



THE MUSE

Published by the Mudgee Historical Society Inc

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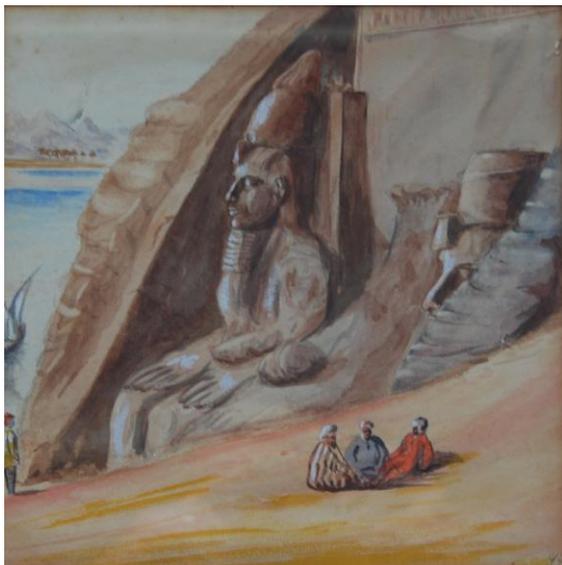
NUMBER 164

AUGUST 2011

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc meets on the **THIRD** Monday evening of every month, except December, at the Colonial Inn Museum at 7.30.pm (DST 8pm)

JAMES DALRYMPLE COX

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc has recently received a donation of three framed watercolour paintings under glass by a significant early resident of the Mudgee district, James Dalrymple Cox, pioneer merino sheep breeder and founder of the noted Cullenbone stud. The three paintings are good examples by an amateur gentleman artist and were painted in the late 1850s while James Dalrymple Cox was studying at Oxford and travelling in the Mediterranean. One appears to be a setting in Egypt, while the remaining two are most likely of a castle or stately home in England. The paintings were passed down through descendants of Charles Clarendon Cox of Broombee, a brother of James Dalrymple Cox.





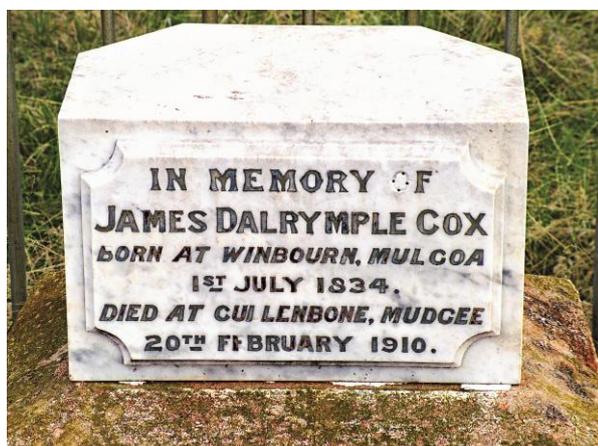
Born in 1834, James Dalrymple Cox was the fifth son of Mudgee pioneer George Cox of Winbourn, Mulgoa, and Elizabeth, nee Bell. James Dalrymple was a student at The Kings School, then went on to Oxford; although he graduated in law, he apparently never practised, preferring farming and grazing instead. James Dalrymple took up farming in the Mudgee district in 1867, initially leasing part of the Lowe family's Eurunderee to the north of Mudgee, then buying some land in that locality. In the mid 1870s he disposed of all of his property and leased Cullenbone from his cousin Francis Cox. This was a singular arrangement, as James ultimately built a substantial house on a leased property where he lived for the remainder of his life.

In 1879 James Dalrymple acquired part of the celebrated Broombee merino stud flock of his late brother, Charles Clarendon Cox, which was dispersed after his death earlier that year. Charles Clarendon Cox of Broombee had ridden the crest of the wave of the 1860s and 1870s when Mudgee merinos were coveted by merino breeders throughout the country. Starting with his Broombee acquisitions, James Dalrymple established his Cullenbone stud as one of the most dominant and respected Mudgee merino studs for the next quarter of a century. Cullenbone was never a substantial property, so from the mid 1880s until 1900 James Dalrymple firstly leased adjoining land, then purchased additional land across the river at Wilbree to supplement his paddocks.

