



**Taralga Historical Society Inc**  
**83 Orchard Street**  
**Taralga NSW 2580**



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**President: Michael Chalker 4843 5975**  
**Secretary: Graham Lambert 4843 8187**  
**Treasurer: Glennis Wright 4840 2215**

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

**Newsletter No 4, 2016**

**President's Report - December 2016**

The October long weekend: The lead up was wet and windy, and we were worried that we may not be able to proceed. However, our prayers were answered with sunshine and warmth prevailing all day.

A great crowd attended from near and far, there was much interest in all exhibits and high praise for the quality and presentation of the exhibits and complex in general.

Visitors, particularly the children were enthralled with the shearing demonstration by popular young bushfire member in full uniform Tammy Balfour, other local shearers also participated. The local Ukulele band and Leon with the Bagpipes were great entertainment, again the spinners and weavers were busy demonstrating their skills, as was to the delight of the kids, the bushfire brigade with their shiny red trucks. Vintage trucks, cars and tractors were also on display. Most activities were undertaken in and around the heritage shed (a comment from many visitors) from the road you have no idea as to the extent of the complex.

A big thank you to those who entertained and those members and volunteers who worked so long and hard to make this open day such a success.

Graham has commissioned the audio equipment, there is a commentary from Joan, Ernie and Ken.

We have purchased for the benefit of members and visitors a utility buggy, it will be great for getting around the complex, seating capacity is four.

The school building is still on the agenda, it is planned to move the roof section of the Fernbank School to our complex mid-December.

Our Christmas party luncheon has been scheduled for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 1pm at the **Ploughman Cafe** located next to the general store Taralga, cost \$20 per person.

**RSVP for catering purposes to Mick 4843 5975 or Graham 4843 8187 by Thursday 1st December.**

If you can't make it to the meeting or party:-

*Have a Happy and Healthy Christmas*



*Ernie Stephenson owns this photo and wonders if anyone can name the ladies  
Thought to be:*

*Back Row:*

*Lila Whipp, ??, ??, Alice Whipp, (?)Doris Handley, (?)Thelma Handley, (?) Alders*

*Front:*

*Pearlie Handley, (?)Ella Whipp, Ella Stephenson her son Robert,  
Mary Stephenson and her son Graham, Ena Whipp, ??*

## **WILLIAM LEWIS**

Recently a man came to the Museum searching for information on his great-great grandfather William Lewis. He was thrilled when we could help him, as he had very little information.

William Lewis died and was buried on 'Hanworth Station', and then most of the Lewis family left this area.

Colin Kennedy took him to see where William Lewis is buried.

Terry Lewis was thrilled with the information and has been to the Museum, Bannaby and Stonequarry twice since and intends returning again next year.

***The Volunteers at the Museum help so many people looking for history.***

***We have a great family history section, thanks to so many people sharing their family photos and stories.***

# Vale

Viola Maude BUTTERS (nee Williamson)  
23.8.2016 aged 92 years  
Sister of:  
Alex, Bill, Doug and Ray Williamson

Warren Shane FRANKLIN  
5.9.2016  
Partner of Kim  
of Curraweela

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Helen Mary VAUGHAN  
4.9.2016 aged 97 years  
Wife of George (dec)  
Mother of:  
Ken, Lorraine and Janet



Neil Joseph McINNES  
26.9.2016 aged 89 years  
Husband of Therese (dec)  
Father of: Rodney, Lyn, Kathy,  
Margaret, Peter and Brian



Madeline Carmen FLEMING  
16.7.2016 aged 81 years  
Wife of Percy

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Phyllis Mary (Chalker) WALSH  
3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2016 aged 92 Years  
Wife of Percy  
Mother of Colleen and Martin



Heather BRADBURY  
20.10.2016 aged 95 years  
Sister of Milton, Cole (both dec)  
Wilma and Warwick (dec)



Margaret WRIGHT  
28.10.2016 - 82yrs  
Wife of  
Rev Bill Wright

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Dulcie Amy JEFFERY (nee Latham)  
3.11.2016 aged 91 years  
of Marulan area - used to go on many  
Bus trips with members of the T.H.S.

Ellen Marjorie (Nell) EMERTON  
14.11.2016  
Mother in law of Robbie Baxter

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Neville Norman ROBINSON  
8.9.2016 aged 72 years  
Brother of: Olga, June, Don, Cyril, Ted (dec)

Roger McLELLAN  
3.11.2016 aged 83 years  
Husband of Joan

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### ***Heather Bradbury's Eulogy as delivered by her Niece Kathy Gay***

Heather left us with specific instructions about the arrangements for her funeral service, including hymns, readings and who would participate in her service. Heather, we do hope we have honoured all your wishes, or at least most of them!

