

# Newsletter of the Molong Historical Society Inc.



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 7  
WINTER 2020



Does anyone know where this monument is located? Check page 5 For the answer.

## Points of Interest:

- Museum, 20 Riddell Street,  
Molong
- Closed

• **contact email—**  
**molonghs@gmail.com**

President— Bob Sullivan  
(0427696256)  
Vice President— Elizabeth Griffin  
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suemilne@colourcity.com  
Treasurer— Susan Grinpukel  
Committee Lynne Robertson  
Julie Lawrie  
Kate Gadsby  
Researcher— Catherine Mackenzie



## 2020/21 Fees

A friendly reminder that fees are now due . They remain the same as last year, that is \$20.00 each.

Fees can be paid by direct debit, mail or in person (when museum open ).

Bank Details  
BSB 062573 28007189



## MUSEUM NOTICES

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**SATURDAY 11th September 2020**  
**2pm at the Museum**

All positions will be declared vacant and a new Committee will be selected.

Following the formalities

**William Lee** will entertain us with a talk on early pastoral activities

### **REMINDER**

To be able to vote, you will need to be financial for 2020/2021

RSVP recommended  
as we are practicing safe distancing.

These arrangements may be changed due to Covid19 regulations.

# MUSEUM NEWS

## MOLONG MUSEUM MILESTONE



The Molong Museum has been at the present location for 50 years. The Opening was celebrated in November 1970 and it is intended to have a function on the 28th November.

To assist with a display, do you have any photographs, stories of the Society or histories of Office Bearers and workers who all have contributed over the years.

Research is being conducted looking into the various uses of the building over the last 160 years. These questions have been asked. If you can help, please contact the museum.

- Did your parents/grandparents visit the doctors when they had their surgery?
  - Did you visit with your grandparents when it was owned by the Ryan or Morris Family ?
  - Do you know who lived in the flats over the years?
- Have you any photographs of the building when it was a hotel or Doctors Surgery. Please contact the committee or museum

## RSL PORTRAIT GALLERY Gathering of FRIENDS (Subject to Covid 19 situation)

"The Molong & District Servicemen & Servicewomen's Portrait Gallery" will hold a Gathering of Friends on Sunday, 8th November, 2020 at 2.30 pm at the RSL Club, Riddell St., Molong. Afternoon tea will be provided and all are welcome.

Further information available from Helen Haynes.

## MUSEUM OPEN and WORKING DAYS

The Museum is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 11am until 2 pm or later . These are working days but we are happy to stop and show you around, assist with your research and questions. There is always time for a cuppa and chat.

The Museum has been opening for the last three weekends. This was in response to the increased activity on Bank Street. Many visitors have been though including locals who have not been to the museum for many years.

We would like to continue these weekend openings but can only do it if we have a roster of volunteers to assist.

Please contact the museum or committee.

Have you noticed the "MUSEUM OPEN" banners at the entrance and on the Highway.?

They were purchased as part of the ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM Sustainable Collection Project.



## Introducing MARY ELIZABETH ANDREWS Manager of ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM



Orange and District have been incredibly lucky to have the services of Dr Mary-Elizabeth Andrews as the new Manager of the Orange Regional Museum. Mary-Elizabeth took over the reins just as the coronavirus pandemic restrictions arrived.

Mary-Elizabeth has had a varied career that has involved film and TV production, exhibiting the story of shipping containers and creating major new gallery spaces at a key library. Mary-Elizabeth Andrews is ready to tell the stories of Orange.

Dr Andrews comes to Orange from Creative Producer at the State Library where she assisted the final stages of development of the Major Galleries project (6 galleries opening at once).

Dr Andrews career has included working behind-the-scenes on movies including two of *The Matrix* films and *Superman Returns*. She provided logistic support for Australia Television shows such as *All Saints*, and *Changi*. Her career has taken her overseas to Berlin where she completed her PhD. However, she said she then switched to museum studies that led to working for the Historic Houses Trust, the Australian Maritime Museum, and the NSW State Library.

She said her focus for the museum would be on telling the stories of Orange people and how they connected to events of national and regional importance.

That will start with the museum's next major exhibition *Inherit: Old and New Histories* which will open on Saturday September 5. "[We're] looking at doing a program of different aspects of telling stories people in the region can relate to," she said.

