

Newsletter of the Molong Historical Society Inc.



VOLUME 4
ISSUE 5
WINTER 2024

Points of Interest:

Museum, located at 22 Riddell Street,
(Cnr Gidley St) Molong
PO BOX 119 Molong
OPEN Thursdays and Sundays
10 am to 2pm

Or by appointment

Phone Contact 0400425015

contact email—molonghs@gmail.com or susanmilne55@gmail.com



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023/24

President—	Bob Sullivan	(0427696256)
Vice President	Elizabeth Griffin	(0437868595)
Secretary—	Lyndall Scott	(0419993660)
Treasurer—	Susan Grinpukel	
Committee	Sue Milne	Membership)
	Lynne Robertson	(Social)
	Julie Lawrie	(Exhibitions)
	Jan McIntyre	(Promotion)
	John Lawrie	(Maintenance)
Historian—	Catherine Mackenzie	
PATRONS	Jean Bennett, Marie and John Hammond.	



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
Annual GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 10th August
At the Molong RSL Club
1.30pm

ANNUAL FEES NOW DUE

Fees are now \$25.00

Fees can be paid by direct debit,
mail or in person

Bank Details
BSB 062573 28007189

FOR MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES
Contact Sue (0400425015),
susanmilne55@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024

EVENT	DATE & TIME	INFORMATION
MUSEUM OPEN DAYS	Every Sunday from 10 am until 2pm	All welcome to visit and view the museum. Limited research available.
MUSEUM OPEN with WORKING DAY	Every Thursday 10am until 2pm.	Members will be working on various projects. Open to visitors to view museum displays.
VISIT BY MOLONG PROBUS CLUB	Tuesday 9th July	For lunch and talk, followed by museum tour.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	Saturday 10th August	2pm at the RSL Club with Guest Speaker Linda Emery
HISTORY WEEK	1st to 15th September 2024	Run by the HISTORY COUNCIL
MOLONG ANNUAL SHOW	Sunday 7th September 2024	160th Annual show.
OCTOBER LONG WEEK-END	Monday 5th October 2024	Museum Open (MAG Markets on)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS are held on the 3rd Wednesday/Thursday of the month. If you have any items for the agenda please let Lyndall or a committee member know.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

Enquires to the Society should be written, then posted or emailed to :-
 PO BOX 119 MOLONG NSW 2866
molonghs@gmail.com
 Please include :-
 Your Name, contact number
 Reason for enquiry
 (family research, writing book etc)
 Relevant information
 Fees on Request

CAN YOU HELP?

We would be very grateful if you would consider assisting our Museum. Please ring Jan, 0402030270 if you would like more information or email kylingra@gmail.com or molonghs@gmail.com.

We have lots of things we need assistance with.
 Do you like meeting people?
 Would you like to sort some of our objects?
 Would you like to assist in cataloguing some of our items?
 Do you have computer skills, could you type up a sign or label for some of our displays?

FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPH

Part of the display of telephones and other objects that can be found in the shed at the museum. Many opportunities to try out the items

Our 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on

SATURDAY 10th August

At the RSL Club

Commencing at 1.30pm with AGM

Followed by Guest Speaker (see below)

Afternoon Tea (Donations welcome)



REMINDER

To be able to vote, you will need to be financial for 2024/2025

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING GUEST SPEAKER Linda Emery



Linda Emery is a freelance historian and author, with a particular research interest in 19th century Australian history. She is Archivist and Vice President of the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society and from 2017-2023 was a Councilor of the Royal Australian Historical Society. She has published a number of books on the history of the Southern Highlands of NSW where she lives and promotes history in regular articles for the Southern Highlands lifestyle magazine *Highlife*.

Between 2008 and 2018, Linda was a member of the research team for the SBS television program *Who Do You Think You Are*, a researcher for the 2018 ABC series, *Monash and Me* and more recently has undertaken research for the SBS television series *Every Family has a Secret*.

Linda is a member of the Molong Historical Society and has several connections in the area.

