

The Pillars of



Bathurst

Version Table

Initial print	2015
Reprinted	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
Final Edition	2023

Dedicated in memory of
Dr Robin McLachlan OAM



Introduction

The Pillars of Bathurst is a cultural heritage garden located at Macquarie Park, Stanley Street Bathurst on the bank of the Macquarie River Wambuul, adjacent to the Ohkuma Gardens.

The Pillars commemorate the Bathurstians who have added something special to the story of the Bathurst region, ideally offering inspiration to living and future Bathurstians.

Some of those commemorated may already be well known to us. Many have been chosen to bring forth those people less known today and who deserve to be better known. Those that have been selected as a “Pillar”, will undoubtedly provoke discussion as to why those names were included and others not. Such a result is a positive one and shows that we have a history that is alive and lively.

The restored cast iron verandah posts used in the garden have an historic association with the Royal Hotel in William Street.

The Royal Hotel was one of the earliest inns in Bathurst. Known as the Good Woman Inn when it opened in 1843, it was originally a single storey building. Over the following 50 years the hotel was significantly altered to its final form as a three-storey building. Renamed the Royal Hotel in 1851, the hotel traded until 1965 when it closed, and the building slowly became derelict.

Prior to restoration in the early 1990s, some of the fabric and building elements of the Hotel were lost to the site, including the cast iron

verandah posts from the rear of the building. The former Bathurst City Council was later given the opportunity to purchase the posts, which were stored in Council's depot for use in a future project.

A conversation between CSU historian, Dr Robin McLachlan, and Council staff many years later sparked the idea of the need to remember people once important members of our community, for whom there were no memorials to tell of their contributions and achievements. The cast iron verandah posts, representing these Pillars of Bathurst, aim to provide a new focus to bring forth their stories.

Council could not have completed this project without the research and passion of Dr Robin McLachlan OAM.

Perhaps one of Robin's most visible legacies, the Pillars of Bathurst cultural heritage garden sought to include a broad selection of people, evenly distributed over the 200 years since 1815, who would be representative of the many different contributions and ethnicities that are part of the Bathurst story.

Dr Robin McLachlan researched and wrote the first twenty-seven "Pillars", who were acknowledged in 2015, Bathurst's bicentennial year. Robin worked closely with Council thereafter as the project's historian, chiefly assisting with the selection and fact checking of suitable candidates and preparing biographical entries for this accompanying book, updated annually.

Memorialised on the eighty plaques in the Pillars of Bathurst Garden, the stories of 101 people have been told. Robin's research revealed that many had amazing stories to tell, well beyond what could be included in this book. Rather than have these stories lost, he decided to give them new purpose as a radio series, with many of their stories now made

available as free downloadable podcasts with the assistance of local community radio station 2MCE. That work was ongoing.

<https://www.bathurstregion.com.au/things-to-do/discover-heritage/pillarspodcast/>

Robin and Council had discussed publication of a final (8th) edition of this book for release in 2023. Sadly, Robin passed away in October 2022. As a fitting tribute to Dr Robin McLachlan, this 8th and final edition of the Pillars of Bathurst book includes the article written by him and published in the June 2022 edition of "History, Magazine of the Royal Australian Historical Society", which offers his reflection of the Pillars of Bathurst project. Deservedly, Council has also included Dr Robin McLachlan as our last (102nd) "Pillar of Bathurst".

A reflection

The Pillars of Bathurst – from Iron Pillars to Digital Podcasts

Dr Robin McLachlan OAM

A chapter in a decade long Bathurst history project, the Pillars of Bathurst, was brought to a successful conclusion on 8 May 2022. The occasion was Bathurst's annual Proclamation Day, held by Bathurst Regional Council (BRC) to mark Governor Macquarie's 'Proclamation' of his intention to establish the town of Bathurst. As happens, and should happen, with public remembering of our past the focus of Proclamation Day has evolved over time, with some major changes introduced with Bathurst's Bicentenary in 2015.

As well as seeking a more inclusive role for the Wiradjuri community, two new events have been added to the program. Now, against the backdrop of Bathurst's Bicentennial Flag Staff, the names of Bathurst's latest Living Legends are announced. The Legends are each honoured with the planting of a maple tree, offering a spectacular fiery red avenue in Autumn. The Living Legends ceremony is followed with the announcement of those to be recognised as Bathurst's Pillars, men and women who contributed to the story of Bathurst in past times. Appropriately, this takes place at the nearby site of the Pillars of Bathurst.

The Pillars of Bathurst is an attractive cultural heritage garden on the southern bank of the Wambuul/Macquarie River. The garden's key feature is an oval walk set between twenty cast iron pillars bordered by a central raised garden bed. The intentional effect is to put the visitor in mind of this being a special place. The iron pillars are of heritage significance, coming as they do from the historic Royal Hotel. A former owner of the Royal Hotel is one of our Pillars, as we describe successful nominations.

My role has been that of the project's historian, chiefly assisting with the selection and fact checking of suitable candidates and preparing biographical entries for an accompanying book, updated annually. Every nominated person has been researched as fully as practically possible, sometimes recovering information previously unknown even to descendants.

With each of the twenty pillars sitting on a four-sided sandstone plinth, eighty spaces were provided for attractive panels giving the names, years of birth and death, and brief epitaphs of those chosen to be a Bathurst Pillar. The process of selecting suitable names began some years before the Bicentenary in 2015, with no hard criteria as to qualification for selection other than having a personal connection with Bathurst, having contributed in a meaningful way to the story of Bathurst and, most importantly, being deceased at the time of nomination. It was decided at the outset we would try to give particular attention to recovering lost community memory by singling out Bathurst people who may have been forgotten over time or were not likely to have an existing public memorial in Bathurst. This is why Ben and Elizabeth Chifley are not among the Pillars, but it is why CEW Bean and Percy Gresser, both with Bathurst connections, are recognised as Pillars. This proved to be a challenging guideline to implement, but we did bring many previously forgotten people to renewed public awareness.

We sought to include a broad selection of people, evenly distributed over the 200 years since 1815, who would be representative of the many different contributions and ethnicities that are part of the Bathurst story. The results were perhaps not entirely as we had intended, given for example a surprisingly high representation of medical practitioners and famous cricketers – and not a single undertaker or renowned footballer. With twenty-six out of 101 people identified as women, we did achieve

a representation of women double that to be found in the Australian Dictionary of Biography. (My gender calculation does not include the racehorses, The Barb and Merriwee, honoured as Pillars.)

At the outset of the project, we were concerned our villages and rural areas might be under represented relative to Bathurst City, given the dominance of the city in our local history. The final tally, however, suggests at least a quarter of the Pillars have a strong connection with the region beyond city limits, but with some locales better represented than others. Hill End is well represented, in part thanks to the enthusiastic involvement of the Hill End and Tambaroora Gathering Group, among whose nominations was a Chinese miner.

The first Pillars, twenty-seven men and women, were announced at the 2015 Proclamation Day. They included Windradyne, Wiradjuri leader in the 1824 Bathurst War, and, from more recent times, Kath Knowles, a recently deceased community leader. The first Pillars were selected by a BRC committee relying mainly on published sources and council heritage studies, with later selections calling for nominations directly from individuals and community groups. New names were added to the Pillars of Bathurst on subsequent Proclamation Days. That is until 2022, when the last of the eighty available plinth spaces was taken. We had managed to recognise the contributions of 101 people by combining people with shared stories on the same plinth panel. This included the amazing three Golding sisters from Hill End who shared the epitaph, 'Feminist Sisters'. Nonetheless, with the last free space taken the Pillars of Bathurst project had reached its conclusion – at least in its physical form.

Bathurst Regional Council is presently exploring how the project might be continued in an on-line format through the Bathurst City Library. Links to the Library's website will be placed on a sign at the Pillars of

Bathurst Garden and given in a reprinting of the Pillars of Bathurst book in 2023, thereby connecting the old and new projects.

My earlier research on nominated people revealed that many had amazing stories to tell, well beyond what I could squeeze into a brief biographical note in the accompanying book. Rather than have these life stories lost to indefinite exile in my filing cabinet, I decided to give them new purpose as a radio series, with their stories to be made available as free downloadable podcasts.

Bathurst's local community radio station, 2MCE, has generously provided the opportunity to record and broadcast the stories, followed by their loading on the station's website as podcasts. Brett van Heereken, 2MCE stalwart, provides the necessary technical expertise as the producer, recording and editing the programs. To date, with interruption from COVID lockdowns, we have managed to record twenty episodes, each about ten minutes in length with the story told in a scripted conversation between Brett and myself.

Through listening to these podcast stories, my hope is that Bathurstians will not only learn more about the lives of individual Pillars but find themselves visiting little known niches of Bathurst's diverse history. By way of example, although our local bushrangers are popular topics for local historians, how well known are the stories of the victims of their brigandage? The story of Caroline Keightley, wife and mother, who saved her husband's life from a revenge killing at the hands of Ben Hall and his gang is told in a podcast. For good reason she became known as the 'Heroine of Rockley'. Caroline later exploited her fame on stage, with the assistance of a horse. Alas, Trooper Robert Codrington, nominated by descendant Neil Codrington, was given no opportunity for later fame. He was killed in the line of duty on Wyagdon Hill a few days before Christmas 1857, leaving a young wife and baby son. His

murderers were never brought to justice; the crime remains unsolved to this day. But, there is a tale we relate in our podcast of a death bed confession made years later in faraway London.

As for a story of convict times, that of Dominique Popilarie must be unique. Transported for life in 1810 for desertion from an Italian regiment raised by the British during the Napoleonic Wars, Dominique relentlessly proclaimed his innocence and petitioned to be returned to his family in Calabria. Alas, without success. In 1842, he came to Bathurst, with Susannah his 'Australian' wife, where together they achieved success as innkeepers. But, that's not the full story. Dominique had received news a few years earlier that he had been wrongly convicted and was now free to go home to his family. Dominique chose to stay. But why?

For the music to introduce and exit our program, we turned to the music collected by Joe Yates, nationally recognised for his unrivalled knowledge of bush music between 1850 and 1950. It is said he knew from memory, and could play on his fiddle, over 150 separate tunes and songs. After much indecision in the face of a wealth of choice, we found a wonderful Joe Yates' tune for our radio series, and have told his story in a podcast .

Some of our podcast stories offer mysteries awaiting solution. In late 1816, Mary Ann Roberts joined her husband at the Bathurst Government Settlement, making her the first European woman - wife and mother - to live in inland Australia. Yet, as we explore in her podcast, we don't know how she came to be living in Australia. Her parentage remains unknown. A similar conundrum is found with Mrs Mary Black, the first matron of Bathurst's Female Factory and later the proprietor of the Royal Hotel. Her origins are likewise shrouded in mystery. There is an added mystery with the sudden disappearance of Mr Walter Black, an event not entirely to Mrs Black's disadvantage. The clues are reviewed

in the podcast for Mary Black, the first female public servant in inland Australia.

While I could continue highlighting other podcasts – that of Selina Anderson, the first woman to stand for Federal Parliament, or Annie Bertha Parry, who went to Alaska on a medical rescue mission – my advice is to visit the podcast websites and download your choice. Be sure to keep an eye out for more podcasts in the future.

The Pillars of Bathurst fits comfortably with how our local history is widely understood in Bathurst, and in rural and regional communities generally. It is a history that can be told through the stories of people, high and low, who once were part of the community. We are unlikely to exhaust either the supply of interesting stories to be told or finding new ways to tell those stories. We need though to give attention to being inclusive in our community histories by offering a place for all voices in the history that is told. We sought that goal, but I cannot claim we fully realised our aspirations. We ran out of pillars, but not potential Pillars.

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MAY 15, 1885
OCT 10, 1955
W. ELLIOTT AYLES
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Bathurst Commandant

John Fennell (c.1790-1826)

Lt John Fennell arrived in New South Wales in 1821 with Governor Brisbane, serving as his aide-de-camp until January 1825. In that month, in the space of a fortnight, he married Mary Ann Bell, daughter of a well-established colonial family, and took up the appointment of Commandant of the Bathurst Government Settlement. He initiated several major developments in the settlement, including building Bathurst's first gaol and establishing its first processing industry, a successful tannery. Fennell also helped establish the community's first social institutions, the Hunt Club and the Literary Society. His military experience enabled him to deal swiftly and effectively in defusing a major convict uprising. Fennell's enterprise in Bathurst promised a career that could in time have placed him among the colony's most able administrators. However, this was not to be. He died on 3 July 1826, very suddenly after a short illness, survived by his wife and infant daughter, Maria Isabella. John Fennell's grave, marked by a tombstone, is the earliest identified burial in the Holy Trinity Cemetery in Kelso.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Federation Activist



William Astley (1855-1911)

Born in England, William Astley came to Australia with his family in 1859. By the age of 21, he had embarked on a life-long career as a journalist. Prior to his employment by the *Bathurst Free Press* in the mid-1890s, Astley had worked for many newspapers and journals, including the *Bulletin*. An ardent supporter of Federation and well known to key politicians of the day, Astley, as its secretary, was the key organiser of the successful People's Federal Convention held in Bathurst in November 1896. It was at the Convention the proposal for a popularly elected Senate was first raised. Following Federation, Astley worked tirelessly as an advocate for Bathurst as the site for the new nation's capital. In addition to his work as a political journalist and Federation activist, Astley is remembered, under the pseudonym of Price Warung, for his evocative stories of convict Australia. His personal story, however, was not a happy one. Troubled by poverty and recurrences of mental illness, William Astley died at Rookwood Benevolent Asylum.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Heroine of Rockley



Caroline Keightley (1840-1898)

