

WWDHS NEWSLETTER No. 436 Apr 2019 – May 2019 ISSN 2207-1016

Next Meetings:

Monday 15 April 2019: Committee Meeting 6.15 p.m. General Meeting: 7.30 p.m. at Museum of the Riverina, Historic Council Chambers, Baylis St

Monday 20 May 2019: Committee Meeting @ 6.15pm, General Meeting at 7.30 pm. at Museum of Riverina, at the corner of Baylis and Morrow streets, Wagga Wagga

GUEST SPEAKERS

15 April 2019: Mary Kidson will be speaking on Women in Council, MOR, Historic Council Chambers, corner of Baylis and Morrow streets Wagga Wagga

20 May 2019: Jeff Hoffman of Milbulong will be speaking about some interesting Milbrulong history at MOR, Historic Council Chambers, corner of Baylis and Morrow streets, Wagga Wagga

NEWS

1. Geoff Burch was elected President of the Society in February. Congratulations Geoff.
2. The Society welcomes new members, Wayne Doubleday and Fiona and Steve Jaques
3. The digitisation of our holdings held at Charles Sturt University Riverina Archives (RW5) have been completed
4. Ian Stewart, Geoff Burch, Tony Dunn and Robert Haywood have been transcribing oral histories including recordings of Laurie Fromholz and Jim Elphick

Committee meetings and general meetings will be held at the Museum of the Riverina, Historic Council Chambers, Baylis Street, Wagga Wagga, until further notice.

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

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Committee meetings: 3rd Monday of the month 6:15pm at MOR, Historic Council Chambers

General meetings: 3rd Monday of the month 7:30pm at MOR, Historic Council Chambers

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

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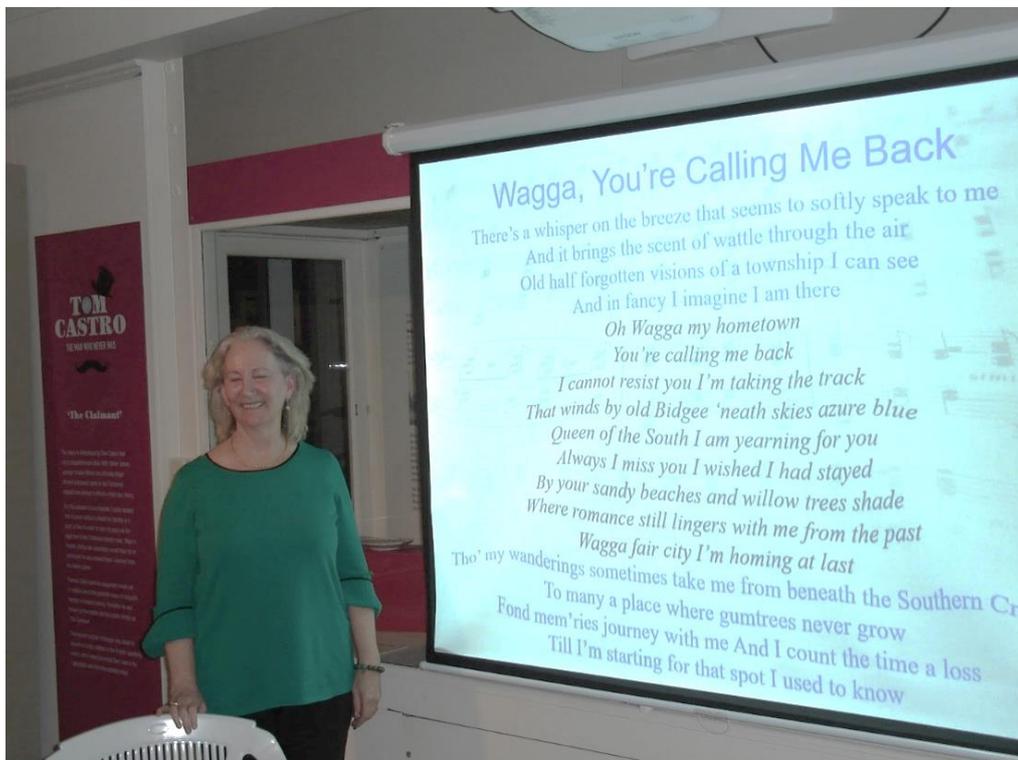
SPEAKER FOR APRIL 2019: MARY KIDSON, WOMEN IN COUNCIL

Mary Kidson, a councillor from 1977 to 1999, was the longest serving woman on Wagga Wagga City Council. She was a delegate to the Riverina Community Library Service (now Riverina Regional Library) Committee for the entirety of her time as a Councillor and was its Chairperson from 1991 to 1998. She supported the establishment of the NSW Country Public Libraries Association in 1989, and was its Chairperson from 1995 to 1997, and Chairperson of its South-West Zone from 1996 to 1998.



In more recent times she has been involved with the Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care (WWRFDCC) as a founder and the Patron. During celebrations to mark Family Day Care Week the WWRFDCC Hall at the Botanic Gardens was renamed in recognition of her contribution.

SUE WEEKES: ORIGINAL MUSIC AT 'BACK TO WAGGA' WEEKS



Sue Weekes during her entertaining talk in March on the original music used at 'Back to Wagga' weeks

VALE MARGARET ELIZABETH GARDINER

Margaret was born in Kogarah on 9 October 1934. She attended various primary schools as her father, a teacher, moved up the promotion ladder. After briefly attending the selective St George Girls High School, she moved to Griffith High School when her father was appointed Principal of the Hanwood Village Primary School. Here she met Henry Gardiner from Yoogali Village and they enjoyed exploring the countryside on their bikes. She participated in local Griffith Amateur Dramatic Society productions and was an enthusiastic member of the School Choir and played tennis and netball. After obtaining her Leaving Certificate, she and Henry both attended Wagga Teachers College and both enjoyed singing in the choir with Margaret winning Best Choir Baton in a College Competition at Bendigo College.



On graduating Margaret taught Infants' School in Revesby and later in the Bankstown area. She and Henry married at Thirroul Presbyterian Church on 5 January 1957. Margaret resigned from teaching in 1961 and three children were born within the next five years, Mark, Elizabeth and Bruce. She later taught casually in Wagga and Goulburn and graduated Bachelor of Education at the Riverina Murray Institute of Higher Education in 1987.

While in Wagga Wagga, Margaret was active in many local clubs and societies including Cantilena Singers, Inner Wheel, Spinners and Weavers and of course the Wagga and District Historical Society and Wagga Family History Society. Most of us remember Margaret knitting. She began at the age of four and continued until October 2018 (exactly eighty years) and won many prizes along the way. On one occasion her knitting needles were confiscated as a security risk in a flight to Cairns. She completed the rug she was knitting with chopsticks and won First Prize for over 70 Years' Knitters in the Wagga Show with that article. Margaret died after a long illness at Calvary Hospital on 12 February 2019. We will miss her.