From Ireland to Molong via India



The Toohey Family of Amaroo

Born in Ireland in 1840, Martin Toohey led an adventurous life before settling in Amaroo with his Indian born wife Sarah and their family in 1886. He joined the British Army in 1858 and spent most of his career in India. He was a member of the armed force which was sent from India to Abyssinia in 1868 in one of the most remarkable, and costly, expeditions ever mounted by the British Army. Martin had joined the NSW railways in about 1880 and spent the rest of his working life 'on the tracks'.

THE MEN OF MOLONG WHO SERVED IN THE BOER WAR 1899-1902
The peace treaty was signed 31 May 1902 at Vereeniging.

NAME	NO	RANK	UNIT	COMMENTS
BALL David				
BALL Samuel	69	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	Wounded
BALL Thomas	70	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
BIRD Thomas	19	Private	A Squadron	
BLOOMFIELD Charles	955	Trooper	2 nd NSW Rifles	
CARROLL W		Sergeant	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	Not on Nominal roll
CHESTER George	23	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
CHRISTIE James	295	Acting Sergeant	D Squadron Mounted Rifles	
DALY Verdi	37	Bugler	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	Died of enteric fever
DENNY J	7	Sergeant	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
FINCH Walter	263	Private	D Squadron Mounted Rifles	Wounded
GALLAGHER John	1570	Trooper	D Squadron 3 NSW Mounted Rifles	
GOSPER Charles	31	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	Invalided home
GOSPER Frederick	3464	Trooper	3 rd NSW Mounted Rifles	WW1 WW2
HAYES Arthur	439	Trooper	NSW Citizens Bushmen C Sqd.	
HOADLY Emily	6	Nurse	2 nd Contingent	WW1
HUGHES William	462	Trooper	NSW Citizens Bushmen B Sqd.	Invalided
KITE Charles	431	Private	1 st Mounted Rifles B Sqd.	Invalided
KITE George	430	Privates	1 st Mounted Rifles B Sqd.	Died of enteric fever
MALONEY James	207	Private Trooper	A Squadron Mounted Rifles 3 rd Imperial Bushmen	2 nd tour of duty
McINTOSH Harold	21	Sergeant	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	WW1 Killed
McRAE James	143	Private	D Squadron Mounted Rifles	
MILLER Christian	47	Private Sergeant	A Squadron Mounted Rifles 1 st Commonwealth Horse	2 nd tour of duty
MOORE Frank	435	Private	NSW Imperial Bushmen C Coy	
MOORE Patrick	93	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
MOULD Albert	580	Private	NSW Imperial Bushmen D Coy	
MOSS Michael	49	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
MURRAY Adam	78	Trooper	NSW Citizens Bushmen	Served in the Sudan
MURRAY George	51	Private	A Squadron Mounted Rifles 12 th Light Horse	Wounded WW1
OWENS Frank	12	Corporal	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	Wounded
QUINN William				
SHERRINGHAM Joseph	1707	Trooper	A Squadron Mounted Rifles	
SILK Edward	446	Private	1 st NSW Mounted Rifles D Sqd.	
SMITH Edward				
THOMAS Ernest	28	Trooper	NSW Citizens Bushmen A Sqd.	
WASSON John		Staff Sergeant	A Squadron Mounted Rifles AIF 2 nd Light Horse	WW1

There are a few blanks in this list, it depended which list I researched. If I have omitted anyone or have incorrect information please let us know.

Contributed by Elizabeth Griffin

MUSEUM ACTION

The committee and volunteers have been busy over the last few weeks with several groups, families and individuals visitors arranging to call in and check out the museum.



"LiveBetter" Community Services

We had a lovely group from Live Better visit last month. They had fun trying out some of the interactive displays.



We have more visits booked from this group.

Visitors from Sanctuary Point enjoyed their time checking out our displays,



The Museum had a visit from members Steve and Debbie Baxter from Queensland.

Steve is assisting us in cataloging our large bottle collection.



*We are all visitors to this time. This place we are just passing through. Our purpose here is to Observe. To Learn. To Grow. To Love. And then we return home" – **Australian Aboriginal Proverb** (such wise words from our indigenous Australians, we can learn so much from aboriginal culture.)*

The History of 'APRONS'



I don't think most kids today know what an apron is. The principle use of Mom's or Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material. But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears. From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.. And when the weather was cold, she wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees. When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.



