

WWDHS NEWSLETTER No. 431 June 2018 – July 2018 ISSN 2207-1016

Next Meetings:

Monday 18 June 2018

at Museum of the Riverina, Willans Hill.
Committee Meeting @ 6:15pm
General Meeting @ 7:30pm.

Monday 16 July 2018

Committee Meeting @ 6.15pm
General Meeting @ 7.30 pm
Museum of the Riverina, Willans Hill

GUEST SPEAKERS

18 June 2018 Peter Gissing will be talking about ‘Anthony Brunskill: From Labourer to Landlord’

16 July 2018: Show and Tell: Members are invited to bring an item and talk about it

20 August 2018: Brian Andrews

17 September: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Excursion to Temora 16 June 2018, p.2
- News of past and future member activities, p.3
- Membership application/renewal form, p.4
- Article: The Time Gun, Collins Park, Wagga Wagga, pp. 5-14

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: ANNUAL FEES ARE DUE 1 July

WWDHS Patron: Michael McCormack, Deputy Prime Minister
and Federal Member for the Riverina

WAGGA WAGGA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
PO BOX 90, WAGGA WAGGA. 2650.

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Committee meetings: 3rd Monday of the month
6:15pm at MOR, Willans Hill site.

General meetings: 3rd Monday of the month
7:30pm at MOR, Willans Hill site.

Annual Subscriptions: Single: \$20, Couple: \$30.
Corporate: \$50. Due 1st July each year.

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Temora Railway Station

All members and friends are invited to the excursion to Temora. Travel by car to Temora (by yourself or find a Friend to travel with) and meet at the Railway Station (see above) at 10.30 a.m. Costs: \$2 admission to railway Station Museum and \$8 to the Rural Museum (group rate).

WAGGA WAGGA AND DISTRICT

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EXCURSION

TO

TEMORA

16 JUNE 2018



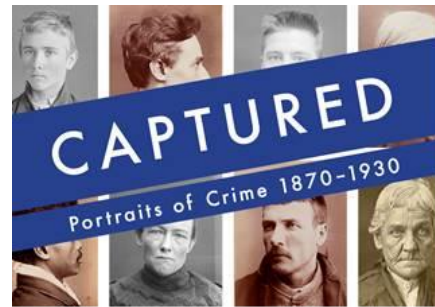
After seeing the Railway Station Museum and walking around the railyard trail with its nine interpretive panels (including the silos, the former roundhouse, wool transport, Pardey's flour mill etc) we will have lunch in Temora

After lunch we will visit the Rural Museum now called the Bundawarrah Centre. It also houses the Ambulance Museum, exhibitions, the Temora Local and Family History Research Centre, Temora Shed for Men, Mother Shipton's function centre with state-of-the-art kitchen facilities and the Visitor Information Centre.

NEWS

CAPTURED: Portraits of Crime 1870-1930

Several members attended the official opening of the CAPTURED travelling exhibition at CSU Regional Archives on 15 May 2018. It was officially opened by Martyn Killion (Manager, Public Access, State Archives NSW) and Dr Penny Stannard (Managing Curator, Exhibitions, State Archives NSW). Well worth a look – at the Archives from 14 May to 8 June 2018.



TOUR OF THE ARCHIVES, 5 May 2018

About fifteen members enjoyed the tour of the archives. I think most of the tourers were particularly impressed with the Tom Lennon Collection.

APPLICATION FOR A RAHS GRANT

WWDHS and CSU Riverina Archives are jointly applying for a Royal Australian Historical Society Grant to convert Dr Keith Swan's collection of audio records (approximately fifty audio cassettes and reel to reel recordings of interviews/seminars/talks) into a digital format.

WAL FIFE ROOM AT MOUNT ERIN

The Wal Fife Room Advisory Committee Meeting met on 14 May 2017 (including WWSHS representatives) and hope to have an Open Day sometime during September- October this year.

