

MOLONG HISTORY NEWS

MOLONG HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Volume 1 Issue 6
WINTER 2014



MUSEUM ADDRESS
20 Riddell Street
MOLONG NSW 2866



The Molong Museum opens on the last Sunday of each month

27th July, 31st August, 28th September, 26th October,

Back to Molong weekend 13/14th September

Long weekend 5th October

The Museum opened on Thursday's by appointment,
contact President or Secretary
(at least 48 hour notice required)

COMMITTEE for 2013-14

PRESIDENT

Marie Hammond

VICE PRESIDENT

Des Sullivan

SECRETARY

Sue Milne

TREASURER

Maureen Kirkwood

Address all correspondence to:

The Secretary

PO Box 119, Molong NSW 2866

The Secretary

molongmuseum@hotmail.com

MOLONG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on
Saturday 12th July 2014
Commencing at 2pm

GUEST SPEAKER

Michael Bennett from NTS Corps, who will speak about his research Into
The Black Trackers of 1800-1900.

The meeting will be followed by afternoon tea and a chance to view recent
changes to the Museum.

The Society meets on the second Saturday of the month at the Museum from
2PM.

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES

**The museum is open on the last Sunday of every month from
12.30pm until 3.30pm.**

(27th July, 31st August, 28th September, 26th October,)
It will be open for the following events.

Back to Molong weekend 13/14th September
Long weekend 5th October

We would like extend the opening days ,but to do this more helpers
are required . Please contact the Museum for further details.

FEES for 2014/15 are now due

Quote:

"If you don't know history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that
doesn't know it is part of a tree."

Michael Crichton

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

I am looking for contributions(any length) for future editions.

Please contact me on email suemilne@colourcity.com.

The deadline for the newsletter is Saturday 13th SEPTEMBER 2014

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is twelve months since our last Annual General Meeting. This year the AGM will be held on Saturday 12th July at the Museum. Michael Bennett has agreed to be guest speaker. Michael works for NTS Corps (Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners) is a Professional Historian and is tracing any Black Trackers who may have been in the area in the 1800's and 1900's. He was commissioned by Orange City Council to research Aboriginal History of the Canobolas area. This will be followed by afternoon tea.

The Museum continues to receive many visitors, whenever open. This is usually the last Sunday of the month and Public Holidays and sometimes during the week, where we prefer notice of the visit. These visits may be for general viewing, research or an enquiry. Catherine Mackenzie, our research officer with the help of Sue Milne and John Austin are able to help.

One example of a successful enquiry occurred recently. A brother of a friend was here, and making no headway on his family investigations, when my friends suggested he contact me. He had already spent two days in Molong, searching the cemetery and looking for names on headstones to no avail. This man I had met on several occasions, but neither of us had spoken of the names he was seeking. When he rang and asked me I was able to rattle the details off to him, much to his surprise. He was amazed and asked how I knew so much. I told him they were family ancestors and I had grown up knowing this information. This friendship goes back forty years.

On Monday 30th June, twenty seven members of Museums and Societies from around the region (Cabonne, Orange & Blayney) spend the day in Molong. This was the first Network meeting of this format that we have had and the day was very informative and productive. The morning started with a cuppa and short talks on our various displays and future plans. All moved over to the RSL where Helen Haynes gave a talk on the Portrait Gallery, followed by lunch, prepared by Annabelle and her team. A productive meeting where several issues that affect all organisations present were discussed and ideas passed around. Visitors came from Blayney, Millthorpe, Orange, Eugowra, Canowindra, Yeoval as well as the Age of Fishes Museum, as well as Heather Nicholls and Lyn Hawkes from Cabonne Council.

Moving on, we had two wood raffles and stalls this year, both successful and many thanks to all members who assisted. Thank you especially to Brett Johnson, Margaret and John Philipson for help in getting the wood. It is always pleasant when we have a stall and everyone comes along smiling, buys a ticket or cakes and says "Good Day"

In Closing, I once again send best wishes to our members and friends, especially thank you to all of those who come and do roster on open days and help. I hope you can join us on Saturday at the Annual General Meeting.

Marie

SOCIETY & MUSEUM REPORT

During the last three months, it has been a busy time for everyone, with several events and changes to the storage areas of the Museum.