When dinner was ready, she walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men folk knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.



REMEMBER:

Mom's and Grandma's used to set hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron - but love more:

<https://factstory.org/who-was-the-ice-maiden-unearthing.../>



MOLONG IN THE 70's A GLANCE THROUGH OLD FILES

A selection of articles found in a 1903 Express that relates to Molong in 1877.

From Molong Express Saturday 7th March 1903 issue

APRIL 6th, 1877

The Rev W.W. Rudledge preached his farewell sermon in the Molong Wesleyan Church on Sunday last. He left for his new district, Paddington, on the following day.

.....
Speaking at a railway meeting on Wednesday, Mr. J Smith J.P of Gamboola said ament the disinclination to allow Mr. Long to participate in the Great Western Railway: "Twenty years hence, when Circuit Courts are hold in Molong, the gigantic blunder will be apparent enough. It will be asked why the line of population was avoided, and the answer will be that a squatter named Smith was the owner of some land near Molong and was consequently the Ministers of the day would not take the line there lest they should confer some benefit to Smith."
.....

APRIL 13th 1877

The country between Molong and Buckinbah has a most desolate and desert like appearance, nothing green meeting the eye in the bush except the bluish green of the eucalyptus. Some cattle and sheep are in very low condition.

Despite the dry season, Mr Sherringham of Norwich Farm has harvested a fine yield of 30 bushels to the acre and Mr Meredith of Yullundry 40 bushels to the acre.

. ASSISTANCE REQUIRED



Recently our committee had the opportunity to check out a shed that has been donated to the Society. They came across this plaque related to Fairbridge Farm. We are looking for anyone who has memories of this event including photographs and stories.



The dedication service was held during the Bi-annual Reunion of the Old Fairbridgeans Association in 1998 which celebrated 60 years of the Farm. At this Reunion, the renovated "Chocolate Bomb" bus was another highlight.

Well-known Molongite, Lorna Boucher, run "KIMROL POTTERY and WHISTLESTOP EATERY" during the 1990's, which sold pottery and other items.

Her husband James "Micky" Boucher arrived at Fairbridge in 1944 after spending time at Northcott Victoria, with his brothers Arthur and Frank.

Please contact Sue if you can assist (ph 0400425015, susanmilne55@gmail.com or at the museum on Thursdays)

BOOKS FOR SALE (Reviewed May 2024)

AILEEN ROBERSON

A HISTORY OF THE MOLONG CATHOLIC CHURCH	\$20.00
ALLAN TOM Picture Show Man	\$20.00
PADDY McARDLE	\$20.00
THE SHEEN TEAM (Max &Nita)	\$15.00
VILLA ASH	\$5.00

ROBERT ELLIS

SESQUICENTIENNAL HISTORY OF MOLONG SHOW	\$35.00
PIPER & YURANIGH	\$25.00
HOW THE WEST WAS WON	\$25.00
HISTORY OF THE SHEEPDOG	\$25.00

DAVID RUTHERFORD

LIFE & TIMES OF JOHN SMITH	\$30.00
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KATE GADSBY

CONVICTS, CAPITALISTS & CORRUPTION	\$40.00
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HELEN HAYNES

MOLONG RSL PORTRAIT GUIDE	\$25.00
ORANGE 1901	\$10.00

VAL McKENZIE

MOLONG SHEEP DOG WORKERS	\$25.00
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DIANNE WOOLBANK

WOOLBANK MEMOIRS	\$10.00
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RON SABIN & JO BAILEY

THE LONG WAY HOME (Fairbridge story)	\$20.00
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NOEL CANTRILL

BORENORE CENTENARY 1877 TO 1977	\$15.00
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ORANGE ROTARY CLUB

BANJO PATERSON & NARRAMBLA	\$3.00
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CLEMENT SEMMLER

A.B. PATERSON	\$15.00
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THE HERITAGE COOKBOOK OF MOLONG	\$35.00
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GREG RAFFIN

EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING	\$20.00
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BERTHA MacSMITH

LETTERS OF JOHN MAXWELL	\$20.00
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TINA McGEOGH

BOREE CABONNE	\$10.00
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PLEASE ADD POSTAGE \$ 10 TO \$15 depending on book size.