

ADFAS Mudgee Inc

ABN 38 303 378 600

Newsletter

No. 3 June 2012

Dear ADFAS Mudgee friends

ADFAS lectures in 2012 are again proving to be a wonderful and varied selection and congratulations to the Association of ADFAS for the mammoth task of selecting and organizing our NADFAS lecturers.

We have also had two fascinating Australian lecturers in 2012, with Holly Kerr Forsyth first talking about her busy life as a writer, lecturer and tour guide in Australia and abroad on gardening, while Robert Clancy discussed his great love and his detailed knowledge of cartography. Robert's display of realia – several rare and ancient maps – was most interesting.

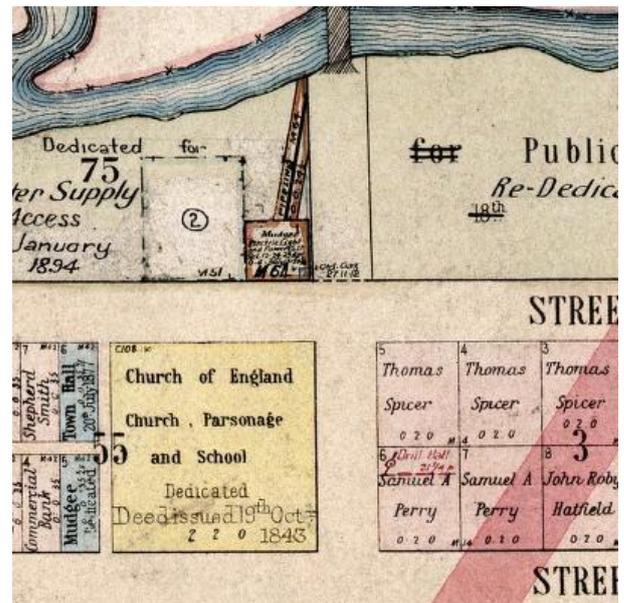
2011 AGM

The AGM for 2011 was held on Friday 2nd December at the Cudgegong Valley Public School hall, which was followed by a Powerpoint presentation from Mudgee artist Rachael Flynn. Thanks to Rachael for giving our members and guests an insight into her artistic background and evolution.

COMMITTEE

I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome incoming committee members Gai Lydiard, Marcelle Marskell, Anne Watts and Terry Croom. We have greatly appreciated their assistance in our busy 2012 ADFAS year. Your committee works hard during each year ensuring that each lecture goes smoothly.

MAPS



During the June lecture by Professor Robert Clancy on the evolution of map-making, several historic maps from the Mudgee district were also available for inspection, including an early pastoral map of the Counties of Wellington, Phillip and Roxburgh which attracted a lot of interest. Although these local maps are nowhere near as elaborate as those of the Renaissance period which were works of art in themselves, they can sometimes be colourful and reveal a wealth of information: dates of land grants, names of crown grantees, original dimensions of land grants or allotments prior to subdivision, location of vanished structures, changes in land use. The above map, a portion of a map of

Mudgee township's CBD, contains various amendments to the original layout. Section 75 once contained the town's power station, owned and managed by the Grace family of Grace Brothers in Sydney, was later the site of Mudgee TAFE, and is now parkland. The Anglican Church still occupies the eastern portion of Section 55, less some subdivisions, and the former Mudgee Town Hall building is currently being adapted and extended for use as the Mudgee library. Section 3, one of the earliest areas of Mudgee township to be released for sale by auction, has been much subdivided over the years.

ENTERTAINING

After a brief stay in Sydney, Mudgee is first port of call on Cook circuit of ADFAS for visiting NADFAS lecturers. While some are seasoned travellers to our shores, for many lecturers Mudgee is their first Australian experience. The Mudgee committee is always conscious of giving lecturers a relaxed yet enjoyable introduction to their Australian tour.