NEW CD released by Wagga Wagga and District Family Historical Society

WWDFHS have released a new CD on Births, Deaths and Marriages and In Memoriams from the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, and Sundry Records 1998-2017. Copies can be obtained from the family history society PO Box 307, Wagga Wagga or wwdfhs@yahoo.com.au or bank deposit:

Bendigo Bank,

BSB 633-000

Names WW&DFHS Inc

Account No: 117129452

Reference BDMCD

Other activities

Wagga Wagga and District Family History: 18 July 2018 7.30 pm:

Speaker: Sister Barbara Webber. **Topic:** Mt Erin Heritage Centre

Wagga Railway Station Museum: open on Saturdays, 11am-2pm

RAAF Wagga Aviation Heritage Centre: open every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday, 10am-4pm

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL

WAGGA WAGGA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

APPLICANTS DETAILS	
TITLE: Mr Mrs Ms Dr ...other:	
NAME:	
POSTAL ADDRESS:	
NSW 2650	
MOBIL PHONE:	HOME PHONE
EMAIL:	
I would like my bi-monthly Newsletter sent by: Post <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/>	

I..... hereby apply to become / remain a member of the Wagga Wagga & District Historical Society Inc.

Signed: Date:

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION: Please circle which applies

SINGLE	DOUBLE	CORPORATE	
\$20	\$30	\$50	

Please forward completed form and cheque to the following address:

Attention: The Secretary
Wagga Wagga & District Historical Society
PO Box 90, Wagga Wagga. NSW. 2650

Electronic payment is also accepted – details as follows:

Wagga Wagga and District Historical Society: BSB: **062600**

Account: **00800270** (Please add your name against the deposit.)

or

Completed form + cash may be handed in at a meeting

Processing of Application – Office Use Only		
Approved by Management Committee	YES	NO
Signature of Chairperson		
Applicant Advised (enter date of correspondence):		

THE 'TIME GUN', COLLINS PARK, WAGGA WAGGA

By Sherry Morris

In the early 19th century, every town in New South Wales (and the other colonies) followed its own time, according to the exact minute when the sun was directly overhead. There was no 'national time'. Timepieces were expensive and were possessed by only a privileged few people. These were usually pocket watches attached to a chain in a pocket or waistcoat, rather than wristwatches. Most people examined the sun and estimated how far it had run its course. Rural people worked from dawn to dusk or later if necessary. Clocks were more important in towns where banks and other offices and skilled tradesmen were expected to open at certain hours. Churches and schools often rang a bell to warn that services or school were about to begin. Trains and steamships blew a whistle to announce their arrival or departure. In some areas a loud gun was fired once a day usually at 1 p.m. One was fired in Hobart until 1927 and one in Perth until after the Second World War.

'A Guide to Proper Time'

By the 1870s, Wagga Wagga with a population of over 2000 was becoming an important commercial centre. Clocks and watches were becoming more common and townspeople were demanding that they have 'a guide to proper time'. Standard time (and timetables), particularly after the extension of railways to Wagga Wagga in 1878, became more desirable.

A new red brick two-storey Wagga Wagga Post and Telegraph Office constructed in 1869 had included a clock turret but a clock was not installed for nearly a decade.¹ It was only installed after prolonged pressure from the Wagga Wagga Postal Reform Committee which had been formed in January 1874. It included such influential businessmen as W. C. Hunter and David Copland, editors of the daily newspapers and other interested citizens. Joseph Leary, the Member for the District (1876-1880), finally informed the Postal Reform Committee in April 1877 that the Colonial Architect had received instructions for the erection of the clock.² Work on the installation had commenced in January 1878 but had been delayed when a suitable bell for the clock could not be obtained in the colony and one from England had to be ordered.³ It was finally installed in July 1878 by Mr Tornaghi, the supplier. The *Sydney Mail* claimed it had 'a very good tone' which could be heard at a considerable distance, while its four faces had clear, well-cut numerals so that anyone could read the time a long way off.⁴

Unfortunately, the new timepiece proved to be quite erratic and was not always reliable or accurate. As a large clock, it had to overcome the friction created by its own parts. Strong winds could retard the movement of its hands and dust could interfere with the mechanism. According to the *Sydney Mail*:

