyterian), Bishop Dougherty of Canberra (Catholic) and Archdeacon F. Woodwell (Anglican).

Other members of the official party were Rector Noel Smith, Rev and Mrs Ken Martin, Rev Father M. Crowe, Mr N.L.King and Mrs King of Golspie.

Also present were the Mayor of Goulburn Ald, Elliott, Mulwaree Shire President Cr. Peter Davies, Crookwell Shire President Cr. Frank Willis, Councillors D.Bensley (Crookwell) L.Sadler and W. Hannaford (Mulwaree) and their wives, architect Mr Clive Frazer (Canberra) and Mrs Frazer, builder John Boys and Mrs Boys.

Members of the committee present included trustee Mr Joe Croker, vice president Mr Max Keith, secretary and master of ceremonies Mr Frank Magrath, treasurer Mrs Pat Williamson.

Mr Keith introduced all members of the official party to the large crowd that gathered for the occasion.

“Today is a memorable day for Taralga”, Mr Joe Croker said.

“The idea of an aged persons complex originated from Rector Noel Smith almost 16 years ago”.

“Although that original plan did not succeed, the idea of a complex was kept very much alive, and was resurrected five years ago when a bequest from Phillip R.H..Chalker included his home and property which was to be used to establish a retirement village.”

“Behind such a venture there has to be a driving force, and on behalf of the committee, I

wish to acknowledge that in this project the force was our chairman the Rev. N. Smith” Mr Croker said..

Estimated cost of the project is \$274,000. The bequest of \$25,000 together with some unsold land from the late Phillip Chalker, a Federal Government contribution of \$169,000, three individual donations of \$5,000 each which will go towards the cost of erecting four self-contained units, and a further \$54,000 has been raised by direct donations, fund raising projects and assistance from clubs and organisations, still leaving \$25,000 to be found. In a period of six weeks last year, a sum of \$32,000 was raised.

The finished complex will provide accommodation for 15 people in their retirement - 11 in the hostel and four in self-contained units.

Cr Davies offered his congratulations to the highly organised committee and the townspeople of Taralga for their support in raising the necessary funds for the project, particularly he said “in the face of earlier setbacks”

He went on to mention that the complex was appropriately named as the word Sunset constitutes “the twilight, or retirement years of one’s life”.

Rector Noel Smith unveiled the foundation stone and Archdeacon Woodwell closed the ceremony and pronounced the blessing.

In the true meaning of mixed denominations, the site was dedicated by Bishop Dougherty, the blessing of the stone and plaque was carried out by Mr Campbell Egan,

Mr Smith recalled the considerations he and his wife Nan, had some 16 years ago concerning “health care for this small town and scattered surrounding districts: mentioning the distances involved to receive hospitalised care, particularly in some cases of elderly patients”.

Working in conjunction with the “Meet Your Neighbour Program” and the District Nursing Service, the Sunset Lodge complex will help to provide a workable solution for the aged and lonely persons of the immediate and outlying areas.

Before unveiling the dedication plaque, Rector Smith endorsed Mr Croker’s comments and briefly outlined the events that prompted “this form of social service to be developed”.

When benefactor Phillip Chalker made his bequest on February 5, 1974, that his home and land be supplemented towards aged persons accomodation the proposed complex in its present form took on new dimensions.

Rector Smith's address concluded by extending appreciation to all concerned in the ultimate success of the venture



Clergy at the the official unveiling



John Boys & Ald. Elliott



Mary and Karyn Robertson

Children's Letters.

Dear Mrs. Gilmore,—This is my first letter to "The Worker." I like reading the Children's Letters very much. I live on a farm six miles from Taralga, which is not a very big town. My brother, sister and I go to a school which is situated about half a mile from our place. My grandmother knew you, Mrs. Gilmore, when you were a girl, and she also knew your father and mother. The cows are not milking very well this year. There are some good crops of potatoes about.

I would like some girl about my own age (13) to write to me. I will bring this to a close now, hoping to see my letter in print.—I remain, your new friend, Mary White, Koronubu, Yalbraith Road, Taralga, via Goulburn.

(Tell me what was your grandmother's name, please, so that I can write her a line of remembrance. Do you know how Taralga got its name? I have an idea that there is a place in the Highlands called Taralga, but am not sure. Perhaps the word is a corruption of an aboriginal name. Some of the old residents may know. Taralga is one of our old free settlements as well as a convict place.—M.G.)

Letter to Dame Mary Gilmore

Mary's Grandmother mentioned is Mary Sinclair of Dick's Flat near Roslyn.

Mary White married Les Moloney and is

the mother of

Margaret McGregor,

Ian (Charcoal) (dec)

and Brian (Snowy) Moloney

PNEUMONIC FLU

by Heather Bradbury

I was listening recently to a news item on the ABC reporting the death of a woman in Northern Queensland from Dengue Fever as being the first for over 40 years. This often fatal disease was rife throughout the Country during and after the Second World War.

