

MOLONG HISTORY NEWS

MOLONG HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

1965-2018

Volume 2 Issue 7
SPRING 2018

MUSEUM ADDRESS

20 Riddell Street
MOLONG NSW 2866

OPENING HOURS

Thursdays 11am until 3pm

Last Sunday of the month from 11.30 until 4

Or by appointment

**MOLONG
MUSEUM**
History matters.

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 research, writing book etc)
- Relevant information

No phone enquires accepted.

COMMITTEE for 2017-18

PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER
RESEARCH OFFICER

Marie Hammond 53 111 884. rylerns@gmail.com
Catherine Mackenzie molongmuseum@hotmail.com
Sue Milne 0400425015 suemilne@colourcity.com
John Austin 0428719645
Catherine Mackenzie

MUSEUM NEWS

COMING EVENTS

STREET STALL

Friday 19th October
Assistance needed saleable goods or on the day
Contact Lynne



ANNUAL BOOK SALE

17/18th November at the Museum
Saturday from 9 till 4
Sunday 9 till 12

If you can assist please contact Marie or Lynne.
There will be a new special exhibit and there are new exhibits in the Parlour. Come and view during the week-end.

THURSDAYS

The Museum working bees will be taking a break to recharge for a busy 2019 from Thursday 14th December to Thursday 24th January

The Museum may be open during this time, please contact Sue/John A arrangements can be made to open



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 24th November 2018
At the Museum
Commencing at 2PM

Please come and support your Society

More information will be distributed in future emails.

FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPH

A little different this issue. This is a draft of the new logo for the Society. More on page 5

MOLONG HISTORICAL SOCIETY FACEBOOK PAGE

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

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

A WORD FROM MARIE



Sorry we have a bit late and lacking in communication with the newsletters lately, but it has been a time restrain as our worthy secretary has been very occupied with other programs we have currently involved in.

One being updating our constitution, a requirement by the Department of Fair Trading. The changes have been many and have required several meetings and much discussion. From the first meeting we had regarding this a sub-committee was formed. At this meeting we were required to have 85% members present or give YES or NO by arranged voting. We were one short meaning that we were required to repeat this meeting this time making it with the required number. More later in the newsletter. Our members have put in an incredible amount of time

already as the whole exercise is rather exacting.

The 24th November is surprisingly late for an AGM, as long as before 30th December, but needing the constitution to be completed and to work in with some members being away it was concluded this as a suitable date. I am really appealing to members and new members to please try and attend this meeting. I know many can't make it to meetings and some live further afield but perhaps you may be able to think of it a bit like Christmas and Easter when you can't make church all year but good to make it these times. Hope that didn't offend anyone. Last year we were honoured to have member Linda Emery from Berrima Society with us on that occasion. For those who haven't met Linda she has been the researcher for the popular program many of us have enjoyed, "Who do you think you are". We always have a lovely afternoon tea but this year I think we may have a few extra Well, come and find out.... Saturday 24th November at 2pm at museum.

Catherine Mackenzie's research for inquiries regarding families who have had some association with Molong continues. Some families have also given us a copy of their own family research for our files. This is always very much appreciated as the only way we can grow on these files is usually by what we learn or given like this.

Catherine's research, and continuing of our earlier program, "Villages of the Heart", Has focused on history of Bank Street Molong. This has been an exciting and very productive program resulting in a great deal of information never collated history and involved many people, several interviews with older residents, much researching of old photographs, current photographs were taken of Bank Street and we were able to, in many cases, compare the old buildings and the buildings of today. Catherine then, in much detail did a survey to test people's memories with a "mud map" of the street and asked if people would like to contribute with their memories and they did. It was all very involved and rather exciting, not just to members but also involved local people not members. The results are available and still on display if anyone would like to see them or talk to some of our members about it.

We have just received more copies of Aileen Roberson's book, "Families of Molong and District". They sell for \$35. and would make a wonderful Christmas present. They have been very sort after and won't be around forever. I see them being passed down in families for years to come. We also have several other books for sale of interest. Sue usually includes a list and prices in our newsletters. Also, we do send them out by mail and have done many times to people.

It was regrettable that our planned contribution to the regional exhibition of "Paddock to Plate", at the Regional Museum and to which we proudly exhibit fifty items from Molong museum collection, was going to be the "The Shearers Dinner" at Lunchtime. It just couldn't have been a success as we clashed with too many other events in the Molong and district. We are in hopes that we can hold this function in the earlier part of 2019.