VALE MICHAEL GEORGIU

Former member of Wagga Wagga and District Historical Society, Michael Georgiou, passed away at Calvary Hospital on 23 February 2019. Michael was born in the coastal fishing village of Avia Napa in Cyprus in 1940 and came to Australia in 1950. He attended Wagga Public School in Gurwood Street and worked in the family's café after school and on weekends. He later established his own business, Michael's Delicatessen, which he and his wife, Dawn, conducted for about thirty-five years. A tireless contributor to the Wagga Wagga community, he was a former councillor and deputy mayor of Wagga Wagga City Council, a recipient of a Paul Harris Fellowship (Rotary's highest award) and a member of South Wagga Apex. He was a devoted family man, astute businessman and a pillar of the Greek community as well as a supporter of our society.



REMEMBERING HISTORY ONE BUILDING AT A TIME

Article by Jess Whitty, *The Daily Advertiser*, Tuesday, 5 March 2019

WAGGA historians are pushing a proposal to preserve the city's people, places and events that hold historical significance.

The Wagga District Historical Society has contacted Wagga City Council about a plaque project that would identify important buildings or locations across the city.

President of the WDHS Geoff Burch said the Green Plaques Project would ensure that history is retained for future generations and is not lost as the older generations pass on. "There's plenty of evidence that established icons and tools are good for tourism and develops the community, in a way that gives them a sense of pride and what the city did in the past," he said.

Mr Burch said the limited size of plaques would restrict information but an app, such as Heritage Near Me, would provide greater detail.

"The green plaques are only a small round disc and don't allow a lot of information, such as what the site originally contained and when, and then it would link to an app that provides more detail," he said. "In combina-



PAST CONNECTIONS: Wagga District Historical Society president Geoff Burch has proposed to Wagga City Council to implement plaques on significant buildings in Wagga, such as The Home, with supplied picture from 1927.

tion with the plaques, heritage tours and walks and the app, it all inter-meshes and presents a nice picture for the town and tourism."

Mr Burch identified several significant buildings in Wagga, such as Prince of Wales, The Home, Thirsty Crow and Uneke Lounge, which formally was the site of the Squatters Hotel.

"I think most of the plaques would be implemented in the older areas,

but there are other pockets outside," he said. "Events are also important as March 22 will mark the centenary of the first person who died from the Spanish flu, where 32 people in Wagga died.

"This event impacted the whole town as they closed all the schools and people could only go to pubs for a restricted time and there were rules where you could or couldn't go. For a plaque that represented an event,

you'd try to find a location that linked to it; South Wagga Public School was used as a hospital to treat those with the flu," Mr Burch said.

Wagga historian Sherry Morris said many other regional areas, like Berry, have plaques installed and that it adds more interest to the town. "I think it's very important and I think at the moment there is not enough access to historical information," she said.

The state government's Office of Environment and Heritage is still developing the Heritage Near Me app, with the help from council, CSU Archives and the WDHS. "The project is currently unfunded and staff continue to look for external funding opportunities and will continue to liaise with the WDHS when funding opportunities become available," manager community services Madeleine Scully said.

Bidgee Whaler articles

In the 1970s and 1980s, Sylvia Walsh, in her role as the publicity officer for the Wagga Wagga and District Historical Society, wrote a series of articles under the nom de plume of 'Bidgee Whaler'. Sylvia's Bidgee Whaler articles record the activities of the Historical Society, but also contain insights into the history of Wagga Wagga and district.

Sylvia's son Brian Walsh has collated as many of these articles as were readily accessible, some in the format of the original newspaper clippings and others in the format of Sylvia's carbon copies.

These items are now available online at the following link <http://www.bidgeewhaler.com>

Our thanks to Brian for making these clippings so readily available

Following articles

A Strange Looking Van, researched by Geoff Haddon, written by Sherry Morris, pp.5-8

Allotment 1, Section 1, Town and Parish of South Wagga Wagga by Geoff Burch, pp.9-18

A STRANGE LOOKING VAN

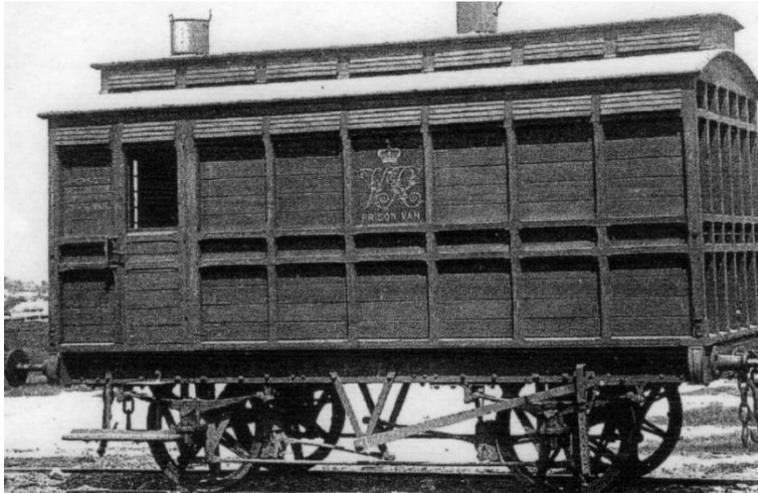
Sherry Morris and Geoff Haddon

In the early 1960s, Geoff Haddon started work in the Way and Works Office behind the Wagga Wagga Station Master's residence. One particular morning, he watched 'a strange looking van' being placed in the South Dock of the Wagga Railway Station by the engine off the Albury Mail. A short time later he watched the Wagga Shunter place a bogie livestock van and goods brake van onto this van and place all three vehicles onto the railway platform. The next morning, whilst on the railway station, he heard a conversation relating to this 'strange looking van'. It appears the Tumbarumba railmotor was replaced by a steam engine, passenger carriage (brought over from the Junee carriage shed during the night), van, livestock van and brake van for the Tumbarumba train service. It is not known whether the 'van' which turned out to be a prison van was occupied for the forward journey but on its return 'clients of the Wagga Court' were loaded on at the Wagga Railway Station for onwards transit. It appears one of the 'clients' created a scene during loading. Geoff decided to investigate 'strange looking vans' and found some very interesting information!

Prior to the advent of trains, prisoners from regional areas were transported by road for trials or imprisonment. In 1859, for example, three policemen had to escort three prisoners from Goulburn where they had their trial for charges of murder, manslaughter and highway robbery and were then returning to the Albury lock-up. According to the *Wagga Wagga Express*, it was a 'very precarious journey' particularly as one of the prisoners tried very hard to escape while on the road and the lives of the escorts were threatened several times by the 'desperadoes'. The prisoners had to walk the whole of the distance. The *Express* concluded: Surely the Government ought to find some other mode of conveying prisoners such long distances.¹

After the first train arrived at North Wagga (now Bomen) on 3 September 1878, conveying prisoners by train became the preferred option. However, railway passengers often protested about being compelled to travel with prisoners in the custody of the police. According to the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, one lady with two children on the southern line was 'thrown into consternation at being enforced to become the fellow-traveller with a Bill Sykes-looking ruffian in leg-irons and handcuffs'. It was reported that one of the children went into hysterics. The *Advertiser* suggested that the railway authorities should have special vans made for the conveyance of 'those persons who by their misconduct have forfeited all claims on society'.