This brought to mind the story told by my mother and grandmother of the dreaded Pneumonic Flu which reached epidemic proportions after the First World War. Much to the consternation of the residents this "plague" invaded Taralga Town. Dr Ettie Lyons who first arrived in the Town only a few years earlier attended to the several cases in the District. In this instance too there was only one death, sadly of a young man who was a Postal Officer at the local Post Office. Phonse Ryan, 20 years old was in his first position away from his home in Newcastle. He was in residence at my grandmother's home and was throughout his illness lovingly nursed by my Gran. In those days this entailed complete isolation of the

house, and required the wearing of a mask whenever she attended her patient. No one was allowed admittance - except Dr of course - all trades people receiving their orders and then depositing the goods at the front gate. Phonse Ryan is buried at Stonequarry Cemetery.

Another precaution taken in trying to quell the spread of the Flu was the vetting of all incoming folk to the Town at the top of the hill on all roads leading into the Town was stationed a volunteer Sentinel” whose job it was to take the temperature of all comers. Anyone with a temperature 1° above normal was refused entry.

Editor:

Alphonus G Ryan died 1 September 1919 aged 20 years - son of William and Mary Ryan.

Phonse is buried in the Catholic portion of Stonequarry in an unmarked (unknown) grave

FROM 1901 JARVIS & HEALEY



1954 MORRISONS STORE



1954



After the Morrison family left Taralga, they moved to Wallangarra, where Mac managed a stock feed plant for Wise Bros. In the early 60's they moved to Narrandera where they remained.

Mac died from a stroke in 1982, and Jocelyn died in 2010



Mac and Jocelyn Morrison circa 1981

David Morrison, son of Mac and Jocelyn Morrison has kindly sent us photos of his parents, together with those of his parent's store in 1954.

MOURNING BROOCH

An early Victoria mourning brooch with black enamelled border inscribed

IN MEMORY OF

around a 6 x 9 mm galls faced receptacle for hair or photograph. The gold back is engraved **John Hillas died 21st Jan'y 1847 aged 50**

John Hillas prominent early settlers top NSW settled around Kellyville where there is a John Hillas Ave



John Hillas (jnr) was born in 1797 in Yorkshire. He arrived in New South Wales in 1801 as a free settler son of John Hillas of Stanhope Farm on the Windsor Road.

Information by Greg Street

Greg Street of Perth purchased this brooch on ebay. He has an interest in Australiana, particularly jewellery - There will be a short article in next AUSTRALIANA



L to R: FRONT

Sylvia Holt, Francie Craig, Clarice Foster

BACK: ??

Who is the lady with the umbrella

LOCATION:

? At Showground

? Race Course near Wowagin School

on Cameron's property



The ladies have tickets on their dresses

(show committee or CWA)

ARGYLE HOTEL 1927 - 1928

MANAGERS - FRANK AND MARY HORTON

My grandparents, Francis Lester 'Frank' and Mary Agnes Horton (nee Moore), were managers of the Argyle Hotel in 1927-28. From all accounts they were also very involved in all the local sporting clubs, especially cricket, tennis and women's hockey.

I also discovered my grandfather's grandfather, Alexander Cameron (married to Lily Cameron (nee Armstrong), also lived and died in the area (Golspie).

Their daughter, Mary Cameron married James Horton. There were many of the Horton family who were born and bred in the Yass district and were known for their great cricketing prowess. My grandparents, Frank and Mary, both born around Yass, moved around a lot and managed a few hotels in the area, finally ending up managing the famous "Jonah's" restaurant in Whale Beach Sydney, during the 1930s.

Louise Howieson (nee Horton)



Mary Horton is the third woman from the left in a dark suit. Frank Horton is far right holding his son, Noel.

Their other two children (Marie and Laurence "Pat", my father) are near their mother.



Near the Methodist Church - now The Taralga Historical Society



Outside the Argyle Hotel



Men marching down Orchard Street -
presumably Anzac Day



Norman Fitzgibbon outside Sid Mack's Shop circa late 1930's early 1940's

Now Martha and Graham's Bookshop

Goulburn Herald and Chronicle Wednesday 22 August 1866

TARALGA (From a correspondent)

NATIONAL SCHOOL- A fresh impetus has been given of late to this institution by the appointment of Mr King, a duly qualified teacher from the training school in Sydney. Prior to his taking charge of the school it had unhappily fallen into disrepute, and consequently few parents felt inclined to send their children for instruction. Though Mr King has only been engaged to his duties some three or four months, the school already numbers about forty children, with an average attendance of about thirty.

A great drawback to the school's prosperity, which is now beginning to be very much felt, is the want of a more commodious schoolroom, that at present in use being inadequate to accommodate the number now in attendance, part of the scholars having to be taught in another part of the building. We believe this matter has been duly reported to the board in Sydney, and we hope steps will soon be taken to build a larger schoolroom. Two

acres of land and the premises as it now stands, are the gift of General Macarthur.

Goulburn Herald and Chronicle Wednesday 10 March 1869

PUBLIC SCHOOL TARALGA

The new building erected as a public school at Taralga was formally opened on Friday last. The new school building is built of stone, situated to the south end of the stone cottage granted to the inhabitants of Taralga for school purposes by General Macarthur, and conveyed to the council of education. The new school building is erected on an elevated part of the village of Taralga. It has a very good appearance and is allowed to be as fine a school building as there is in the southern districts. The council of education erected the present building at a cost of £430.10, in which sum is included the repairs of the cottage.



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