

The Mallee Stump



Mark 1V First World War (male) Tank
In front of the now Advocate Office
at West Wyalong the Luxor Café now
takes the place of the Garage sign.

WYALONG DISTRICT
FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

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This fee includes publication of your inquiry in our magazine
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EDITOR'S REPORT

The Group being in lockdown didn't stop us from cleaning up the rooms.

A lot of the old Journals from years back, took up space and were not being used, so, unfortunately we had to get rid of them. They were offered to the members if they wished to take ... the rest went to the recyclers.

We had numerous Micro Fiche Readers and only need two, the others were given away.

We have received micro fiche, books on family history, towns, areas and where their were duplicates they were offered to members.

This clean-up has given us space to house the catalogues of funeral service leaflets and obituaries. Also all the district books for West Wyalong & Wyalong area are housed on that bookshelf.

The reverse cycle air conditioners are a blessing.

Terry Butcher

Thursday, 28th June 1928 (Sydney Morning Herald, page 9)
NEW RAILWAY.

WAMBOYNE TO WEST WYALONG OFFICIAL CEREMONY.

WEST WYALONG, Wednesday.

The ceremony of turning the first sod of the railway line from West Wyalong to Wamboyne was performed by the Minister for Works and Railways (Mr. Buttenshaw) at West Wyalong to-day.

The agitation for the line began 27 years ago, and following a number of deputations to successive Ministers, the proposal was referred to the Public Works Committee in 1922. The construction of the line was authorized, a year later but owing to financial stringency the work was delayed until the accession to office of the present Government. Work upon the line has already begun, and it is hoped to increase the present number of men employed to 150 within the next few weeks.

The line, which will traverse one of the finest wheat-growing areas in the State, will be 33 miles in length, with a ruling grade of 1 in 110. The estimated cost of the line in 1923 was, £158,400, but it is understood that this amount will now be increased to well over £200,000. It is not anticipated that the line will be profitable from the beginning, but with the extension of settlement it is believed it will earn profits within a few years. In addressing the gathering, Mr. Buttenshaw said that he was a member of the first league that agitated for the line, and he felt it an honour after the lapse of so many years that it had finally fallen to his lot as Minister for Works to put in hand the work of construction.

The Minister was presented with a gold shovel as a token of the esteem of the citizens. **(What happened to the shovel?)**

Back Home!

If I had the power to turn back the clock,
Go back to the house at the end of the block -
The house that was HOME when I was a kid,
I know that I'd love it more now, than I did.

If I could be back there at my mother's knee,
And hear once again all the things she told me,
I'd listen as I never listened before,
For she knew so well just what life had in store.

And all the advice my dad used to give,
His voice I'll remember as long as I live;
But it didn't seem really important then;
What I'd give just to live it all over again.

And what I'd give for the chance I once had,
To do so much more for my mother and dad;
To give them more joy and a little less pain;
A little more sunshine—a little less rain.

But the years roll on and we cannot go back,
Whether we were born in a mansion or in a shack,
But we can start right now-in the hour that's here,
To do something more for the ones we hold dear.

And since time in it's flight is travelling so fast;
Let's not spend it regretting that which is past;
But let us make tomorrow a happier day,
By doing our "good to others"-TODAY.

(Author Unknown)

Just Bits and Pieces

The Maher Cup is mentioned in this issue
a short story from The Maher Cup.com.au

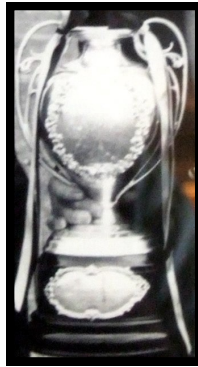
I remember when I was about ten years old (1951?) that there was some dispute between Cootamundra, who held the Maher Cup, and Harden. Apparently Cootamundra's win had been challenged, and the trophy had been awarded to Harden on appeal but Cootamundra was loath to part with the cup and had it on display in a window at Meagher's (pronounced Maher) Department Store.

It was chained to the floor and weighted down by an anchor!
My father drove me the twelve miles into town to see it and I was so impressed by the sight of the cup and the story I wrote a poem, the only verses I can remember went something like:

Those Harden chaps won the appeal
The cup from us they wished to steal
But it's not taken from us yet
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

Henneker and Fazio and Neil McDonald too
Atkinson and Rowley, all players old and new
Oh guard your cup by moonlight, oh guard your cup by *day*
Keep it fixed to the floor with anchor and chain,
lest Harden take it away!