On her death in December 1898, newspapers across Australia remembered Caroline Keightley, the “Heroine of Rockley”, and the dramatic story of her dash on the night of 24 October 1863 to ransom her husband from bushrangers holding him on their Dunn’s Plains property. While the facts of the story vary with the telling, all agree that the Ben Hall gang threatened a revenge killing of Henry Keightley for the shooting of one of their fellow bushrangers. Caroline pleaded for his life and a bargain was struck that Henry would be spared for a £500 ransom. With a noon deadline to meet, she raced to *Blackdown* near Kelso to seek the help of her father, Henry Rotton. The ransom was duly raised with a 4 am visit to Bathurst’s Commercial Bank and Henry’s life was spared. For Caroline, life was never again quite the same. Rolf Boldrewood wrote her into his classic, *Robbery Under Arms*, and for a time Caroline took to the stage starring in a drama, *Bail Up*, re-enacting her midnight race to save her husband.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Champion Motorcyclist



Bluey Wilkinson (1911-1940)

Arthur George Wilkinson, nicknamed “Bluey” for his red hair, called Bathurst his hometown. Motorbike speedway racing was his world. He was working as a butcher boy when he first saw speedway racing at the Bathurst Sports Ground. Bluey was hooked and all his savings went towards a battered second-hand Rudge motorbike. Within a year of winning his first race in Bathurst in 1928, he was competing in events in England, but returning annually for the Australian races. Steadily rising through the ranks of fierce competition, he won the first of his three Australian Championships in 1935 and set record times on British tracks. In 1938, he raced to be World Champion in London’s Wembley Stadium. He rode that winning race with his arm and shoulder in plaster, nursing a broken collarbone. Speedway injuries were commonplace for “the red-haired miracle”, who was known for his daring riding. Bluey Wilkinson died while riding his motorbike, not on the speedway but in a traffic accident with a lorry in Sydney, a month before his 29th birthday.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Flour Miller

William Tremain (1831-1898)

William Tremain and his young family came to Bathurst in the late 1850s from Cornwall. A flour miller by trade, he spent his first years here grinding quartz for gold rather than wheat for flour. In 1863, he took the opportunity to put his meagre life savings into the lease on a flourmill in South Bathurst. The failure of this venture in 1868 would have deterred most men, but not William. He had soon rehabilitated an abandoned small mill in nearby Queen Charlotte Vale and was once again in the milling business. In 1874, William relocated his operation to a larger new mill, the Victoria in Keppel Street, an ideal location to take advantage of the railway (arriving in 1876). Under William's direction and with his perseverance, Tremain's Victoria Mill, always at the forefront in milling technology, became a successful family business. By 1957, the Victoria was the last flourmill still operating in Bathurst, closing only in 1980.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Surveyor

James Byrn Richards (1802-1881)

When you travel along the wide streets of Bathurst, you are benefiting from the surveying skills of James Byrn Richards. Cornish-born, J.B. Richards arrived in Sydney in 1824 to take up the position of “4th Assistant Surveyor ” under the colony’s Surveyor General. In 1826, Richards was transferred to Bathurst, where he undertook the first land surveys on the western side of the Macquarie River. His property surveys were achieved with arduous labour and few resources – even lacking paper for map making. In 1833, he was directed by Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell to survey the streets and allotments for the proposed town of Bathurst. The lasting accuracy of Richards’ surveying is testament to his surveying skills. Richards remained in the Bathurst area, leasing or owning several pastoral properties and serving as a Crown Land Commissioner until just before his death. He was a Church Warden at Holy Trinity Church in Kelso and lies buried in its graveyard alongside his wife, Jane.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Feminist Sisters

Annie MacKenzie Golding (1855-1934), Catherine (Kate) Winifred Dwyer (nee Golding) (1861-1949) & Isabella (Belle) Theresa Golding (1864-1940)

The Golding sisters, born into a Tambaroora goldmining family, were raised to be independent women with a strong sense of social justice. All three became teachers, initially in local schools. They went on to campaign in direct and practical ways for the rights of women and children. In the 1890s, as members of the Womanhood Suffrage League, they offered a robust workingwoman's perspective that challenged the largely middle class campaign for the vote for women – with the result their branch was expelled from the League. Katherine (Kate), who had to quit teaching on marriage, went on to focus on improving the lot of women in the workforce, especially those trapped by poverty in sweatshops. Annie, who remained unmarried and a teacher until retirement in 1915, was active in the Teachers' Association of NSW and other bodies seeking public education reforms. As president of the Women's Progressive Association, she lobbied persistently for women's equality in employment, education and before the law. Isabella (Belle) lent practical support to her sisters' campaigns as a pioneer female inspector of factories and shops.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council



Blair Anderson Wark VC, DSO (1894-1941)

Blair Anderson Wark, born in Bathurst, was a citizen soldier. Two years in Senior Cadets was followed from 1913 with fulltime service as a lieutenant in the Citizen Military Forces. He enlisted in the AIF in World War I, where his courage and steadfastness under fire at Fromelles and Ypres was recognised in 1917 with promotion to major and the Distinguished Service Order (DSO). In September 1918, Major Wark was given command of the 32nd Battalion in the advance on the Hindenburg Line at Bellicourt. Over a three-day period, Wark “displayed the greatest courage, skilful leading and devotion to duty” that earned him the Victoria Cross. Often well in advance of his men, he led them forward under relentless enemy fire, personally leading the rushes to capture an artillery battery and to silence machine guns causing heavy casualties. Wark resumed his civilian career as a quantity surveyor after the war, but re-enlisted in World War II. He suffered a fatal heart attack while on a training exercise. Blair Anderson Wark’s Victoria Cross is held by the Queensland Museum.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Bookmaker & Racing Identity

Humphrey Oxenham (1854-1923)

Humphrey Oxenham, born in Wattle Flat, was known as the “King of Australian Bookmakers”. As a young man, Humphrey got his start in the gaming business by accepting a wager from a Bathurst publican of £100 to his shilling. The bet was whether Humphrey could in a set time carry a pumpkin on his head from Kelso to Bathurst without touching it. Humphrey won and his winnings gave him his start as a bookmaker, first at local country races and from 1875 in Sydney. His business interests included a chain of betting shops and a postal sweepstakes rivalling Tattersall’s. Humphrey was also among Australia’s foremost racehorse owners with his stable winning many of the premier races of his time, capped off with the Melbourne Cup in 1904. His obituary described him as “a very popular sportsman with all classes of the community who was noted for his open-handedness in the cause of benevolence”.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Bush Musician



Joe Yates (1895-1987)

Joseph Henry Yates was a living link to the popular music of 19th century Australia. Born into a musical family at Sunny Corner, and long-time resident of Sofala, Joe Yates began playing the fiddle and flute as a child. From his Yorkshire grandfather, a digger of the 1850s, he learnt the tunes of the gold rush era, while his father and siblings provided him with the music of later times. Joe gave the old music new life with regular appearances at local dances, attracting the attention of folk music collectors, notably John Meredith. In Meredith's words, " 'Old Joe' Yates is regarded as one of Australia's richest sources of rare colonial dance music and songs". Over 150 separate tunes and songs, popular between 1850 and 1950, were known and played by Joe, music we know today as bush music. In all ways, Joe Yates was a genuine bushman. He earned his living on the land, wrote poems and told stories in celebration of the bush. As a talented bush musician he helped preserve an important part of our musical heritage.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Community Leader



Kath Knowles (1970-2010)

Kathryn Knowles was a vibrant young woman who served our community with inspiration, balance and wisdom. Born in Wellington, Kath spent much of her adult life in Bathurst, where she was active at all political levels. Kath cared passionately about making a difference, offering a steadfast commitment to issues of social equality and the needs of regional communities combined with a practical understanding of politics. It was through local government where Kath made her greatest contribution. Kath served as a local councillor for six years, including as the last mayor of Bathurst City Council. In 2004, she was appointed by the state government to the pivotal role of administrator, tasked with managing the controversial amalgamation of Bathurst and Evans councils. It is a testament to her leadership in successfully overseeing the merger that her fellow citizens resoundingly elected her to the inaugural Bathurst Regional Council, in 2005. An eventual career in parliamentary politics was widely anticipated, but this was not to happen. Kath Knowles died after a brief illness, shortly before her 40th birthday.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Fathers of Hill End

Thomas Wythes (c.1805-1876)

Joseph Wythes (1829-1875)

Thomas Wythes and his young family arrived from England in 1839, settling for a time on a small farm near Byng. When gold was discovered in 1851, the Wythes traded the life of farming for the luck of the goldfields. Thomas and his four sons, Joseph among them, were among the first on the Tambaroora field. The family followed the rush on to nearby Hill End (then Bald Hills). As shopkeepers and publicans, the Wythes were at the heart of Hill End and played key roles in its shaping. In 1854, Joseph was the first investor in reef gold mining at Hill End. This opened the way to Hill End becoming a major reef-mining field, among the first in Australia. Underground mining drew capital and people. Hill End prospered. Thomas, a popular and respected man, campaigned successfully for municipal government for his town and in 1873 was elected Hill End's first mayor. For his civic achievements, Thomas was called the "The Father of Hill End". It is an honour Joseph might share given his fathering of Hill End's reef mining.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Anthropologist

Percy Gresser (1892-1969)

On days when the sheep were too wet for shearing, Percival John Gresser might be found walking the paddocks looking for stone tools. In a lifelong career as a shearer in NSW and Queensland, Percy Gresser collected and carefully recorded some 6000 Aboriginal stone axes, spearheads and other tools, as well as identifying numerous camp and tool making sites. Percy's scholarship earned the respect of academic anthropologists. His artefact collections, along with his meticulous research notes, are now in major national institutions. His research in the Bathurst region, where he was born and lived his life, encompassed a broad spectrum, from collecting folk music of early Duramana to co-authoring the first published history of the 1824 war between settlers and the Wiradjuri. A measure of his scholarship is that *Windradyne of the Wiradjuri* is still regarded as a key study of the conflict. Less well known are his personal journals, now in the Mitchell Library. They offer an insightful account of his life and that of the people of the Bathurst region over many decades.

Nominated by Marcia Bonham

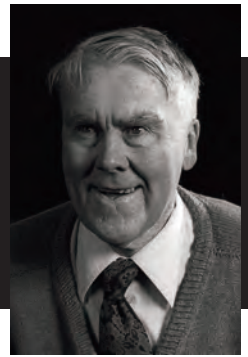
Wiradjuri Leader & Warrior

Windradyne (c.1800-1829)

Windradyne was a Wiradjuri man of the upper Wambuul (Macquarie) River. His life coincided with a time of unprecedented challenge for the Wiradjuri as settlers and livestock contested their traditional lands and law. Windradyne emerged as a leader in their armed resistance. In early 1824, he was held in irons for a month, arrested for taking part in clashes with stockmen. Not long after, some of his own kin were killed over the taking of potatoes from a field. In May 1824, Windradyne led the Wiradjuri in open warfare against the settlers, displaying a mastering of guerrilla tactics with such success that Martial Law was declared. Yet, Windradyne acknowledged even in war there could be friendship, as shown in the story of his peaceful encounter with William Suttor. Coming to realise that the colonists could not be forcibly driven out, Windradyne provided leadership in securing a peaceful end to the bloody conflict in December 1824. In his short life Windradyne proved himself to be a defender of his land and people, a true patriot.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Historian



Theo Barker (1919-2003)

Theo Barker was not simply an historian; he was Bathurst's historian. Sydney born, Theo arrived in 1956 as a lecturer at Bathurst Teachers' College. It was then he began his work of almost fifty years to find and tell the many stories of Bathurst. His wide-ranging *History of Bathurst* has become the accepted reference on our history, while his other local history writings explore a myriad of topics ranging from the city's hospital to its higher education institutions. For Theo being an historian was equally a vocation that called for active community involvement. Theo helped to establish the local National Trust branch and campaigned to save the Royal Hotel. Through the Bathurst District Historical Society he helped organise the 1965 Sesquicentenary Celebrations, secured the future of Old Government Cottage, rescued irreplaceable records from the tip – and much more. For many, Theo will be best remembered for his entertaining talks that brought history to life for listeners. In his radio talks, he was introduced as “Mr History”, and so he was to his Bathurst.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Anzac Legend



C.E.W. Bean (1879-1968)

Bathurst born Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean, journalist and historian, helped shape Australian national identity in the 20th century. Given that his writings promoted the qualities of resourceful rural Australians, Bean's Bathurst childhood, though brief, was perhaps a formative time. In September 1914, Bean was selected as the official war correspondent to accompany Australian forces embarking for the Great War. He landed with the Anzacs at Gallipoli and was with them in France to observe every engagement from 1916-1918. Before the war's end, C.E.W. Bean determined to write its history from the experience of the Australians. It would be, he wrote, "the bare and uncoloured story of their part in the war". In 1919, he successfully proposed both an official history and a national war memorial. This became his life's work. The first volumes of *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918* appeared in 1923, the last in 1943. The Australian War Memorial opened in 1941. Both helped Australians discover their national character. It was at Gallipoli, wrote Bean, that "the consciousness of Australian nationhood was born".

