

MAITLAND &
HISTORICAL

DISTRICT
SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 333,
MAITLAND.

Vol.3, No. 3.

November, 1979.

Meetings:

Monthly meetings of the Society are held on the first Monday evening of each month at the East Maitland Primary School, commencing at 7.30 p.m. (Holidays excepted), when meetings will be held on second Monday.

Officers 1979:

PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER
RECORDERS

Roy Hamson
Graham Dunlop
Val Hamson (ph.30)
Lionel Fredman
Judith Hawke &
Mildred Pankhur

Subscriptions:

Adults \$5, plus \$1 other family members.

Students \$1.

(Registered for Posting as a Publication-Cate)

"ALL AROUND THE TOWN"

We have pleasure in presenting another segment of "All Around the Town", giving glimpses of former days.

An interesting item in connection with the "Angel Inn" mentioned in the last Bulletin. All research so far has shown that Molly Morgan never held a licence to run an inn. It is KNOWN that she owned or ran one or more inns, but records do not show her as the licensee. A logical reason for this could be that licences were not issued to women at that time or her record was against her, or that she preferred to have a dummy licensee acting for her. The main thing to remember about Molly Morgan is that all factual records about her show that she was well regarded by officials, settlers, convicts and most important, by other women of the settlement. The luridly embellished stories of her have been printed without regard to the truth and most do not stand scrutiny. She was faithful to the men in her life until circumstances separated them and then survival took over. Her adventurous and colourful life and the fact that she was most likely was not guilty of the crime that she was first transported for, gave writers a ready made plot to embellish and most let their imagination run riot. When the Angel Inn was licenced, Molly was running a tannery and the following year when the 1828 census was taken, she was still shown as a tanner not an inn keeper.

(Thanks to Harry Boyle)

HOTELS AND INNS

Alma Hotel: (a little more information)

Mr. James Davidson, a hard working man, ran a market garden on land occupied by the surgery yard, and by means of earnings and hawking through the district, built the Alma.

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Adelphi Hotel: High Street, Maitland. In existence
1884. James F. Kerr, Licensee.

Albion Inn: Occupied site between National Bank
and Church Street, High Street,
Maitland. It was the sporting men's
rendezvous in the 1840's and its
garret was the venue for the champion
pugilists of the period. Licenced
1834. Hunter River Agricultural
Shows were held in the grounds. The
first floor of building behind this
inn was the Fitzroy Theatre from 1849.

Anchor Inn: Site is not satisfactorily pin-pointed
but was probably built on western side
of Campbell's Hill Saloyards. (Item
in Maitland Mercury 11/12/1978 places
it on site of Roads End.)

Australia Hotel: Corner of Little Hunter and High St.,
Maitland and was better known as Walls
Hotel. It was first named the "Ben
Bolt" Hotel.

Australian Hotel: Corner of High and Devonshire Streets.
A very old Inn and later called
"Centennial Hotel."

Can any member add any scraps of information about these
hotels? If so, would you give the information to Val
Hamson to pass onto Barry Alsop. Next issue of our
Bulletin we can start on the letter "B". When we finish
with Inns and Hotels, let us try street names and their
origin.

Jackie Youldon.

GOOD NEWS!

Maitland City Library has set up the first stage of an Archives Section. It is hoped that many people will be prompted to assist them, by means of donating old documents, books, etc., and also with copies of valuable historical records. Our Society has pledged its support.

Mrs. Josie Stevenson, Assistant Librarian, spoke to our October Meeting about their plans, and explained how we can both assist and benefit from this new section.

The Library has also asked for Council to consider the purchase of a micro-film/micro-filche reader-printer, which will be a great asset to every researcher, no matter what their field of research.

A decision was made at the October Meeting to purchase all remaining available volumes of Champions Registers. They will be the property of the Society but will be placed in the care of the Library Archives.

WANTED!

More members at Meetings. Missing are some familiar faces, and welcome could be some new ones.

A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM ONE OF OUR MEMBERS

17th October, 1979.

Dear Members,

On 7-8 February, 1980, a conference will be held at the University of Melbourne in preparation for the 1838 volume of the bicentennial project, Australia 1788-1988.

I am proposing for this volume an essay on the Police Magistrates in New South Wales, with some particular reference to Edward Denny Day in Maitland and Muswellbrock and any information and guidance about sources will be most appreciated.

The themes I propose are:

- A group profile of the P.M.'s in 1838.
- Powers and functions of the P.M.'s.
- Their performance on the bench.
- Law and order on an expanding squatting frontier.
- P.M.'s and the master-servant relationship, boná and free.
- P.M.'s and the settler-aborigine relationship.

I am very anxious to involve historians, local historical societies, museums and collections in the Hunter Region and individuals from the Hunter Region in this national project which should do more than reflect a few historians from Sydney, Melbourne, and Canberra.

Yours sincerely,

L.E.Fredman,

Dept. of History,
University of Newcastle.