**Paddy says to Mick how did you get on at the faith healing
group last night?
Mick said, he was absolutely shite, even the feller in the
wheelchair got up and walked out."**



The Old Tin Pot

The Maher Cup

It never had a lid

It all started in 1920, in the town of Tumut, when Ted Maher (the licensee) of the Wynyard Hotel, presented a Cup to the local football club for an inter-town sporting competition. The first game was played as Rugby Union, then Ted suggested the change from union to league.

The railway line later mapped the number of clubs in the competition. Wednesday being a half day holiday at that time, as shops opened on Saturday morning. And it was the day the matched was played. Trains took special trips to the towns that were holding the match. Going from South up the line, Tumut, Gundagai, Harden-Murrumburrah, Boorowa. On another line, going from South to north, Wagga Wagga, Junee, Cootamundra, out west to Temora, Barmedman, West Wyalong, Kikoira, on another line north to Grenfell, Young and Cowra.

From the Advocate files on TROVE.

West Wyalong Advocate, Monday 31 July 1944, page 1
MINERS v WYALONG COMBINATION UPSETS HOME TEAM
But Defence Work Pleasing

(BY "SPECTATOR")

A series of passing rushes, and splendid combination, were the principal reasons why **Gibsonvale Rugby League** beat **West Wyalong** 21 to 3 at the Showground yesterday.

Although the home team was inclined to hug the leather, the forwards were solid in defence, Mick Steele being outstanding in this department.

In the back division, Norman Nicholson (centre) played brilliantly. Nicholson possesses natural football ability and should be transferred to the half position.

Eddie Quilty, who played in the five-eight position was a tower of strength, as he shows plenty of dash, has the ability to take every advantage and keeps the back division moving.

Generally, the game was hard and fast throughout, with Mick Steele, Norman Nicholson, J. Murphy, E. Quilty and K. Steele sharing the honours for West Wyalong.

Gibsonvale had the services of Baden Broad, former Maher Cup star, who showed he has not lost any of his brilliance which made him one of the best forwards in Group 9.

Jim Keys, C. Dumbrell. Jack Stoneham and Ted O'Kane were Gibsonvale's next best men.

Fred Broad was an efficient referee.

West Wyalong Advocate, Thursday, 10 August 1944 page 1
MINERS STILL COLLECT "SCALPS" UNGARIE JOIN LIST OF FALLEN

Led by Fred Broad, former Maher Cup player, and one of the best forwards to ever strip for West Wyalong and in the Southern districts. Gibsonvale Tin Miners continued their winning trot when they beat Ungarie 27/16 in the best League match seen at Kikoiria this season.

The Miners have already accounted for West Wyalong, Lake Cargelligo, Tullibigeal and Ungarie this season, and have yet to suffer defeat.

Play in the first half was fast and open, Ungarie opening the score

with a penalty goal. The Miners replied, with a try and established a big lead in this session.

Ungarie, led by Douglas, their flying winger, tried hard to even the score in the second half, but the Miners were too strong.

"Scotty" Miller, Joe Needrie, W. Russel Mears and A. Lloyd were outstanding for the Miners, whilst Douglas and Elliott were Ungarie's best men.

West Wyalong Advocate, Monday 21 August 1944, page 1

MINERS "TINNY"

Win Three Matches

Gibsonvale Tin Miners performed the hat trick by winning three Rugby League matches.

The first-grade team defeated Tullibigeal 24 4 whilst the Reserves defeated Tullibigeal reserves 3 0.

The Juniors team had an easy victory over Kikoirra for the Roy Neill Trophy, winning 21/7.

So far this season the Miners have not yet been defeated. They have beaten West Wyalong, Ungarie, Tullibigeal. Lake Cargelli-

The Township of Gibsonvale

Had some of the toughest men in their football team

They challenged for the Maher Cup and had to travel to Tumut (the holder of the cup) The team for the first challenge on 3 August 1946 was Ted O'Kane, Graham Ridley, Russell Mears, Leo Ireland, Jack Stonham, Ernie Boal, L. Miller, Kevin Maybury, Joe Neddrie, Jim Keys, Fred Hill, Phil Hoskinson, and H. Miller. They crowded into the back of Phil Hoskinson's Chevy truck. Benches were chained into place and the journey began – 190 rough miles on dirt roads

go, Kikoiria and other ventures.

Fred Broad and his son Baden, of West Wyalong former Maher Cup players, are responsible for much of the success of the Miners.

West Wyalong Advocate, Thursday 24 August 1944, page 2
Football Carnival

AT UNGARIE NEXT SUNDAY. £10 FOR WINNING CLUB

The most important Rugby League carnival to be staged in the South-west since the outbreak of war will be held at Ungarie on Sunday.

Teams from West Wyalong, Temora Barmedman, Lake Cargelligo, Gibsonvale and Ungarie will take part.