We received a gift of \$1200.00 from the Molong Players, which was used to purchase shelving for the workroom and Doctor's room. This enables us to rearrange the rooms for easier access. While doing this we are assessing our collection. When this is completed, the plan is to clean out and reorganize the shed. The more willing helpers, the easier the job will be. The Fairbridge Collection has been relocated to its own cupboard. All these jobs are time consuming, but the fun is in finding an object or information that has been tucked away and now can be seen. The Museum is manned most Thursdays for anyone to drop in to catch up or assist.

The regular Museum Open Days have seen many people coming and checking out the displays and asking about their families or buildings of interest. It is aimed to open more often, but this depends on increasing the our volunteer base. The Society will be taking part in the "Meet you in Molong" (13/14th September) weekend. We will try and get a stall together for the Markets to promote the Museum as well as it being open on the day.

The 150th Molong Show is on the following week, where we have a display in the Pavilion and will assist in other ways to make this a success.

For the ladies (and gentlemen) a Fashion Parade and afternoon tea is being arranged for Saturday 11th October in conjunction with the Yarn Market. More details closer to the date, but if you would like to assist, please contact Marie.

I would like to take this time to thank Molong Express for their help and promotion of the Museum and Society. A big thank you to members and friends for their input and help in running the Museum. As well as acknowledging Office Works in Orange for the printing of this newsletter.



PHOTOS FROM the NETWORK
MEETING
held on Monday 30th June 2014 in
Molong.



Front Page Photo Robert Ellis (Molong) catches up with Alf Cantrell (Yeoval)

Construction of museum to start soon

By Alison Russell, museum and heritage co-ordinator

Construction is set to get underway for the development of the Orange Regional Museum later this year with building to commence in September – October.

The vision for the museum is that it be a vibrant cultural hub where the rich history and heritage of the city and region is valued and celebrated through the dynamic programs developed by the museum. The museum will provide high quality exhibitions, both in-house and travelling, and document, research, collect, conserve and interpret significant objects and collections. It will also provide educational opportunities for all ages and advise and support the work of the community museums in the region as is already undertaken through the award winning Sustainable Collections Project.

In the past decade there has been a great deal of community consultation with the community supporting various themes for exhibitions and programs in the new museum. The themes connect with the region's history and will support the concept for the exhibition *Our Place, Our Town, Our People*.

Themes are:

- Aboriginal history and culture of the region, past and present
- Exploration and settlement of Orange and villages
- Mining, particularly gold and significant gold mining sites such as Ophir, Lucknow, Wentworth Mine and Cadia
- Evolution of the environment and landscape of the Orange region, including water themes and issues
- The built environment of Orange including public buildings, homes and gardens, and items associated with significant heritage places and villages
- Wool, orchards, agriculture, food, wine and culinary history
- Council's works and services, particularly parks and gardens and water
- Transport and communications in the region
- Heritage objects made, designed or improvised in the district
- Notable people, local businesses and social, community and cultural organisations
- Migration heritage objects and stories
- Orange Sporting Hall of Fame and significant items of sporting history associated with clubs, facilities and individuals

A consultant will be engaged in the near future to assist in the development of the content for the exhibition. Research of all primary and secondary material and information, identifi-



cation of key images and objects based on the key themes will form part of this consultancy.

Over the past five years the museum program has developed in partnership the following exhibitions: *Watermarks - a History of Water in Orange and District* (2005); *Half a World Away - Post War Migration to Orange and District* (2007); and *Orange Blossoms - a Cultural History of Gardening in Orange and District* (2009).

Last year the program secured funding from the Department of Environment for Villages of the Heart - Telling Rural Stories, Stage I. From this, a thematic history of the villages was undertaken and oral histories of stories past and present were recorded. Villages of the Heart is a project about village life, memories, community and connections to other villages.

You can read the stories at <http://www.centralnswmuseums.com.au/wp/village-stories/>.

Funding for Stage 2 was received from Arts NSW and Blayney, Orange and Cabonne councils under the banner of the Sustainable Collections Program, and will focus on a key theme derived from the thematic history 'From Pasture to Plate'. Further research will be undertaken to document the food and culinary history and stories of the region, its villages and people including collections and traditions.