At the onset of his diagnosis of cancer, James Dalrymple dispersed his stud flock at a sale at the Mudgee Showground in 1905. The Cullenbone sheep were sold to the highest bidder without reserve and fetched a total of £4,072.19s. The sale attracted a huge crowd and numerous accolades for James Dalrymple in the local press.

Circa 1880 James Dalrymple had acquired land at Mount Wilson in the Blue Mountains which was being developed as a hill station for the colony's elite and where his older brother, George Henry, had also acquired land and constructed a cottage, Beowang. James Dalrymple's property, called Balangra, is now subdivided into Sefton Hall and Sefton Cottage; parts of his 'pretty little flower-covered cottage' survive on both properties. His few months each summer at Mount Wilson also allowed him to pursue his keen interest in gardening and in ornithology. His interest in the latter led to his joint publication of a paper, entitled *A List of the Birds of the Mudgee District, with Notes on Their Habits etc*, with noted ornithologist Alexander Greenlaw Hamilton which was presented to the Linnean Society of NSW in 1889.

James Dalrymple died in 1910 at Cullenbone where he was buried on a hill to the south of Cullenbone homestead. In the middle of a vast paddock and surrounded by cast iron fencing with a gate, his grave and headstone are well tended by the management of Gooree Park, which incorporates Cullenbone.





RARE WALKING STICK OR STAFF

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc was recently approached for information by the National Library of Australia in Canberra for information on an item in the Museum's collection. The item in question is a rare and unusual piece from New Guinea – a staff or walking stick – which was acquired by a member of the Heath family of Mudgee in the early 1900s.

The tapered timber stick is some 900mm in height and features an elaborately carved animal, believed to be a possum, as the handle. It has been identified as the work of Mutuaga, a carver who was active in the Milne Bay area in the late 1800s and early 1900s and whose work is quite unique. Mutuaga walked with a limp, thus walking sticks were something for which he was known to carve, along with lime spatulas, used for mixing lime and beetle for chewing.

The National Library of Australia is looking at staging an exhibition on similar Melanesian art in the future and is most interested in borrowing this delightful whimsical item.



LITHGOW WOOLEN MILLS - RUGS:

Honorary Life Member Edna Strike recently donated three rugs to the Society which were produced by the now defunct Lithgow Woolen Mills. The mills were a vital part of the war effort during World War Two, producing all blankets for the armed services. Consultation with Eskbank House in Lithgow revealed that they possess few examples of the mills' output, so Edna generously allowed the rugs to be passed on to the Lithgow region where they now have an appropriate home at Eskbank House, a colonial era house, which is well worth a visit. Thank you Edna

THE HOTELS OF MUDGEE (Part 1)

The hotel industry has played a prominent role in the social, political and sporting history of Mudgee and district. The following article is the first part in an ongoing series on the hotels of Mudgee.

The publicans of Mudgee were often closely connected by blood and by marriage, even into relatively recent times. Three Mills brothers, John Joseph, George Bathurst and Thomas Edward, sons of Bathurst pioneers Richard Mills and Ann, nee Langley, were all publicans in the early days of Mudgee township. Their sister, Mary Ann, married firstly William Ealy Sampson, licensee of Mudgee's first inn, the Mudgee Tavern; she married secondly Dr William King, one of Mudgee's early medical practitioners. Thomas Edward Mills married Mary L'Estrange, widow of Mudgee publican, Thomas L'Estrange, and sister of Mudgee publican Stephen Edward Tuckerman. Numerous members of the Frost, Readford Gentle and Honeysett families were extensively involved with hotels in the early days. Sons often succeeded their fathers as publicans, or widows took over the reins on their husband's death. Daughters of publicans often married publicans: Georgiana Vile, daughter of George and

Hannah Vile, married John Honeysett, who managed her old family hotel, The Tradesman's Arms. John's brother, Thomas, was also a Mudgee publican. Georgiana's sisters, Phoebe and Amelia, married respectively Hugh McEvoy and Aaron Scifleet, whose families were associated with numerous Mudgee hotels.

