

## NOTES FOR NPA DRIVE/WALK 8 OCTOBER 2017

The following notes were prepared for the drive/walk through the Glenburn Precinct, Kowen Forest ACT, on Sunday 8 October 2017.

Welcome.

Today, we will visit most of the historic sites in the Glenburn Precinct.

The Precinct was placed on the ACT Heritage Register on 19 November 2015.

Over the past 8 years or so, very substantial protection and conservation work has been carried out at many of the sites by the ACT Parks and Conservation Service and the Friends of Glenburn/National Parks Association of the ACT. 14 interpretive signs have been erected in the Precinct - 10 were paid for by the Friends of Glenburn/National Parks Association of the ACT.

Please look at the interpretive sign on the Precinct just inside the locked gate. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

I will distribute copies of the brochure, **The Glenburn Precinct**, to everyone.

That sets out some of the aboriginal and early European history of the area together with a map showing the routes of 3 recently constructed marked heritage trails for walkers and cyclists. The map also shows the location of 16 historic sites. (An unformatted copy of the brochure is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AREA

Please refer to, **People and their connections**, on the first three columns in the inside of the brochure.

### SITES TO BE VISITED

The area was once a small vibrant rural community The settlers worked hard, knew how to enjoy themselves and valued the education of their children.

While much of what the early European settlers built has gone, many relics remain.

Today we will visit the following 11 historic sites on the heritage trails:

- . Atkinson Trig on the Burbong trail (site 11 on the map);
- . Colliers Homestead Ruins and Orchard and Curleys homestead Site and Orchard on the Burbong trail (Sites 13 and 14);
- . the Glenburn Shearing Quarters and the Glenburn Shearing Shed on the Glenburn trail (Sites 1 and 2);
- . the Colverwell Graves on the Glenburn trail (Site 3);
- . the Glenburn Hayshed Site on the Glenburn trail (Site 4);

. Glenburn Homestead and the Glenburn Hay/Machinery Shed Ruins and Yards on the Glenburn trail (Sites 6 and 7); and

.the Kowen School Site and the Charcoal Kilns Site on the Glenburn trail (Sites 8 and 9

There is an interpretative sign at each site.

If time permits, we may also view the Glenburn Sheep Dip and Yards (Site 5) and visit Coppins Homestead Ruins on the Burbong trail (Site 15).

At most sites we will focus on what, when and who.

### **ATKINSON TRIG (Site 11)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) )

And take in the panoramic views:

- to the North to the ACT/NSW border, noting Glenburn homestead and the gun club buildings; and

- to the West to the Tidbinbilla Mountain range and to Mt Coree in the Brindabellas.

Can you locate Colliers orchard? (It is located on Portion 20.)

### **COLLIERS HOMESTEAD RUINS AND ORCHARD (Site 13) and CURLEYS HOMESTEAD SITE AND ORCHARD (Site 14)**

We will drive to these sites by a management road and a vehicle track that are not on the heritage walking/cycling trails.

#### **COLLIERS (Site 13)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

#### ***The building and orchard***

The Homestead was built of local stone and had 6 rooms (1 bedroom had no internal access), 2 with fireplaces, an iron roof and wooden floors. There were verandahs on the eastern and western sides and a baker's oven on the northern wall. There was a separate metal kitchen to the North.

Much of the Homestead walls have collapsed, partly through vandalism. There is no roof or floor. And the kitchen has gone.

The walls of the Homestead were capped with mortar in 2014 to deter vandalism and to slow down erosion.

The orchard comprises a very large pear tree, 2 large copses of quinces and several plums. The pear bears occasional fruit, the quinces fruit regularly and so too do some of the plums. I believe that the pear tree could well be the largest pear in the ACT.

The protective fence was erected in 2014 with significant financial assistance from the Friends of Glenburn/National Parks Association of the ACT.

### **Who Built the Homestead?**

The Homestead was built in 1879/80 for George Campbell on land ( Portion 20) he did not own.

There was a legal dispute over ownership and the NSW Minister of the time decided that neither George Campbell nor or his estate should have it.

Subsequently, John James Edmonds purchased the Portion in 1906.