Heather Ross Bradbury was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 1921, and passed away peacefully at Sunset Lodge on the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016. With Heather's passing we have seen the last Bradbury resident in the Taralga district after some 170 years.

Heather was the second born to William and Lillian. Her three brothers predeceased her - Milton, Cole and Warwick. Her sister Wilma is with us today.

Heather spent her first five years at "The Grange" Wowagin, and then her father purchased the family home in Bannaby Street and this remained Heather's home for almost all her life.

Educated here in Taralga at our Public School, Heather continued to support the school all through her life. She then went on to attend PLC in Goulburn as a boarder. On leaving school, she went nursing for some time at Goulburn Base Hospital before coming home and helping to care for her parents. Then, of course, became very involved in Taralga life.

Heather was involved in the World War II effort making and sending parcels to our serving men. Of course she had two brothers who were fighting abroad at the time. This saw her become very involved with the Richlands Red Cross which she continued all her life.

Heather also did a stint as a house mistress at PLC in Goulburn. She went on later to become house mistress at PLC Pymble. It was there that Heather met her friend Bill Gibson, and they remained friends for many years before Bill's passing almost twenty years ago.

Heather became involved in many organisations and activities in Taralga. She was a foundation member of the Taralga Historical Society helping with functions and sharing her knowledge and information on bygone days.

The Taralga Medical Committee was another passion of Heathers. And, who wouldn't remember Heather when she was the local Cub Mistress dressed up in her regalia, training her young charges.

She was also the Taralga correspondent for the Goulburn Post for many years. Being a great reader, Heather was certainly very capable of writing the local news. She read religiously and gained much knowledge from her reading and she could talk on many and varied topics. Once asked of Heather, "what sort of things do you like to read, Heather?", she was very quick to reply "everything from the labels on pickle jars to the bible".

Heather was also a very active member and patron of the Taralga CWA., holding executive positions over so many years and in the last twenty or so years was the international officer, a position she took very seriously and performed extremely diligently. Of course, Heather's travelling expeditions helped her greatly in this role.

She travelled extensively over the years visiting many countries on four or five different occasions, even meeting the Queen which Heather was most chuffed about. She had many, many friends who she travelled with and many who she met along the way, continuing to correspond with them throughout her life.

Heather was perhaps most well known for her wonderful culinary delights, and most people in the church today would have sampled Heather's wonderful cooking over the years. She took great pride in her attention to detail and this was rewarded with many, many prizes for her exhibits in the Taralga Show and CWA competitions. She received special recognition for sixty odd years of entering her cooking in the show. Heather was the Bradbury family's Christmas Pudding specialist and not forgetting the threepence and sixpences which were an integral part of the tradition. We recall being summoned on many occasions to take Heather's famous basket and go to Goodhews with a note to purchase the ingredients. Of course, as children, us nieces and nephews, along with her great neighbours the Elliots, were terribly embarrassed about being seen carrying the basket down the street and used to sometimes hide it. This same tradition was passed on to the next generation as well.

Having never had children of her own, Heather took on a special and caring role as our Aunty, and we have fond memories of those years. Heather loved her family and liked to keep up with all the activities that went on. She had a wonderful sense of humour and sometimes a very wicked one. She did know what she wanted and that was just that. It was Heather's way or the highway, and her frustration if things didn't go her way was not to be reckoned with.

Wilma recalls when Heather was a very young girl upon walking in to church one Sunday, she went straight up to the Minister and asked him "if God made the world, then who made God?" That stunned the Minister!

Yes, she tested us all, and often, and as Heather's health declined, we found it necessary to place Heather into care at Sunset Lodge. In true Heather fashion, she fought it tooth and nail, and remained as feisty as ever to the very end. She was at times hard to manage, but we were comforted by the knowledge that she was in excellent hands. But, that's our Heather-Feather.

Heather's greatest love was her Lord Jesus Christ. She loved, obeyed and worked very hard for her God and her Church since her early childhood. Heather-Feather - we love you and will miss you. You are now with your Lord and Saviour. May you rest in peace.



***The Bradbury Family  
Left to right:  
Wilma, Peg, Cole, Heather,  
Warwick and Milton***

## **BARNABAS RIX**

A couple of months ago a lady living in Victoria, contacted Mary Chalker asking if she knew anything about a headstone for Barnabas Rix, as she had seen online where he was buried at Bannaby Station. The Rix family were organising a family reunion -

Following is letter received from Lynley Hall following the reunion:

Dear Mary,

Well, my Rix Reunion is now behind me and I've had time to compile the article on Barnabas Rix as promised. The Reunion was a great success with people coming from NSW and Tasmania, as well as all over Victoria, it is only a small Family line.