The licensee of a hotel was not necessarily the owner, and few records are available locally on owners. In more recent times licensees have effectively been managers for breweries or companies. To complicate matters, licensees regularly moved from one hotel to the other, always putting an advertisement in the local newspapers to entice their old customers to their new establishment. Many had lengthy careers in the Mudgee hotel industry and were associated with several major hotels: Eugene Daly, Walter William Millett, Charles Harper, Stephen Edward Tuckerman and Richard Hughson were particularly prominent.

Further confusion was caused by similar names, frequent name changes or the transfer of names from one establishment to another. Over the years there were numerous establishments by the name of the "Hotel Mudgee" or "Mudgee Hotel", two by the name of "Bushman's Arms", two by the name of "Traveller's Arms" and two by the name of "Victoria Inn". There was also a "Royal Hotel", an "Old Royal Hotel", and a "Royal Oak Hotel".



Frost's Hotel stood from the early 1850s until the 1920s to the immediate west of the West End Hotel, now the Colonial Inn Museum

Publicans were generally prominent citizens who frequently took active roles in the town's affairs, serving as aldermen and on numerous committees. Richard Hughson was the first mayor of the municipality of Mudgee in 1860, Frank Tindall was mayor of Mudgee from 1878-80, and Walter William Millett was mayor of Cudgegong from 1891-1892. As well as being an alderman of Mudgee, Robert Jones, licensee of the Mudgee and the Belmore Hotels, was one of the members for the Mudgee electorate for nine years from 1891 in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly.

Publicans' children also married into Mudgee's pioneer families. John Joseph Mills' daughter, Clara, married Vivian Cox, a son of Henry Cox of Broombee, Mudgee, and a partner in the firm of Crossing and Cox.

Although the municipalities of Mudgee and Cudgegong were proclaimed in 1860, it wasn't until 1880 and 1885 respectively that the two municipalities constructed permanent headquarters befitting their status. Therefore, in Mudgee's early days hotels were regularly used as venues for political meetings, interim committee meetings, committee meetings and civic banquets. In 1852 a meeting was held at Naughton's Inn to investigate the establishment of a more appropriate hospital for the town and district. The first meeting of the aldermen of the municipality of Cudgegong was held at Henry Frost's Victoria Inn in the West End. In late 1863 a group of ratepayers of the municipality of Mudgee met at

the Maitland Hotel and called upon all councillors to resign - the precise reason for their ire is not known. In 1859, in response to the resignation of several prominent magistrates, a meeting was convened and attended by some sixty persons in "Readford's long room" to discuss a letter to the Governor - exactly which hotel this was is not clear, as the Readfords were proprietors of several hotels, although it was most likely the Maitland Hotel (now the Woolpack Hotel). In 1857 a meeting was held at Wallace's Inn (formerly Blackman's Mudgee Hotel) where Saul Samuel (later Sir Saul Samuel), standing in opposition to George Henry Cox as a candidate for the seat of Wellington, addressed electors and gave a violent tirade against his opponent. George Henry Cox's camp met at Rosseter's Mudgee Hotel.

Since the early days hotels have been the venue for meeting of sporting clubs. Blackman's Mudgee Hotel was also the venue for a meeting in January, 1842, which saw the formation of the Mudgee Turf Club. A meeting was held at Sampson's Hotel (presumably in Short Street) in May of the same year to draw up rules and regulations for the new Turf Club. Rosseter's Mudgee Hotel was the venue for a dinner held after the first cricket match played in Mudgee in January, 1855.

SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWS

AGM:

The Annual General Meeting of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc for 2011 was held on Monday 15th August at the CWA rooms. In his official report President John Broadley thanked all members for their input and support throughout the year, and especially his fellow executive, all of whom were returned for 2011-2012:

President: John Broadley
Vice-President: Barry Wells
Secretary: Pauline Bassingthwaighte
Treasurer: Thelma Meers

The Society is fortunately in a sound financial state which enables it to undertake various projects and also to absorb the cost, regrettably, of increased security and vandalism issues.