She said she was looking at major exhibitions lasting for up to five years interspersed with smaller exhibitions introduced annually. "Exhibitions use a lot of time and resources," she said.

Dr Andrews said the highlight of her career so far had been working on her own exhibitions and projects. However, she said she had wanted to move to the country.

"I was looking at moving to a regional centre for some time because I was looking at buying my own house. I did focus on this region. I bought a little house in Millthorpe and this job came up on the weekend I moved in."

We look forward to working with Mary Elizabeth And I hope she enjoys her time in the country.

(Thank you to Elizabeth Edwards of Orange Historical Society for information.)

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### FACEBOOK PAGE

Have a look at our FACEBOOK page. This will keep you up to date with activities. It is an opportunity for you to ask questions and add information.

Take the opportunity to post an enquiry or event that members may be interested in.

<https://www.facebook.com/MolongMuseum/>

# **The Nubrygyn Story.**

## **By Kate Gadsby**

Hello to all my fellow historians in the Molong Historical Society and the extended Molong district. I have been asked to supply you with an update of my work and the publication of my proposed book regarding the Nubrygyn district.

Many of you would not know that I commenced my research over twenty years ago when I returned to the local area, after living between Nyngan and Brewarrina on the Bogan River. With an interest in Old Systems Titles, I began my lengthy and arduous task of uncovering the early settlers of Nubrygyn and the land they owned. Nubrygyn began in the latter half of the 1820s when Thomas Kite began his impressive land grab in the early years of the colony. He acquired thousands of acres in the Molong and Nubrygyn district and later extended his pastoral holdings to the lower Lachlan River and further south.

There were two main families at Nubrygyn at the later end of the 1820s, Thomas Kite and Charles Frederick Warne, and many others followed. The main property of Nubrygyn became a large sheep station and a convict base for the prisoners moving between Bathurst and Wellington. Being on the outer limits of civilisation there was also little law and order and the bushrangers rampaged the area during the late 1830s.

It has been a labour of love to uncover the wealth of stories that have been hidden away in the Archives and State Libraries for almost two hundred years. My work covers the varying subjects of all those early settlers at Nubrygyn, the policing and the land laws of the time, and the battles between the Squattocracy and the poor settlers. These settlers battled with lengthy droughts, dispersed with floods, a severe decline in the colony's economy in 1841, and extensive bankruptcies. Nubrygyn became the home of many bushrangers in the Wellington County in the 1830s and 40s and later became famous when Ben Hall arrived and held up the Nubrygyn Inn in April 1865.

My writing and editing are almost complete, which has given me the greatest enjoyment uncovering these forgotten and untold stories. The early settlers of Nubrygyn were not only confined to this area, they include men and women who had influence over some of the colony's laws and the development of our nation. It is a story of the convicts, capitalists, and bushrangers of our district, who progressed with wealth or suffered at the hands of misfortune. My writing is now at a stage where I can see the finishing line, which is optimistically the end of 2020. It will give me immense pleasure to publish the story of Nubrygyn. Hopefully, my work will give all those interested in the history of our district as much pleasure as I have experienced, as I progressed through this journey of discovery.

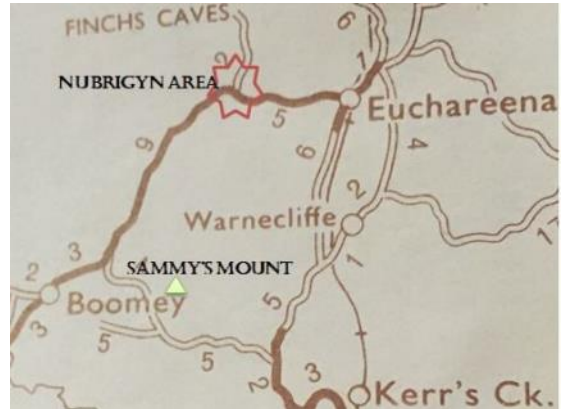


Kate Gadsby and Caitlin Donaldson May 2020

Kate's Book will be released later in the year in time for Christmas.

## Euchareena Visit.

On a wintery Tuesday in June the committee and a group of property owners and interested historians had a fabulous day out. Touring the countryside we were assisted by Kate Gadsby, as she informed us of her research in the Nubrygyn area and the settlement of the early days. It was a trip of review for those who had been involved with the history of the 'Nubrygyn Inn' and the surrounding region. More of that story when Kate releases her book later in 2020.