Henry Tuthill Rix came to Australia in 1866 and only had 2 sons. We had over 50 descendants and family members at the Reunion, celebrating 150 years since the family arrived in Australia.

Barnabas Rix was the uncle of Henry Tuthill Rix, my great-great grandfather. I suspect that no one else ever knew about Barnabas. I'm so glad that I have been able to find out quite a lot about him.

I hope you find my article of interest.

Thank you once again for sending the photos of his headstone. I hope to be able to see it for myself before long.

Yours sincerely

Lynley Hall

P.S. in case you're confused - the father of my Henry Tuthill Rix was Henry, brother to Barnabas. Their father was also Henry Tuthill Rix.

## **A Convict in the Family**

*by Lynley Hall*

Two months ago I discovered I had a convict in my family - finally! I have been searching for one since I first started doing my Family History way back in 1979. I had been doing extensive research ready for the Family Reunion I was running in October on the Rix side of my family. So I returned to many documents and articles I had accumulated over the years.

In a booklet written in England by a family member in 1993 I saw a line I hadn't previously noticed in regard to the family of Henry Tuthill Rix and his wife Martha Lemon of Swanton Morley, Norfolk. It said "Their son Barnabas appears to have settled in Australia". So I decided to investigate and soon realised that he hadn't 'gone to Australia' but rather was 'sent to Australia'. I now have 2 folders of information about Barnabas!

Barnabas Rix was born in Swanton Morley, Norfolk and baptised at the parish church on 23 May 1779. He was the second son born to Henry Tuthill Rix and Martha (nee Lemon), He has been named after Martha's father Barnabas Lemon.

He evidently received a good education, and in 1794 he is listed as an apprentice grocer working for Robert Cooper in East Dereham, Norfolk. His father was a tenant farmer who rented various lands in the Swanton Morley area. By all accounts he was a good farmer, but with 6 children to rear life for the family was obviously hard. By 1807 Barnabas was living in Canterbury, Kent, employed by Shrubsole and Darke, linen drapers of Burgate Street, Canterbury. He had only been working for them for a few days when he was accused of stealing 2 pieces of Irish Linen in March 1807. He was sentenced in January 1808 and convicted on 11 July 1808 to 7 year's transportation. (His mother died 2 months later - probably not a coincidence. Knowing that your son was being transported would be enough to break any mother's heart). Barnabas spent several months in Westgate Goal in Canterbury before being transferred to the prison hulk "Captivity" in Portsmouth Harbour. He endured nearly 3 years on the hulk. On 2 July 1810 John Wodehouse, from Witton, Norfolk petitioned on his behalf, the grounds for clemency were 'previous excellent character, he had served 2 years in a prison ship, has been recommended by some respectable people of this County and is willing to serve His Majesty in any way that he may be ordered'. Barnabas also petitioned on behalf of a 'thousand convicts on board his Majesty's Hulks 'Captivity', 'Laurel' and 'Portland' laying in Portsmouth and Langton Harbours. The verdict: 'No Mercy'.

On 12 May 1811 he sailed on the 'Admiral Gambier', a convict ship carrying 199 male convicts and arrived in Sydney on 29 September 1811. Barnabas was transferred to Windsor, about 60 miles from the Sydney settlement and worked there as 'Clerk at His Majesty's Stores', a position of responsibility in the Hawkesbury area, the 'feeding ground' of the new colony. While there Barnabas was witness to a number of business transactions and weddings. He also worked as Assistant School Master in Windsor. In 1815, when he had served his sentence, he applied to return to England on the 'Northampton'. However, this didn't eventuate. It seems he never received his Ticket of Leave as he always had FS against his name - Free by Servitude. He applied and was granted 60 acres of land in 1821, but doesn't seem to have taken up the land grant. He remained a lodger and school teacher in the Windsor district. He never married.

In the early 1830's he was asked by John Hillas, a pioneer in the Goulburn area, to move to 'Bunnaby Station' at Bannaby near Taralga and teach the Hillas children. A school room was set up on the station and Barnabas taught some other local children as well. When Barnabas died on 16 December 1845, he was buried on 'Bunnaby Station'. John Hillas obviously thought a lot of Barnabas Rix as he erected a monumental headstone where Barnabas was buried, in the gully behind the shearing shed. Until recent years it remained on the station but is now located in Taralga in the grounds of the Historical Society. The Society have very kindly sent me a photo of the headstone which bears the inscription:- "Erected by John Hillas In memory of Barnabas Rix who departed this life on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 1845. Aged 72 years".