President John Broadley delivered a Powerpoint presentation of the history of Mudgee and intends to deliver more such presentations in the future.

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS:

Congratulations to Honorary Life Member Laura Wallis who recently turned 103. A long-term Society member, Laura was an intrepid researcher and a keen photographer.

Congratulations to Ella Hohnhorst, a long-term member and supporter, who recently turned 100.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Thanks to Peabody Energy, proprietors of Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd for a recent generous donation of \$1,000 towards our current building projects at the Museum.

Thanks to the Mid-Western Regional Council for a recent generous donation of \$3,000 towards the Society's varied functions.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Congratulations to history enthusiast Carol Watkins who has made substantial regular donations to the Mudgee Historical Society Inc over the past two years. In recognition of her generosity Carol has been made an Honorary Life member of the Society.

NATIONAL TRUST LECTURE: *Rare & Curious*

The Gulgong-Mudgee-Rylstone Branch of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) is hosting a talk, entitled *Rare & Curious*, on Sunday 18th September, 2011, by Emeritus Curator of the State Library of NSW Elizabeth Ellis. The talk focuses on the Governor Macquarie Collector's Chest, the subject of a recently-published book by Elizabeth who has lectured before in Mudgee on Charles Darwin and the life of Governor Macquarie. Come along to St Mary's Parish Centre, Church Street, Mudgee, and discover the fascinating history of this wonderful piece of Australiana. A lunch will be held at 12.30pm, followed by the talk and then coffee and tea. Bookings please by 13th September to David Mort on 63727 3576.



Governor Macquarie's collector chest

VALE JOHN STAPLES:

Condolences to the family of member John Staples who passed away recently. John grew up in Mudgee where his family operated a bakery in Church Street. A few years ago John compiled a comprehensive history of bakeries in Mudgee which is now a valued part of our Society's archives.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Members are reminded that membership fees were due as from 1st July 2011. Please note that this will be the last edition of The Muse which you receive unless membership is renewed and there will be no further reminders.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL



Mudgee Historical Society Inc

126 Market Street , Mudgee, NSW, 2850

(PO Box 217, Mudgee, NSW, 2850)

02.6372 7395

Website: <http://www.mudgemuseum.cm>

Email: enquiries@mudgemuseum.com

Membership Fees – Due 1st July each year

Adults \$10.00

Children \$2.00

Family \$20.00

The following information is used only for the records of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc

Name(s):

Mailing Address

.....

Type of Membership: Adult Child Family

Preferred Phone Contact (s)

Email (optional)

Please indicate if you would prefer to receive your quarterly newsletter via the above email YES / NO

Interests & Skills: (eg computing, family history research, repairing machinery, trade etc)

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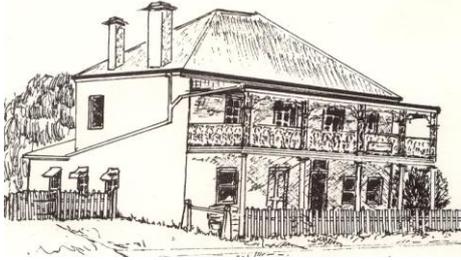
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Are you available for museum duty?

Signed

Date/...../.....

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc meets on the third Monday of every month at the Colonial Inn Museum; all members are welcome to attend committee meetings. Weekly working bees are held every Tuesday morning at the Museum. Why not join us in preserving the district's artifacts and history?



Opening Times

Monday to Friday: 10am to 3pm
Saturday: 2pm to 5pm
Sunday: 10am to 5pm
Groups by appointment

COLONIAL INN MUSEUM

126 Market Street, Mudgee
Headquarters of the
Mudgee Historical Society Inc

PO Box 217, Mudgee, NSW, 2850
Tel. 02.6372 7395

Website: <http://www.mudgeemuseum.com>
Email: enquiries@mudgeemuseum.com

Admission

Adults: \$5 Concession: \$4 Children: \$2

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