In fact, to enable prisoners to be transported under conditions that would not allow them to escape, a special van had already been constructed in 1867 when the railway reached Mittagong to enable prisoners to be transported to and from Berrima Gaol.² A *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* reporter discovered this just seventeen days later when he saw 'a very peculiar carriage' attached to the break van on a train. It differed from the other carriages in having no windows and to all appearances very little ventilation. On enquiring the *Advertiser* discovered that it was called, in prison parlance, 'Black Maria'. It was used as a receptacle for twelve prisoners travelling to Darlinghurst. It included a motley group of seven hardened criminals, four boys whose parents has either deserted them or were deceased and a mad man who made life difficult for his fellow passengers. These passengers had to remain huddled together until the train arrived at Redfern the following morning. During that time, they had no bedding, no blankets and no food – only water.³



Left: A Prison Van

Note that the 'things on the roof are not chimneys. They are 'cans' for the prisoners inside the van which were removed to the roof after use for airing

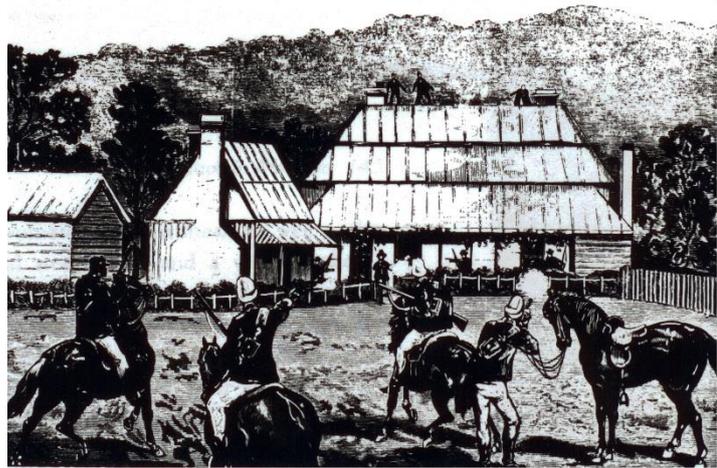
Source: Australian Railway Historical Society: NSW (ARHSnsw)

The most famous prisoners transported in a prison railway van were the Wantabadgery bushrangers, Captain Moonlite and his gang, in November 1879. The gang had held up the Wantabadgery Station and murdered one policeman, Constable Edward Webb Bowen at McGlede's hut in their effort to escape. After their trial at Gundagai they travelled from Cootamundra in the prison railway van on the southern mail train. At all the stations along the line, crowds assembled to obtain a glimpse of the 'notorious desperadoes'. Moonlite seemed keen to avoid observation by wrapping himself in a blanket when approaching stations. One observer called out that the bushrangers should all be lynched. Moonlite responded, 'Give me a rifle, and I'd like to see who would lynch me then.' They arrived at Redfern Station in Sydney at 7 a.m. where a crowd of several hundred had assembled. The *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* described their arrival:

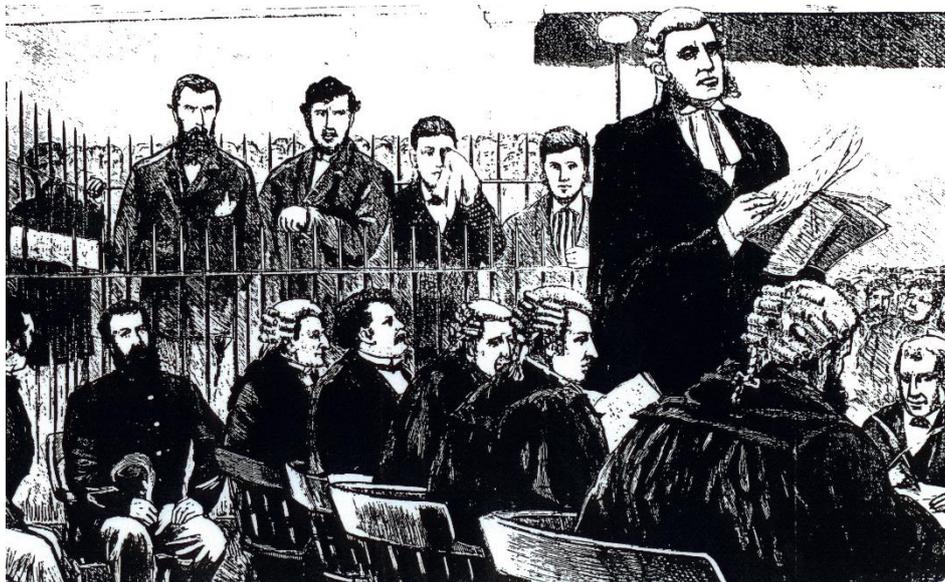
The prison van was next to the engine, and as the train stopped that part of the platform was rushed, the police present managing with difficulty to keep a clear passage. On the door of the van being opening, Sergeant Carroll appeared and the arms, swags etc of the bushrangers were then handed out, and were seriously gazed upon by the assemblage. After standing still about 10 minutes, the train backed a few yards to allow the van to be placed opposite one of the Regent-street gates. The crowd rushed after the train, and every spot of vantage was secured, numbers clambering on to the top of the carriages and on the van and peering curiously in through the gratings to catch a glimpse of the prisoners. The bushrangers seemed cowed and scared and glad to escape from the observation of the crowd and get into the van, which was waiting outside the gate. They were heavily manacled and leg-ironed and they had to be assisted into the prison conveyance. Owing to the density of the assemblage but few had the opportunity of seeing the men and had to be satisfied with hearing the rattling of the fetters.⁴

The bushrangers were then taken to Darlinghurst where a large crowd had also assembled. Some had ascended the scaffolding where additions to the gaol were being erected. After they were hung, their bodies were moved towards the Redfern Mortuary and then to Redfern Station, and then to Haslam's Creek Cemetery (now known as Rookwood) for burial. Captain Moonlite was reinterred in the Gundagai Cemetery in January 1995.

By the 1890s, prisoners were still being transported by rail including a prisoner named Riley who had been sentenced at the Wagga Circuit Court to twelve months' hard labour in Darlinghurst gaol and transferred to Sydney on the evening mail train and Archie Bennett who had been sentenced by the Tumbarumba bench to two months in the Wagga gaol. Prisoners deemed mentally deranged were conveyed by trains to asylums.⁵



Left: Andrew George Scott (also known as Captain Moonlite). Right: The police converge on Wantabadgery Station which had been held up by Captain Moonlite and his gang



The Trial of Andrew George Scott and his followers, Rogan, Williams and Bennett

In 1913, a prison van was described in *Truth*,

This glaring red-painted van resembles from the outside nothing better than a horse box, and, it is understood, from those who have experienced its inner accommodation, that the inside is not superior to the outside. Ventilation is supplied through an exceedingly small number of wooden gratings, and there is the external provision of iron bars, locks, bolts, and keys. On the exterior of the van is painted: 'Persons are cautioned not to approach this van', as if it were the circus truck of a travelling menagerie of ferocious wild animals, or a depot for explosives.⁶

The 'Truth' reporter did point out that when the prison van is drawn up at a railway platform it is at once surrounded by a large crowd of morbid onlookers who comment upon and jeer the prisoners when they are marched to or from the van. In 1920, nine men committed by the Junee Police Court to stand trial at the Albury Quarter Sessions, had to be transferred because of the inadequate police force in Junee where only three officers were permanently stationed.⁷

As late as 1939, 160 long term prisoners were transported in the 'Black Maria' and prison vans from Bathurst Gaol to Sydney (while short term prisoners were released) to make room for a Concentration Camp for the internment of 'aliens' during the War. Several of these prisoner were then transported in prison vans to Goulburn prison.⁸



*Above: Bogie Wagons suitable for Passenger and Fast Goods Trains
Source: ARHSnsw*

¹ *Wagga Wagga Express*, 12 February 1859.