The day started well with everyone meeting on the land originally owned by Thomas Kite, dating back to 1826. Originally the place of Kite's farm and his shepherds, the huts looked across the creek at the Nubrygyn Inn. Shane and Jane Howarth were present with their metal detectors who had checked the site with Kate many times previously. They scanned the area detecting for objects, which on examination uncovered a coin believed to date back to 1800, a musket bullet and a brass keeper. Shane has been detecting metal for 23 years and Prime Seven News was present to film the unexpected find.

The convoy of vehicles moved on to view the old homestead at Maroombah (Nubrygyn) and shearing shed as well as the Nubrygyn cemetery. The cemetery had been restored by Richard Clayton and Kate Gadsby some years earlier and is placed within close proximity of the Nubrygyn Inn.



After an informative tour it was time for a short adventure and lunch provided by Bob Sullivan at the top of Sammy's Mount. It was certainly time to wander around and take in the amazing view. As we enjoyed a sausage sandwich with all the trimmings we were able to appreciate the scene before us. Sammy's Mount is located in the midst of the Sullivan family's beautiful property Weandre, several kilometres east of Molong. The committee would like to say a special thank you to all those members who contributed to our lunch.



### FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Taken on top of Sammy's Mount, a prominent landmark on part of Weandre Station owned by the Sullivan family..

# VISIT TO THE MUSEUM

## Childhood Memories of Family home.

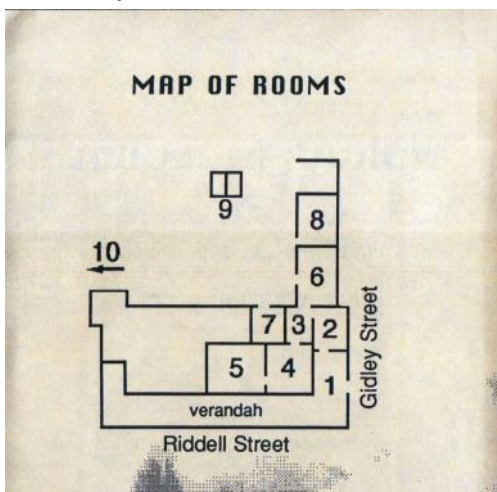
As the Museum approaches 50 years, of being owned by the Molong Historical Society, In 2015 the museum was visited by The Quirk children who grandmother Lilla Quirk resided there. The children, Paul Quirk, Lenore Fairfield (nee Quirk) and Margo Quirk, were touring the area .

Lilla was the last resident of the building before it was gifted to the Molong Historical Society. Lilla was the last resident of the family of Charles Henry MORRIS who owned the building from 1950 To 1967. Lilla was the daughter of Charles MORRIS . The MORRIS's bought the property from Michael John RYAN who had owned it since 1925. Originally the building was a Hotel then a doctors surgery for twenty five years.

Paul, Lenore and Margo lived in Molong until they moved to King Island in 1957. Their parents Kelly and Margaret Quirk along with other Molong families made their home on this Island The family in 1975 returned to the mainland and settled in Queensland. ( See story in 2013 newsletters, copies available).

Paul, Lenore and Margo were happy to take a tour and reflect their childhood memories of the building. The building at that time was divided into three flats.

The plan below is of the current Museum, note only half is numbered.



- |    |                        |                    |
|----|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1  | VERANDAH               | (use as listed)    |
| 2  | FRONT ENTRANCE         | (Bedroom)          |
| 3  | ABORIGINAL ROOM        | (Hall way)         |
| 4  | MOLONG ROOM            | (guest bedroom)    |
| 5  | FAIRBRIDGE ROOM        | ( Lilla's Bedroom) |
| 6  | PARLOR                 | (Sitting Room)     |
| 7  | STRANGERS ROOM         | (store room)       |
| 8  | OLD KITCHEN            | (Kitchen)          |
| 9  | NEW TOILETS            | (new addition)     |
| 10 | SHEDS                  | (new addition)     |
|    | LAUNDRY (not numbered) |                    |

1. VERANDA
2. FRONT ENTRANCE This was used as a small bedroom, it was very dark. Used by Uncle Charley Morris a horse and dog trainer
3. ABORIGINAL ROOM Hallway
4. MOLONG ROOM Used as a guest bedroom.
5. FAIRBRIDGE ROOM Lila's bedroom. This was where they sometimes slept when visiting. They were unaware of the cellar underneath.
6. PARLOUR Was a sitting room with Uncle Charlie Morris winning ribbons on wall (Charlie was a horse trainer) This room also had a small kitchen near the fireplace. This was the most used room when Lila lived there. They had no idea of the connection to the old kitchen. They used this door to go outside, very rarely going into the other rooms.