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

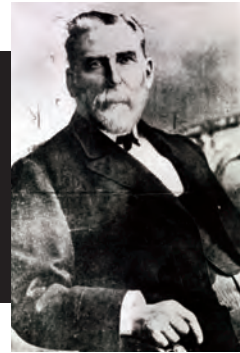
Merchant & Philanthropist



John Meagher (1836-1920)

Irish born, John Meagher came to Bathurst in 1864 where he worked in Webb's Emporium. In 1867, Meagher opened his own store and went on to establish stores through the inland, from Hill End to West Wyalong, rivalling the mercantile empire of his former employer. Meagher was equally active in political affairs, providing a leadership that crossed the sectarian rift that often divided the community. A keen supporter of Federation, Meagher was central to the success of Bathurst's People's Federal Convention in 1896, and was later a stalwart advocate for Bathurst as federal capital. Locally, his support was given to all good causes, from securing hospital funding to establishing sporting clubs. As a loyal Irishman and devout Catholic, Meagher was unwavering in supporting Irish Home Rule and his church, as for example in purchasing *Logan Brae* for the Sisters of Mercy. His generous philanthropy, however, was extended to all, regardless of creed or politics. He was long remembered by Bathurst children for treating 3000 of them in 1888 to a centennial celebration sports day and picnic.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council



James Rutherford (1827-1911)

Drawn by the goldfields, James Rutherford arrived in Australia in 1853. Unlucky as a digger, he found work in 1857 as the manager of a struggling coach service, Cobb & Co., founded by fellow Americans. In 1861, Rutherford in partnership bought the company. Under Rutherford's direction, which would continue until his death, Cobb & Co. was re-organised, setting the foundation for what became an enduring national icon. In 1862, Rutherford shifted its headquarters to Bathurst, personally driving the leading coach of a great cavalcade into town. Cobb & Co. became a major Bathurst employer, with its coach factory a trendsetter in progressive workplace conditions. Rutherford embraced Bathurst as his hometown, serving as mayor in the 1860s and on virtually all public committees formed for the betterment of the town. His leadership in local associations included thirty years as show society treasurer and nearly forty as president of the school of arts. Rutherford was equally at home in political affairs. Not a man of token gestures, in 1889 he established the *National Advocate* to support his advocacy of tariff protection.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Newspaperman

Benjamin Isaacs (1796-1881)

An East End Londoner by birth, Benjamin Isaacs in 1847 brought the first printing press over the Blue Mountains and with it published in February 1848 Bathurst's first newspaper, the *Bathurst Advocate*. Isaacs was a man of an unsettled, volatile character. At times he embraced his Jewish heritage, at other times he professed Protestant Christianity. He never shirked from offering his opinions, which often targeted the colony's Establishment. In 1838, having previously lived briefly in Australia, Isaacs returned to settle permanently, accompanied by his second wife and children from both marriages. He embarked on an eventful, if rarely successful, career as a printer and newspaper publisher. Prior to Bathurst, Isaacs' failed ventures included a New Zealand newspaper and Australia's first suburban newspaper, Parramatta's *Courier*. Initially, the *Bathurst Advocate* proved successful, with the newspaper's liberal views well received. But, by 1849, Isaacs had earned the wrath of the local judiciary, notably Police Magistrate Morisset, who pressed criminal libel charges. The affair saw Isaacs' imprisonment and his newspaper's collapse. Although success eluded Benjamin Isaacs, he can claim to be Bathurst's founding newspaperman.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Wiradjuri Community Elder & Leader

Wirrari John Bugg (1939-2000)

Born in Cowra and raised on the Erambie Aboriginal Mission, Wirrari John Bugg was a Wiradjuri Community Elder and Leader. Under Wiradjuri custom, John inherited his traditional name from his ancestor, Wirrari, son of Windradyne, the great Wiradjuri warrior. A lifelong champion of the Aboriginal cause, John Bugg was vocal about issues that impacted on his people, and was always ready to challenge injustice and provoke public debate, without fear of retribution. He was equally an advocate for the recognition of Aboriginal culture and heritage. This included campaigning for official recognition of Windradyne's grave at *Brucedale*. John never hesitated in pressing the wider community to face the reality of Australia's historical treatment of Aboriginal people. He was widely appreciated by both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people for his knowledge of Wiradjuri cultural heritage and for his generosity in sharing that knowledge. Among John's many achievements were his invaluable contributions within the NSW Education Department developing teaching resources, including Wiradjuri language tapes. Wirrari John Bugg is remembered as a much-respected member of the Wiradjuri and Bathurst community.

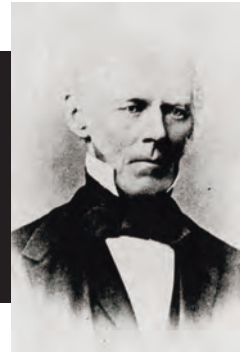
Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Innkeepers

Dominique Popilarie (c.1774-1860) Susannah Popilarie (c.1810-1893)

Dominique and Susannah Popilarie were popular local innkeepers, beginning in 1842 with the Woolpack in Kelso. Originally from Calabria in Italy, Dominique arrived in 1810 as a convict under life sentence as a deserter from an Italian regiment raised by the British in the Napoleonic War. Dominique never ceased protesting that he had not enlisted, but his fate would be to never again see his wife and children. Dominique soon earned trust and respect, even working as a gardener for Governor Macquarie. In 1836, he married an Irish convict, Susannah Donoghue, both claiming they were widowed. In 1842, the couple came to Bathurst, where, between them over the years, they ran more than a dozen hotels in Bathurst, Kelso and Rockley. One is the Elephant and Castle (licenced 1849) in Keppel Street. On Dominique's death, Susannah carried on as an innkeeper – with a reputation as a feisty landlady. The family grave in Bathurst Cemetery offers three different spellings of Popilarie, with colonial records providing even more variations. In 1836, Dominique learned that an enquiry in London had found that he had been wrongfully convicted of desertion and was free to return to Italy. Dominique chose to remain in Australia.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council



The First Bathurstians

Dr George Busby (1797-1870)

Agnes Busby (1810-1906)

Agnes Thomson and George Busby, both born in Scotland, were married at *Kelloshiel* on 11 January 1833, ten days before Bathurst Township was opened for settlement. Agnes had arrived in 1832, in company with her clergyman brother. George came in 1828 as the government medical officer in charge of the convict hospital. In 1842 this hospital became Bathurst's first public hospital and would be under George's dedicated supervision until his death in 1870. He was as well Bathurst's first resident doctor. George Busby was also central to the establishment of important community institutions, including Bathurst's first bank and the Bathurst School of Arts, together with its hall. Late in life, Agnes Busby wrote *Bathurst in the Thirties*, an invaluable account of the last days of the old Government Settlement and the beginnings of Bathurst town. The Busbys were among the first purchasers of town allotments and in 1838 built Bathurst's first brick private residence. Located on Howick Street, this would be the family home for the rest of their lives, George and Agnes Busby, our first Bathurstians.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Community Carer



Charlie Kohlhoff OAM (1912-2007)

Christian Charles William (Charlie) Kohlhoff had a passion for improving the health and well being of the people of Bathurst. Charlie Kohlhoff came to Bathurst in 1952 as CEO of Bathurst Hospital and Macquarie Homes, a position he held until his retirement in 1977. Charlie was instrumental in the development of a range of community services. In 1964, he was the driving force in the establishment of Meals on Wheels in Bathurst and served as its president for the next 35 years. He also started the Bathurst Rehabilitation Centre and Day Hospital in 1967 and was instrumental in building the Chifley Retirement Village in 1970. After his retirement, Charlie went on to start the Senior Citizens Centre in 1977 and the Bathurst Day Care Centre in 1980. He was Bathurst Citizen of the year in 1994, the same year he was awarded the OAM for services to the community, particularly in providing facilities for aged people and people with disabilities. Charlie Kohlhoff's legacy lies with the people who lives he made better and with those who were inspired by his ceaseless dedication to making Bathurst a more caring community. He was a man who cared about others.

Nominated by Ms Libby Loneragan

War Photographer & Cameraman



Damien Parer (1912-1944)

Damien Peter Parer is acknowledged as one of Australia's most famous war photographers and cameramen. His passion for photography began as a student in Bathurst at St Stanislaus' College from 1923-1928, where he was a member of the school's camera club. After leaving Stannies, Damien went on to work with some of Australia's leading photographers and film directors, including Max Dupain and Charles Chauvel. Following the outbreak of war in 1939, Damien was appointed an official photographer (still and movie) with the AIF. With the Australian forces, he filmed in Tobruk, the Western Desert, Greece, Syria, and from 1942 in New Guinea and the Pacific. His work was regularly seen in Cinesound newsreels, establishing his reputation as a fearless and gifted front line cameraman. Some of his most famous footage was taken along the Kokoda Track, which featured in the Oscar winning newsreel, *Kokoda Front Line*. On 17 September 1944, Damien Parer was killed in action while filming the American invasion of Peleliu Island in the Pacific. Damien Parer is remembered at St Stanislaus' College with the Damien Parer Gallery, opened in 2000, where a collection of his photographic work is on display.

Nominated by St Stanislaus' College

Police Trooper



Robert Codrington (1830-1857)

Robert Dowker Codrington was born in India, the son of an East India Company army officer. In 1854, Robert enlisted in the NSW Gold Escort police. Trooper Codrington, with wife Louisa and infant son, was stationed at Cheshire Creek Barracks, near Wyagdon Hill. On 22 December 1857, Trooper Codrington rode out to Wyagdon Hill to meet the Gold Escort on its way to Bathurst. As he approached the usual stopping place for putting on the drags before the steep descent, a barrage of fire from hidden gunmen killed him. Codrington's murder was likely intended to precede the robbery of the Gold Escort, which was foiled when the escort passed by while the villains disposed of his body in a nearby gully. The calculated killing of a respected police officer caused outrage, heightened when Louisa lost their second son due to the shock of her husband's murder. The government and the local community both offered substantial rewards. Yet despite decades of investigation and strong suspicions as to the murderers' identities, no one was ever convicted of the crime. The long neglected grave of Trooper Robert Codrington, killed in the line of duty, is in Sofala Cemetery.

Nominated by Mr Neil Codrington

Historical Geographer

Ida Lee (1865-1943)

Born on *Wallaroi* property near Kelso, Ida Louisa Lee achieved public recognition in her lifetime for her pioneering scholarship in historical geography. Until 1939, Ida Lee was the only Australian born woman publishing scholarly work on Australian history and exploration. On her marriage in 1891 to Charles Marriott, Ida made her home in England. Her passionate interest in Australian exploration history led to research in British libraries, including at the Admiralty, delving into long-neglected ship's logs and explorer's journals. Her investigations saw the discovery of long lost letters and maritime charts. In 1906, under the name of Ida Lee, she published her first book, *The Coming of the British to Australia, 1788-1829*. Five further books on maritime and inland Australian exploration would follow, all based on her original research, with the last published in 1927. Ida also wrote numerous journal articles on a range of subjects and frequently penned letters 'to the Editor', always signing herself *Southerner*. Ida Lee was elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1913 in recognition of her scholarship. In 1919, she was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australian Historical Society, for "her outstanding contribution to Australian History".

Nominated by Mrs Marcia Seymour

Community & Workplace Leader



Ray Bant (1932-2007)

Raymond John (Ray) Bant strove to make Bathurst, the city of his birth, a better place to live. From the early 1950s until 1987, Ray was employed in the Bathurst Railway Workshop, where he was an active union member. In the 1960s, when the State government sought to close down the Bathurst workshop, he played a leadership role in the union's fight against that decision. The union not only won the battle, but also achieved the building of a modern Bathurst workshop with more jobs for Bathurst. Ray served as a dedicated Bathurst City Council alderman from 1974 to 1995. As chairman of the Mount Panorama Racing Committee, he was especially proud of his part in the growing stature of his beloved "Mount". His contribution is remembered with Ray Bant Drive on Mount Panorama. After his time on council, Ray served as chairman of the Bathurst Health Watch Committee, which was instrumental in getting Bathurst a new hospital and ensuring it was properly staffed and funded. Ill health troubled Ray Bant's final years. When the end neared, while in Orange Hospital, he asked that he be allowed to return to his beloved Bathurst to pass away.

Nominated by Mr David & Mrs Thelma Bant

Scientist



Fr Joseph Slattery (1866-1931)

Irish born, Father Joseph Patrick Slattery, a Vincentian priest and university qualified physicist, taught at Bathurst's St Stanislaus' College from 1888 until 1911. It was there that Father Slattery undertook his pioneering scientific research, often using equipment of his own design and manufacture. In 1896, Fr Slattery designed and built from scratch an experimental X-Ray machine. In July of that year, he used this device to create a photographic image of the hand of Eric Thompson, Bathurst Postmaster's son, which had been injured in a shotgun blast. The X-Ray enabled the surgeon to successfully treat the wound, sparing Eric from amputation. This was just five months after the German scientist Wilhelm Rontgen had announced his discovery of X-Rays. Fr Slattery's X-Ray image was one of the first medical X-Rays made in Australia. The X-Ray photograph is on display at the Bathurst Historical Museum. Fr Slattery then became involved in experimental wireless radio transmission. In February 1904, broadcasting from the college, he made one of the first overland radio transmissions in Australia. The Slattery Museum at St Stanislaus' College holds an invaluable collection of the scientific equipment Fr Joseph Slattery built and used in his pioneering experiments.

Nominated by St Stanislaus' College

Musician



Hector Lupp (1908-1989)

Hector Joseph Lupp was born into a family of Bathurst musicians. His Cantonese grandfather had been Bathurst's Salvation Army bandmaster, while his father was a skilled clarinetist and bandmaster. Hector's passion for music led to a life devoted to music in our community. Hector's earliest public performance was possibly as a drummer on Armistice Night in 1918, aged nine. It was not long before he was a full-fledged musician in his father's City Model Band. As a trained piano tuner, Hector for decades ensured the perfect performance of Bathurst's pianos, whether used for the Bathurst Eisteddfod or a school concert. Hector would have known many performers as their piano teacher. For good reason, Hector Lupp was known as "The Piano Man". In the 1930s, he became involved in music broadcasting as "Uncle Hec" on 2BS Radio's *The Children's Session*. After the war, Hector presented *The Digger's Hour*, broadcast from Bathurst's RSL Club. In 1937 Bathurst City Council appointed Hector as the first official carillonist for the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon. By the time he retired from the position in 1945 he had given over 500 recitals. Bathurst's rich music scene today owes much to the legacy of Hector Lupp.