In February it will 50 years since our earlier members of this society purchased this wonderful old building. Much has been done over these 50 years in caring for the building and continues. I suggest to keep watching this space. We have plans already for 2019 but in the meantime we continue and raising ongoing funds is one.

If any member would care to make suggestions how they may like to contribute to our fund raising it would be pleased to hear from you with your suggestion. In the meantime we continue with street stalls, book sales and other functions. Our fund raising is also an important part of our society.

Our committee and others make a very valuable contribution continually but thank Sue in particular for undertaking this newsletter every time and getting it out to you.

To all members old and new I send my best wishes and thank you for your ongoing support. We couldn't exist if it not for members. Hope to see you at the AGM.

With best wishes to all.
Marie Hammond.
President.

MEMBERS AWAY FROM MOLONG

Des and Nea Sullivan, now living in Bathurst and in their lovely new unit are both well and enjoying life living closer to their daughters and their families. Des says no where is as good as Molong and has been reported to have said many times, "Molong is the nearest place to heaven ". Members send their best wishes to them but they are missed from our midst and Des with all wonderful stories of Molong and the shearing she'd. Des has given many years of active membership to the Society.

Maureen Kirkwood is also missed from our Society and now in a retirement home in Orange. We believe Maureen, who is an accomplished musician, singer and artist, is enjoying life there . We are so pleased to hear that she is enjoying her new life there but she is very missed by many of her friends here at the museum. We all send love and best wishes as Maureen recently had a birthday.

CONSTITUTION REVIEW

During September two important meetings that affects the society were held. These were to review and update our constitution.

A constitution is required to be updated to ensure the future of the Society and to meet Department of Fair Trading requirements. It was necessary for 85% of our financial members to record a vote. To do this all members were notified by mail or electronically and completed the voting form sand returned it to the Returning Officer.

The first meeting held on the 1st September narrowly missed the 85% quota so a second meeting was held on the 22nd September. With an extensive advertising program, the quota was met, and the vote occurred. Thank you to all members who took the time to record their wishes.

The result of the vote was recorded as

THAT; The members of the Molong Historical Society have elected to adopt the Department of Fair Trading Model Rules Constitution

The Constitution has been lodged with the Department of Fair Trading and we will be following this one as soon as approval is received. Copies will be available shortly. Please contact if you require one. The Model Rules can be downloaded from their website.

A subcommittee was formed who will be working on Society Bylaws, Operating Procedures and policies. Members of the sub-committee, known as the By-Law Committee are the Society President, Marie Hammond, Elizabeth Griffin, Margaret Moss, John Austin and Sue Milne.

BONES old or otherwise?

WISHBONES-
JAWBONES -
KNUCKLEBONES-
BACKBONES-

An organisation is made up of four bones-
who spend their time wishing someone else would do it
who do all the talking and nothing else
who knock everything anyone tries to do
who do all the work.

NEW LOGO

During this year the committee have been working on ideas for the future and how to promote the museum and society.



After several discussions and viewing several different logos that suit our aims and objections we have decided on this logo. A big thank you to Rachel MacSmith for all her assistance and advice.

We are now looking for ways to use this to promote the museum. Banners, business cards, brochures, information sheets, stationary are a few ideas we have come up with, but welcome many more. If you have any ideas please contact the committee.

MOLONG SHOW 2018

The Molong Historical Society and the Old Fairbridgians Association were invited to arrange the feature for this year's Molong Show. This included having an exhibit in the main pavilion on the history and aspects of life at the village.

The show was officially opened by Derek Moriarty, President of the Old Fairbridgians Association. Derek arrived at Fairbridge in 1951 as an 8-year-old. He was involved with Junior Farmers and attending the local Shows which he spoke of during his speech.



The first children arrived from England in March 1938 and settled at Fairbridge. The Farm continued to take children from England until 1964. It eventually closed in 1973, after being a short term home for Australian children. These children came from England as part of the "British Child Migrant" scheme. The aim was to give underprivileged children a better life in the colonies. The Scheme established by Kingsley Fairbridge, a

Rhodes Scholar, concerned about the conditions of under-privileged children in England. His idea was to "transplant children to the Colonies where there were wide open spaces. Altogether, some 1200 children passed through the Fairbridge Farm School. This can be broken down to 940 Children from England and 175 children from Australia.

The village was self-sufficient with its own bakery, dairy, vegetable gardens and farm.