*For more than a week it startled the town by striking any number of hours at all times from one up to twenty-four until at last the postmaster and the public cried out with a frenzy.*⁵

Eventually because of complaints, the striking part in the machinery was suspended and the clock stood at half past ten for at least three weeks and 'timepieces generally in Wagga Wagga

have been floundering about in a most deplorably demonised state'. One correspondent informed the *Australian Town and Country Journal*:

*You have your complaints in Sydney about the town clock I note in abundance but for downright farcical contempt for its duties the Wagga town clock defies all competition.*⁶

Because of the vagaries of the town clock and the need for a standard time, a group of citizens turned its attention to securing a town gun to fire at 1 o'clock each day. Archdeacon William Pownall (pictured right in the 1860s) was prominent in the movement and made personal representations to the Premier Sir Henry Parkes.⁷ On 28 August 1880, the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* announced that the government had agreed to give Wagga Wagga a cannon, which they had in store, to use as a time gun. The *Advertiser* mentioned that some residents were making inquiries about the cost and method of firing off these guns in towns which were already using them.



The time gun was duly consigned to the Wagga Wagga Borough Council from the Ordnance Stores at Circular Quay in November 1880. Mayor H. B. Fitzhardinge advised his fellow aldermen at the meeting of 9 December 1880 that the gun had been presented to council by the Government which had also promised ammunition. He added that he was surprised to find a charge for the carriage of the gun (£3/17/5) made by Wright Heaton and Co which he claimed Council should not pay as the Government had promised to deliver it to Wagga Wagga free of charge.⁸ The gun was apparently delivered to the Wagga Wagga Telegraph Office as it was expected that the telegraph master could easily at little cost connect the gun and clock together 'provided that the clock could be depended on for correctness'.⁹



Wagga Wagga Post Office and Clock, 1884

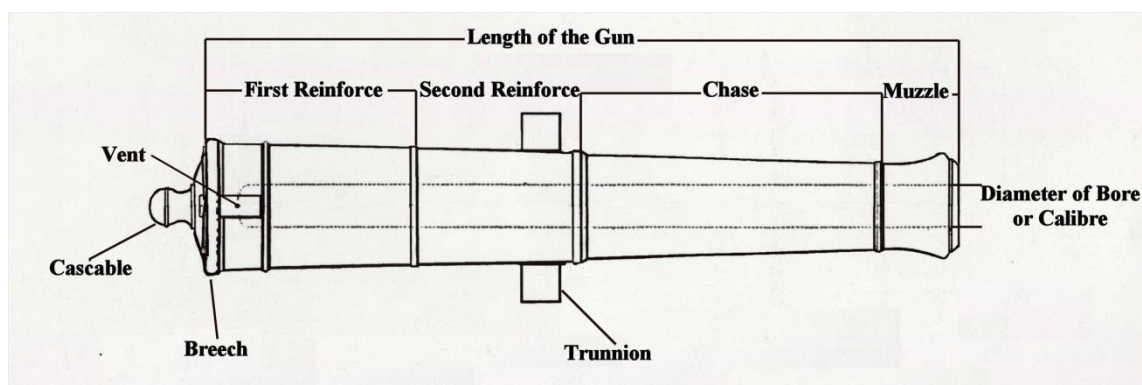
At that time the Telegraph Office in Wagga Wagga (and other country towns) had the master clock for the town; and bankers, businessmen, teachers and mail coach drivers in particular regularly called in to check that their watches were accurate. At one o'clock on every weekday the Sydney Telegraph Office sent a time signal along the telegraph lines so that each telegraph office could correct its clock. (Eastern Standard Time was not adopted until 1895).¹⁰ Unfortunately it seems that the Wagga Wagga Telegraph Office knew nothing about the gun and refused to take delivery.

The Gun

The gun consigned to the Wagga Wagga Council was a bronze, smooth bore, muzzle loading cannon. It consisted of a cylindrical bore or barrel which tapered from base to mouth with a slight muzzle swell. At the base of the barrel was a small ball called the cascabel (a Spanish word) which helped to sight the cannon. The trunnion, a cylindrical extension located about 3/7 of the gun's length (the point of balance), was used to mount the gun in its carriage. It was able to be elevated or depressed, being set and held by wedges between the cannon and the carriage or by a screw. It helped to prevent the gun from kicking up behind when it was fired.