### **Who lived in it?**

It is believed that only 2 families lived in the Homestead – William Collier and his family and John Edmonds and his family. At **Attachment B** there are reports of some of the entertainment that the Edmonds organised at the homestead – a hare drive and the bachelors ball.

William Collier probably planted the orchard.

It is possible that James Curley (who worked for the Campbells at both Duntroon and Kowen) may also have lived in the Homestead (or Curleys Homestead) for some time in the late 1890s or early 1900s.

Some brief information on the Collier and Edmonds families at Colliers is at **Attachment A**.

### **CURLEYS (Site 14)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

#### ***The buildings and orchard***

The Homestead was a substantial 5 room slab cottage with weatherboard gables, an iron roof, a wooden floor and a brick chimney. The cottage had an unfloored verandah with an iron roof. A separate kitchen was half floored and had a bark roof. There was also an open sided shed that was partly roofed with iron.

Little remains but a jumble of rocks, a set of stone steps and the scorched remains of a verandah post.

The orchard is wholly plums. I have never seen fruit on them.

#### ***Who built the Homestead?***

William Collier built the homestead in 1882/83 to meet the Conditional Purchase conditions relating to the land on which it was built.

The orchard was probably planted during or soon after the Homestead's construction.

#### ***Who lived in it?***

It is believed that only William Collier and his family lived in the Homestead.

The Colliers probably lived in the Homestead from when it was built in 1882/83 until the land on which it stood and some adjacent land owned by Collier was sold to members of the Campbell family in July 1887. During this period the family was probably also living at Colliers Homestead.

It is possible that James Curley (who worked for the Campbells at both Duntroon and Kowen) may also have lived in the Homestead (or Colliers Homestead) for some time in the late 1890s or early 1900s.

### **THE GLENBURN SHEARING SHED COMPLEX (Sites 1 and 2)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) ).

#### ***The Buildings***

The complex consists of a shearing shed, yards, (including a plunge sheep dip), shearers' quarters, a bathroom/laundry and a large meat safe. The deciduous trees in the yards are Robinas.

The whole complex is in a dilapidated state even though the shearing shed has only recently stopped being used. (The leaseholders Ken and Suzanne McInnes no longer run sheep.)

It is not known when the buildings were commenced.

The shearing shed was probably commenced in the 1860s by John McInnes who was working for Wright, the owner of the land at the time.

The original building could have been a hay shed.

Over the years, the shed grew 'like Topsy' with the addition of more than 10 skillions of various materials. Some of these would have been added by some of the early owners of the land including George Campbell and John James Edmonds. Others were added by members of the McInnes family who leased the land after John James Edmonds moved to Glencoe in 1906 and after it was sold by John James Edmonds to the Commonwealth in 1915.

- The shed had 4 stands and, in boom times, it is believed to have handled up to 10 000 sheep a year with sheep coming from as far as Captains Flat.

The shearers' quarters, bathroom/laundry and meat safe were built during the wool boom in the 1950s after earlier buildings were condemned.

All buildings require substantial restoration to make them weather proof and safe. The open dip needs to be covered or filled to make it safe.

#### **The McInnes family**

**Attachment C** sets out some brief information on the family.

The McInnes family has been associated with the general area almost continuously since the 1860s.

A direct descendant, Ken McInnes (and his wife Suzanne) live in Queanbeyan and currently use some of the land surrounding the graves, the shearing shed complex and Glenburn Homestead for the agistment of cattle.

### **THE COLVERWELL GRAVES (Site 3)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

#### ***The graves***

The headstones and footstones commemorate the death of the first born children of Luke and Mary Colverwell, Elizabeth (aged 6) and Margaret (aged 5) who drowned in 1837.

These graves are the oldest marked graves in the ACT.

Their father, Luke Colverwell, erected the headstones and footstones. But we do not know when. They would have been expensive. It is quite possible that they were erected several years after the girls drowned - when the family had established itself financially.

They are made of sandstone, possibly from Sydney, and probably carved by 2 different stone masons. The headstones are severely eroded and the texts are difficult to read.

It is believed that 3 other members of the family are buried here in unmarked graves – another daughter, Eliza (their third child) who died in 1857, Luke who died in 1876 and Mary, Luke's wife, whose date of death is not known.