² *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, 11 September 1878.

³ *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, 28 September 1878.

⁴ *Wagga Wagga Advertiser*, 29 November 1879; *Northern Star* (Lismore), 6 December 1879.

⁵ *Wagga Wagga Express*, 3 April 1897.

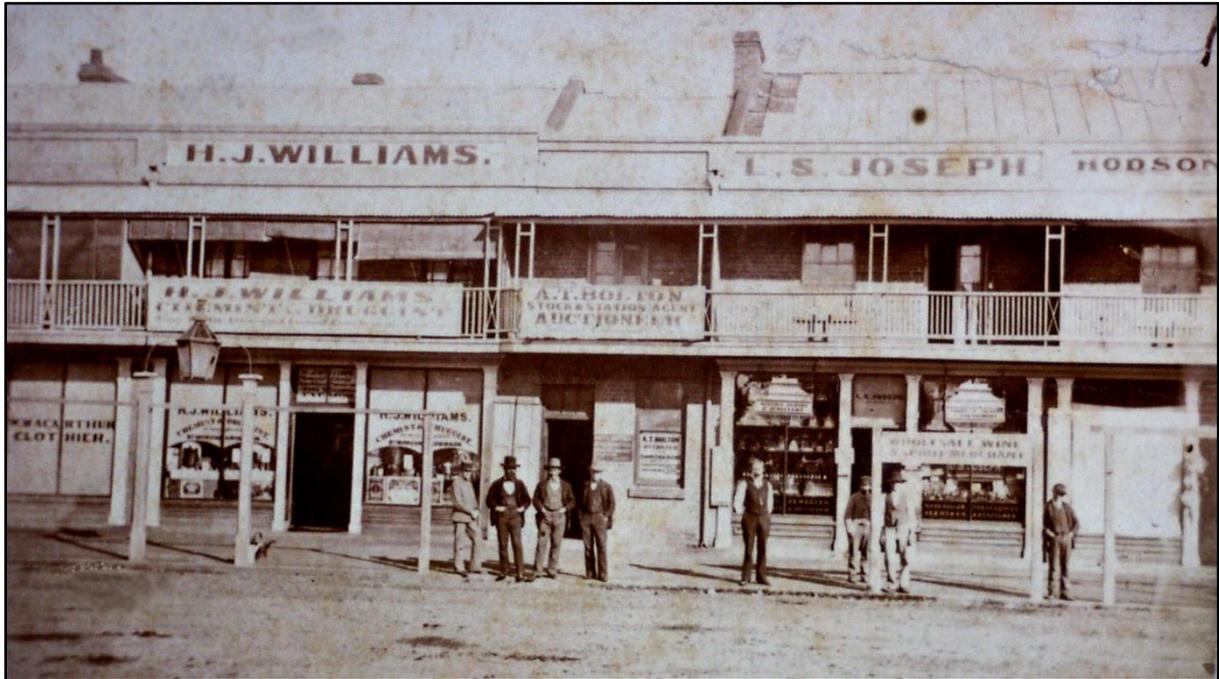
⁶ *Truth*, Sydney, 11 May 1913.

⁷ *Wagga Wagga Express*, 15 November 1920.

⁸ *National Advocate* (Bathurst, NSW), 6 September 1939; *Goulburn Evening Post*, 12 September 1939 and *Daily Advertiser*, 16 September 1939.

Allotment 1, Section 1, Town and Parish of South Wagga Wagga.

Then and Now



Above: A row of shops facing Fitzmaurice Street, c.1880's. To the right was the Pastoral hotel (the ABC Studios in 2019) and to the left was Gurwood Street. Courtesy Frank Pagram.

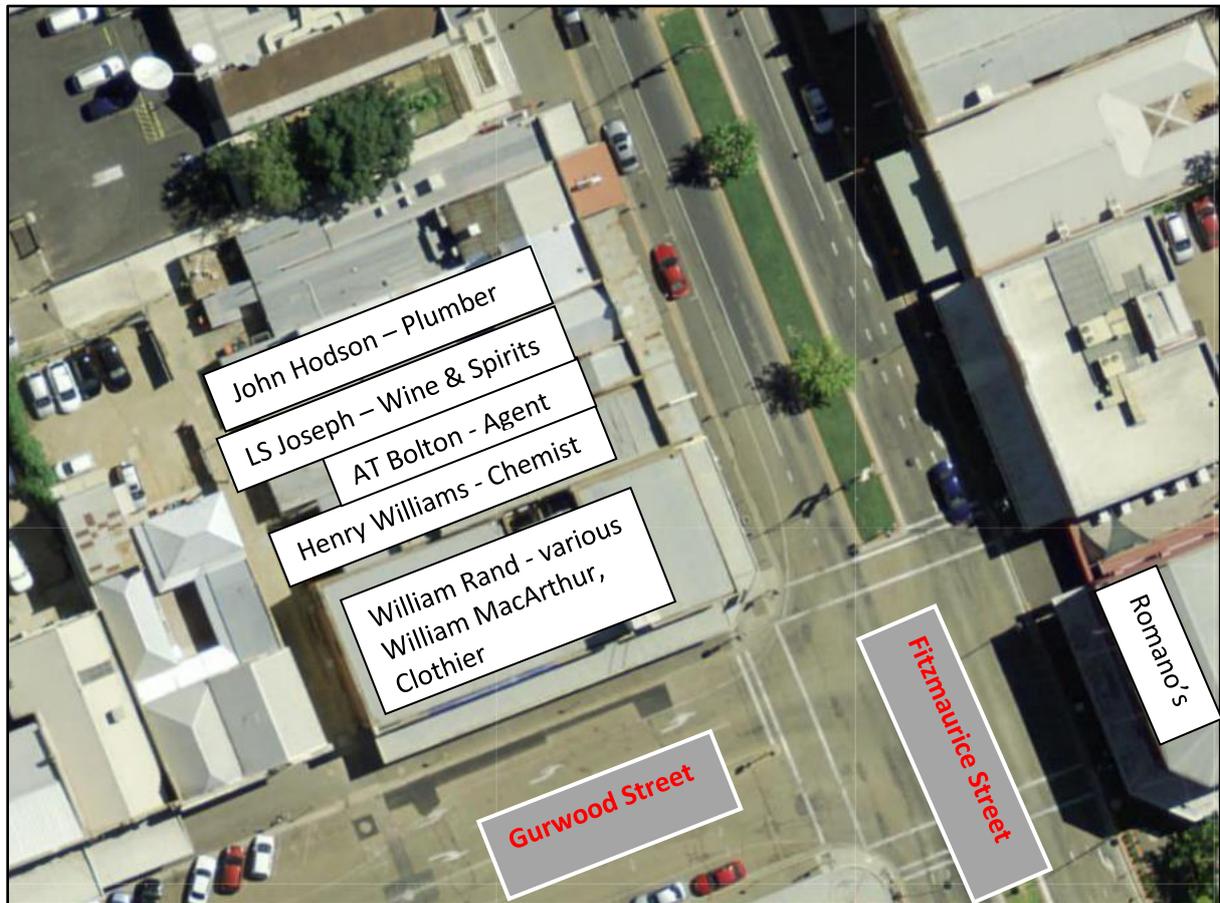
There are five businesses featured in this photo. From left to right:

1. William M MacArthur, clothier [part of 84-86 Fitzmaurice Street]
2. Henry J Williams, chemist and druggist [88 Fitzmaurice Street]
3. Alexander Thorley Bolton, stock & station agent and auctioneer [90 Fitzmaurice Street]
4. Lawrence S Joseph, wholesale wine and spirit merchant [92 Fitzmaurice Street]
5. John Hodson, plumber [94 Fitzmaurice Street]



Above: The same street scene in 2019, with the ABC studios out of shot to the right.