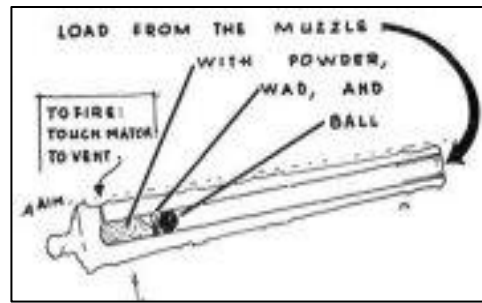
This cannon was manufactured from bronze (usually 90% copper and 10% tin), often referred to as brass at that time. Cast iron was increasingly used by the late 18th century when steam power permitted larger and cheaper quantities of cast iron to be refined and more guns to be produced more accurately. However, bronze was much lighter than iron and more manoeuvrable; it was more resistant to the shock of firing; and it could stand the force of the projectile travelling down the bore and retain its shape afterwards (it did not explode into numerous fragments as the iron cannons often did). It was also more resistant to corrosion particularly seawater corrosion and metal fatigue and thus was preferred aboard ships.

The ammunition was usually round solid cannonballs and black powder but later grapeshot, musket balls or even lengths of chain could be used. It was muzzle loaded i.e. it was loaded from the muzzle or forward open end of the gun's barrel. The gun was originally mounted on a four-wheeled wooden carriage which would have been thrown backward when the cannon was fired. It is currently placed on cement supports.



Above: Parts of the Gun. Source: Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

To fire a cannon, the bore was usually swabbed with water to extinguish any sparks that would make loading unsafe. Then gunpowder was poured into the bore and rammed down behind a wad of some material (usually felt, cloth or wood). A small amount of powder was also poured down the touch hole. The cannonball was then put in the bore and rammed onto the wad which served as a gasket to contain the gases when the charge was detonated and as a piston to push the cannonball out of the muzzle.



The gun was set to bear, and a match (a glowing stick called a slow-match or a red-hot rod) touched to the touch-hole, igniting the gunpowder trail which burnt down to the charge and ignited it. When the chamber pressure rose to the critical level the charge was detonated. A flash, a boom, a cloud of smoke and the load was sent on its way at practically the speed of sound. The gun recoiled, hurling its mass backwards against any restraint provided. Cannon were classified by the weight of the cannonball fired. Because of the size of the bore. This gun is a six-pounder although described in newspaper reports as anything between a six-pounder and a thirty-pounder.¹¹

The cannon had been cast in 1795 by F. S. Kinman, England, for the government of King George III with a Serial Number of 210. Francis Kinman was a well-known private contractor with his brother William in the 1780s and later alone at a foundry in New Street Square and Shoe Lane, London.¹² He was also a contractor to the Army and Navy Ordnance Board which took orders from War and Navy offices and placed them with appropriate contractors. For many years he was virtually the sole supplier of bronze guns outside the Royal Brass Foundry. He also sometimes supplied iron guns, especially carronades. It was recorded that Francis Kinman of London made 150 cannonades for the Ordnance Board between June 1786 and November 1798.¹³ He later cast many guns for the East India Company. Many of his guns survive today.

Three separate markings in three different positions on the cannon's barrels indicated the differing hierarchies of ownership and responsibility for the issue and manufacture of the cannon:

1. Royal Cypher on the first reinforce of the barrel denotes that the cannon was the property of the British Crown, symbolised in the person of the King as Head of State. The 'GR' which stands for *Georgius Rex* (Latin for 'King George') with the figure '3' incorporated in the 'G' indicates that the cannon was cast during the reign of King George III (1760-1820). The crowned garter encircling the cypher shows that King George III was both the Sovereign of The Most Noble Order of the Garter and the Principal Knight Companion of the Order, the senior Order of Chivalry in the British Honours System. The words '*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense*' on the representation of the garter are a French phrase meaning 'shamed be he who thinks evil of it', the motto of the English Chivalric Order of the Garter.
2. Royal Order of the Garter, motto of the Order of the Garter, '*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense*', with a crown on top. It is probably the pattern of the Master General of the Ordnance in 1795, Charles Cornwallis, a British Army Officer and Colonial Administrator who played a major role in the American War of Independence before his appointment as Head of the Ordnance Department.
3. 'F.S. Kinman 1795' above the royal cypher on the barrel, indicates the name of the founder and the date that it was manufactured.