Nominated by Ms Heather Moore

Hospital Matron

Marie Herzog (1848-1934)

Swiss born Marie Herzog brought modern nursing practices to Bathurst's hospital. Before coming to Australia, Marie was trained in nursing under Florence Nightingale at St Thomas' Hospital in London. Marie received the highest standard of nursing education then available. Marie arrived in Australia in the early 1880s. In 1887, she was appointed Superintendent of Nursing, or Matron, at the Bathurst District Hospital. She managed her nurses and, in effect, the hospital along the lines of St Thomas' with efficiency and care of patients uppermost. When her disciplined regime led to mass resignation of nurses, she replaced them with a younger staff, who she personally trained to be proficient nurses. Although her managerial style could be stormy, Matron Herzog earned great respect for the improvements she made. During her term, Bathurst's hospital was regarded as the next best to Sydney's Prince Alfred Hospital. On her marriage to James Simmons in 1897 Marie was required to resign as Matron. In 1927, following her husband's death, Marie returned to Switzerland to live with family. When news of her death reached Bathurst's newspapers, Matron Marie Herzog was remembered with gratitude for her pioneering work in nursing, almost a half century earlier.

Nominated by Mr John Williams

Political Cartoonist

Hal Eyre (1875-1946)

Born in Sofala, Henry Leo Eyre became one of Australia's leading newspaper political cartoonists. He made his public debut as a cartoonist as a Bathurst schoolboy - with a comic caricature of his schoolmaster. At age 16, Eyre went to Sydney to study art under Julian Ashton, who encouraged him to submit his work to the *Bulletin*. For a time, Eyre followed a freelance career, sometimes in partnership with Lionel Lindsay, selling sketches and cartoons to Australian newspapers and magazines. He worked under several aliases before settling on "Hal Eyre". In 1908, as Hal Eyre, he became the *Sydney Daily Telegraph's* regular political cartoonist, where his cartoons proved to be a popular and enduring feature. Eyre skilfully distilled complex situations into simple visual statements, invariably humorous and often satirical. This was especially true with the cartoons he drew for the *Daily Telegraph* through World War I. Wartime leaders on both sides were unflatteringly caricatured, particularly Prime Minister Billy Hughes, and animals served as metaphors for nations, with an emu or a kangaroo representing Australia. The NSW State Library holds an extensive collection of Eyre's original wartime cartoon drawings.

Nominated by Bathurst Arts Council

Political Activist

Selina Anderson (1878-1964)

Vigorously independent and a skilful public speaker, Selina (“Senie”) Sarah Elizabeth Anderson earned a significant place in Australian political history. Born near Hill End and educated at Tambaroora Public School, by the early 1900s Selina Anderson was working in Sydney. It was there she became actively involved in labour politics and union organizing. In the 1903 federal election, Anderson was the first woman in Australia to stand for a seat in the House of Representatives, if unsuccessfully so. Over the next few years, she was in the forefront of the struggle to improve working conditions for women. In 1906 she was the only woman on the NSW Labor Council’s executive and one of a handful on the Australian Labor Party’s state executive. After a decade in New Zealand and South Australia (where she stood unsuccessfully as an independent for state parliament), she returned to live in the Central West. In 1922, under her married name of Selina Siggins, she sought, but failed, to win Calare as a Country Party candidate. This marked the end of her active political career, which over time had shifted in political affiliations but always remained faithful to community needs.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Copper King

Lewis Lloyd (1842-1902)

Originally from a Welsh copper mining area, Lewis Lloyd, unable to speak English and with only pennies in his pocket, arrived in 1862 to work as a copper-smelter at Cadia. His expert knowledge and business acumen soon led to great success as a mining entrepreneur. Lloyd initiated a number of copper mining and smelting operations in New South Wales, notably Lloyd's Copper Mine at Burruga and the Lithgow Smelting Works. He employed hundreds of workers and made a significant contribution to the development of the colony's mineral resources. His claim that he exported more copper from the colony than any other individual or company was indisputable, as was his unofficial title of "Copper King". His remarkable rise began in the Bathurst region, particularly with the copper mines at Cow Flat. He quickly went from employee to taking on the mining operation under a tribute (leasing) arrangement, supplying the ore mined to his own company's smelter. Financial success at Cow Flat opened the way for even greater achievements at Burruga and elsewhere. For many years, Lewis Lloyd made Bathurst his home and was the district's parliamentary representative from 1884-87.

Nominated by Margaret Wilson

Bathurst Builder



William Boyd (1862-1943)

William James Boyd, born and educated in Bathurst, lived here all his life. He began his working life as a carpenter, an ideal foundation for a successful career as a builder supplying homes for a growing community. Family lore claims he built some ninety homes in just 15 years, both for sale and for rent. A versatile businessman, other enterprises included a livery stable on Keppel Street, with the same premises doubling as his real estate office. With horse drawn hearse at hand, Boyd was also one of Bathurst's undertakers from 1903-1918. Granddaughter Elaine recounts how he kept an onion on a string up his sleeve so as to draw compassionate tears at the appropriate moment. Boyd served as a Bathurst City Council alderman for eighteen years, where, on the council's finance committee, his business acumen was reputed to have often saved the city unnecessary expenses. He was equally active in community affairs, serving on many committees, notably as treasurer of Manchester Unity, a friendly society. William Boyd's life was dedicated to building Bathurst into the major regional city it has become. His obituary described him as one of Bathurst's "most colourful characters".

Nominated by Elaine Crofts

Temporal & Moral Educator & Chronicler of the Times



John Charles White (1813-1904) Charles White (1845-1922)

John Charles White came to Bathurst in 1842. A baker by trade and self-educated in scholarly learning, his true calling was as a public educator, not only in church and school, but also through newspapers. A skilful orator and writer, his concern was invariably for the welfare of others. On Sundays, John White served at the Methodist (now Uniting) Church on William Street as Sunday school superintendent and lay preacher, becoming in time the world's oldest such lay preacher. In the 1840s and 50s, he was, in turn, schoolmaster for Bathurst's Church of England and Presbyterian schools. In 1859, John White took up journalism on purchasing Bathurst's newspaper, the *Free Press*. Under White, the paper was at the forefront in informing and guiding the community on "temporal and moral" issues. In 1884, his eldest son, Bathurst-born Charles White, became editor, but his greater claim for being remembered is as a chronicler. Charles White used his position to research painstakingly, often through interviews, the recent history of eastern Australia, covering subjects as diverse as convicts, Aborigines and bushrangers. His writings were published on the newspaper's presses. White's *History of Australian Bushranging* (1900-03) remains a standard reference work.

Nominated by Eleanor Mowbray on behalf of Bathurst Uniting Church

Beatrice Grimshaw (1870-1953)

Irish-born Beatrice Ethel Grimshaw arrived in Kelso in 1936 to live her retirement years, following an independent and adventurous life as a writer and traveller in the South Pacific for over thirty years. A skilful observer of both nature and society, her often-unique experiences provided material for more than forty popular travel books and romantic novels, two film scripts, together with numerous short stories, magazine and newspaper articles, as well as authoritative reports on Papua commissioned by the Australian government. While living in Kelso and, later, in Oberon with her brother, Grimshaw continued writing novels and short stories, including for the *Australian Women's Weekly* (accessible via Trove). Grimshaw once described herself merely as a “spinner of yarns”, but her “yarns” made distant exotic places and people accessible to her many readers. Although her writings have fallen out of favour, they continue to provide useful insights into the colonial era of the South Pacific. In 2016, the Bathurst Family History Group provided a headstone for her unmarked grave in the Bathurst Cemetery. The headstone's plaque offers a summary of a remarkable life: “travel writer, publicist, author, businesswoman & plantation manager in Papua”.

Nominated by Bathurst Family History Group

Principal, Bathurst Technical College & Chairman, CSIRO

William Clunies Ross (1850-1914)

Sir Ian Clunies Ross CMG (1899-1959)

In 1885, shortly after migrating from England, William John Clunies Ross, university science graduate, was appointed by the government as Bathurst's first resident science master and was further tasked with establishing a branch technical school. An enthusiastic lecturer and skilful administrator, he oversaw the evolution of the small technical school in borrowed premises into the Bathurst Technical College, housed from 1898 in an impressive purpose-built building (the "old TAFE"). With its offerings of technical and applied science courses, the college, under Principal Clunies Ross, marks Bathurst's rise as a significant education centre. His son, William Ian, born in Bathurst, also followed a science career, initially in veterinarian science. Innovative research in parasitology led to his appointment in 1926 to the newly established Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Over the following two decades, Clunies Ross established an international reputation in animal health research and as an advocate on science issues. In 1949, following the council's reorganisation into the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), he was appointed the organisation's chairman, a position he held until his death. Knighted in 1954, Sir Ian Clunies Ross oversaw CSIRO's development into an institution of international importance.

Nominated by Bathurst District Historical Society

Child of Bathurst Region

Elizabeth Sophia Pleffer (25 Feb 1866)

Elizabeth Sophia Pleffer lived for only fifteen minutes. Her brief life story is inscribed on her family's gravestone in the White Rock Cemetery. While Elizabeth's story is especially tragic, it is part of a wider history of the high incidence of child mortality in the settlement period. Elizabeth's parents, Henry and Mary, had previously lost day-old Emma in 1857 and would return in 1877 to bury their daughter Caroline, aged 3 months. A visit to the region's early cemeteries will offer similar stories of loss. We rarely learn from gravestone inscriptions the causes of death, but it would often have been from diseases now readily prevented or treated, or in consequence of absent medical treatments now taken for granted. For those Wiradjuri children who died in the same period even less remains to tell us of their brief lives. Some would have succumbed to new diseases introduced by settlement, others as victims of the violence and dislocation that had come to their lands. Elizabeth's plaque is intended to represent all Bathurst Region children from the settlement era who did not live to adulthood and were denied the opportunity of making their contributions to our community.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

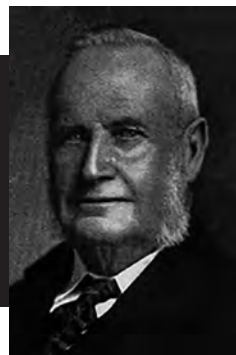
First Female Public Servant

Mary Black (c.1804-1853)

Teenage Mary Dillon arrived in 1820 on the female convict ship *Morley*. She came as a free person, apparently unaccompanied but possibly the daughter of Eliza Dillon, a life sentence convict transported on the *Morley*. Mary Dillon soon found her way in the colony, with employment as a housekeeper, marriage in 1829 to Walter Black, a free settler, and a mother of two by 1831. In 1833, Mary Black was appointed as the first matron of the newly established Bathurst Female Factory. In taking up this position, she became the first female public servant in inland Australia. To have received this appointment suggests she had led an exemplary life in the colony, attracting favourable recommendations from colonial officials. Her earlier life, however, may have allowed her a special understanding of her charges. By all accounts, she acquitted the role of matron with sympathy and efficiency. In 1838, now a widow with three children, she resigned as matron and entered a new career, with equal success, as a local hotelkeeper. Mary Black's last hotel, which she renamed the Royal Hotel, still stands on William Street. The cast iron pillars forming the Bathurst Pillars are from that hotel.

Nominated by Times Past Productions

Racehorse Breeder & Melbourne Cup Winners

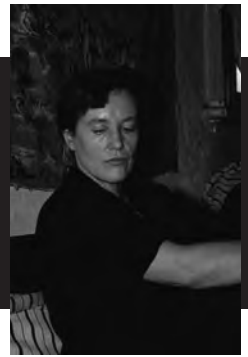


George Lee (1834-1912) The Barb & Merriwee

George Lee was born at *Claremont*, a property near Kelso. Like his father, William Lee, and his father-in-law, Thomas Kite, two of Governor Macquarie's 1818 settlers, Lee was involved in breeding prime stock, including bloodstock for the racing industry. Beginning with the bloodline of Sappho, his father's brood mare, over some fifty years on his property Leeholme, Lee bred many famous racehorses. They included The Barb, winner of the 1866 Melbourne Cup and the 1868 and 1869 Sydney Cups, and Merriwee, 1899 Melbourne Cup winner. Although Lee leased or sold most of his horses, he occasionally raced his own with some success, but he is reputed never to have gambled – or to have used bad language. It was as a horse breeder Lee gained his greatest recognition, an acknowledgement that led to serving on the Australian Jockey Club Committee and being prominent in the development of Randwick Racecourse. Lee was equally active in local affairs, including serving as treasurer, president and later patron of the Bathurst Show. Mementos of George Lee's horse breeding career, including Sappho's hoof and Merriwee's pedigree, are on display in his granddaughter's home, *Miss Traill's House*, a National Trust property.

Nominated by Miss Traill's House & Garden Management Committee

Modern Art Pioneer & Teacher



Jean Bellette (c.1908–1991)

Tasmanian-born, Jean Mary Bellette was integral to the foundation of the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG), which opened in 1959, and to the Hill End Artists in Residence Program, initiated in 1995. Already well-established as an Australian modernist artist by the late 1940s, from 1948 Bellette conducted weekly art classes in Bathurst for a group of local artists who went on to instigate the Carillon City Festival Art Prize in 1955. Her painting *Still Life* won the inaugural prize and provided the foundation artwork in what would become BRAG's Permanent Collection. Jean Bellette and her husband Paul Haefliger (1914-1984) lived in the thriving artist's community in Hill End in the 1950s. Upon her death in Majorca in 1991 she bequeathed their Hill End home, *Haefligers Cottage*, to the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Together with Donald Friend's home, *Murrays Cottage*, acquired in 2003, *Haefligers Cottage* is part of the internationally acclaimed Hill End Artists in Residence Program. The Jean Bellette Gallery in the Hill End Visitor Information Centre highlights the village's continuing importance as an Australian cultural site.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) & BRAG's Volunteer Gallery Guides

Test Cricketers

George Bonnor (1855-1912)

Charles Terror Turner (1862-1944)

Tom McKibbin (1870-1939)

George John Bonnor, nicknamed The Colonial Hercules, is renowned as one of the most spectacular hitters in Australian cricket history. Born in Bathurst, Bonnor played 17 Tests for Australia between 1880 and 1888, with his most spectacular innings the talk for decades after. At Sydney in 1884-85, he hit 128 in 115 minutes against England, having already struck 124 out of 156 at Lord's in 1884. Bonnor was a keen admirer of his own abilities and asserted that he had such quick reflexes he could catch a swallow in mid-flight under the Denison Bridge.