The old buildings were all brick structures, and all two storey, with balconies. There were additional businesses to the left and right of those shown in the old photo, all of which were part of allotment 1, section 1. Alexander Thorley Bolton conducted his agency business from 1880-1890,¹ and the old photo is almost certainly from that period.



Above: Aerial view of the site in 2019, with the old business names imposed.

Fire

There was a fire in June 1897, which threatened a number of the shops. It started in LS Joseph's jeweller and tobacconist shop, downstairs, under the counter, and spread to adjoining shops. The rear portion of this shop was sublet to Mr G Heggie, hairdresser.

The fire spread south - firstly to the offices of Messrs Heath & Irvine [formerly AT Bolton] and then onto the chemist shop of Henry Williams.

To the north of Joseph's shop was the toy and fancy goods shop of Mr Patton, and adjacent to the latter was an empty shop known as the "*Boss Tailor's*." These three premises were all owned by Charles Hardy. The offices occupied by Messrs Heath & Irvine were owned by Alexander Thorley Bolton.

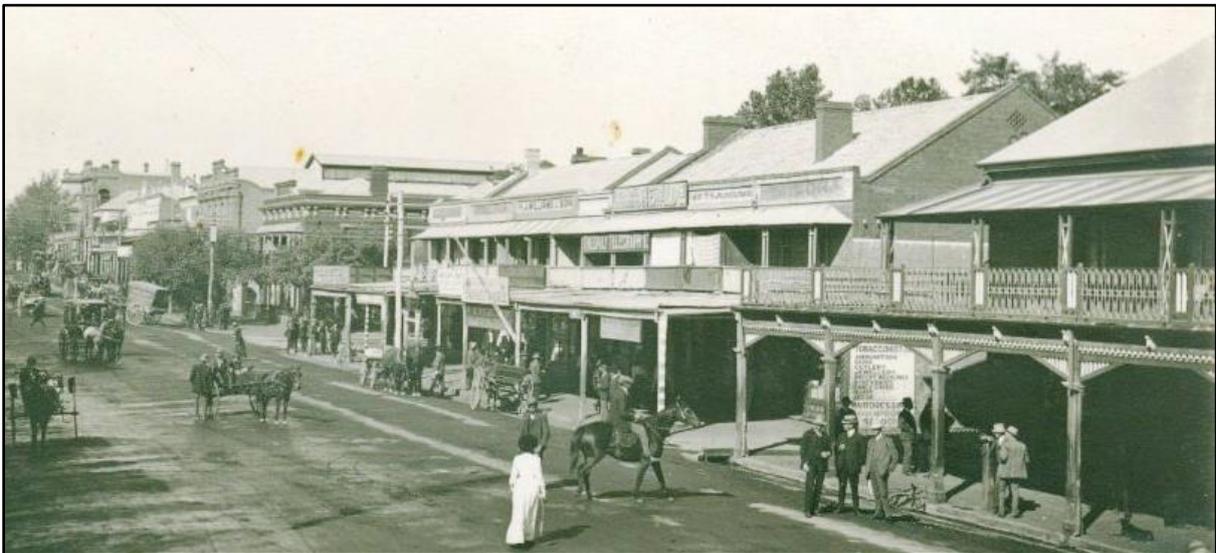
The local fire brigade were able to bring the fire under control and avoid a catastrophe. Joseph's premises suffered the greatest damage and the loss was estimated at £300. Total losses, across all businesses, were estimated at £2,000. Some of the businesses were not insured.²

¹ Sherry Morris. Biographical Listings. Alexander Thorley Bolton.

² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 29th June 1897, p2.

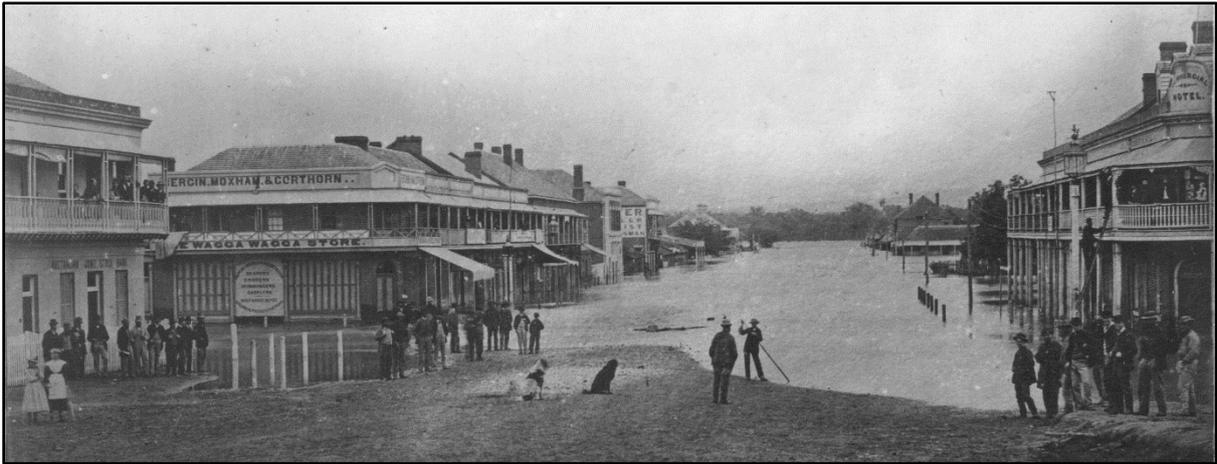


Above: A photo taken during the 1931 flood showing just how close the chemist shop was to the corner of Gurwood and Fitzmaurice Streets. Courtesy Peter Gissing.