‘The Disowned piece of ordnance’

All the newspaper reports agreed that no-one knew what to do with the gun and that it had been consigned to ‘someone’s’ back yard. Three people’s backyards were mentioned in three different reports: one claimed it had been left at Mrs Sawyer’s premises in Gurwood Street, another that it had been left at the Town Clerk’s (F. A. Thompson’s) in Little Gurwood Street (later named Sturt Street) and yet another that it had been vegetating in George Shepherd’s backyard. The Wagga Wagga correspondent to the *Australian Town and Country Journal* commented:

*The time gun, however, appears to be a sort of “Nobody’s Child”. Somebody, it appears, recommended the Government, through the Treasurer, to send it up here, but somebody forgot to ask whether we wanted it or not. The disowned, for **disowned piece of ordnance** it no doubt is now, has been bandied about, if such a heavy piece of stuff can be said to be bandied about, from Billy to Jack, and was at last put away in another somebody’s back yard. The bill for the carriage was sent to the Town Council but the aldermen refused to pay it and greatest indignity of all, the Town Clerk {F.A. Thompson}, a notorious offender in this respect, perpetrated a pun about the snubbed gift of the treasurer, too horribly bad to be repeated, even in these hard-up-for-a-paragraph times.¹⁴*

The time gun remained unused. In December 1880, the Mayor advised his fellow councillors that the ammunition had not yet arrived although he expected ‘all the necessary adjuncts would arrive in due course’. Alderman Phillips commented that he thought the gun would be useful and should be put in position. The Town Clerk amused the aldermen when he commented that the gun had been obtained through the instrumentality of the Venerable Archdeacon Pownall but that ‘he was not aware that it was part of the ecclesiastical duty of an archdeacon to appoint a *cannon*’.¹⁵

Some fears were expressed that the gun could scare horses and cause accidents but it was suggested it should be placed to Church Hill to avert this. There were more fears that someone could be hurt while firing it particularly after (at the suggestion of the government) contacting a gentleman in Gundagai to ascertain how it was fired and what it cost annually. The Gundagai man replied that:

It is about fifteen or sixteen years since Gundagai boasted of a time-gun, and after some months’ usage it finally burst, nearly killing the individual whose province it was to discharge it daily. The cost of powder was subscribed by the townsfolk, and I have heard some since say that it was an expensive item. The powder used, I believe, was blasting powder; but I cannot find out what quantity was used for a charge. The gun, or cannon, I speak of was about eighteen inches long, and was fixed to a tree stump in front of the old telegraph office on the hill.¹⁶

The Gundagai time gun actually served Gundagai and its district within a radius of five miles ‘to enjoy the convenience of uniformity of time’ for four years before coming to grief on Monday 16 February 1863. The incident was described in detail by the *Sydney Morning Herald*:

At the hour of firing, one o'clock, the inhabitants were startled by hearing an unusually loud report, and immediately after John O'Donnell, the telegraph line inspector who acted as gunner, was perceived by persons in the vicinity lying on the ground near the gun. Fearing that some accident had occurred several parties went up, and discovered that the piece had burst, and O'Donnell in a state of insensibility, the blood flowing from a wound in his head.... The flap of the ear had been divided and there was a severe contusion on the side of the head, which at first was supposed to be more severe than has proved to be the case. O'Donnell's escape from death was almost miraculous, as the force of the explosion shattered the gun into fragments which were scattered in all directions. The breech of the gun, which was a thickness of three inches was split into several parts, of which one portion only has been found. A piece of iron used as a brace, and weighing about eight pounds was blown to a distance of fifty yards... The cause of the accident is supposed to be on account of the charge having become damp. The gun, which was exposed to the weather, had been loaded on the previous Friday and had not been fired till the day in question. It is more than probably, from the appearance of the remnants of the gun that the accident arose from an excessive charge which was used.¹⁷