A series of public programs is being developed in partnership with Sydney Living Museums (SLM) and the regional museums of Orange, Blayney and Cabonne council areas. Gastronomy curator Jacqui Newling from SLM is assisting in the development of programs and activities in some of the regional museums and communities, based around local produce, food and culinary history and inspired by SLM's Eat your History program.

There is still a large amount of work to be undertaken in developing the exhibitions for the museum. In 2014 it is anticipated that further research will be undertaken on the Chinese in the region and the recording of Aboriginal Elder stories.



Orange City Council's museums adviser Kylie Winkworth, Jacqui Newling from Sydney Living Museums and Orange City Council's museum and heritage co-ordinator Alison Russell.



Participants in the oral history component of the Villages of the Heart project.

The Molong Historical Society has contributed to all the programs above. The next project is "Villages of the Heart" Stage Two. "From Pasture to Plate" If you would like to know more please contact the Society.

ANNE MARIE INGHAM (1932-2014)

Anne Marie Ingham, an extraordinary person and her Portrait Gallery of Molong & District Servicemen & Servicewomen at the Molong RSL Club, epitomises her character and talents.



(Photo courtesy of Orange Show Society)

Anne Marie was born in 1932 and spent time in Rabaul and New Zealand with her parents. She had vivid memories of World War 2 and acquired a considerable knowledge of Australian military history. Anne Marie gave her time to painting the portraits, in her own words, "in gratitude for the sacrifices of these servicemen and women" and she was passionate in the hope that "public awareness of the contribution and sacrifice of these men and women would be enhanced." So the Gallery of over fifty portraits was her way of saying "Thank you."

Anne Marie demonstrated her passion for causes and a dedication, perseverance and determination to complete the collection, an amazing feat, especially when moving and building a new home and after the death of her husband, Lister, in 2009.

Her intelligence, combined with the high standards she set, was reflected in the effort she put into painting the portraits, in showing likenesses (not an easy task), researching details of colour, for complexions, eyes, hair and uniforms and colour patches. And to particularly notice and appreciate, with her artist's eye, a war painting, "Studies in the Field of Battle" by Septimus Power (Australian War Memorial) on a map lent to us, and deciding that it was perfect for the cover of the Portrait Gallery books.

Anne Marie was well known for her use of the spoken word but her three books show her readers the best possible use of written language and she told a "rattling good tale" combined with excellent graphics.

Anne Marie always preferred doing every thing on a large scale, aiming to paint not ten portraits, but sixty, and preferring where possible large paintings like the Portrait Gallery's Toogong Troop Orange 1939 Camp. She had hoped in the future to include several paintings of soldiers and their horses because she loved horses and painting them, and she designed sculptures, including the Light Horse Memorial at Harden. As an artist and gardener, she loved bright colours and painting military uniforms of khaki and green, with the occasional blue, made the opportunity to paint portraits in wedding scenes, a welcome variation and pleasure. Of course, when she bred cattle, they were stud cattle. She contributed to many community groups in a similar vein, large flower arrangements and large amounts of home cooking and, when entertaining, many courses! There was always a stylish quality to whatever she attempted, an uniquely "Annie" style, combined with her sense of humour, exuberance and humanity.

Anne Marie was a loyal friend to so many and it was a privileged experience to work with her. In the Molong & District Servicemen & Servicewomen's Portrait Gallery, she has left us all and indeed our country, an amazing legacy.

(Reprinted with permission of Helen Haynes who wrote this for the Molong Express May 8th 2014)

**MOLONG & DISTRICT
SERVICEMEN AND SERVICEWOMEN'S Portrait GALLERY.**

Molong RSL Club, 22-24 Riddell Street, Molong. N.S.W. 2866

(located opposite the Historical Society Museum)

telephone: 63 668105 www.molongrsl.com

THE GALLERY

This unique collection has fifty portraits painted by Anne Marie Ingham. The artist has given her time to this project in gratitude for the sacrifices of these men and women (representing all from this area who served in our armed forces). She hopes it will enhance public awareness of their efforts.

The first portraits were unveiled in 2007, another six unveiled in 2008, twenty in January 2009 and five in 2012.

All ceremonies were held in conjunction with Molong & Cabonne Council's Australia Day celebrations.