Born in Bathurst, Charles Thomas Biass Turner is the greatest medium-paced bowler Australia has produced. He took 17 of the 20 wickets in a match between Bathurst and the touring English team in 1881-82. Five years later, he opened his Test career against England at Sydney by taking six English wickets for 15. In 1887-88, he became the first and only bowler to take 100 wickets in an Australian season. His nickname of Terror dramatises the effect he had on opposing batsmen. Turner reached 100 Test wickets in his seventeenth and last Test in 1894-95 and is still the second-quickest bowler in Test history to reach that target.

Thomas Robert McKibbin, born in Raglan, bowled so well at the 1894 Country Week that he was drafted straight into the NSW side where he soon earned a place in the final Test of the series against the touring English team. McKibbin, who bowled off-breaks which turned prodigiously at a sharp pace, was a member of the 1896 Australian team to England where he topped the tour bowling aggregates. McKibbin played two more Tests in Australia in 1897-98, finishing with 17 wickets from his five Tests.

Nominated by Warwick Franks

Miner & Market Gardener



Mew Chip (Bew Chip) (1846-1937)

Registered as Mew Chip on his death certificate, LEW Bew Chip (his correct full name) was likely the last of the Hill End area's gold rush-era Chinese community. Born in Canton in 1846, Bew Chip arrived in NSW in 1865. He lived in Tambaroora, Pyramul and Hill End for 72 years, where he was known as New Chip, and over those years worked as a goldminer, bootmaker, pork-butcher, and caretaker of Tambaroora's joss house. He is best-remembered as a market gardener who, over many decades, kept Hill End well supplied with fresh vegetables. He was one of many Chinese market gardeners in the Bathurst Region who helped lay the foundations for commercial vegetable growing, opening the way to a significant regional agricultural industry. In March 1937, Bew Chip, then in his 90th year, was admitted to the Lidcombe State Home and Hospital, a refuge for aged and infirm men, where he died in June that year. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Rookwood Cemetery. Bew Chip left an invaluable legacy with his register recording the names and villages of countrymen who took gold home on his behalf. Without Bew Chip, they would be lost to us today.

Nominated by the Hill End and Tambaroora Gathering Group

Botanist - Naturalist



Keith Ingram OAM (1912-2002)

Born in Kempsey, Cyril Keith Ingram OAM began a lifelong association with Bathurst from his time as an instructor at the Limekilns Army Camp in World War Two. His professional career with the Education Department saw him return to Bathurst as the Western Area Secondary Inspector from 1958-1963. For over four decades, Ingram undertook frequent field trips to study and collect the plants growing here, adding greatly to our understanding of the Natural History of our region. He is considered to be the first European to systematically research and catalogue the botany of the greater Bathurst area. His unique collection of 39,000 specimens, including over a thousand from Bathurst Region and surrounding country, is now part of the Herbarium Collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Keith Ingram's enthusiasm for our botanical heritage inspired others, leading to the establishment in the 1950s of the Bathurst Naturalist Society, of which he was a patron. He was a key motivator in the creation in 1967 of the region's first gazetted nature reserve, Winburndale Nature Reserve, thus saving this visually stunning escarpment from being bulldozed for pine plantations. Throughout his teaching career, Keith Ingram was a staunch advocate of environmental education.

Nominated by Greening Bathurst

Heritage Warrior



Margaret Glen (1944-2017)

Margaret Maxwell Glen and her family came from Scotland in 1979 to live in Bathurst. As a passionate member, and Chair, of the National Trust's Bathurst Branch, Margaret had a major impact on changing attitudes about our community's built, natural and cultural heritage fabric. Through the network of committees and individuals she led and mentored over many years, Margaret worked tirelessly to preserve Bathurst's heritage streetscapes and widen the understanding of the value of heritage in the CBD. For her exemplary heritage advocacy, she was awarded the National Trust Voluntary Service Silver Medal in 2005. Widely respected as a vigorous advocate of good causes and appreciated for her warmth, wit and integrity, Margaret was a founding member of both Boundary Road Reserve Landcare Group and Bathurst Town Square Group, as well as a proactive member of Bathurst War Memorial Carillon Working Party. Her significant contributions to the development of these organisations' vision and projects are greatly valued. Indeed, she tabled future actions regarding the Carillon whilst attending her last Town Square meeting in December 2016. It was Margaret Glen who urged saving the Royal Hotel's cast iron pillars for a future heritage project, now the Pillars of Bathurst – a true legacy.

Nominated by Bathurst Town Square Group, Bathurst Branch of the National Trust, Bathurst Carillon Group, and Boundary Road Reserve Landcare Group

Tireless Community Worker



Zylpha Taylor (1915-1993)

Zylpha Florence Taylor, born in Wales, migrated to Australia with her family in 1950, coming to live in Bathurst in 1970. Zylpha, then in her mid-fifties, brought to her new hometown a life-long dedication to the service of others, reflected in having driven ambulances during the war. She was instrumental in the formation, and early leadership, of the Bathurst Branch of Riding for the Disabled, Solo House Emergency Centre, and what is now known as the Bathurst Neighbourhood Centre. She also helped organize and run Senior Citizens' Week in Bathurst for many years, as well as the twice-yearly Barbecue for Senior Citizens and "Shut-ins". This is far from the full list of the many Bathurst community groups where Zylpha's guiding hand and enthusiastic support would have been found in the 1970s and 80s. Her concern for others extended beyond organisations and included making regular personal visits to the elderly housebound. In 1986, on the nomination of Bathurst City Council, Zylpha Taylor was named NSW Senior Citizen of the Year for her long-standing community service. On being presented with her award, Zylpha summed up her life philosophy, simply, that she "loves helping people".

Nominated by Jackie Davis

Heart of Gold



Toni Daymond (1948-2014)

Bathurst born, Toni Daymond was someone who lived her life to make others smile. Countless children, now grown up, especially remember Toni for her entertaining puppet shows and story times at the Bathurst City Library, where Toni worked from 1964 until 2001. Extending her enthusiasm for books to others led to her long running Benjamin Bookworm newspaper column and accompanied her library van runs to remote corners of Bathurst Region. Toni inspired many a Bathurst youngster to love reading books. Toni also generously gave her time to Bathurst's elderly, notably as an activity organiser at the Seymour Centre for over a decade, sometimes appearing in comical costume. Her visits to nursing homes, always with a laugh and smile, brightened the day for many elderly residents. Toni's many community activities ranged widely, including a decade's volunteering in the Life Education Van, organizing the Bathurst Highland Society's annual ball and, for almost 30 years, preparing young people for Bathurst and Oberon's annual Debutante Balls with instruction in etiquette and ballroom dancing. In 1997, Toni Daymond was made Bathurst's Citizen of the Year for her outstanding community service.

Nominated by Jessica Daymond and Josephine Konemann

Life of Community Service



Bill Dow MBE (1912-1971)

William (Bill) Leslie Dow MBE, born in Lithgow, was a journalist whose career brought him to Bathurst in the 1930s, becoming in 1963 the editor of the then newly merged *Western Advocate*. In keeping with his newspaper's masthead, Bill Dow drew on his position to serve as his community's tireless advocate whenever the need to promote Bathurst's causes arose. A long-standing supporter of decentralisation, he played a key role in the late 1960s in securing a tertiary education institution for Bathurst, Mitchell College of Advanced Education (MCAE). Established in 1970, this was the first CAE in regional New South Wales and forerunner of Charles Sturt University. Shortly before his death, Bill was appointed to the College Council. Bill Dow's lobbying also helped acquire Bathurst Base Hospital's Rehabilitation Unit, one of the few outside the metropolitan areas. His influential support was lent to many community's needs, ranging from improved water filtration to providing homes for the aged to establishing Glenray School. His professional skills as publicity officer ensured Bathurst's Sesquicentenary celebrations in 1965 were a memorable success. It was said, "you name it, Bill Dow was there supporting it". Bill Dow was awarded the MBE in 1969 for community service.

Nominated by Lou Shehade

Locksley Pioneer



Edward Locke (1838-1903)

Born in New South Wales or possibly Tasmania, Edward Locke was an early settler in what was then known as Dirty Swamp, a location near O'Connell on the eastern side of Bathurst Region. By 1860, rising from humble beginnings, he had purchased land and began establishing what would become a varied business enterprise encompassing grazing and mining interests, as well as commercial ventures. In 1865, he took over the licence of the local hotel, The Crispin Arms. With the arrival of railway construction in 1868, Locke opened a butcher shop and bakery to meet the needs of the many railway workers and their families living in temporary camps. To provide for the education of the locality's children, Locke as a community leader was instrumental in securing a public school at Dirty Swamp. In 1872, his role in the community was honoured with the settlement's railway station being named Locke's Platform. In 1879, both the station and Dirty Swamp itself were renamed Locksley, again in his honour. Edward Locke together with his family provide an example of the pioneers who, with little more than determination and hard work, built the foundations of the rural localities of Bathurst Region.

Nominated by Susan Morris

Charles St John Mulholland (1903–1984)

Born in Bathurst in 1903, Charles St. John Mulholland was educated at St Stanislaus College, where he became forever known as 'Tim' to friends and family. In 1925, following study at the University of Sydney (B.Sc. 1924), Tim Mulholland joined the NSW Department of Mines as a geologist with the Geological Survey. He would remain with the department until his retirement in 1963, establishing a highly regarded reputation as a hands-on geologist. Early in his career, he successfully undertook the search for groundwater sources throughout the state. During the Great Depression, with unemployed men encouraged to try gold prospecting, Mulholland returned to the Bathurst Region to offer practical assistance. In the late 1930s, his survey of Snowy Mountains geology helped lay the groundwork for the Snowy Mountains Scheme. In 1947, he was appointed the NSW State Geologist, with subsequent promotion to Assistant Under-Secretary for Mines (1954-57), and then Under-Secretary (1957-63). From these positions, Mulholland oversaw a number of significant departmental projects, including work for the Snowy Mountains Scheme, pioneering airborne radiometric surveying and detailed geological mapping of the State. Away from work, Tim Mulholland was known to occasionally indulge in Charlie Chaplin impersonations.

Champion Wheat Farmer



Donald McMillan (1856–1938)

Born at Evans Plains in 1856, Donald McMillan's life was dedicated to farming. He achieved recognition as one of Australia's champion wheat farmers through the crops grown on *Meadow Glenn*, his farm on the Orange Road. McMillan took up the farm in 1885, persevering through many challenges before establishing a reputation in the first decades of the 20th century as a consistent prize-taker for his wheat in agricultural shows, including the Sydney Royal Show. His prize-winning expertise extended as well into other farming areas, not only with other crops such as oats and maize but notably with his dairy cattle. Donald McMillan was also an early proponent of what today is known as organic farming, as in his ingenious employment of "small black spiders" to keep his fruit trees free of insect pests. His successful use of fowls in his orchard in place of insecticide sprays drew the appreciative attention of the experts at the Bathurst Experiment Farm. Whether through his long-standing membership on the Bathurst Show Committee or by way of personal contact, Donald McMillan generously shared his practical farming wisdom and so contributed to the Bathurst Region's agricultural development.

Nominated by Marion Pearce

Bathurst Settlement's First Mother

Mary Ann Roberts (1792-1868)

Mary Ann Roberts was the first colonial wife and mother to live in the Bathurst Settlement. With her three small children, she arrived in late 1816 on the completion of the family's house, the first built in the Settlement. She was at the time the only woman living among the men employed building the settlement. Mary Ann's partner and father of her children was Richard Lewis, the Settlement's Superintendent. (They married in 1825.) In February 1817, Mary Ann Roberts gave birth to Louisa, the first colonial child born in inland Australia. The basic details of her life after arrival in Bathurst are not difficult to track. Widowed, she remarried in 1829, was the mother of six children born in the Bathurst area and became a woman of property. However, an enduring question remains – who was Mary Ann Roberts? Colonial records indicate she was born in the colony in 1792, but there is no record of her parentage. There are claimants offered by family historians linking her to their own convict ancestry, together with a theory her mother was Aboriginal and another that she was Jane Roberts, a convict on the transport Mary Ann. But, all lack credible evidence.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Tambaroora Businesswoman & Miners' Friend



Harriett Beard (1818-1906)

Irish born children's nurse, Harriett Beard (nee Corner) arrived in Australia in 1838 as an assisted immigrant. In 1853, by then married and with a child, Harriett and her family travelled to the Tambaroora goldfield, where they set up in business. Harriett ran a general store adjacent to her husband's hotel, becoming the licensee on his death in 1863. Harriett Beard proved to be an astute businesswoman. A significant landowner, she was also owner of the Excelsior stamper battery and held substantial interests in successful Hawkin's Hill mining companies. Harriett Beard continued running her businesses until 1872 when she sold up and retired. But there was more to her than entrepreneurial success. Harriett Beard was a good friend to the miners. On leaving, she distributed stock from her stores to the needy and destroyed her account books, thus wiping out any debts owing. In farewell, the *Sydney Morning Herald's* correspondent wrote, "By her countenance, her active charity, her firm faith in the future of Tambaroora, and by supplying ... miners in the face of every disappointment and almost without hope of return, has she enabled us to wrest treasures from the bowels of our hills. Mrs Beard is a remarkable woman."

Nominated by the Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

“An honest, upright life”

John Eviston (1844-1925)

Born in Tipperary Ireland, John Eviston immigrated to Australia in 1864, first to Victoria. In 1869, he came to Bathurst, where he settled for life. Not long after arriving he married Elizabeth Connelly and co-established a successful men's wear business, 'Kelaher & Eviston'. Renowned for his business integrity, John Eviston was equally renowned for his community service. A devout Catholic, he gave valuable service to his church in many ways, not least in his dedicated work as parish treasurer overseeing important building projects. He was a founding member of Bathurst's St Vincent de Paul Society and the Australian Holy Catholic Guild, two charitable organisations. A "true Irishman", Eviston was always at the forefront of the Irish cause locally. John Eviston's hand extended across the sectarian division that then separated Bathurst along religious and ethnic lines. Eviston served the wider community for thirty years as an energetic Bathurst District Hospital Committee member, as well fourteen years as Deputy Coroner. He was one of the founders of the *National Advocate*, a voice for community concerns. On his death, John Eviston was remembered by the Bathurst community as a "valuable citizen", a man who had led "an honest, upright life".