One correspondent to the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, suggested that somebody 'must have a down on somebody in Wagga Wagga' in order to present its citizens with such a gun. He added:

By George if your experience with it ever equals the Gundagai's people with theirs, somebody's bound to get 'rubbed out'.¹⁸

At a special meeting of the Wagga Wagga Borough Council on 10 February 1881 the Mayor drew attention to the fact that the town gun had not been used. Several articles had been sent which belonged to the gun and the Government had agreed to send the necessary ammunition for loading when the council was prepared to stow away the powder in a safe place. Several of councillors indulged in a little merry-making over the subject. Alderman Evans suggested the ammunition etc should be handed over to the fire brigade (laughter). Alderman Baker suggested that it be presented to Archdeacon Pownall and Alderman Hayes said there was a bigger gun than that possessed by the council in Wagga and upon inquiry as to where it was to be found Alderman Hayes replied it was in the Works Committee at which several of the councillors laughed – Alderman Evans excepted.¹⁹ Several newspapers as far away as Brisbane, Queensland, found Wagga Wagga's white elephant a source of amusement.²⁰

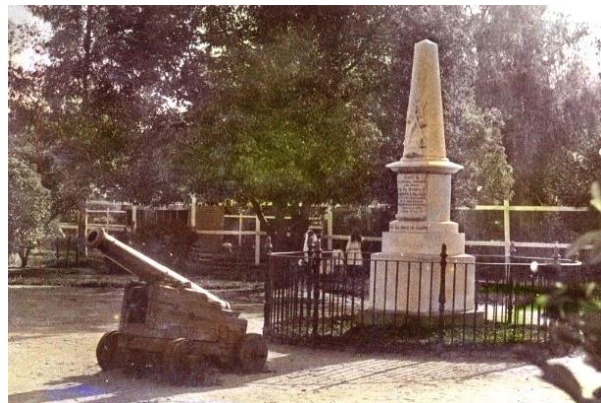
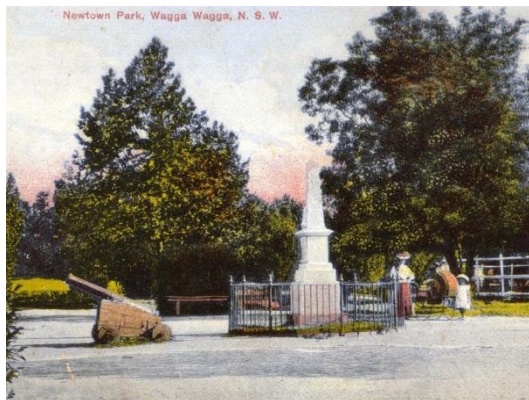
By the end of 1881 the gun was capable of making a noise and the *Sydney Mail's* Wagga Wagga correspondent reported that 'the old year was parted with to the accompaniment of three bangs from the gun'. He said it made a very great noise and might be heard again on Empire Day (24 May) 'if any loyal individual came along with a supply of powder.' Apparently, it was never used as a time gun but it continued to be used on Empire Day and other occasions.

After the formation of the local infantry in 1885 with H. B. Fitzhardinge (Mayor when the cannon was delivered) as the Commanding Officer, the gun was brought out each Queen's Birthday for the custom of firing a la feu-de-joie in celebration. At this stage it may have been kept in George Sheppard's yard as stated in the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, 26 May 1897. In 1897 the cannon was being kept at the racecourse and that year it was fired by retired veteran ex-sergeant Hobson. The reporter suggested that the local military men should obtain a more modern gun to practice on and to use for state occasions.