THE COLLECTION

BOER WAR

WORLD WAR 1

WORLD WAR II

KOREA

VIETNAM

HIGGINBOTHAM FAMILY HISTORY (Part 2)

Written by Wayne Higginbotham 2013

INTRODUCTION

Mrs Elaine Goad researched this article donated to the Molong Historical Society by Wayne Higginbotham, over twenty years ago.

Elaine is a descendant of Mary Anne HIGGINBOTHAM who was born in 1850 to William and Mary (CORRIGAN) HIGGINBOTHAM who had settled at Brymedura, near Molong in the early 1840's. Mary married Jacob MATTHEWS whose family become Publicans in the Peak Hill area.

STORY CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE MARCH 2014

WILLIAM HIGGINBOTHAM (1812-1878)

William was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England in 1812, baptised at Sheffield Cathedral, where his parents had married in 1811. His parents were John and Martha(Harrison) Higginbotham. For several centuries, the Higginbotham/ Higginbottom families have been baptised and married at this Cathedral.

When William was sentenced at York, West Riding on October 28th 1835, his occupation had been a Butler. He arrived in Sydney on the ship "Lady Kennaway" on October 12th 1835, they had sailed from Downs in England. In 1837 he was assigned to John Kinchela junior. Eventually he went to work in the Wellington Valley, near Molong NSW, where he asked to stay after receiving his Ticket of Leave in 1844. William received his Ticket of Leave in 1850.

William physical features were *"Ruddy complexion, light sandy hair, grey eyes, front upper tooth missing, five foot nine inches tall. He had 'WH' tattooed inside lower left arm. William could read but not write was Protestant and single"*.

MARIA CORRIGAN (Mary Kerrigan) (1821-1856)

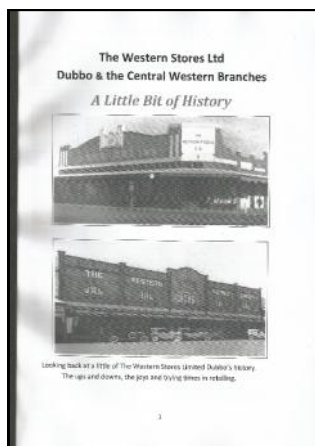
According to records Mary, daughter of Patrick Corrigan and Mary, was baptised in March 1821 in Tipperary Roman Catholic Church, Tipperary Town. Patrick had a plot of land at Cardangan, three (3) miles S.E of Tipperary Town. This was situated next to widow Quirke, who had fourteen (14) acres of second quality land. Patrick's land was third quality, and slightly larger than one acre. These records appear to be "Tithe Allotment Records of 1820-30's". According to "Griffiths Valuations of Tenements 1851" Patrick still had his land and also Catherine Quirke had seven(7) acres and Bridget Corrigan had another acre plot next to Patrick's. Patrick may have married again, or Bridget could have been Maria's sister. The Landlord in each case was Joseph Cooke according to "Tithe Allotments" and James Cooke, perhaps Joseph's son according to Griffith's Valuations records, when Maria emigrated to Australia, with her sister Joanna.

They sailed on the "Jane Gifford" leaving Plymouth October 2nd 1840, arriving one hundred and thirty three (133) days on February 13th 1841. There were two hundred and fifty eight (258) women on board. Two deaths occurred during the voyage. There were forty (40) Protestants on board, the rest being Roman Catholic, all were Bounty Immigrants. Maria's occupation featured in the immigration sheet is given as a child's maid and Joanne's occupation was of a housemaid. Joseph Cooke J.P., their father's landlord described the sisters in his reference "*of very excellent character*".

The year 1841 was important for the women arriving in Australia Caroline Chisholm started her work of delivering the girls arriving on the ships to places of work, thus saving them from being abandoned and falling into trouble in Sydney.

Mary married two (2) years later at Liverpool and it is quite likely that she had obtained work in this area. There were many Irish farming families in the Liverpool area. Sister Joanna went to work at Sandy Falls, near Yass, and many Irish settlers populated this area. Joanna married George Barclay, a transportee from Scotland, who was working at Sandy Hills. They were married at the Yass Roman Catholic Church. The Barclay's had a large family and many settled in towns along the Murray Valley Highway. Joanna died in 1892 at Albury. Maria suffered a Nervous breakdown, a few months before her last child was born, from which she never recovered. In October 1856, she was found drowned on a property at Brymedura. She had been partially deranged for some time. Maria was buried at Molong, possibly at the old cemetery situated where the present Bowling Club is now built.