The graves were restored in 2005.

In 2012 the new protective post and rail fence was erected.

### ***The Colverwell family***

Luke and Mary Colverwell were both convicts.

- Luke was sentenced to death for horse stealing at the Old Bailey in 1810. His sentence was commuted to transportation and he arrived in Sydney in 1813 aged 17. He received a conditional pardon in 1821.
- Mary Danahy was transported from Ireland and arrived in Sydney in 1828. I do not know her crime or sentence but I believe she left a child behind.

They met at Gundaroo where they were both working for Styles who owned land there and at Bungonia.

They married in May 1831 and later that year squatted at Dirty Swamp/Glenburn – probably being assisted to do so by Styles and possibly by Atkinson who later owned the land (the Crown grant was made in January 1837).

Luke and Mary had 6 children (5 girls and 1 boy) born between 1831 and 1841 – all born at Dirty Swamp.

### ***A family tragedy***

Their first born (Elizabeth 1831) and (Margaret 1832) drowned in or near Glen Burn Creek on 16 December 1837.

Imagine Luke and Mary's devastation.

They were the only settlers for miles around.

So there were no neighbours to help bury the girls or to comfort the parents and their other 2 younger girls, Eliza (aged 2) and Mary (aged 1).

### ***From convict to large land owner***

The family worked hard.

Luke became a large land holder in Glenburn and Burbong. At one stage, he owned more than 5 000 acres on both sides of the Molonglo River.

A direct descendant, Rhuben, owns a remnant of this land on the western side of the Molonglo River just into NSW. He now lives in Queanbeyan but sometimes stays overnight in the homestead..

### **THE GLENBURN HAYSHED SITE (Site 4)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

### **GLENBURN HOMESTEAD (Site 6)**

Please read the 2 interpretative signs – 1 outside the homestead and 1 inside the slab home. (Copies are under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.com.au](http://www.npaact.com.au) .)

In the photo in the outside interpretative sign, John James and Agnes May Edmonds are in their wedding finery. At a large Edmonds family reunion in Bungendore in 2008, I was told that Agnes May had difficulty fitting into the dress for the photo. Between her wedding and the time of the photo she had had 3 children!

### **The Buildings**

This was the first home of John James and Agnes May Edmonds which was built in 1897 on the north-west corner of 1 270 acres of land that John James bought in June 1891.

Initially, the Homestead was a 2 room slab home.

Over the years, the Homestead was expanded with the additions of skillions to the western side of the slab home, the pise home with a verandah on the eastern side (1900) and a covered way joining the 2 homes. There were also stables and a work shop.

All that remains of the Homestead is the 2 room slab home with 1 skillion and the walls of the 4 room pise home (built c 1900). The slab home has an integrated roof but the protective roof over the pise home is separate. There is no evidence of the stables or any other associated buildings.

Considerable protection and conservation work has been carried out on both buildings and their surrounds. Both have been stabilised, guttering, downpipes and a tank have been added to the pise home, repairs have been carried out to the south west corner of the pise home and acrylic sheeting has been installed in the windows of the slab home. The substantial rabbit proof post and rail fence was erected in 2012.

Substantial restoration work is still required on both homes to make them weather proof and safe.

### ***The Family of John James Edmonds***

John James Edmonds was born at Gidleigh (near Bungendore) in 1871.

In the late 1880s his parents (John and Jemima Catherine) left Gidleigh. We do not know when or why.

Around the middle of 1889 the family moved into Colliers Homestead. John probably worked for George Campbell of Duntroon.

John James Edmonds married Agnes May Worthington in August 1897 and in the same year they made their home in a new 2 room slab home which became part of Glenburn Homestead.

John James and Agnes May Edmonds had 5 children while they lived at Glenburn Homestead. (They subsequently had a total of 11. The photo in the interpretative sign in the slab home shows John James and Agnes May Edmonds with 7 of their children (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

At some stage, John James's parents moved into the Homestead to make a total of 9 people in residence.

Despite John James almost doubling his holdings to more than 2 000 acres, he could not make a go of it and the whole family moved to Glencoe in northern NSW in 1906.