In September 1903 Captain C. F. Warren, the commanding officer of the G. Company (No. 4 Battery Field Artillery) local corps since February 1902,²¹ wrote to the Wagga Wagga Municipal Council offering to hand the gun over to the council when it was ready to take charge of it since the Headquarters no longer had any use for it.

A Permanent Home

After Council accepted the gun, it decided to place it in one of the parks. Alderman J. Hayes noted that the gun could be still safely used for firing blank cartridges. The newspaper mistakenly claimed the gun was a 30-pounder and had been obtained by Mr Gormly when he was Mayor (he was actually Mayor 1884-1886) and had once been part of the armament of HMS *Sirius* (but the *Sirius* was wrecked before the gun was manufactured!).²² The gun was subsequently placed in Newtown Park near the Palazzi Anglo-Boer War monument. This was one of the earliest parks in Wagga Wagga. It was often referred to by residents as the Bird Park because of the collection of birds in aviaries as well as native animals and duck ponds. It was renamed Collins Park on 4 April 1935 in honour of Edward Easter Collins, a Wool and Produce Merchant in Kincaid Street who had been an alderman of the Municipality from 1910 and Mayor for twelve years and a Member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales from 1932 until 1936.



Two postcards depicting the cannon with the Palazzi Memorial in Newtown Park in the early 1900s. Experts believe that The wooden carriage may not be the original carriage.



Two photographs with concrete bases replacing the earlier wooden carriage

By the time the gun had been moved to the park, a clock had been installed at the courthouse. Although no provision had been made for a turret clock in the original building, a separate tender had been called for the erection of a tower. After the tower was nearly completed in April 1902 the old clock was returned from Sydney after having been put in good order and new 5' dials fixed. It was officially opened by James Gormly MLA in August 1902.



The Court House and Clock Tower in the early 1900s

However, this clock also did not keep good time. Residents were again frustrated and one suggested that the cannon in Newtown Park be requisitioned to once a week signal the Sydney mean time.²³ However, the gun remained in Newtown Park.

During the Second World War, it was suggested that the old gun could be used as salvage for the war effort and melted down for munitions. According to newspaper reports it was still being used on Empire Day and other special occasions. It was claimed that on one occasion there was no ammunition and the Mayor had wired for some ammunition adding: 'Wagga's Loyalty Imperilled'. The ammunition had arrived and according to the newspaper Wagga's loyalty was saved.

Fortunately, the Mayor refused to donate it to the cause because of its 'historic associations', it now being claimed that the gun had been used to quell a disturbance between miners and the Chinese at Lambing Flat 'in the early 1850s' (sic). The newspaper added: 'the cannon is still to be guardian of the town's loyalty'. Interestingly this is the only time that it was claimed that the gun had been used to quell a disturbance between miners and the Chinese at Lambing Flat near Young.²⁴

The gun remained in Collins Park.

Myths?

Was it a ship's gun?

It is difficult to determine whether it was a ship's gun or a field gun. There does not appear to have been a breeching ring on top of the cascable (usually present in ship's guns to take the breeching rope which attached the gun to the side of the ship and prevented it from recoiling) nor a loop under the cascable which is threaded to take the elevating screw for the field carriage. The fact that it was originally mounted on wheels means that it was probably a field gun.

Was the gun once been part of the armament of HMS Sirius?

When the First Fleet had arrived in 1788, cannon were offloaded from the *Sirius* and positioned around Sydney Cove to protect the settlement. However, these guns would have been manufactured before this cannon and the *Sirius* was wrecked before the gun was manufactured.

Was the gun used in the Lambing Flat riots?

According to the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company, it is unlikely that this cannon was used at Lambing Flats as those guns were described as 12-pounders. The only reference to the use of the cannon at the Lambing Flat riots was in 1941 when moves were being made to acquire it for salvage. Newspaper reports claimed it had been used in the Lambing Flat riots of the 1850s (which were actually in the 1860s). Since the sign associated with the cannon made a similar error i.e. that it was used in the riots 'of the 1850s' it appears likely that this statement was based on these newspaper reports.

Was it a gun consigned to the NSW Corps in 1799?