(Charlie's Ribbons (part of our collection)

Continued next page



## VISIT TO THE MUSEUM Childhood Memories of Family home. (Cont)

- 7 STRANGERS ROOM used as a box room. They remember a large trunk that was full of family photos (wouldn't we love to know where this is now?)
- 8 OLD KITCHEN they remember this room having flagstone floors with a long table (possibly the one that was removed during renovating this room).

### EXTRA NOTES

LAUNDRY had a toilet in it, some discussion whether it was a long drop or pan type. They used old newspapers as toilet paper. They were unable to recall if the flagstones were in place at that time.

There was a long drop toilet about where the present toilets are situated.

YARD they were unable to remember any of the sheds now in the yard. But do remember their Uncle Charlie shoeing horses at the back near the present back gate.

Lilla lived in this half of the building. The other half (Meeting room, kitchen, offices) were divided into flats, they were not sure if there were 1 or 2 flats at the time.

They remember Miss Webb and another lady lived in this section. Other tenants included Hutchinson's & Staines, but they were not sure of these names.

### REFERENCES

Quirk Family visit 2016

Molong Sheep Dog Workers Association (History 1909-2019) by Val McKenzie

Molong Newsletter 2013 Spring and summer issues

## THE VERANDA

The Society is restoring the front room and veranda (Stage one) this year. The front room is being rebuilt and extended to become the main entrance and office. This will be happening very soon.

The veranda (Stage Two) needs to have the floor and bearings replaced. This will commence following stage one.

The long veranda of the museum has been a place to meet, play and talk for many years. There is little history known of when it was built and who owned it at the time, There are also a few additions which would be interesting to know.

This may be the only old photo of the veranda we have in the collection.



The names listed on the back are Edna Fitzgerald, Tom Anderson and Mary Press. That is all that is known,

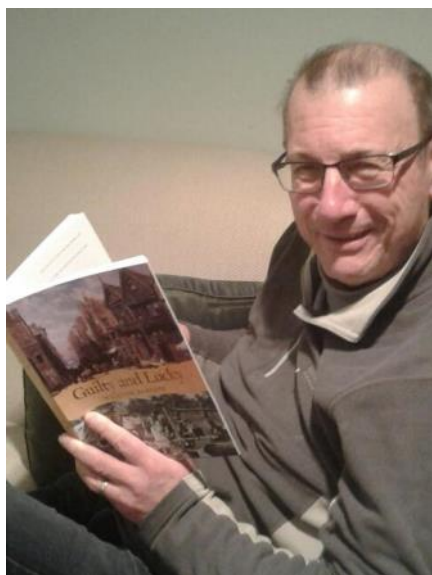
Can you identify the relationship to the owners and approximate year.

Do you have any photos in your collection. Are you able to talk about a function held on the veranda such as a wedding birthday party or a quiet visit of family. We would like to know to include in the history..

## 'Another Old Identity Gone'

Contributed by Melbourne member Bill Barlow

In 1890 it was reported in the *Australian Town & Country Journal* (18 January) that:



'A very old resident, named Barlow, who came to this district before there was a house at Molong, or even at Orange, and who lived many years on the Bogan, and over thirty years in Molong, died on Friday evening. He has left a piece of property, with several residences at West Molong.'