BOOK REVIEW



THE WESTERN STORES LTD DUBBO & CENTRAL WESTERN BRANCHES

Written by Wally Flynn

This book has been kindly donated by Wally Flynn and can be purchased for \$20 plus \$4.50 P&H. (email wallyf4@bigpond.com)

The book is the result of over eight months research into the history of the well known icon of the Central West.

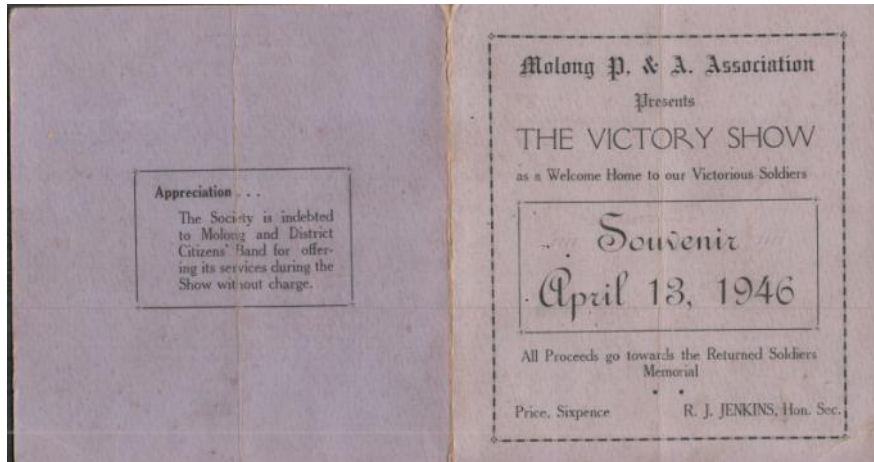
The main focus is on the History of the Dubbo Store, but other stores including Molong, Wellington, Orange, Bathurst, Gilgandra & Narromine includes photographs, managers, staff and stories.

This book is available for research in the Museum Library.

MOLONG SHOW CELEBRATING 150 years in 2014

By now most people are aware that it is 150 years since Molong held its first show. Over the last two years, a lot of research and information gathering has been taking place. The local Historical Society has a collection of photographs, programs, articles and newspaper clippings .

One such item is this Souvenir Program for the 1946 "Victory Show" which celebrated the " END OF THE WAR" and the boys returning home.



Finding this, I decided to do a TROVE search and found several articles from the Molong Express of 1945 and 1946, preparing for the event and wrapping up after it was completed.

Molong Express Friday 21st September 1945 reports on the first meeting, with over forty residents present, held to arrange the Show. Most of this was spent deciding whether to have a Spring or Autumn Show. They all agreed that it would be known as "The Victory Show" and the best ever held in Molong and District. Eventually after several amendments, it was decided to hold a Autumn Show.

Molong Express Friday 15th February 1946 advertises that a meeting has been called for February 23rd at the Town Hall to get "the Show underway" Mr Blowes (President) said "No district was better suited than Molong to stage a really successful exhibition". The date set for April, following the Bathurst Show would encourage exhibitors from Bathurst to attend, particularly sheepmen and horse owners. The President stressed that the full co-operation of the community was necessary for the show's success.

Molong Express Friday 5th April 1946 promoting the show, "Molong Victory Show only one week off" A special train from Orange will run and not leave Molong until midnight to allow passengers to attend the dance. The Sideshow Alley will have many of the rides that were at Bathurst including "Ferris wheels, merry-go-rounds, and Ray Bell's boxing troupe among the attractions". Other events include Sheep Dog Trails, Fruit Stalls and Luncheon Booths.

Molong Express Friday 10th May 1946 Letters of Congratulations were read at the Show Committee Meeting,. The ladies in the Luncheon Booth were especially thanked for their work and raising funds, more than double previous years. Molong Band were also thanked and given a small token of money for their time. A letter is to be sent to the CWA for their fine work as well as to the Showman's Guild.

THE MOLONG HISTORIAN

The Molong Historian was published between 1972 and 1997 and contains a collection of articles on the history of Molong and District. This article is reproduced from volume 1 No 26 issued April 1976.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY IN MOLONG

In early 1890's Mr Dixon purchased a farm from Mr Draper of Redbank.