Nominated by Tony Eviston

In the Service of Humanity



Annie Bertha Parry MBE (1886-1959)

Born in Hill End, Annie Bertha Parry qualified as a nurse in 1910. By 1920, Bertha, her given name of choice, had acquired an impressive range of nursing experience, including hospital, private and school nursing, as well as military nursing with the Australian Army Nursing Service (Egypt 1915). In 1918 Bertha Parry travelled to California for further training, a journey which led to unanticipated professional opportunities, including caring for Alaskan Inuit influenza victims and joining a nursing journal's editorial staff. Purposeful application of her expertise came with her appointment in 1921 as the first full-time secretary of the St John Ambulance Association NSW, a position held until 1939. The Association benefited from Sister Parry's enthusiasm and guidance. Parry organized first-aid courses statewide and wrote essential training manuals. She initiated useful relationships with other organisations, ranging from sporting bodies to the CWA. Parry's publicity campaigns brought public awareness for the Association, while her fund-raising auxiliary gained generous Sydney 'Society' financial support. From 1939 until retirement in 1945, she was wartime NSW's women's training supervisor for National Emergency Services. Bertha Parry was awarded the MBE in 1954.

Nominated by Bishop Richard Hurford OAM KStJ (NSW State Chaplain)
on behalf of St John Ambulance

Agriculturalist & Carillon Visionary

Robert William Peacock (1869-1946)

Bob Peacock, born at White Rock, grew up on the family farm at Georges Plains. A career in agricultural research brought him back to Bathurst in 1901 as manager of the Bathurst Experiment Farm. Under Peacock, the Farm developed and consolidated its research and educational activities. Courses were placed on a more formal footing, regular demonstrations were provided to assist farmers, and systematic agricultural experimentation was encouraged. Following retirement in 1918, Peacock continued to lead in local agriculture as an exemplar orchardist and grazier together with membership in key organisations, including as President of the Bathurst Fruitgrowers' Association. He was equally at the forefront of civic issues. As a young man he was a delegate to the People's Federal Convention in 1896. He led the campaign from 1926 to build the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon. It was through Peacock's determination and organizational skills that people were inspired to raise the necessary funds during a time of Depression. His vision was for the Memorial to be "... a citizens' affair and to get everyone to contribute something". Whenever building ceased owing to funding, he urged people on to further efforts. It was Robert Peacock's privilege to lay the final brick in 1933.

Nominated by Jan Page

Dared to be Different



Wolla Meranda (1863-1951)

Wolla Meranda was the name chosen late in life by Isabella Gertrude (Gert) Ada Poyitt. Gert Poyitt was born at Sunny Corner, leaving at age eighteen to begin a teaching career. By the early 1890s, living again in Sunny Corner, Gert's life seemed assured a happy trajectory as schoolteacher, wife and mother. But a succession of personal tragedies transformed Gert into a different persona, that of Wolla Meranda, whose introspections as a poet, columnist and novelist provided insights into Australian society, notably the challenges offered women. Her literary mentor was a French poet, Julien de Sanary (1859-1929), who in 1920 came to live with her in Sunny Corner. It is likely through him that her first novel was published in France in 1922 before its 1930 English version, *Poppies of the Night*. Wolla Meranda achieved some literary recognition in her time, although her writings are unknown today. She was also an artist (1922 Archibald finalist) and a pioneer environmentalist, a keen opponent of pine plantations. Wolla Meranda challenged societal conventions through her writings and lifestyle. Her gravestone, in French and English, is shared with de Sanary, with her son Roy (1893-94) buried alongside. Wolla Meranda dared to be different.

Nominated by Bathurst Regional Council

Carillon Tower Builder



James Howe Newton (1890-1967)

Born in Bathurst, James Howe Newton was a Bathurst builder. He lived his entire life in Bathurst and along with his father and son, both builders, built many commercial and residential premises, which still stand today. His most significant achievement as a builder was with his important role in the building of the 100-foot (30.5m) high brick tower for the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon, a lasting legacy to his community. James Newton served as the project's Clerk of Works from early 1932 until the tower's completion in November 1933. Under Newton's supervision, the building site became a hive of activity with the laying of a reputed 285,000 bricks. He became known in the newspapers as "the man who built the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon". From 1934 to 1937 Newton served as an Alderman on the Bathurst City Council. During this time he was part of the Council's successful effort to obtain Government Depression Funding to plan and oversee the construction of the Bald Hill Scenic Drive, which became today's Mt Panorama Motor Race Circuit.

Nominated by Robert Newton

Bathurst's Photographers



Charles James Beavis (1852-1932)

Horace Colin Dean Beavis (1860-1917)

Albert Edward Gregory (1857-1940)

Collectively, Charles and Horace Beavis, South Australian born brothers, together with English born Albert Gregory recorded through their photographs the unfolding story of Bathurst for over fifty years. Arriving in the mid-1880s, the Beavis brothers soon established themselves as professional photographers, initially in partnership and later separately. Gregory's studio operated from 1895 until 1937. The three brought both modern technology as well as innovative ideas to their work, ensuring that images of Bathurst's private and public lives were skilfully and imaginatively recorded for posterity. Gregory's studio portraits often included people in their work clothes with tools at hand or sometimes in fancy costume ready for an evening of fun. Soon after arriving, "Messrs. Beavis Brothers" had a buggy fitted up for outdoor photography used not only for public events but also for the unexpected, such as the 1889 Macquarie Flood. Fortunately, a significant portion of this photographic record is preserved in the Bathurst District Historical Society's collection. The Gregory Collection, with over 4,500 original glass plate negatives from 'The Premier Studios', is deemed to be of national significance. Bathurst's photographers, Charles Beavis, Horace Beavis and Albert Gregory have given us a fascinating insight into our community's history.

Nominated by Bathurst District Historical Society

Established Denison Foundry

Thomas Denny (1835-1895)

Thomas Denny, born in Deptford, England, worked as a wharf labourer as a teenager. Like many, Denny sought a better life on the Australian goldfields, initially in Victoria and later in Bathurst. In 1866 Thomas Denny became the licensee of the riverside Denison Bridge Hotel and shortly after the co-founder of nearby Denison Foundry, in production by mid-1867. The first years of the foundry coincided with construction of the iron truss Denison Bridge, with some components made at the foundry. Over the next twelve years, the enterprise became one of the inland's largest and best equipped foundries. At its height, up to eighty men were employed manufacturing parts and equipment for multiple industries, mainly mining and agriculture but as diverse as flour milling and building construction. Although lacking formal training, Denny was passionate about solving engineering problems and devised numerous innovative mechanical processes and machines, which he patented and manufactured. In 1879, Denny left 'Denison Foundry and Engineering Works', and not long after Bathurst, to focus on his gold mining interests, including on the South African goldfields, where he died age sixty. Thomas Denny, self-taught engineer, demonstrated through Denison Foundry that Bathurst could achieve a high standard of self-sufficiency in industrial manufacturing.

Nominated by Christopher Green

Icons of Keppel Street



George Basha (1921-1996)

Mary Basha (1927-2016)

In 1938, at the age of 17, George Moses Basha left his native Lebanon to begin a new life in Australia, initially in the Riverina. Not long after arriving in Bathurst in 1945, he established the Aussie Fish Café on George Street, followed in 1948 with a new business venture as a “draper and mercer” (manchester and clothing). With radio and newspaper ads declaring George Basha The Prices Smasher!, his shop at 79 Keppel Street soon prospered. Mary Anne Sarkis, a dressmaker, who had also migrated from Lebanon in 1938 lived nearby. George and Mary married in 1950, with no.79 providing both their family home and business premises. In 1952, they expanded their business to include fruit and vegetables. George and Mary continued to run their mixed business until retirement in 1973. George often said, “Australia is a land of opportunities for those who worked hard”. A view proven not only by his and Mary’s success, but also by the many neighbouring businesses run by other migrant families, coming from as far afield as China, England, Greece – and Lebanon. George and Mary Basha were truly Icons of Keppel Street. Their story is an important chapter in the history of their street.

Nominated by Millie Watson

Innovator, Photographer & Baker



Haydn Larnach (1918-2016)

Haydn Kenneth Larnach was born in Bathurst and grew up in Newbridge. A baker's apprenticeship brought him to Bathurst, where during World War II he became the sole qualified bread dough maker serving the entire town, as well as the gaol and army camp. His daily commitment to his essential work as the town's baker, which included training the army's bakers, was physically exhausting. Haydn was a passionate photographer, his talent recognised with an Australian Portfolio Photographic Society award in 1958. For his community, the lasting legacy of his camera lies with his photographs of Bathurst life last century, now in the Bathurst District Historical Society's collection. His knowledge of cameras led to his invention, and manufacture in Bathurst, of an innovative photo finish camera, the Race-O-Graph, for horse and greyhound race tracks. Hayden's invention was taken up by race tracks across Australia and as far afield as Hong Kong. Hayden also lent his creative talents in 1967 to the making of a replica Holterman nugget, the sculptural centre piece of the fountain outside Council Chambers, still appreciated by locals and visitors over fifty years later. Through his skills and talents, Haydn Larnach gave a lifetime of service to his community.

Nominated by Kylie Vanderhel

Long Serving Hospital Matron



Patric O'Brien (1922-2016)

Born in Bathurst, Patricia (Pat) Maria O'Brien began her training in General Nursing in 1945 at Mater Misericordiae Hospital in North Sydney. It was there she changed her name to Patric as there were several O'Briens on the staff answering to Patricia and Pat. It was an act of duty before self that would characterise her nursing career. Initial nurse training was followed by Maternity and Mother Craft training. Patric went on to become the Night Superintendent at Mater. She returned to Bathurst in the early 1950s to join the nursing staff of the Bathurst District Hospital, taking charge of the Maternity Section. In 1958, she became the hospital's Deputy Matron. In 1966, Patric took up the position of Matron/Director of Nursing, a position she held for 16 years until retirement in 1982. Patric's achievements were recognised with her appointment as a Fellow of The Institute of Nursing Administrators of NSW and ACT. Patric played a key role in the transition of nurse education from hospital training to a professional university degree course at Mitchell College (now CSU). In retirement, Patric O'Brien continued to serve her community through her work with Bathurst's initial Palliative Care Group and, later, Daffodil Cottage.

Nominated by Jacquin Herschel

Pioneer Rockley Entrepreneur

Arthur Budden (1832-1922)

Born in England, Arthur Blake Budden arrived in Sydney in 1855. By January 1857, he had set up as a storekeeper in a bark hut at Caloola. In 1858, Arthur moved to nearby Rockley, the emerging centre for the area's mining and agriculture. There he opened a store, The Rockley Stores, in a stable, later followed by a weatherboard store and residence. In 1859, he married Sarah Stanger and, following her death, her sister Emily. Their father, Joseph Stanger, a fellow Wesleyan Methodist, partnered to build Rockley's flour mill, opened in 1862. Rockley's growing prosperity called for a bank, which Arthur Budden provided in 1876 with an agency in his store. The agency evolved into a branch of the A.J.S. Bank with an impressive bank building and manager's residence, with Arthur as resident manager until 1891. His business ventures included a mail coach service to the Cow Flat copper mines. Equally involved in community matters, he helped fund the building of Rockley's school and establishing its School of Arts. Arthur Budden's role in the development of Rockley is recognised in the naming of Budden Street, along which his mill, now a museum, and his bank and residence are located.

Nominated by Rockley Mill and Stables Museum

Sportsman, Coach & Mentor

Ivan Cranston (1934-2007)

Born in Bathurst, Ivan John Cranston overcame childhood illness to become an all-round sportsman who went on to represent Bathurst in tennis, cricket, table tennis and squash at state level. Ivan is fondly remembered by Bathurst's sporting community as a coach and mentor who over many years willingly shared his sporting knowledge and skills with hundreds of Bathurst children (and adults). A vivid memory etched in the minds of many is their Sunday morning sessions with Ivan at the Bathurst City Tennis Courts. There, clad in tennis whites, the hopeful tennis stars would be lined up to perfect their "serve". His voice would ring out, "One! Two! Three!", and, although the exercise was hated by some, the "Ace" would be served. Ivan's own amateur sporting career began while at Bathurst High School, where he participated in the Astley Cup. His sporting interests continued into adult life, with his family remembering travels around the state accompanying Ivan to sporting events. Ivan could be relied upon to deliver centuries in cricket and awesome tennis rallies, with his lightning agility overwhelming many a squash and table tennis opponent. A true sportsman, Ivan Cranston made an important contribution to the story of sport in Bathurst.

Nominated by Di Cranston

Visionary Heritage Advocate



Judy Webb (1925-2018)

Born Judith Weaver in Grenfell, Judy came to Bathurst in 1949 as a resident doctor at Bathurst District Hospital, earning special acknowledgement for her work in obstetrics and family care in Bathurst's Migrant Camp. Married in 1950, Judy was appointed Medical Officer at Bathurst Teachers' College in 1960. With a passionate interest in history and architecture, Judy was a driving force for the conservation of heritage buildings in the Bathurst region. She was a foundation member in 1974 of the National Trust's Central West Women's Committee, and was instrumental in the donation of *Miss Traill's House* to the National Trust in 1976. A prolific writer, Judy wrote the text for *Bathurst Sketchbook* (1975) and prepared numerous Trust leaflets for Open House Inspections over thirty years. In 1973 the Bathurst Action Committee to Secure Unified Planning was formed, with Judy taking an active role in the townscape survey and study of two key city blocks. The BACSUP report, with its photographs, is considered an invaluable record of Bathurst's heritage. Recognised through State and National Trust awards for her dedication to local heritage, Judy Webb was an inspirational advocate in many ways. Her contribution to our community continued until her death in 2018.