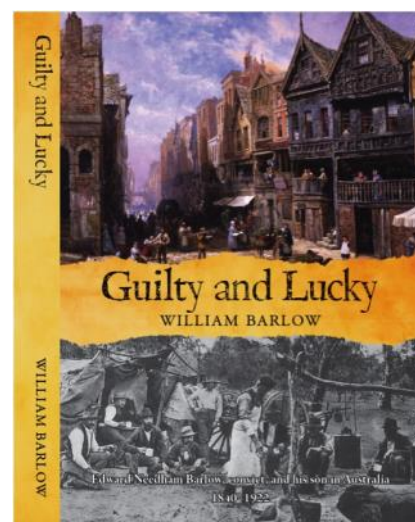
The story of this old 'respected' resident is now told in a new book, '**Guilty and Lucky**', to be published in August. The book traces the lives of Edward Barlow and his son Teddy, from arrival on the last convict ship to Sydney in 1840 and life on the Bogan, to his death as an owner of property in Bank Street and elsewhere in early Molong. Teddy Barlow's schoolmates in Molong were the Rymer, Finch, Bloomfield, Bennett, Shields, Hull, Burgess and Packham children.

'**Guilty and Lucky**' is an evocative history of the period spanning 80 years of the formation of Australia, seen through the lives of these two men. It brings together the development of Central West NSW from squatters, sheep and droving down the Bogan, the Hill End goldfields, the development of Molong township (Edward's stone house still survives in the West End), and takes us to the Castle-maine goldfields and 'Marvellous Melbourne', through the depression, Federation and WW1. Edward and his family were in all these places at those times. The book is illustrated with newly prepared maps of squattages and Molong town, many colour images as well as original sketches and newspaper excerpts that have not since been published.

The author, a great-great-grandson of Edward Barlow, is a member of the Molong Historical Society, lives in Melbourne, and is an editor of the Genealogical Society of Victoria's journal *Ancestor* and its blog editor.

More details of the book and ordering can be obtained by contacting the author William (Bill) Barlow, email: [billbarlow@bigpond.com](mailto:billbarlow@bigpond.com) or ph. 0400 570 318.

NOTE Bill has made several trips to the Molong Museum to research this book, He has previously had articles in the newsletter



BARLOW Edward "Freehold of Molong 1861-1890 Vol 2 issue Summer 2017 (copy available by request)



## Trespass

A MOLONG reader has often noticed an advertisement in the Molong Express warning people not to trespass on certain land in the district.

The ad goes into the paper regularly each week.

Recently he found a 1926 copy of the same paper and was intrigued to find the same ad in that paper, 64 years ago!

## HOW LONG CAN ONE ADVERTISE IN A PAPER IS THIS A RECORD?

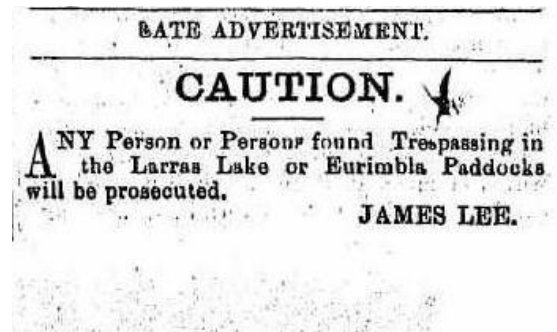
In a book donated to the Museum, a torn page of the Central Western Daily, "Day by Day" Column with no date was found.

On calculating dates, it was written in the early 1990's. The torn paper was being used as a bookmark. It was interesting to follow the story through to the present day.

( Article on left)

The article mentions an advertisement that was in a 1926 Molong Express, from the LEE family stopping trespassers on their property. Several papers in 1926 contained the same advert it was in paper weekly. (Below).

Looking further back in TROVE (Australian National Library) the Lee family were first recognised in the Molong Express in



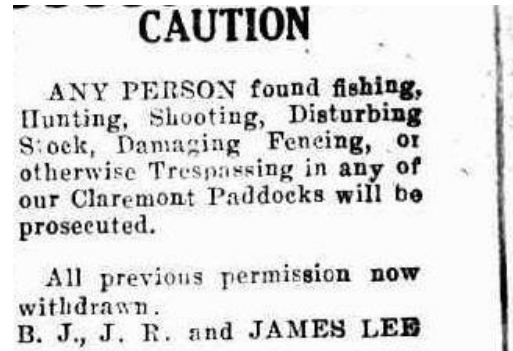
1878 (First edition), edition was not available to copy.

The first trespassing advert found was in 1893, the first Molong Express , that has been saved on TROVE..