The Edmonds was a well respected family. The members participated in the work and social life of the community. For example, they organised hare drives, after cricket dances, school dances and other functions. Their farewell party was attended by some 60 well wishers from the district. See **Attachment D** for some reports on these activities.

Since the Edmonds left, the Homestead was lived in for only short periods, probably in the 1910s (by the Rowley family) and in the 1940s (by the Gibbins family who worked for the McInnes's). At other times, it was mainly used for farm storage.

#### **THE GLENBURN HAY/MACHINERY SHED AND YARDS ( Site 7)**

Please read the interpretative sign (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

Note the infestation of the site by blackberries in recent years.

#### **THE KOWEN SCHOOL SITE (Site 8)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

For many years, it was believed that the Charcoal kilns on the other side of Charcoal Kiln Road were built on the school house site.

But in late 2013, extensive research by the ACT Survey Office concluded that the school house was probably located close to where the interpretative sign is located ie on the opposite side of Charcoal Kiln Road to where the charcoal kilns were subsequently built.

#### **Accommodation for teachers and students**

The accommodation for the teachers was pretty rough. For example, the first teacher Isabella O'Neill wrote to the Education Inspector providing the following information:

"...Firstly - I reside with a person named Harman, distant from the school about one furlong.

Secondly – The accommodation is very inferior. There are but two rooms in the hut and I am obliged to sleep with Mrs. Harman and her baby which makes it very unpleasant for me. ...”

In the warmer weather, she rode her horse from Queanbeyan to the school and back each day.

The school accommodation was not very good either.

In February and May 1901, John McInnes wrote to the Minister requesting a new school. His request was not successful. I find the letters most poignant. One particular section in one of the letters said that he would like the Inspector to see for himself on a “... Wet Windy day & if he did he would then have to admit that it would not be fit for the children to sit all day in in fact I do believe that if Mr. Cooper put up at a Place & his Horse was Put in a stable that let the Wet & wind in like the Cohn school he would sur-lenly groul [surely growl] about it.”

They bred teachers and students tough back then!

### **Kowen Public School Dance**

In 1902 a dance, in aid of raising funds for the school library, was held at Glenburn Homestead. 27 couples attended from many areas in the region. Supper was served in a large tent that had been erected.

### **A joint school picnic**

In 1906 a join combined picnic was held by the parents and teachers connected with the Black Creek and Kowen schools near the Molonglo River at 7miles along the Captains Flat Road. Visitors came from many areas in the region. A large number of events were held for the students and adults. A first aid demonstration was presented by students of Black Creek school.

Records of the dance and picnic are at **Attachment E**.

They demonstrate the strong support for local schools by the regional community.

### **THE CHARCOAL KILNS SITE (Site 9)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

### **THE GLENBURNSHEEP DIP AND YARDS (Site 5)**

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

It is intended that the dip and yards be allowed to continue to deteriorate as a ruin. The dip needs to be covered or filled to make it safe.

### **Snow Gums**

Between the interpretative sign and Glen Burn Creek there is a small group of twisted snow gums. I do not know their origin. But they certainly look out of place in the midst of a radiata pine forest.

### **COPPINS HOMESTEAD RUINS (Site 15)**

We will drive via River Road on the Precinct loop trail

Please read the interpretative sign. (A copy is under Friends of Glenburn on [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au) .)

### ***The Homestead ruins***

In 1891 John Coppin conditionally purchased and leased 1280 acres at Burbong. He built a 4 room house, a separate kitchen, a stable, a dairy and a garden.

Little remains today.

There is a stone chimney, with a significant lean, that would have been in the house and the remains of a large fireplace that would have been in the kitchen.

The protective fence was erected in 2015. The descendants of John and Catherine Coppin made a significant contribution to the cost of the fence.

There is also a large male Osage orange tree near the site (probably grown from a seedling from the female tree at the Coppin's previous Homestead just south of Coppins Crossing on the lower Molonglo River).

### ***The Coppin family***

Some details of their early life is at **Attachment E**

#### *The Coppins at Burbong and Beyond*

In April 1891, John conditionally purchased and leased 1 280 acres at Burbong where he built a 4 room house, a separate kitchen, a stable, a dairy and a garden.