The exhibit at the show was well supported by locals and visitors, with many stories being passed along. Several Fairbridgians spent time viewing the display and renewing friendships. Features include several trophies and certificates that the children had earned. This included School Certificates, Choir awards, Junior Farmers awards and sporting activities. This included playing against international teams, many visited the farm itself. All items are part of the "Fairbridge Collection" at the Molong Museum and can be viewed on request.

It was an opportunity to promote the "Fairbridge Children's Park" which is an extension of the Memorial Park on the Mitchell Highway.



Thank you to everyone who assisted in arranging the display and supporting us at the Show. A special thank you to Molong Show Society for allowing this opportunity to promote the Historical Society and Fairbridge Farm .

MOLONG 100 years ago

PEACE CELEBRATIONS

MOLONG JUBILATES.
KAISER'S EFFIGY BURNT.



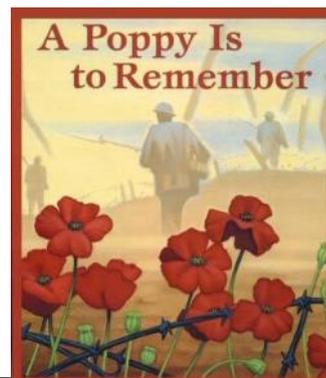
When the glad tidings that victory for the Allies was assured came through to Monday night at about 9 o'clock Molong, like other places, went frantic with joy. Every available instrument from which noise... it was music on this auspicious occasion - could be extracted was brought into requisition. The ringing of the ball at the Fire Station gave the first indication that something unusual had happened, and it was soon heralded forth that the Germans had signed the peace armistice. The church and school bells joined in and rang out the joyful news. The people thronged into Bank Street, and before

one could say Jack Robertson a hilarious, soothing mass of human beings - men, women, and juveniles - were out to celebrate a victory over the greatest military tyrant the world has ever seen - Kaiser Bill. And they did it in great style. The Boy Scouts who were very much in evidence, improvised a tin can band. Dr. Michell must have anticipated victory for some time, for he had the tins in readiness for the boys, and they made good use of them, too.

Then there were bells: tin whistles, and other whistles, and to crown all the Town Band appeared on the scene. For some time a perfect pandemonium reigned - with the bells ringing, the blowing of whistles, the trains at the station and mill joining in, beating of tins and drums, etc, intermingled with cheering. As soon as the Band got a chance it struck up the National Anthem, and the immense crowd afterwards gave loud and continuous cheers for the King and Empire, the Allies, and our Australian Boys who had fought so valiantly at Gallipoli, and in France and Palestine in assisting to bring victory to the Allied arms. As the band played other patriotic airs, the crowd joined in the refrain, singing with great gusto. At about 10 o'clock an immense procession, headed by the Band, marched through the streets of the town, singing and cheering, and producing sounds discordant and otherwise - from all sorts of things capable of producing a sound. So varied and continuous were the noises that only now and then could the sweet strains of the Band be heard. However, nothing mattered the joyous, hilarious crowd were out to celebrate a Glorious Victory, and they did it well. Men, women, and children all joined in the demonstration, and made it a memorable event. The festivities finally concluded about 11.30 by the Band playing the National Anthem

However, this was not going to be the end of the joyous celebrations. On Tuesday night, after the Municipal Council concluded its sitting, a large and enthusiastic public meeting, presided over by the Mayor, was held at the Town Hall, when it was decided to hold a formal public demonstration on Wednesday, which was proclaimed a public holiday. It was resolved to have a united churches thanksgiving service at 10.30 in the morning, in the afternoon a procession through the town to the Rec., where speeches would be delivered, and a children's fete held; at night a torchlight procession through the streets to the Rec., where a bonfire would be lit and the effigy of the ex-Kaiser (now Bill Hohenzollern) would be burnt. All these functions were carried out to the letter and with immense enthusiasm on Wednesday.

(Molong Argus Friday 15th November 1918)



RECENT WORKSHOP



Recently nine members attended a workshop conducted by Alison Campbell (Museum Curator) . The workshop was an introduction to preserving our collection in the best way. The afternoon involved a practical session on preserving clothing and medical equipment.

It was interesting to learn that we can use easy available items for temporary storage. This includes food quality plastic bags and small boxes with tissue paper.

Lunch was provided by the Museum. There are more workshops planned for the future.

BANK STREET

Our project for 2018/19 is identifying the buildings of Bank Street and their use over the last 150 years. We would like any information on the building, owners, type of shop and stories . Did you work there? Shop regularly or bring friends? This all adds to the story.