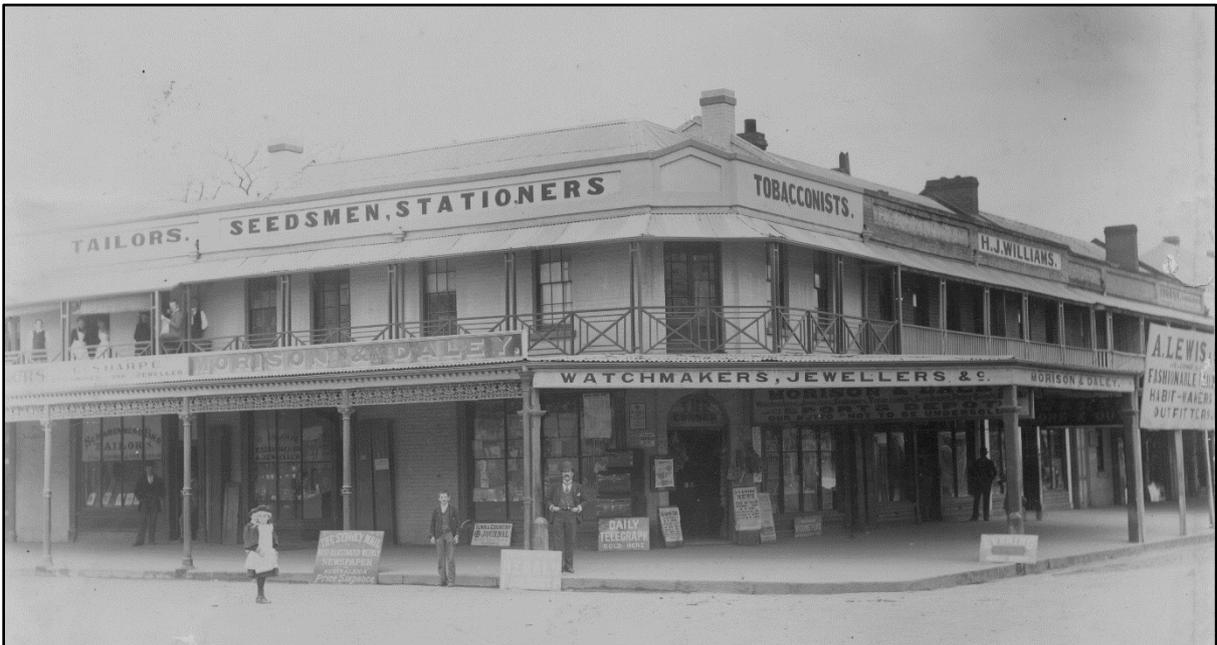


Above: Another early streetscape, with the Pastoral hotel visible at right of photo.

It is interesting that the large majority of people in the photo are men. Only a couple of ladies can be seen. It seems that hanging round in streets was a predominately male diversion.



Above: The complex, centre left, during 1870 flood. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives.



Above: The corner of Gurwood & Fitzmaurice Streets c.1890. Williams' chemist shop can be seen to the right of the corner. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives.

Those businesses being conducted in the above premises included, Morison & Daley, watchmakers and jewellers. They also sold seeds, stationery, newspapers, sporting goods, and tobacco products. There is tailor's shop to the left and another tailor, Lewis & Co. around the corner, to the right. The number of placards, along the façade of the shop and along the footpath, is notable. Several of these signs were advertising newspapers.

The Five Businesses

William M MacArthur. William was a tailor and clothier [a person who sells cloth] in Wagga Wagga from as early as 1866. In this latter year his store was situated in Fitzmaurice Street, near the corner of Gurwood and Fitzmaurice Street, adjoining the premises of Dennis Bergin's saddlery shop. Bergin's shop lay to the south of MacArthur's shop, on the aforementioned corner. In 1866 the shop immediately to the north of MacArthur's shop was the chemist shop of HC Rose. Rose and MacArthur had only both recently moved into their new premises.³

MacArthur conducted the business out of his Fitzmaurice Street store for the next twenty years, until his death on the 3rd February 1886.⁴ By July 1886, Jackson & Dent, tailors, had taken over the business.⁵ Following the death of William, his wife and two daughters moved to Sydney.⁶

Henry James Williams. Henry was born in England in 1840 and came to Australia around 1865. He worked for Messrs AJ Watt & Co. of Sydney for a period, before moving to Wagga Wagga in 1870, where he was employed in assisting Doctors Morgan and Robinson, of Gurwood Street.

In 1875, he took over the business of HC Rose, chemist,⁷ and continued to conduct the business up until about 1915, when his son, Leslie Bridgewater Williams, also a chemist, took over.⁸

Henry passed away on the 5th November 1924 at Bega on the south coast of NSW, aged eighty four years. He had been living with his daughter, Mrs TH Storey, of the latter place, for the past couple of years.⁹ Henry's wife, Sarah Jane (nee Seymour), had predeceased him some six years earlier, in April 1918.¹⁰ Henry and Sarah were married at Wagga Wagga in 1877.¹¹ The couple had four children,

1. Eveline Blanche Williams, born 1st May 1881.¹² Married Samuel H Storey in 1905 at Wagga Wagga.¹³
2. Alice M Williams, born 1883,¹⁴ and died 1883.¹⁵
3. Leslie B Williams, in 1884.¹⁶

Aside from the above they had at least one other child, a son, who was still born, on the 1st October 1878.¹⁷

The chemist shop occupied by Henry, was originally opened by HC Rose in 1865. His son was still conducting the business in October 1938, making a total of some sixty three years that the business had been conducted by the family.¹⁸ In 1927 or 1928 Les Williams removed to temporary premises in

³ Wagga Wagga Express. 3rd February 1866, p4.

⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4th February 1886, p2.

⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st July 1886, p1.

⁶ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 29th August 1895, p2.

⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5th May 1905, p1.

⁸ Daily Advertiser. 10th July 1928, p1.

⁹ Daily Express. 7th November 1924, p2. / Daily Advertiser. 7th November 1924, p2.

¹⁰ Daily Advertiser. 18th April 1918, p3. / 16th April 1918, p3.

¹¹ NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 4586.

¹² NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 22130. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 7th May 1881, p2.

¹³ NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 5424.

¹⁴ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 25024.

¹⁵ NSW BDM's. Death registration # 9982.

¹⁶ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 26634.

¹⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5th October 1878, p2.

¹⁸ Daily Advertiser. 12th October 1938, p11.

Gurwood Street, while the building at 88 Fitzmaurice Street was being rebuilt. The contractor was Charles Hardy & Co., and the new premises were designed by Messrs Pitt & Morrow, of Wagga Wagga.¹⁹ At the time (1928) it was described as the oldest pharmacy in Wagga Wagga.

Alexander Thorley Bolton. Alexander was one of Wagga Wagga's most prominent citizens. He was born at Hexham in Hunter River district of New South Wales on the 11th October 1847.²⁰ He was the seventh son and eleventh child of Reverend Robert Thorley Bolton, a member of an old Yorkshire family who came to Australia in 1840 and served the Church of England in the Hunter district.

His parents returned to England c.1860 and he was left in the care of his older brother, Constantine Francis Bolton. Alexander was educated at the Sydney Grammar School until 1864. He moved to Wagga Wagga in 1864 with his brother, Constantine, and at first engaged in private survey work.