Catherine died at the Homestead in 1901.

John was in poor health and he could no longer farm. He moved to Naas to live with the family of his second eldest daughter, Ellen Kelleher, and died there in 1903.

Their youngest son, Albert, stayed on in the area where he became a businessman in Queanbeyan and an alderman on the Queanbeyan Council. His daughter, Laura, married John McInnes one of the many descendants of John and Sarah McInnes of Kowen Homestead.

Col McAlister

29 September 2017

## The Collier and Edmonds families at Colliers

### *The Collier family*

William Collier was the only child of Thomas and Ann (nee McDonald). He was born in Ireland but it is not known when the family arrived in Australia. William spent his early life in and around Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra, and from around 1880 he worked for George Campbell.

In 1866 he married Bridget Curley and they had 11 children from 1866 to 1888.

It is possible that the Colliers lived in the Homestead from shortly after it was built in 1879/80. They were certainly living there in May 1881 when William Collier undertook to send six girls to the Kowen School.

William was living there when his mother died in 1888. But they had certainly moved out by May 1890 when William did not elect to send any children to the Kowen School when a (successful) attempt was made to re-open it.

It is likely that the family moved out by about the middle of 1889 when the Edmonds moved in.

So, all in all, it is likely that the Colliers lived in the Homestead from around 1880 until some time in 1889.

It should be noted that during this period the family was also living at nearby Curleys Homestead after it was built in 1882/83 probably until the land on which it was built and close by land was sold in July 1887 to members of the Campbell family. The Collier family was large and the 2 homesteads are only 100 metres or so apart.

The family moved to Queanbeyan before the 1891 census and subsequently to Goulburn.

### *The Edmonds family*

John and Jemima Catherine Edmonds and their son John James probably moved into Colliers Homestead around the middle of 1889.

They participated in the work and social life of the community. For example, they organised hare drives and the bachelors' ball was held in the Homestead in January 1895 (see **Attachment B** for some reports).

We also know that John and Jemima Catherine subsequently went to live with their son John James and his family at Glenburn Homestead. But we do not know when.

## **Edmonds Organised Entertainment at Colliers**

### **A Hare Drive**

#### **'HARE DRIVE AT GLENBURN**

A very successful hare drive took place at Glenburn, the residence of Mr John Edmonds, on Saturday last. There was only fair attendance, although the weather was fine. It is to be regretted that a larger number of squatters, graziers and farmers do not interest themselves more in the removal of the hare pest. This is the only drive that has been held in that locality this season. A start was made at about 10 o'clock, with about eight guns and an equal number of drivers. At one o'clock all sat down to luncheon, which was relished very keenly by the huntsmen. The driving was renewed and continued till about half past four, The tallies were then made up and turned out as follows – Jas. Gallagher, 22, A. Coppin, 21; James Watson, 18; J Edmonds (captain), 17; S Gallagher and C. Dunlop, 13; T. Hyles and J. Unwin 8. Mr John Edmonds, senr, captained the drivers. Altogether a most enjoyable day was spent.'

[ Total bag 99]

The Queanbeyan Age, Saturday 22 June 1895, page 2.

### **The Bachelors' Ball**

#### **'Bachelors' Ball at Glenburn**

A BACHELOR'S ball took place at the residence of Mr J. Edmunds [Edmonds], Glenburn, on Friday night last and proved a great success. Visitors were present from Queanbeyan and Bungendore. Dancing commenced at 9 o'clock, and about fifteen couples danced to the excellent music supplied by Mr. E. Winters (violin). Mr. A. Coppin discharged his duties as M.C. in an able manner. The costumes worn were very appropriate for the occasion, and reflected great credit on the wearers, and it would indeed be a difficult task to say who looked the nicest. The catering which was in the hands of Mrs. J Edmunds was perfection, and the way the viands disappeared was sufficiently gratifying to that lady. Dancing was briskly kept up till 4 o'clock when the guests began to take their departure all seemingly satisfied with their nights' amusement.'

The Queanbeyan Age, 30 January, 1895

Another report was:

#### **'Bachelors' Ball at Glenburn**

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The Queanbeyan Observer 29 January, 1895.