In a letter in the Molong Express in 1945 Mr. E.J. Hamey, a former resident and alderman of Molong stated in part: "Mr Dixon spent some thousands of pounds in making it an up-to-date tobacco plantation. He got an expert from America, put in expensive machinery and sheds, introduced mules instead of horses and planted many acres of tobacco."

Dixon & Sons had been established for many years before coming to Molong. In the Orange "Western Examiner" in 1864 Dixsons advertised their "Twist Negro Head" tobacco and stated they had moved "to larger premises at 193 York Street, opposite the markets in Sydney; grocers, storekeepers and squatters supplied" and an N.B. "Smokers, ask for, and be sure you get the right stuff, don't have any spurious imitations."

The mules were used to cart the tobacco to Molong railway station. However, they had their drawbacks. Apparently, on numerous occasions they caused considerable damage to their stables by kicking.

In 1896, 40 acres of tobacco were sown and in the following season 90 acres were sown and Dixon & Sons were negotiating with Messrs. Charteris and Jas. Hull to erect two more large drying sheds at the tobacco farm.

By 1898 the firm was using 80 tons more imported leaf than all the other tobacco factories put together. However, it appears that the Molong venture was terminated about 1902 or 1903, due to the drought, and the Molong Plant was moved to Wagga.

The following advertisement from the Sydney Mail in 1895 gives an idea of the range of tobaccos produced by the firm:

TOBACCO

Quality is everything to the smoker

Dixon & Sons prove the quality of their tobacco by Custom House Returns. Dixon's consume annually more American Leaf than all the other Tobacco Factories combined.

"YANKEE DOODLE" Mild Plug

"CHAMPION" BRIGHT Cut & Plug

"CONQUEROR" Plug

"SIR ROGER" Twist

"DOLLAR" Plug

"CENTENNIAL" Plug & Twist

BOOKS FOR SALE

Books are for sale

Allan TOM

"THE PICTURE SHOW MAN"

Aileen ROBERSON \$20.00

PADDY MCARDLE AND MOLONG

Aileen ROBERSON \$20.00

THE LIFE & TIMES OF JOHN SMITH

David RUTHERFORD \$30.00

PIONEERING WITH CHRIST

Baptist Church History

D.SPEARS, R BLOWES \$5.00

THE LONG WAY HOME

Jo BAILEY, Ronnie SABIN \$25.00

ECHOES OF ANZAC

(Manildra District)

Heather NICHOLLS \$25.00

THE HOSPITAL ON THE HILL

David A RUTHERFORD, \$10.00

FROM LIFE TO LIFE IN AUSTRALIA

Robyn MacKENZIE \$15.00

BORENORE Centenary 1878-1978

NOEL CANTRILL \$15.00

STORY OF BYNG

ORANGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY \$5.00

BANJO PATERSON and his BIRTHPLACE

"NARRAMBLA

ORANGE ROTARY CLUB \$3.00

BORREE CABONNE, ORANGE, NSW

Tina McGEOCH & Felicity CUNINGHAME

\$8.00

Tea towels, and postcards are available
for sale.

Please add \$10.00 to order
for postage if required

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

If you are able to assist, please
contact the editor for further details

- William Charles Pearce born in 1874 to William and Jane Pearce at Molong. I am looking for information on William and Jane Pearce.

- Frederick Biggers and Elizabeth Bartholomew (married in 1870 in Grenfell) lived in Molong and Grenfell for a number of years from around 1871 . Looking for any information on the following Biggers, Bartholomew & Power of Molong and Orange.

- The Society and Museum celebrate 50 years since the first meeting. We are looking for photos, leaflets, articles to complete a history of the organisation.

- Research continues on the MOLONG SHOW, district VILLAGES, FAIRBRIDGE FARM SCHOOL and World War1 (100 years 2015).

If you are able to assist please contact
the Secretary

suemilne@colourcity.com or phone

0400425015

Or the Museum

molongmuseum@hotmail.com

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

Enquires to the Society should be
written,

then posted or emailed to :-

PO BOX 119 MOLONG NSW 2866

molongmuseum@hotmail.com

Please include :-

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

No phone enquires will be accepted.