***Headstone of  
Barnabas RIX  
In the Museum grounds***



## **Taralga Band**

During the 1920's and 1930's, Taralga had a Brass Band.

The players were: Roy Menzies, Jack Dale, Band Leader Steve McIntosh, George Alders, Sid Goodhew, Hugh Lang, Harry Vaughan, Roy Gordon, Norm Francis, Bert Wilkins, Lenny Chalker, Scotty Gordon, Matt Lyndalson, Colonel Twynam, Harold Blay, Selby Cree. Angus Chalker, Bill Kelly, Bob Croke, Selwyn Lewis, Ray Kelly, Snow Fitzgibbon, Harry Merrifield and Victor Phemister.

Following a band practise, which was held in the School of Arts, an accident happened, as reported in the Taralga Echo, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1924.

"The funeral of Victor Phemister the victim of last Saturday's motor car accident took place in the Church of England portion of the Stone Quarry cemetery on Monday last.

The service was conducted by the Rev. P Bramble.

News of the sad fatality had quickly spread throughout the district and a large number of residents came along to show their heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved parents. Many brought or forwarded wreaths, including Mr & Mrs Lee, Nancy Lee, Mr & Mrs Keating, Mrs J Chalker, Mr Wm. Fitzgibbon, Secretary Taralga Dairy Co Mr & Mrs Chesher, Miss May Chesher, (cross), Major & Sister Twynam, Teacher & pupils Taralga Public School, Mr & Mrs Cussack and family, Mr & Mrs W J Jeffery and family, Mr & Mrs McIntosh and family, Mr Bob Issac, Mr & Mrs Issac, Mr & Mrs F Issac, Sergeant & Mrs Riordon and family, Betty & Lesley North, Mr & Mrs Mulholland, Phyllis & Norman Marmont, Mrs Knowlman (Goulburn), the Directors Taralga Dairy Co and the Taralga Town & District Band sent artificial wreaths enclosed in large glass covers.

The cortege which left the late home of the deceased at 12 noon proceeded through Orchard Street headed by the Band, of which Victor was the youngest member.

The scene was most impressive and will live long in the memories of those present, who with lowered heads, slowly moved to the strains of the Dead March solemnly played by the Band in reverence to their departed comrade, who a few short hours before had shared their pleasure.

At the cemetery the Band played the hymns "Lead Kindly Light" and "Nearer My God to Thee".

The bearers of the coffin were Bandsmen H. Blay, Angus Chalker, Lennie Chalker and Bert Wilkins, who were with the deceased at the time of the accident.

The deceased was only 14 years of age and was a bright and intelligent boy, and very popular with his school mates and members of the Band, of which (as before stated) he was a prominent member. He was musically gifted and displayed unusual talent for a boy of his years on both the piano and cornet. The latter instrument was mastered by him in a few months and Mr Dale predicted a bright future for him as a cornet player.

"The untimely end of one so young and promising is indeed to be deplored".

*Witnesses to give evidence at the Coronial Inquiry were:*

Arthur Riordan Sergeant of Police stationed in Taralga  
Dr. Ettie Lyons, Govt medical officer, Taralga  
Angus Edward Chalker, dairyman, Taralga  
Harold Angus Blay, dairy farmer, Myrtleville,  
William Ernest Miles, bank clerk, Taralga  
Robert Stanley Issac, the driver of the car

**Coroner's Finding:**

"That on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1924 at Taralga N.S.W., Victor William Phemister died accidentally struck by a motor car driving in Orchard Street aforesaid".

The Coroner stated that there was no blame attached to the driver, and he thanked Messrs Chalker and Blay for the clear manner in which they had given their evidence.

The Phemisters lived in the home next to the Sport's Club, where Tess and Bill Hedley live now.

Jack Dale the band leader, operated a men's ware shop in Orchard Street, next to the Memorial Hall, home now owned by Robert Handley.