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**NOTE:** Please forgive any minor errors in transcription

**Attachment C**

**The McInnes Family**

John McInnes was born in Newtown, Sydney in 1840 and he died at Kowen in 1901.

- He married Sarah Jane Horrocks at Queanbeyan in 1861 when he was working for Wright, the major landowner at Glenburn at the time.
- They lived at Dirty Swamp/Glenburn until around 1880. I do not know where their house was located.
- They moved some 3km to the west and established Kowen Homestead around 1880. This grew into a substantial complex including a large pise home with verandahs all round and a large orchard. It was bulldozed in 1979 to make way for pine plantings.
- John and Sarah McInnes were a remarkable couple:
  - . Not only did they have 15 children of their own, they also raised/adopted 4 nephews/nieces.
  - . It is also possible that they raised 2 Gallagher children for some time. (Their mother drowned nearby in 1869.)
  - . A total of 21 children!
- John McInnes became a major landholder in the area west of the Glenburn Precinct and was a strong active member of the community including being involved with the Kowen Public School. For example, in 1901, he wrote, unsuccessfully, to the Minister requesting a new school building.

Attachment D

## **Edmonds Organised Entertainment at Glenburn Homestead**

### **Picnic**

### **'Picnic at Burbong.**

Last Saturday the residents of Burbong assembled at the invitation of the cricketing fraternity for a day's outing. The outing took the form of a picnic, and the glorious weather contributed largely to the very pleasant time that was spent. During the day a scratch match was played between the cricketers present, and which resulted in a close finish, creating considerable excitement. The various games, including swinging, racing, &c. As night closed in, the majority of the young folk wended their way towards the residence of Mr. J. Edmonds, where almost twenty couples, including a number of visitors from Queanbeyan, indulged in dancing till midnight. Thus ended a day which one and all present will look back upon with pleasant recollections. Much praise is due to the young ladies who provided the good things necessary.'

The Queanbeyan Observer. Friday 25 March 1898, page 2.

### **Social**

#### **'SOCIAL AT BURBONG.**

The second Annual Harvest Home of the good folks of Kowen and Burbong was held at Glenburn, the residence of Mr. J Edmonds senr., on Friday night last. Everything went on merrily as the proverbial "marriage bell," all present embracing the opportunity to have a real good time, and the whole affair was a brilliant success in every way. A great many of those present wore crepe, out of respect to the memory of Her Majesty the late Queen. The social was organised by the following families:- Mr.J. and G. McInnes (Cohen), J. Gallagher, Senr., and J Edmonds. Junr. Some 35 couples put in an appearance, and dancing commenced... (missing text) Feagan, while the duties of M. C. were ably filled by Messrs. P. Gleeson and A. Coppin. Vocal items were nicely rendered by several of the company during the evening.

The Queanbeyan Observer Tuesday 5 February 1901, page 2.

### **Hare Drive at Glenburn**

#### **'GLENBURN HARE DRIVE**

A large drive took place at Mr John Edmonds Junr's place, on Saturday last when 143 pests bit the dust. At 9.30 o'clock a start was made for the scrub, and by 12,20p.m. some seventeen shooters and a like number of drivers, were invited to a splendid luncheon, to which all did ample justice. After luncheon no time was lost in getting to work again. At 4.30 the scores were as follows;- W. Hyles 8, A.Hyles 1, A Colverwell 8, T Gallagher 10, A. Swan 11, N smith 2, S Feagan 5, T Coppin 16, A. Coppin 11, c Dunlop 7, F. Chinnery 12, J. Harris 14, A Feagan 5, J. Unwin 1, S Gallagher 3, Allen Colverwell 11 and JJ Edmonds 13. After the usual cheering, all returned to their homes well pleased with their days sport. Mr JJ Edmonds captained the shooters, and Mr J Edmonds, Senr, took charge of the drivers, everything going off in first class style.'

The article then went on to complain about other land holders not pulling their weight:

' It is to be hoped the neighbours will follow suit and keep the pests down. A few squatters would be doing a good turn if they would give a little more attention to their back runs, instead of depending

on the cockies to keep the rabbits and hares down, for them or be eaten out. Many small settlers, are surrounded by large holders and have to give drives on account of the pests coming off the large squatters land. What is our stock board doing. They want to get rid of the pests. Then why not compel all to give drives in proportion to their holdings.'