Considerable interest is centred in the undefeated "Tin Miners" team from Gibsonvale, which has trounced all district Clubs this year, without suffering defeat.

Research for people

Linda Milton Neeld Family Research

Person looking for Dawn Berick
Born 1942 at Lantara Pte Hospital
Her father was Percival John Berick
Her mother Mary Erica Joan Kalms

Jo Arora Hamel Stanford family 1940's

Anthony Rushby Rushby Family
Alan Bruce Rushby born 1920
Clarence Rushby born 1872

Gael Irwin Hook Family

George Thomas
Father John Fraser,
Mother Elizabeth Thomas
Elizabeth Fraser died 1925 at West Wyalong
and location of "Oaklands" property.

If you can help with any information, get in touch
with Pam Butcher. Email: teggsy@bigpond.net.au

The Village Of Calleen

West Wyalong Advocate

31 March 1933 page 4

from TROVE

FIRE AT CALLEEN

Hall and Supper Room Destroyed

At about 12.30 am. to-day (Thursday) a fire started in the Church of England, Church Hall at Calleen, and before long what was regarded as the finest country Hall in the district was a smouldering ruin.

The fire was first noticed by a man who was camped some distance away on the stock route. He aroused Mr. T. Smith, at the Calleen Post Office, and Mr. Smith in turn communicated with all in the locality who were connected by telephone. About a dozen men came quickly to the scene, but as the large weather-board building was then well alight, there was no possible chance of extinguishing the flames with buckets. The galvanised iron supper room adjoining was also completely destroyed.

The hall was erected about six years ago and was controlled by a committee of which Mr. E. T. Clark was the Hon. Secretary. The eastern end of the building was separated from the main hall by folding doors, this portion having been set apart and dedicated as a Sanctuary for the Church of England. It contained church furnishings, and these were also destroyed.

We understand that the building was insured, but at time of going to press the amount of insurance was not available. The origin of the fire is a mystery. A dance was held in the hall the

previous night. Bottom of Form

Truth (Sydney)

Sunday, 10 January 1954

YOUTH FOR TRIAL ON CHARGE OF MURDERING HIS FATHER

The midnight moon of December 17 1953 shone brightly down on the pleasant countryside of Calleen, a thriving hamlet 13 miles from West Wyalong. But all was not at peace at the home of Thomas Eugene Smith in Calleen, according to the story told, to the West Wyalong Coroner (Mr. H. Kaye) on Monday.

Here, a man and woman were struggling and, as she broke away and the man stood revealed in the moonlight, a shot rang out and the man fell dead, the Coroner was told.

Mr. Kaye was inquiring into the death of Thomas Eugene Smith (53), farmer, grazier and former shearing contractor, a married man with four adult children, who had lived in the same Calleen house for 30 years.

Smith was a big man. He was six feet tall, powerfully built and weighed more than 18 stone. Seated next to his counsel (Mr. D. E. Mackenzie) at the bar table was Samuel Matthew Smith, 18 - years -old sharefarmer of Calleen, a slightly built, fair-headed youth, who has been charged with having murdered his father. Det.-Sgt. Harold Cloke, of Wagga, said that Matthew Smith had told him he had been harvesting a wheat crop that day with his father, who was in a 'bad' mood

They had arrived home at 8.30 p.m. and his father had gone to his bedroom and remained there. Det. Sgt. Cloke said that

Smith had continued: 'Mum served out tea and then went looking for Dad, after a while I heard them arguing in the sleep-out and he did not come out for his tea.

'When Mum returned to the kitchen she was upset, and I was frightened that my father was going to do something to us. I told Mum that I would lie on my bed, but I would not go to sleep.' I then went to the bathroom, picked up a double barrel gun and loaded both barrels.

I took the gun to bed with me and put it under the blankets.

"I PUT UP THE GUN AND FIRED"

"I must have dozed off, because the next thing I knew was that my mother was standing near my bed with a blanket over her shoulders. 'Mum said she was frightened of my father, and would stay in my room for the night.

'Shortly afterwards my father came to my room, opened the door, and said, 'Where is your mother?' 'Mother was sitting on a tin-trunk behind my bedroom door and he caught hold of her and dragged her out of the room. She struggled and I heard him say to her, 'I will do for you.'

'As he pulled her across the room to the sleep-out, I grabbed my gun and walked through the back door.

'I walked in the direction of the sleep-out. I could see my mother struggling with father. I called out, 'hey' to them but my father took no notice. I then called out the second time.

'Father looked around and my mother broke away from him and ran towards the verandah. 'My father walked towards me. I was frightened he would kill me or my mother. I put up the gun and fired at him. I think I hit him about the chest or head.