Molong Express and Western District Advertiser (NSW 1887 - 1954) Sat 9 May 1925 Page 20

'The Kookaburra Cafe'
Mrs. G. Hutchinson, Proprietor.
BANK STREET, MOLONG (Next Crook & Giffin's).
"PURE CREAM" Ice Creams, Sundaes, Fruit Salads, Iced
Drinks of Delicious Flavour and High Quality.
— AFTERNOON TEA A SPECIALITY. —
FRESH FISH EVERY FRIDAY.
"Kookaburra Cafe," Molong.
TELEPHONE 18.

Can you help identify the location of these shops and its history?



'THE PANTHEON'
Refreshment Rooms
For Quality and Service
Lunches Refreshments
Soda Fountain Drinks
Cassimaty Bros.
Proprietors PHONE 42

If you would like to assist and provide information please visit the museum when open, or contact John Austin (Co-ordinator).

MOLONG RSL CLUB BISTRO

The Bistro is under new management and we were had lunch there last Thursday and can highly recommend it.

The new chef is Rebecca Binks, an employee of the Club. Bec is serving fine quality and affordable country style meals and caters for families. She was taught to cook by her grandmother, a prize winning CWA cook and has experience in commercial cooking for large groups.

When visiting the Museum, why not call into the RSL Club (over the road) to enjoy a meal and see the Anne Marie Ingham's Portrait Gallery.

CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Do you have a story to tell of your childhood? We would like to include it in the newsletter. This is the first story in the series. Can you add your memories. We can all relate to this story.

WASHING UP

I remember as a child doing the washing up at my grandparent's farm. They didn't have a sink and no one in their wildest dream would know about a dishwasher at that time. Nanna had a big tin dish and an old tin tray which she would put side by side on the edge of the wooden kitchen table.

We would have to boil the kettle, a huge black round looking container with a tap on the side. We would have to be very careful not to burn ourselves when we poured the boiling hot water into the wash tub. Most times this was done by an adult but little Miss Independence would sometimes try to do it herself. It was easy enough to splash ourselves then go off crying and complaining about our burn.

Somehow Nanna always managed to save some leftover soap from the washing or bathroom and would squash it all together inside a small wire cage on the end of a long wire handle and wave that around in the hot water. This would make a lovely lot of soapy bubbles.

We always had a big cup which was put on the tray first so that all the other dishes and plates would lean on it. It was called Lena and no one was allowed to dry her up until last. Some of the water and soap suds would drain off the other plates onto the tray. This also saved the limited number of tea towels from having to be changed because they were so wet.

The tray itself would give us its own challenge and amusement when it came time to empty it. Sometimes it held so much water that, it nearly overflowed the tray's lip and the skill was to reach the back door to throw as much as possible onto the garden without spilling it all over the kitchen floor. It didn't take us very long to work out that we could pour it back into the washing up dish and save ourselves the worry of spilling it.

We would then would wring out the tea towels and hang them on the little piece of rope that Pop had put just below the mantelpiece in front of the fire so that they would dry. This system worked well in the evening or if it was raining outside.

Something I do remember more than anything was the serious talks or the jokes and stories that were shared while we were doing this task. I remember it mainly being a happy time even if sometimes there were a few cross words with other members of the family, mostly my brothers who tried to get out of it as they said it was women's work or argued about whose turn it was to wash or dry or put things away.

Mum would have her say-'Do it' in such an unmistakable tone we were a bit fearful of possible consequences but it was always sorted by Nanna telling us that if we didn't stop she would do it herself and we really didn't want that, after all she had prepared the meal and she was old. It saddens to me to realise is that I am older at this point in my life than she lived to be and I don't feel old. In later years there was a sink with taps and while it was less work to set up and clean up afterwards it just wasn't the same special experience that it used to be.

Contributed by Elizabeth Griffin

It is believed by many Old Fairbridgians that the Chapel was moved to Yeoval when the School closed in 1973. This is the true version. Val & Norm McKenzie of Cumnock have contributed this article..

CHAPEL FROM FAIRBRIDGE FARM

The chapel at Fairbridge Farm was originally a hut used by the Air Force at Parkes during World War Two. It was transferred to Fairbridge Farm and converted into a chapel around 1961.

Fairbridge Farm closed in 1973 and was sold to Tom Barrett. Roy McKenzie bought the chapel building from Tom Barrett in the 1970s.