***Several of the band instruments and band jacket and band photos are on display in the Museum.***

*Victor Phemister d. 15<sup>th</sup> November, 1924 aged 14 years.  
He is buried in the Anglican Section of the Stonequarry Cemetery  
Section A, Row A.K.*

*This is in the area that Laurence Chalker has been renovating  
at the Cemetery which led me to tell his story.*

***THS Member, John Wylie has advised of the publication of two very interesting books:***

- 1. South Pacific Pinnacle - The exploration of Balls Pyramid***
- 2. The Aboriginal People of the Burraborang Valley***

***This book of 332 pages is one of the most detailed histories of an Aboriginal community ever written. There are 198 illustrations showing the Valley and its people***

***Please contact the Society for further information.***

**TARALGA BRASS BAND  
1928**



**Back Row:**  
Roy Menzies, Jack Dale, Steve McIntosh, George Alders, Sid Goodhew, Hugh Lang, Harry Vaughan, Roy Gordon, Norm Francis

**Middle Row:**  
Bert Wilkins, Lenny Chalker, Scotty Gordon, Matt Fyndalson, Colonel Twynham, Harold Blay, Selby Cree, Angus Chalker, Bill Kelly,

**Front Row:**  
Bob Croke, Selwyn Lewis, Ray Kelly, Snow Fitzgibbon, Harry Merrifield.

# Taralga Band

A picture of the Taralga Band in 1928, was given to the Historical Society by Mervyn Corby, and it was remembered that some verse was written about the band, perhaps not in quite the same year, but mentioning many of the members in the photo.

## 1.

About 28 miles from Goulburn  
There is a little town,  
Where John Dale bought a business  
And planned to settle down.

And to wake Taralga up he thought he'd start a band;  
So all the willing lads around said they would give a hand.  
"Bill Jeff", the town enthusiast, said  
"What about a competition  
To raise the money to start  
The band in good position?"

Having taken Jeff's advice  
They cleared two hundred pounds,  
And after this the townsmen heard  
Many sweet, sweet sounds.  
They say "good old Jeff has gone to rest",  
But that I know's a lie, for when he heard  
The music flow he said he'd never die.

Now Dale has boys from far and near,  
From office, land and shop  
But when they cannot master pieces  
Poor Daley goes off "pop!"  
The boys, now, who have taken parts  
Have different faults and habits;  
On practice nights they crowd  
Dale's shed like little mice and rabbits.

The first I must mention is Wilkins  
They have taken him from his job  
To play for Taralgaites, most specially  
Whenever there's a mob.

Yes, Wilkins is a fairly good chappie  
At whatever game you may put him in,  
The Government gave him a little job,  
And take it from me, it took "token".

There's Cyril, the snowy-headed boy  
And very hard to beat,  
When tired of playing his instrument  
Oh God! He drives the cows down the street!

The euphonium has a sweet tone  
To those who can endure it,  
And Harry is the one who blows  
The sweetest note out through it

## 2.

Roy has quickly grasped the drum  
To beat time with the best  
And when he gets his uniform  
He'll look ahead of the rest

Now Willie Kelly's got the base  
And when all is said and done  
Between that and the telephone  
They'll have poor Billie done

And Kevin's got the cornet and holds it fast to mouth;  
Someday there'll be a windstorm  
And blow it right down south.

Take curly headed "Sidy" the snidest in the band,  
Oh and with his silver cornet,  
I tell you he looks grand.

Yes Dale deserves much credit  
From many far and near,  
Who are extremely lucky pupils' strains to hear  
The above have joined a competition  
To win as many pounds  
And if they come out on top,  
They'll stand on very high ground.

Some were fast and furious  
When first this band was started  
But now their hair has again smoothed down  
And would ruffle again if it is parted.

Of all that is started in Taralga town  
This band does beat them all  
And from this onward I sincerely hope  
It shall never have a fall



## Programme

Sunday December 11 at 1pm  
CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH AT THE PLOUGHMAN CAFE TARALGA  
COST \$20.RSVP TO MICK OR GRAHAM BY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER



## Museum Duty

**December 4** Graham & Sue L, Jason Voorwinden, Jim Dean, Judith Matthews  
**December 11** Mick & Annette Chalker, Jeff & Judy Chalker, Peter Davies  
**December 18** Joan Scott, Mary Chalker, Pat Murray, Maureen Long  
**December 25** **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**January 1** **NEW YEARS DAY**  
**January 8** Max & Glennis Wright, Marcus Harstein & Nicola Young  
**January 15** Joan Scott, Margaret Lang, Maureen Long  
**January 22** Ken & Joyce Fleming, Judy Matthews  
**January 29** Ernie Stephenson, Geoff Sieler, Marg Balfour, Graham Lambert

**February 5** Pat & Bob Blay, Jason Voorwinden, Robert Rabjohns  
**February 12** Gill & Marion Pfitzner, Mary Chalker, Andrew Moore  
**February 19** Joan Scott, Maureen Long, Margaret Lang  
**February 26** Peter & Margaret McAlister, Ray Shiel

**March 5** Max & Glennis Wright, Jim Dean, Brian Kelly

*Editor: Maureen Long*