Nominated by Bathurst & District Branch of the National Trust (NSW)

Hill End & Tambaroora Historians

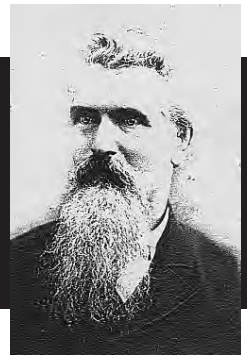


Harry Hodge MBE (1904-1973) Brian Hodge (1930-2018)

Alfred Harold (Harry) Hodge and his nephew Brian Colin Hodge were instrumental in recording the goldrush and later periods of Hill End and Tambaroora history, based on their personal and family memories and meticulous scholarly research in the Mitchell Library. Their exemplary work forms the basis for subsequent research by family and local historians. Harry, born in Hill End, committed forty years to researching the history of the district, culminating in his trilogy, *The Hill End Story* (1964, 1965, 1972), together with a guidebook for visitors. In 1971, Harry Hodge was awarded the MBE for his “valuable contributions to historical research, notably in the Hill End district”. Brian Hodge was equally prolific as an historian, publishing six local history books, beginning with *Valleys of Gold: The Goldfields Story 1851-1861, Book I* (1976), soon followed by a second volume, *Frontiers of Gold* (1979). His final book was *Golden Hill End* (2009). Both Harry and Brian followed successful careers in teaching which took them away from Hill End, but they returned whenever possible to their roots. Together with their books, they have left a rich trove of manuscripts and research notes that will prove to be a wonderful legacy for future historians.

Nominated by Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group

Versatility & Perfection



William Browne (1816-1893)

Born into a lacemaking community in Derbyshire, England, William Browne's arrival in Australia was the result of extraordinary circumstances. Around 1840, William, a machine fitter, joined the thriving English community employed in the lacemaking factories of Calais, France. The 1848 Revolution saw their flight from France, with many assisted to relocate to Australia. William, with wife Lydia and their young family, in the company of other refugees, were sent to Bathurst. Through his previous experience installing and maintaining lacemaking machinery, William brought hands-on technical skills much needed to develop Bathurst's fledgling industries. William's versatile knowledge and reputation for perfection led to a variety of ventures. He soon found employment supervising George Ranken's steam-powered flour mill and later assisted in erecting Ranken's famous bridge. Employment as a brewer and maltster at Reliance Brewery included building a malt-kiln. William returned in the 1860s to managing flour mills. In the 1870s, before taking up employment with the railway, his practical skills were engaged in George Fish's foundry. William also established a farm at Duramana, which remains in family ownership. The respect the Bathurst community held for William Browne might be measured by the number, some 700, who attended at his graveside.

Nominated by Nicole Schryver

Distinguished Army Officers

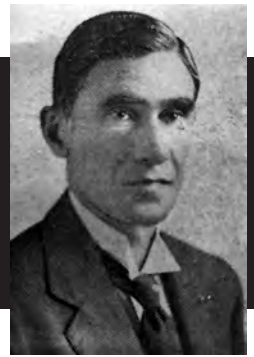


Maj Gen Leslie Beavis CB, CBE, DSO (1895-1975)
Lt Gen Sir Reginald Pollard KCVO, KBE, CB,
DSO (1903-1978)

Educated at Bathurst government schools, these Bathurst-born career soldiers excelled at RMC Duntroon, with Beavis topping the 1915 graduation class and Pollard receiving the 1924 sword of honour. Leslie Ellis Beavis served with distinction on the Western Front in World War I, where he commanded the 53rd Battery, and was awarded the DSO. In World War II, he served in increasingly senior positions in the Middle East, New Guinea and Australia, overseeing essential logistic support for the army. As Master-General of Ordnance from April 1942, he coordinated wartime production with the army's supply and operational needs. Retiring in 1952, Major General Leslie Beavis served as Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan until 1954. Reginald George Pollard served with distinction in World War II. In 1941 he was with the 7th Division's headquarters in Libya and later commanded the 2nd/31st Battalion in Syria. He was awarded the DSO for service in New Guinea. In 1945, he was a deputy director of military operations at Allied Land Forces HQ. During 1953, he commanded the Australian Army in Korea. In 1963, then Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant General Sir Reginald Pollard retired from the army. He was Australian secretary to Queen Elizabeth during her 1970 visit.

Nominated by John Payne

Pharmacist, Alderman & Aviation Enthusiast



PJ Moodie OBE (1881-1963)

Born in Talbot, Victoria, Percival James John Moodie and his young family came to Bathurst in 1913. A registered pharmacist since 1903, he established a pharmacy which soon became a community mainstay and continues today as Moodie's Pharmacy, Bathurst's oldest pharmacy. Known to all as Percy, or more commonly as PJ, he soon became a leading figure in his adopted town. From 1922 to 1962, PJ served continuously, and with dedication, as an Alderman on Bathurst Council, including twice as Mayor. His promotion of tennis, at which he excelled, saw the building of community courts, one of his many lasting legacies. Although not a licenced pilot, PJ was passionate about aviation and the opportunities an aerodrome could offer Bathurst. He knew, and flew with, the great pilots of his day, Kingsford Smith and Ulm among others. In 1929, with their support, Western Aero Company was formed, with PJ as chairman, but the venture soon failed. To paraphrase PJ's own words, "he was a little ahead of his times". His strong representations did though in time help achieve a modern aerodrome for Bathurst. In 1963, Percival Moodie's contributions to local government and his community were acknowledged with the award of the OBE.

Nominated by Michael and Monica Morse

Pastoral Care of Bathurst Youth

Leo Grant (1917-2012)

Born in Canowindra, Leo George Grant came to Bathurst as a student at St Stanislaus' College. In 1943, he was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Bathurst. In 1944, having been asked by Bishop Norton to "do something for the young people", Leo set about doing just that. Father Leo Grant established a club, St Patrick's Catholic Young Men's Society. St Pat's, as the society came to be known, proved to be a great success in the pastoral care and development of Bathurst's young people. Under Leo's guidance, St Pat's provided a range of youth activities such as monthly dances, musical events, a club newspaper (*Uncensored*) and sporting events, including a football team. The club provided much needed opportunities for young people to engage in activities that fostered health and well-being. In the 1960s, he responded to another calling, that of a missionary to Peru, where he served for almost 25 years. Following retirement, he returned to live in Bathurst. St Pat's, the club he established over 75 years ago, remains his lasting legacy. Monsignor Leo Grant's concern for the needs of young people, and his work to address those needs, has earned him the gratitude of the entire community.

Nominated by Pat and Terry Burke

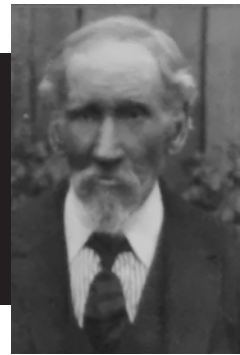
Monumental Masons



John Tregoning Burns (1836-1907) George Burns (1878-1960)

Born in Cornwall, England, and trained as a stonemason by his father, John Tregoning Burns arrived in Australia in 1857 as an assisted migrant. John made his way to Bathurst where he found work as a stonemason in the building of the Roman Catholic Cathedral and the extensions to the Anglican Cathedral. He soon established himself as a skilful monumental mason, regarded “for many years as the master mason of Bathurst”. Joined in time by other members of his family, John Burns married Ellen Surrige in 1867, and they adopted a baby son, George. George learnt the trade of monumental mason from his father, eventually taking over the family business, Burns’ Monumental Works, continuing until the 1950s. Father and son, John and George Burns, have left Bathurst a wonderful legacy with their work as monumental masons on the city’s buildings, some sadly now gone. The Bathurst Public School (1876) on Howick Street, now the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum, provides a surviving example of John Burns’ work. Their work as monumental stonemasons can be easily found with numerous tombstones in the Bathurst Region’s cemeteries, inscribed with the Burns name at the base. John and George Burns helped build Bathurst.

Nominated by John Wood



The First Bell Ringer

George Hurford (1832-1916)

Born in Somerset, England, where he apprenticed as a carpenter, George Hurford arrived in Bathurst in February 1859 with his wife Georgiana and daughter Elizabeth. In keeping with family tradition, George had been trained as a teenager in the art of campanology or bell ringing. He was soon invited by Thomas Sloman, a Trustee and Warden of All Saints' Anglican Cathedral, to become the first Captain of the Cathedral's bell ringing team. He held this position for almost thirty years, all the while providing for his growing family as a successful builder. At the time of his appointment, the Cathedral had recently taken possession of a fine peal of six bells from Warner Brothers in London, paid for by public subscription following an appeal led by Sloman. George Hurford went on to lead and train a great number of bell ringers, establishing a unique facet of Bathurst's cultural history. This is his legacy. With the advent of the completed Bathurst War Memorial Carillon in 2021, the City of Bathurst is the only place in the world where a concert carillon with its fixed bells is located alongside a cathedral tower with its pealing bells. Bathurst is truly a *City of Bells*.

Nominated by Bishop Richard Hurford OAM,
Bell Tower Captain, All Saints' Cathedral

Father & Daughter Medical Doctors



Dr Roy Dadson Mulvey MC (1889-1952) Dr Margaret Mulvey AM (1916-2001)

Born in Newcastle, Dr Roy Mulvey gained his medical qualifications after time as a teacher and distinguished service in WWI, awarded the Military Cross. He arrived in Bathurst in 1930, where he practiced medicine for 22 years. From 1937, Dr Mulvey served as Bathurst's Government Medical Officer, as well as president of the western NSW branch of Australia's professional medical association. His standing was recognised in 1938 with his appointment to the *Royal Commission on doctors' remuneration for national insurance service*. Roy's name lives on in the Mulvey Cup, which he donated in 1939 for high school debating competitions. Dr Margaret Mulvey (Lady Schlink from 1954) came to Bathurst with her father in 1930. A brilliant student at Bathurst High School, serving as School Captain in 1933, Margaret (Meg) graduated from Sydney University in 1940 with honours in medicine, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology. In 1943 she was appointed Clinical Superintendent at King George V Hospital for Mothers and Babies, the hospital's first female gynaecologist. So began a stellar 47-year career, duly recognised by her peers as the "mother of Australian obstetrics". More formal acknowledgement came in 1985 with the award of Honorary Doctor of Medicine by Sydney University, and in 1986 with her appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia, "For service to medicine, particularly in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, and to the community".

Nominated by John Payne

Lagoon Farming Family



Walter John Daymond (1874-1946)

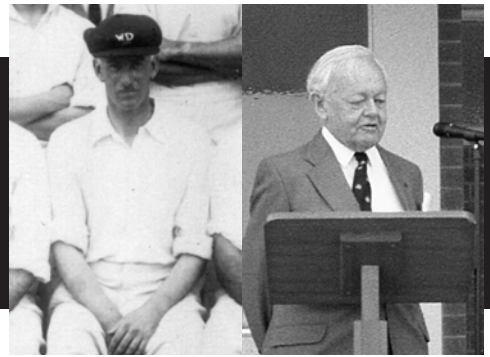
Gordon John Daymond (1907-2007)

Harold George (Sam) Daymond (1908-1987)

Originally from Devon, Samuel and Louisa Daymond settled at The Lagoon in the 1860s. Walter John, one of their sons, would spend his entire life of 72 years there, a respected and active member of The Lagoon community. Walter was rated as among the district's leading lucerne growers and breeder of first class sheep. His passion for horses saw him regularly enter the Bathurst trotting meet. Walter was joined in running the family farm by his two sons, Harold, better known as Sam, and Gordon. The brothers followed in their father's footsteps, as in growing vegetables to supply fresh produce for Bathurst and Sydney markets. Sam and Gordon served with their local Rural Fire Brigade for 25 years, with Sam as secretary. Sam is well remembered for organising sporting events and athletic carnivals for local schoolchildren. A family story tells of Gordon, age 86, breaking his leg while moving sheep. Alone, he spent the night in the paddock, sustained by his flask and biscuit tin, then in the morning dragged himself to the front gate to seek help. Gordon lived to be 100 years old. Today, the family farm lies beneath the waters of Chifley Dam, but the memories and stories live on.

Nominated by Jessica Daymond

Medical Specialists



Dr Walter Jaques Stack DSO (1884-1972)

Dr Ralph George Bryant Cameron (1913-2006)

Born in Croydon, **Walter Stack**, after graduating in medicine at Sydney University in 1915, served as a medical officer with the AIF, earning the Distinguished Service Order. Following the war, he gained specialist ophthalmological qualifications in London. In 1924 Dr Stack came to Bathurst, the first ophthalmologist west of the Blue Mountains, retiring in 1955. A former captain of Sydney University Cricket Club and player in seven NSW matches, Walter became a prominent cricketer in the Bathurst competition. In 1929 he captained the Western Districts side against the touring MCC team at the Bathurst Sports Ground, where he dismissed Jack Hobbs, England's greatest-ever batsman.

Born in Mackay, **Ralph Cameron** came to Bathurst in 1946, where he would practice medicine for the next 40 years. He was the state's first qualified Specialist Physician to practice in a rural area. Initially joining Dr Brooke Moore's practice, he later established a Specialist Consultant Practice, with a focus on cardiology. Ben Chifley was a patient. Dr Cameron introduced Bathurst's first electrocardiograph and oversaw establishing the hospital's coronary care and intensive care units. He played a key role in setting up a rehabilitation service and aged care assessment team. Bathurst was fortunate in having this dedicated physician at a time when the specialised care he offered was rare outside Sydney.