Ruth Woods Chapel at Fairbridge

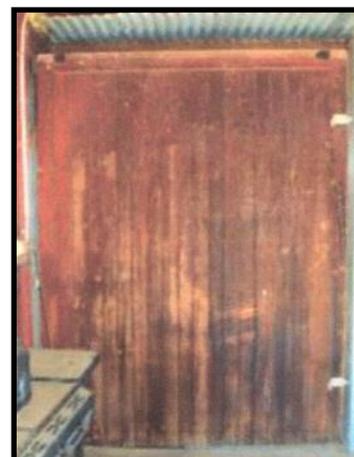
Norm and Brian McKenzie dismantled the chapel at Fairbridge and brought the wood to "Willow Park", Cumnock (owned by Norm McKenzie). Some of the wood was used to build the shearing shed on Willow Park in the early 1980s and used for the trusses, roof and floor. The roof was extended using other materials to become the size it now is. The two sliding wood doors of the chapel were separated, one being installed in the shearing shed at Willow Park and the other in the shearing shed at Ermelo.



Shearing Shed, Willow Park,



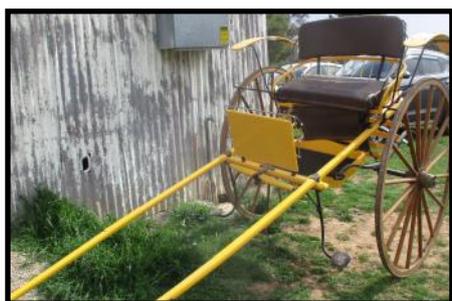
Inside of the Shearing Shed.



One of the Fairbridge Farm Chapel's sliding

INFORMATION NEEDED?

At the Molong Show many visitors would have noticed this sulky near the entrance to the Main Pavilion.



Owned by the Bennett family of

The sulky is now owned by Bob Sullivan, one of our Patrons and member.

Previously it had been owned by the Bennett Family of Molong and in early years would have been driven around the area. We are looking for any photographs and stories that will add to its providence.

Please contact Bob or the museum if you can assist.

PRINCIPAL'S HOUSE

Principal's House



Early on the morning of July 23rd, 2018 by a phone call from the local TV station. They had heard that there had been a fire at Fairbridge Farm during the early hours and the Principal's House had been destroyed.

Emergency services received a triple-zero call at 1.15am and arrived at the Molong property a short time later, however by then the two-storey building was engulfed in flames. 20 Firefighters from Gamboola, Molong, Borenore, Orange Molong Road and North West brigades attended alongside firefighters from Fire and Rescue NSW in Orange, Molong and Bathurst. Others involved included police, Cabonne Council staff and Essential Energy crews. The building was unable to be saved.

Derek Moriarty (President of the Old Fairbridgians Association spoke with the local newspaper and issued the following statement:

I was saddened to hear of the fire that destroyed the former principal's house at the old Fairbridge Farm site on the Amaroo Road.



What once was a magnificent structure of its time housed various principals in the years between 1938 and 1973.

To see it reduced to "two chimneys and a lot of ash" is sure to stir mixed emotions among Old Fairbridgians, some good and some not so good.

However, I would be very surprised if the majority of our members do not feel the way I did when I heard the news.

The word gutted springs mind, although I cannot explain why. In fact, it has affected me so that I have had difficulty putting a couple of sentences together. I would be interested to hear the thoughts of other Old Fairbridgians.



History is for human self-knowledge ... the only clue to what man can do is what man has done. The value of history, then, is that it teaches us what man has done and thus what man is."

R. G. Collingwood

BOOKS FOR SALE

(updated 1/10/2018)

AUTHOR	TITLE	PRICE
Aileen Roberson	FAMILIES OF MOLONG & DISTRICT	\$35.00
Aileen Roberson	A HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF MOLONG	\$20.00
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	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

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



COLONIAL COOKING

Are you tired of take away food?

Do you want to surprize the family and give them something other than the usual steak and three veg for dinner? How about giving this bit of colonial cooking a try. I would be interested in hearing from anyone game enough to give it a go.

TO DRESS A SHEEPS HEAD

1 Sheep head	3 carrots
Sufficient water to cover	3 turnips
3 onions	2 or 3 parsnips
Small bunch of parsley	teaspoon pepper
3 teaspoons salt	1/4 pound oatmeal

METHOD

1. Clean the head well and let it soak in warm water for two hours
2. Put in large saucepan with sufficient cold water to cover, bring to the boil
3. When it boils add the sliced vegetables and remaining ingredients
4. Mix the oatmeal to a smooth batter before adding.
5. Keep stirring until it boils
6. Cover and let stew gently for 2 hours
7. For three people.