For a number of years the committee has been taking the lecturer to lunch on Saturdays to the excellent restaurants in the town and district. Tony Penrose and his son Josh greatly enjoyed their lunch at Blacklea Vineyard to the north-west of Mudgee where hosts Bernard and Gai produce a vast array of wines and home-grown oils, sauces, relishes, dressings and jams.

ADFAS Mudgee showcases the Mudgee district to the lecturer – visits to galleries, markets and museums – and also the district's premium wines which are presented after each lecture.

HAVILAH CHURCH

The Mudgee district is rich in its extant architectural heritage, and its churches are especially significant, due to their styles, materials, interiors, and associations with noted architects, members of the congregation, donors, and builders. While larger churches in towns are usually not under threat, smaller churches can now, regrettably, be at risk due to demographics or changes in land use. Such churches warrant recording and consequently I have been involved in recording a number of smaller rural churches in the Mudgee district.



Of particular significance is the delightful sandstone church sited on the noted pastoral property, Havilah, to the south-east of Mudgee (see above). Designed by Mudgee-based architect Harold Hardwick and built by John Nutt in 1905, the church was commissioned by

Henry Hunter White of Havilah and dedicated to the memory of his father Henry Charles White, a member of the pastoral pioneer White family of the Hunter Valley and New England. The Havilah church was subsequently gifted to the Anglican Parish of St John's in Mudgee and it remains an outreach church of that parish to this day.

The Havilah church is unusual for being sited on a pastoral property which, in the early 1900s, was like a vast feudal estate, with its numerous staff cottages, outbuildings (viz conservatory, laundry, stables, woolshed, shearers' quarters, ram shed etc) and its own school and railway station.



Harold Hardwick designed a number of churches in the Mudgee district, including several in locally-sourced sandstone. His original plans for the church are retained in the nearby homestead.

The Havilah church is particularly refined, with terracotta tile inserts in the battlemented tower. Outstanding features of the interior are the triple windows in the sanctuary and windows of Saints Peter and Paul in the nave. One whimsical item is the covered brick door stop embroidered with the letter **H** for Havilah.



OCTOBER 2012 LECTURE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, NADFAS lecturer Shauna Isaac will now not be available to present her lecture on "Stolen Art". Professor Heath Lees from New Zealand will fill her place on her Australian tour and will present a music-based lecture, yet to be decided. The lecture date, 5th October, remains unchanged.

MEMBER PROFILE: MERILYN BURCH-CARNEY

Artist Marilyn Burch-Carney has been a long-term member of ADFAS Mudgee and a resident of Mudgee since 1991. A prolific artist in mixed media, she has a studio adjacent to her home on

a small farm to the north-west of Mudgee, Boonyumba, mid-way between Mudgee and Gulgong.



Merilyn's schooling was at Loreto at Normanhurst where involvement in art was fostered, and she subsequently worked as a commercial artist in advertising while attending night art classes at the National Art School. She lived in West Berlin prior to re-unification and after returning to Australia undertook teaching training. She has subsequently taught in the primary and secondary systems and is now retired from teaching.



Merilyn works in oils and pastels, with no particular preference for either. Her subject matter varies, but she has a particular preference for painting children and horses, and group scenes at horse races (see above). She also paints landscapes, portraits, animals, seascapes, and to

a lesser extent abstract and still life. While she also does ceramics, painting is her focus.

Merilyn has greatly enjoyed participating in group painting activities with local and visiting artists and paints within the Mudgee district, around Murrurundi and further afield. She has staged exhibitions at The Stables in Mudgee and has her work on sale at a number of venues in the district. She is very supportive of the need for a regional gallery in our district, the lack of which is lamentable. She also has a website: www.merilynburc-carney.com where she showcases her work.



Photography by John Broadley

John Broadley, Editor

Members, remember that you are our best, and cheapest, form of advertising in promoting the ADFAS experience. Please encourage family and friends to join, or bring them along as an occasional guest.

TO JOIN ADFAS MUDGEE INC

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