He was subsequently appointed as the first Borough Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances at a salary of seventy pounds per annum, when the municipality of Wagga Wagga was established in 1870. He resigned after one year to commence business in Forbes, in western New South Wales, as a stock and station agent. He only spent a short time at Forbes before returning to Wagga Wagga c.1874 to manage the stock and station business of Messrs Dal Campbell and Co, Melbourne, Victoria, and continued to manage same up until that company discontinued business there in 1879. Alexander then began his own very successful stock and station agency and auctioneering business. He subsequently sold out to Messrs Heath and Irvine in 1890 and became a salesman for the well-known Sydney firm of Messrs Harrison, Jones and Devlin. After a short period he started an agency business in Sydney, on his own account.²¹

On the 22nd October 1874 he married Martha Elizabeth Devlin, in St John's church, Wagga Wagga.²² Martha was the daughter of James Devlin, Snr, of Ganmain, and a sister of Mr Devlin from the firm, Messrs Harrison, Jones and Devlin.²³

The couple had five children, Constance Mary (b.1875), Lucy Emily (b.1877), Nellie Edith (b.1880), Alexander Thorley (b.1884), and Beulah Alice (b.1888).²⁴ None of the three girls ever married.

In mid-1900, Alexander's mother, Jane Bertha Bolton, passed away at her residence, Hillsdale, Buckingham, England, at the age of ninety-two years.²⁵ Her husband had predeceased her.

Alexander passed away at Sydney on the 23rd February 1918.²⁶

Additional details provided by Morris read as follows,²⁷

"Alexander resided at first in Tarcutta Street; later moved to the stately old home of "Corinda" in Trail Street; and No 118 Kincaid Street built for him in the 1880s. Acquired considerable property in Wagga Wagga including that important and valuable asset to the town and district, the stock saleyards which, prior to their acquisition by the Wagga Wagga Municipal Council were known as "Bolton's Saleyards". A leader in the community; outspoken but good humoured at meetings;

¹⁹ Daily Advertiser. 10th July 1928, p1.

²⁰ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 2203/1847. V18472203 32A.

²¹ Sherry Morris. Biographical Listings. Alexander Thorley Bolton. / Daily Advertiser. 25th February 1918, p2.

²² NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 4055. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28th October 1874, p2.

²³ Daily Advertiser. 26th February 1918, p2.

²⁴ NSW BDM's. Birth registrations, no's 20932, 23288, 25799, 26609, and 27913, respectively.

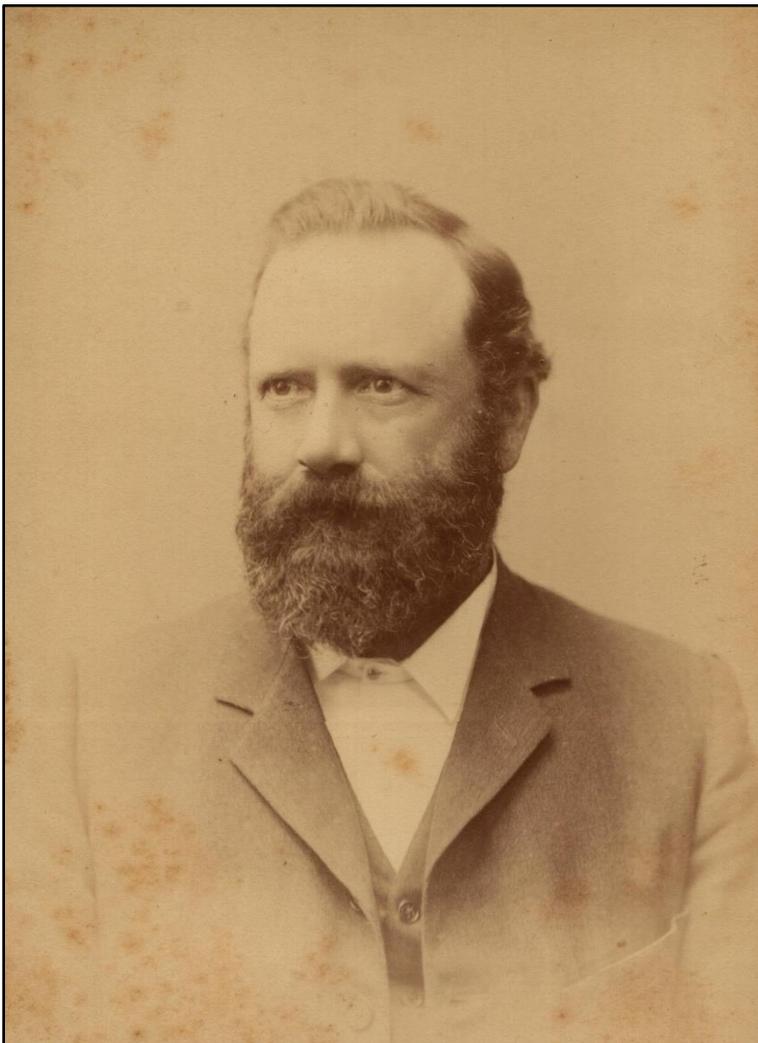
²⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 7th July 1900, p2.

²⁶ NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1099. / Daily Advertiser. 25th February 1918, p2.

²⁷ Sherry Morris. Biographical Listings. Alexander Thorley Bolton

alderman from 1875-78 and 1879-87; Mayor 1882-83; represented the Murrumbidgee in the Legislative Assembly 1885-86 but decided he did not like the parliamentary life; when asked by the Freetrade party to contest the Murrumbidgee Constituency in 1891 he refused. Member of the Murrumbidgee Pastoral Association and a foundation member of the Progress Association; member of the Wagga Wagga Hospital Committee in 1877 (Morris ADB pp.18 & 261); performed jury service; first captain of the Wagga Wagga Volunteer Fire Brigade when it was formed in 1880 (DA Oct 10, 1938); attended the meeting to establish a co-operative flour mill at Wagga Wagga (WWA Feb 19, 1889); and it was largely as a result of his work (and the Wagga Wagga Association of Auctioneers and Stock Salesmen) that the municipal saleyards were established. Enthusiastic sportsman; chaired the dinner for the Tumut and Wagga Wagga cricketers at the Pastoral Hotel in 1883 (WWA April 24, 1883); and was president of the Mechanics' Cricket Club in 1888; first president of the Bicycle Club, formed on September 23, 1882 at Browe's Freemasons Hotel (WWA Sept 26, 1882); vice president of the first Rugby Football Club in Wagga Wagga; and vice president of the Wagga Wagga Rowing Club."

The premises owned by Alexander, in Fitzmaurice Street, were occupied by himself (c.1880), then by Messrs Heath & Irvine, and later by Messrs Meurant and Blake (1918). In 2019 the building was occupied by RH Blake & Co.



Left: Alexander Thorley Bolton

**THE OLD ESTABLISHED
FANCY REPOSITORY,
WATCH AND CLOCK
AND
JEWELLERY DEPOT.**

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PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER
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WAGGA WAGGA.**

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WATCHES,
CLOCKS,
JEWELLERY,
PLATE,
OPTICAL GOODS,
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CIGARS
PIPES, &c., &c.,
STATIONERY,
BOOKS—Educational, Religious, Scientific,
and Entertaining.

WRITING DESKS, WORK-BOXES,
BRUSHES, COMBS,
RAZORS, KNIVES, AND SCISSORS,
PIANOS, VIOLINS, FLUTES,
FLAGEOLETS, ACCORDEONS, &c.

Also, an extensive stock of
GUNS,
Imported direct from the most renowned
makers, and
ALL KINDS OF AMMUNITION.

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Cheapest to be found.**

Old Fashioned Jewellery Re-made and
Modernised.

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ya

Lawrence Solomon Joseph.