Kevin Browning OAM from the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company believes that this gun may have been a six-pounder brass field gun which arrived on the ship *Porpoise* early 1799, consigned to the NSW Corps. A return of 1806 shows two six-pounder brass guns were located at Government House and two at Barracks Square, Sydney. Kevin Browning believes that it is most likely to be one of the latter. There is a similar gun currently at Vacluse which may have been the second gun located at Barracks Square.²⁵ When the British regular forces left NSW in 1870, all their guns remained in the colony.

Dimensions:

Length of barrel: 5'3½ (161cm)

Bore/diameter: 3¾" (95mm)

Outside diameter at the muzzle:
190mm tapering to 140 mm near
the first ring

Outside diameter at the breech
end: 250mm approx.

Weight: 5 cwt, 3 qr, 13 lbs





The cannon in front of the Memorial to Joseph Palazzi who died at Palmietfontein, South Africa, on 19 July 1900 during the Anglo-Boer War

¹ *An Australian Post Office History*, Wagga Wagga, NSW Historical Section, Australia Post, 29 June 1988.

² *Sydney Morning Herald (SMH)*, 27 April 1877.

³ *Australian Town and Country Journal (AT&CJ)*, 10 January 1874, 1 April 1876, 28 April 1877, 2 June 1877, 25 August 1877.

⁴ *SMH*, 25 July 1878.

⁵ *Sydney Mail*, 5 October 1878; Keith Swan, 'P. O. Clock gave us Standard Time', *Daily Advertiser (DA)*, 21 February 1970.

⁶ *AT&CJ*, 6 March 1880.

⁷ Wagga Wagga Municipal Council (WWMC), Minutes, 9 December 1880, Charles Sturt University Regional Archives (CSURA); *Wagga Wagga Advertiser (WWA)*, 11 December 1880; *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* in 1898.

⁸ WWMC, Minutes, 9 December 1880, CSURA.

⁹ *Sydney Mail*, 11 September 1880; Keith Swan, 'The Wagga Town Gun Episode', *DA*, 28 February 1970.

¹⁰ Geoffrey Blainey, *Black Kettle and Full Moon: Daily Life in a Vanished Australia*, pp.155-175.

¹¹ J. Calvert, Naval Warfare in the Age of Sail, <https://mysite.du.edu/~jcalvert/hist/navalwar.htm>; Rob Ossian, Early Smoothbore Cannon, http://www.thepirateking.com/historical/cannon_smoothbores_early.htm; Sailing Ship Ammunition, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/ship/sail-ammo.htm>

¹² *Saint James Chronicle or British Evening Post*, London, England, 24 June 1786; *English Chronicle or Universal Evening Post*, London 5 December 1789.

¹³ The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company, 'Preserving Our Artillery History', <http://www.artilleryhistory.org>

¹⁴ *AT&CJ*, 18 December 1880.

¹⁵ *WWA*, 11 December 1880.

¹⁶ *WWA*, 11 September 1880.

¹⁷ *SMH*, 4 March 1863.

¹⁸ *WWA*, 16 September 1880.

¹⁹ WWMC, Minutes, 10 February 1881, CSURA.

²⁰ *The Queenslander* (Brisbane), 25 December 1880.

²¹ *SMH*, 1 March 1902.

²² *WWA*, 26 September 1903; *Wagga Wagga Express (WWE)*, 26 September 1903.

²³ *WWE*, 9 April 1904.

²⁴ *Albany Advertiser* (Western Australia), 7 July 1941; *Advocate* (Burnie, Tasmania) 22 July 1941.

²⁵ Member, Historical Committee, Kevin Browning retired to Sydney after a twenty-nine-year career in the Australian Army and four years in the superannuation industry. He saw active service in South Vietnam with Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery and 12 Field Regiment RAA. He attended the Long Gunnery Staff Course (Locating) at the Royal School of Artillery, United Kingdom. He has held appointments as Master Gunner School of Artillery, Land Command Artillery and the Regiment and ended his career as Regimental Sergeant Major Training Command. He has been a member of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company since 1985 and currently the Collection Manager of that Company.