'I was frightened. He looked mad. I thought he would catch my mother, and kill her as he had threatened to 'do for her.' I was about 20 feet away from father when I shot him.'

Mrs. Ellen Smith, the slight, bespectacled widow, said that on the night of the tragedy she had remained in the kitchen of her home after her husband and son had retired to bed.

Mrs. Smith said she heard a noise. She entered her son's bedroom, awakened him, and said, 'What was that noise in the bathroom — it sounded like someone getting bullets.'

The noise, however, turned out to be a cat on the roof, she said.

Mrs Smith said: 'I sat on the side of Matty's bed, we were both frightened. Matty said, "I don't know what to do.' I said, 'You ought to have a gun in here with you — if he comes in here, he has us cornered. 'Matty threw back the blankets and said, 'Look, I brought a gun in with me."

'A little later my husband came to Matty's bedroom and pushed me out of the room in the direction of the sleep-out.

'My husband said, 'Come on, I am going to do for you tonight.' I was frightened of him, as he had threatened me several times before. 'I was excited and got away from him. I hardly remember what took place, but as I was running away from my husband, Matty fired a shot. Matty then said, 'Come on, Mum, we will ring the police.'

Mrs. Smith told Mr. Mackenzie that she could not say whether her husband had had any drink at the time.

Ian George Johnston, wheat silos agent at Calleen and unofficial postmaster, said he answered a telephone call from Smith's house at 12.30a.m. on December 18, but the caller did not reply.

A little later he heard voices and saw Mrs. Ellen Smith and her son standing at the door. Mrs. Smith was crying, and the youth was carrying a shotgun. Smith had said, 'I want you to ring the West Wyalong police for me. I have shot my father,' Johnston said. Johnston said that Smith subsequently spoke to Constable Keith McDean, and then he and his mother accepted an invitation to have a cup of tea.

Johnston said he asked Smith what had happened, and Smith replied, 'I shot my father. Mum was with me when Dad came into my bedroom and started vicinity of his bedroom. 'My father said to Mother, 'I will do for you tonight.' I called on him to stop, but he took no notice.

'I called to him again, and he turned half towards me. Mum then slipped away and ran behind me. Dad said, 'Don't,' and I pulled the trigger of the gun and he fell.'

Johnston said Mrs. Smith then said to him, 'My husband gave us a hard life, and I am sure he would have choked me, or something like that, only for Matty doing what he did. You don't know what we have been through.'

John Norman Martyn, ambulance officer, of West Wyalong, said he had asked Smith how he had 'got the sight of the gun on his father in the darkness,' and Smith had replied: 'Mum was standing between me and him. The Moon shone on his face, and I let him have it.'

Smith was committed for trial. Bail was refused. On Friday, at a vacation sitting of the Supreme Court, Sydney, Mr. Justice Richardson granted Smith bail of £500. He ordered Smith to remain on his properties and to notify the police whenever he

went into West Wyalong.

Mr. Mackenzie said that the father's widow, Ellen Smith, had told him that her late husband had been a violent man, 6 feet 3 inches tall and weighing more than 18 stone. Her son, on the other hand, was only about seven stone and was shy and reserved. Mrs. Smith, herself, was only five feet tall.

Mr. Mackenzie continued: "Thomas Smith had, of late years, become a heavy drinker. ' On December 17, Mr. Mackenzie went on, Thomas Smith came home in an angry mood.

The portion of the General Cemetery at Wyalong, dedicated 17th May, 1895, set apart for Presbyterian Burial Ground:—

Messrs. Joseph Speirs, Malcolm McLeod, and Donald Fraser (in lieu of Messrs. J. Marshall, R. Smith, and A. H. Greenfield, removed).

[Ms. 1917-2,281]

NOTE.—The above is in lieu of so much of the notice in Government Gazette of 11th July, 1906, as relates to the appointment of Trustees for the land in question.

The portion of the General Cemetery at Wyalong, dedicated 17th May, 1895, set apart for Presbyterian Burial Ground:—

Messrs. Ebenezer Munro Fraser and Isaac George Nottle (in lieu of Messrs. R. Gagie and R. S. Hunter, removed).

[Ms. 1917-2,281]

1917.

[4299]

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 29th November, 1895.

IT is hereby notified, for public information, that in accordance with the provisions of the 106th section of the Crown Lands Act of 1884, His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the appointment of the undermentioned gentlemen as Trustees of the portion of the General Cemetery at Wyalong, dedicated 17th May, 1895, set apart for Church of England Burial Ground, namely:—

Messrs. John James Horrocks.
Alfred Elias Helyar.
Frederick Neeld.

[Ms. 95-5,200 Ind.]

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

NOTE.—The above is in lieu of a notice published in the Gazette of 3rd September, 1895.