Nothing is known of his early life. It is known that he married Amy (Aimee) Rebecca Marks at Sydney on the 15th October 1879,²⁸ and that the couple had at least three children, Olga Isabelle (b.1880),²⁹ Maria F (b.1884),³⁰ and Marjorie (b.1887).³¹

When Lawrence testified at the inquest into the 1897 fire, he declared that he came to Wagga Wagga around 1876 and that he had conducted a jeweller's business in the town, continuously, since that date. Lawrence lost a lot of stock in the fire, but the most precious jewellery and his books were stored in a safe and escaped the inferno.³²

Lawrence traded in a wide range of goods, as can be seen in his 1897 advertisement [adjoining]. As well, in 1896, Lawrence was granted a license to sell explosives.³³ It can be seen in the old photo that his premises also housed a wholesale wine and spirits merchant's business.³⁴

Lawrence passed away in 1923, at Chatswood.³⁵ He was the son of Solomon and Judith Joseph.

Left: Advertisement for Joseph's business in November 1893.³⁶

²⁸ NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 1127.

²⁹ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 25979.

³⁰ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 26355.

³¹ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 28501.

³² Wagga Wagga Express. 1st July 1897, p2.

³³ NSW Government Gazette. 1896, p6824.

³⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 29th June 1897, p2.

³⁵ NSW BDM's. Death registration # 6723.

³⁶ Wagga Wagga Express. 9th November 1893, p4.

John Hodson. John Hodson was born in Norfolk, England, [1838], the son of Thomas Hodson and Sophia Wright. He came to the colonies around 1860, and settled at Wagga Wagga in 1864, remaining there until his death. In addition to practicing his trades of plumbing and painting he had also conducted an ironmongery business in Fitzmaurice Street, up until about 1893, when he retired.³⁷

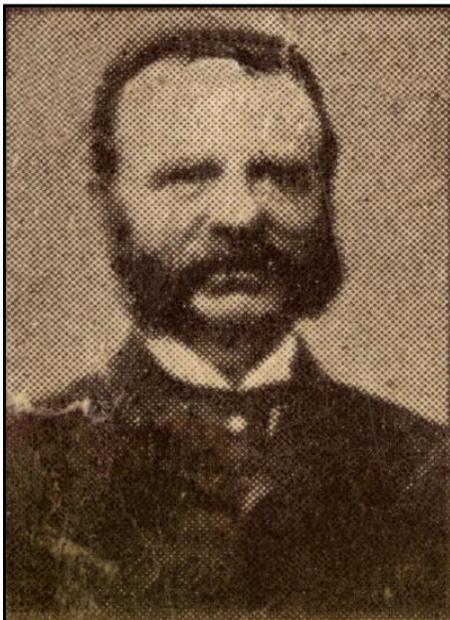
In 1866 he advertised himself as a plumber, painter and glazier. His business premises, at that time, were in Gurwood Street, opposite the Wagga Wagga Express newspaper office.³⁸

In 1873 he shared premises with Sally Raphael, who conducted a jewellery shop in Fitzmaurice Street.³⁹ Her shop was on allotment 1, section 1, and was owned by Charles Hardy.⁴⁰

In the 1890's a John Hodson conducted an ironmongery in Fitzmaurice Street. In March 1893, the shop was advertised by sale, by Charles Hardy & Co. Hodson still occupied the store at that time.⁴¹

Hodson's lease on the property was about to expire and a month earlier he had advertised a clearing out sale, of his stock of ironmongery, crockery, paperhanging goods, etc.⁴²

In 1894, John was living in Marne Street,⁴³ and was also advertising, to let, a cottage residence in Kincaid Street.⁴⁴ John was still living in Marne Street on the 14th March 1895, when he passed away, at the age of fifty seven.⁴⁵ His estate included two brick cottages in Kincaid Street.⁴⁶



On the 25th January 1885 Mrs Hodson was killed in the tragic Cootamundra rail crash, near Cungegong.⁴⁷ She was seventy three years old at the time of her death, which was caused by drowning when the train she was travelling in crashed into a sea of water, created by recent heavy rains and flooding, that had also washed the rail lines away at this spot. Her body was found outside the carriage, in the creek.⁴⁸ Mrs Hodson came to Australia in 1866, and had lived in Wagga Wagga since 1869. She was twenty six years older than her husband.

John was the brother of Charles Hodson, of Wagga Wagga and of Thomas Hodson, of Enfield, both of whom were with him when he passed away.⁴⁹ Charles was a well-known builder in Wagga Wagga.

Above: Thomas Hodson of the firm Hardy & Hodson, a brother of John, and owner of part of allotment 1, section 1.

³⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 16th March 1895, p2.

³⁸ Wagga Wagga Express. 13th October 1866, p1.

³⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5th July 1873, p2.

⁴⁰ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

⁴¹ Wagga Wagga Express. 23rd March 1893, p3.

⁴² Wagga Wagga Express. 14th February 1893, p3.

⁴³ Wagga Wagga Express. 9th January 1894, p3.

⁴⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 29th September 1894, p3.

⁴⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 16th March 1895, p2.

⁴⁶ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28th April 1896, p3.

⁴⁷ NSW BDM's. Death registration # 10227.

⁴⁸ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 27th January 1885, p2.

⁴⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 16th March 1895, p2.

The Freehold

The original grant for allotment 1 of section 1, town and parish of South Wagga Wagga, was to John Joseph Roberts on 28th July 1850.⁵⁰ The allotment consisted of an area of 2 roods.

On the 8th December 1855 John Joseph Roberts, inn keeper of Goulburn, transferred the title for allotments 1 to 7 of section 1, town and parish of South Wagga Wagga, from himself to James Walsh, store keeper of Wagga Wagga, for the sum of £220.⁵¹

James Walsh passed away on the 5th October 1858, at Wagga Wagga,⁵² leaving a widow and two sons, James and John, both under the age of twenty one. James and Elizabeth (nee Barker) had married in 1843.⁵³

Elizabeth remarried to John Sundius Stamp on the 26th June 1859.⁵⁴

On the 23rd August 1864 Elizabeth Stamp (widow of James Walsh) transferred the title for allotment 1, section 1, to Charles Hardy & Thomas Hodson, builders and contractors of Wagga Wagga. Hardy and Hodson had been the highest bidders, at a public auction for the property, and paid £957 for the lot.⁵⁵

The freehold of the various blocks of land were held, in the 1880's and 1890's, by Charles Hardy, Thomas Hodson and William Rand. The latter owned the building on the corner of Gurwood and Fitzmaurice Streets.⁵⁶ As subdivisions followed the various lots were transferred to a variety of owners.

Acknowledgements – my thanks to the following:

Frank Pagram – for the original 1880's photo.

Peter Gissing – for information and photos related to Wagga Wagga chemists.

⁵⁰ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3811, folio 40.

⁵¹ NSW Land Registry Services. Book 40, number 938.

⁵² NSW BDM's. Death registration # 5571.

⁵³ NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 1998. (V18431998 93)

⁵⁴ NSW Land Registry Services. Book 89, number 991. / Wagga Wagga Express. 2nd July 1859, p2. / NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 3064.

⁵⁵ NSW Land Registry Services. Book 89, number 991.

⁵⁶ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.