Nominated by Warwick Franks OAM and Dr Jim Blackwood

Coachman & Philanthropist



John Ratcliffe Ford (1829-1890)

A household name west of the mountains, John Ford was a banker, horse breeder, coach service operator, philanthropist and warden at Holy Trinity. Born in Parramatta, John Ford came to Kelso as a boy where his father ran the first steam flour mill. He married Mary McGuinness in 1856, built their now historic home, *Macquarie*, on George Street in 1859 and raised nine children. Ford & Co. was the largest coach service operating from Bathurst during bushranging days. One of Ford's coaches was held up near Eugowra in 1862, the largest gold robbery in NSW. Ford himself was held at gunpoint near Cowra, but managed to save his passengers and most of their valuables. Locals were amazed when he drove a coach from Mudgee to Bathurst in fifteen hours, including two and a half hours for lunch. Ford's coach business gave way to Cobb & Co. following their arrival in 1862. Quiet, industrious and widely admired, many benefited from John Ford's philanthropy. The school he built on Gilmour Street, Kelso still stands today. A lasting heritage legacy came with his decision to adapt the old cottage behind *Macquarie* for use as a detached kitchen, saving it from demolition. We know the cottage today as *Old Government Cottage*.

Nominated by Chris and Barbara Bacon

Business & Community Leader

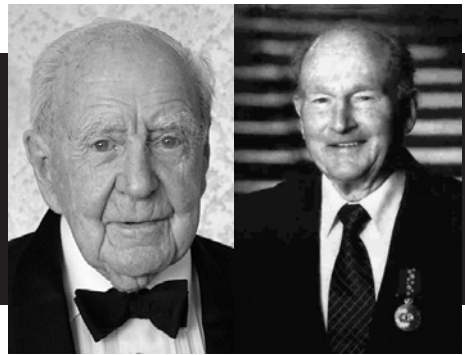


Arthur Buller James (1850-1931)

Arthur Buller James was born in Bathurst, the son of recently arrived emigrants from England. Arthur James spent his entire life in Bathurst, where he became a successful businessman and active community leader. His success in business began as a shop boy at Alexander's cordial factory in 1865, which he purchased in 1881, and went on to modernise and expand in new directions, including ice making and, in his 70s, tomato sauce manufacturing. Within the community, between 1892 and 1917, he served on the Municipal Council as an Alderman and as Mayor. As a measure of his community involvement, Arthur served for over forty years in various capacities on the Bathurst District Hospital Board, as vice-president of a football club, Grand Master of the Loyal Kincora Oddfellows Lodge and a devout member of the Methodist Church, including teaching Sunday School. His interest in Federation saw his participation in the Bathurst Protection League and as an original shareholder in the National Advocate newspaper. It was said at one time that no public movement was representative without his presence. Arthur Buller James helped guide Bathurst into becoming a confident and progressive regional city in the post-goldrush era, laying the foundations of our present-day city.

Nominated by Sue Moras

Community Service



Eric William Alfred Sargeant BEM (1909-2007) John Kevin Patrick Ireland OAM (1929-2015)

Born in Sydney, **Eric Sargeant** arrived in Bathurst in 1933. Eric soon proved himself to be a tireless community worker, offering his substantial management skills through volunteering for service organisations as well as social and community groups. As president of the Bathurst Base Hospital Board for 34 years, Eric was a driving force behind innovation and development in health care. He was instrumental in establishing Macquarie Homes, Bathurst Rehabilitation Centre, Chifley Village and Cheriton Masonic Village. Eric was still delivering 'meals on wheels' at the age of 95. Eric's many awards included the British Empire Medal in 1978. His life serves as testimony of what it means to serve your fellow man.

John Ireland came to Bathurst in 1960 to take up a teaching position at West Bathurst Public School, going on to become Principal and Education Liaison Officer. A dedicated educator, he was known for assisting any child in crisis. Within the community, he played key roles in several organisations, including as president of Bathurst Region's St Vincent de Paul Society, chair of the Life Education Program and prison visitor with Kairos Prison Ministry. John gave a listening ear and an open heart to all who found themselves in need. In 2005, John Ireland was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his services to the Bathurst community.

Nominated by Tim Sargeant and Robert Cassidy

Greek Born Bathurstians



Efthemia Venardos (1921-2019)

Theo Con Venardos (1912-1994)

Born on the Greek Island of Kythera, Theo and Efthemia Venardos will forever be linked with Bathurst's popular Heath's Café on George Street. Heath's was acquired in 1941 by Theo, who was soon joined in running the café by his young wife. Efthemia could claim to be the first Greek born woman to take up permanent residency in Bathurst. Efthemia worked tirelessly alongside Theo to ensure their friendly café was Bathurst's social hub – and the best place in town for a milkshake. Their upstairs function centre, the Rainbow Room, catered over the years for thousands of banquets, meetings and wedding receptions. Many Bathurstians have personal memories of special times in Theo and Efthemia's café. Renowned for their catering skills, a highlight for the couple would have been catering for the opening in 1959 of Edgell's Gerber Baby Food Factory by Prime Minister Menzies. After 35 years, with their café open from 7:00 am until late, 364 days a year, the couple sold Heath's in 1976. Efthemia was a charter member (1962) of Bathurst Inner Wheel, an international women's friendship club, up to her passing in 2019, aged 98. Together they symbolise the wonderful contributions migrants have made to Bathurst and Australia.

Nominated by Judy Newton on behalf of the Inner Wheel Club of Bathurst

Public Historian and “Father” of the Pillars of Bathurst

Dr Robin Clifford Dennis McLachlan OAM (1947 – 2022)

Canadian-born Robin McLachlan was a brilliant historian, researcher and teacher, and a humorous and engaging storyteller. His oft-repeated motto was "History is gossip well told." He was also a scriptwriter, documentary filmmaker, producer, tour guide and curator, the acknowledged "go-to" local historian who left an extremely significant historical legacy for Bathurst, his adopted hometown of forty-six years. Arriving in Australia in 1972 with his wife Joanna, Robin completed a doctorate at the Australian National University, then in 1976 became a lecturer at Mitchell College of Advanced Education, later Charles Sturt University. There he developed an encyclopaedic knowledge of Bathurst's 19th and 20th century history, and became a Senior Lecturer. In 2002 Robin left the University and became principal consultant historian to Bathurst Council. His *A New Country*, a Thematic History of the Bathurst Regional Local Government Area (2007) underpinned Council's heritage planning. Robin was engaged in numerous local history initiatives, most visible being the Pillars of Bathurst monument, and the *A Delightful Spot* interpretive trail, both of which Robin conceptualised. In 2015 Robin was made a Life Member of the Bathurst District Historical Society, and in 2022 was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia "For service to the community of Bathurst".

Nominated by Janet Bingham for Bathurst Regional Council

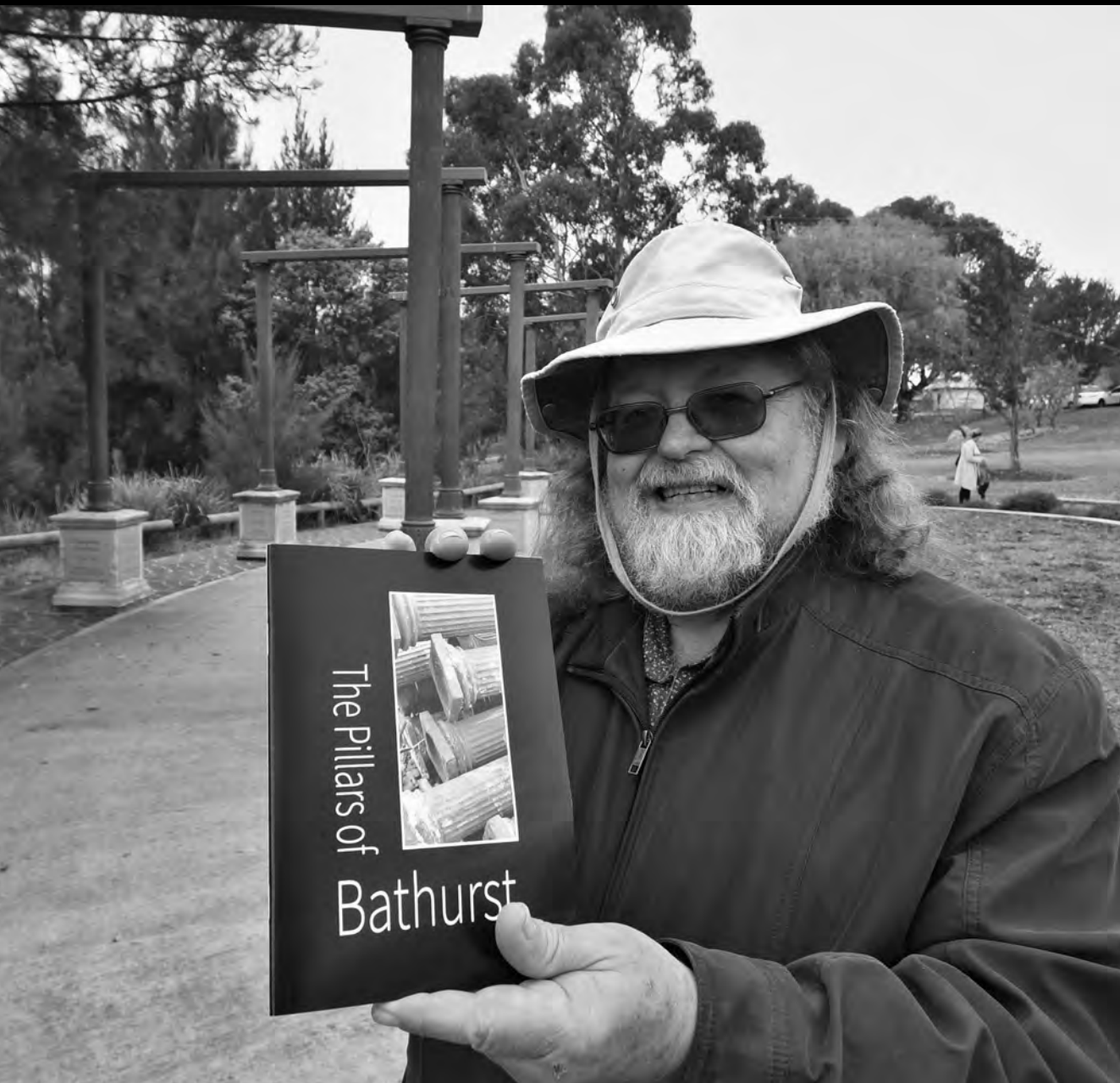
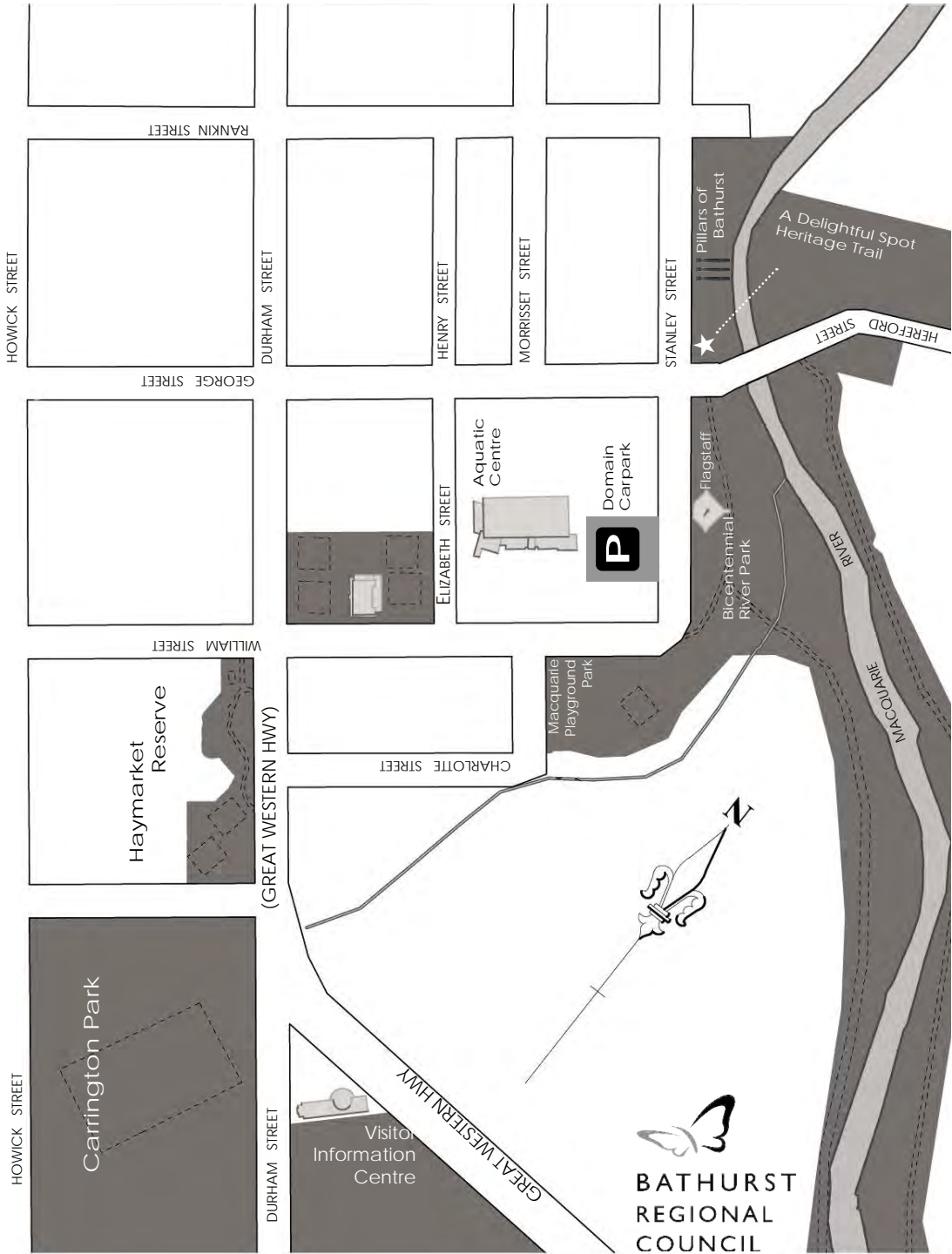


Photo courtesy of the Western Advocate



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