The LEE Family have been advertising in the Molong Express since 1878. These advertisements appeared in the paper until a few years ago.

Several generations of the LEE family have owned these properties.

Does anyone know of any advert being in a newspaper for a longer time?



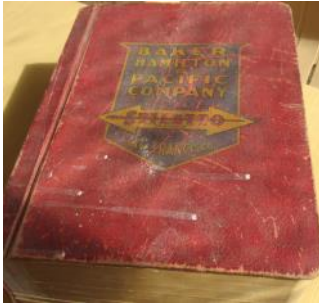
*The*  
**MOLONG EXPRESS**  
AND WESTERN DISTRICTS ADVERTISER

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present." (anon)

Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek. (Barack Obama)

## BOOK DONATION

Recently the museum received a donation of a catalogue that was used from 1919 for searching for hardware supplies



The book was produced by the PARKER, HAMILTON & PACIFIC COMPANY of San Francisco America. They were Wholesale Hardware Distributors and produced this book yearly.

John Austin's family from Molong Street were kind donors. John worked at Western Stores in Molong for many years. He was well known at the Orange and Molong stores.



This book will be valued item in our collection.

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### A DIFFERENT STYLE OF HISTORY

Here are some facts about England in the 1500s:

Most people got married in June, because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June!!

However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children and then the babies.

By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it.! Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!"

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs, etc.) lived in the roof.

When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There also was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

More in future newsletters

Contributed by Elizabeth Griffin

## MUSEUM PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

Currently several volunteers are sorting and listing the massive photograph collection. Many of these photos are unidentified. In this and future newsletters, there will be a few for identification.

If you can assist please contact Julie and any of the committee.



## BOOKS FOR SALE

(Reviewed April 2020)

| AUTHOR                    | TITLE                                   | PRICE   |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Aileen Roberson           | FAMILIES OF MOLONG & DISTRICT           | \$35.00 |
| Aileen Roberson           | ALLAN TOM The Picture Show Man          | \$20.00 |
| Aileen Roberson           | PADDY McARDLE and Molong                | \$20.00 |
| Aileen Roberson           | VILLA ASH History                       | \$5.00  |
| Aileen Roberson           | Max & Nita THE SHEAN TEAM               | \$5.00  |
| David Rutherford          | The Life & times of JOHN SMITH          | \$30.00 |
| Robert Ellis              | History of WIRADJURI Aborigines         | \$10.00 |
| Robert Ellis              | PIPER & YURANIGH                        | \$25.00 |
| Robert Ellis              | HOW THE WEST WAS WON                    | \$25.00 |
| Robert Ellis              | History of the Sheepdog                 | \$25.00 |
| Robert Ellis              | SESQUICENTENNIAL HISTORY OF MOLONG SHOW | \$35.00 |
| Margaret Gribbin          | WELLINGTON VALLEY The Early Years       | \$25.00 |
| Robyn Mackenzie           | From Life to Life in Australia          | \$10.00 |
| Noel Cantrill             | BORENORE Centenary 1878-1978            | \$15.00 |
| Orange Historical Society | Story Of Byng                           | \$5.00  |
| Orange Rotary Club        | BANJO PATERSON & NARRAMBLA              | \$3.00  |
| <b>Val McKenzie</b>       | <b>MOLONG SHEEP DOG WORKERS</b>         | \$25.00 |

We have a limited supply of several of these books  
When ordering please request postage rates

### RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

Enquires to the Society should be written,  
then posted or emailed to :-

PO BOX 119 MOLONG NSW 2866  
[molongmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:molongmuseum@hotmail.com)

Please include :-

- Your Name, contact number
- Reason for enquiry (family research, writing book etc)
- Relevant information



### PLANTS FOR SALE

We are unable to have street stalls and book sales, due to the current restrictions.

Lynne continues to collect books and prepare plants. Throughout the year Lynne has plants ready for sale.

Lynne will give advice on what is best to plant when?

They are available for sale by contacting Lynne 63641038

This business has opened in Molong. It is located in the Jaye's Building in Gidley Street.



### THE RED DOOR VINTAGE AND COLLECTICA

Every thing old is new again. A wonderful range of eclectic unique pieces, gifts and art.  
OPEN 10 - 3  
THURSDAY TO SUNDAY

31 GIDLEY STREET, MOLONG

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