The Queanbeyan Age, Saturday 27 July 1901, page 2.

### **Surprise Party**

#### **'Surprise Party.**

On Friday night last a number of "surprisers" took possession of Mr. J. Edmonds's (jun.) residence at Glenburn, and a very jolly time was spent. Dancing was the chief amusement. The music for which was furnished by Miss Bowd (piano). Mr. G Bingley (concertina), and M. S. Gallagher (violin). Mr A. Coppin was M.C. Choice refreshments on a liberal scale were partaken of and about 2 o'clock on Saturday morning, the merrymakers joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne" afterwards dispersing.'

The Queanbeyan Observer Tuesday 16 September 1902.

### **Kowen Public School Dance**

'Dance at Glenburn.

On Friday night last the postponed dance in aid of the funds of the Kowen Public School library, was held, and proved an unqualified success. Mt John Edmonds kindly placed his house at the disposal of those in charge of the entertainment and his large rooms were admirable for the purpose. They were pretty;y decorated with flags lent by Messrs. Hayes and Russell. Twenty seven couples attended and visitors were present from Queanbeyan, Tharwa, Majura, Gundaroo, Bungendore, Molonglo and Ingledow. The music was furnished by Messrs. James Gallagher and Atkins (violin) and Alex. Feagan (accordion). Mr. P. Gleeson and Mr. A. Coppin, were Ms.C. The catering was admirably done by Mr J.M. Coleby, of the Granvill Bakery, Queanbeyan, and everyone appreciated the good things provided. Supper was held in a large tent (30ft long) adjoining, which had been erected by Messrs. Bates, Coppin, Richards, and McInnes Brothers. Too much praise cannot be given to the ladies who spent much time and trouble to make the ball the success it was, viz, Mesdameas John and J. J. Edmonds and G. McInnes, and Misses Bowd (teacher) and Bates.

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### **The Edmonds Farewell Party**

An extract from the Bungendore correspondent's report in the Goulburn Evening Penny Post, Thursday, May 24, 1906, page 4.

'There was an exceedingly pleasant gathering at Glenburn on Friday evening last, May 18<sup>th</sup>, for the purpose of bidding good-bye to Mr. And Mrs. J. J. Edmonds, who are about leaving the district to take

up their residence at Glencoe, in the northern part of the State, A very large number of friends were present from Queanbeyan, Majura, Sutton, Canberra, and Bungendore. Dancing, interspersed with songs and recitations, was indulged in till midnight, when a splendid supper was served, at which Mr. John Feagan presided. On behalf of friends and wellwishers the chairman in a eulogistic speech presented Mr. Edmonds with a first-class travelling bag and Mrs. Edmonds with a valuable travelling rug, as a small token of the esteem in which they were held, Other speeches followed, endorsing the remarks of Mr. Feagan, wishing the recipients good luck and prosperity in their new home, Mr. Edmonds responded, thanking the donors on behalf of himself and wife. Dancing and other amusements were then resumed until long after the hours when "spooks" are supposed to roam, and then the happy throng dispersed for "Home, sweet home".'

Another report appeared in the Queanbeyan Leader. Friday 25 May, 1906.

### **' Send-off and Presentation at Burbong**

(By a Special Reporter)

On Friday evening last, the friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Edmonds assembled at their residence. Glenburn, Burbong, to tender them a farewell dance on their departure for Glencoe, New England. There were 30 couples present, including visitors from all parts of the district.

The gathering was a very pleasant and enjoyable one, its success being due to a local committee headed by Mr. Robert McInnes (Kowen).

Music was supplied by Mr. C. A. McAlister (piano), who was assisted by Miss E. Bingley; and by Messrs. Gallagher, McIntosh, Feagan and Cullen (violin).

Mr. C. Lane made an efficient M.C., and under direction dancing was indulged in till the small hours.

At supper the chair was taken by Mr. J. Feagan, who had on his right the guest of the evening.

After real Australian justice and fair play had been dealt out to the good things provided by the Burbong matrons and their fair assistants, the chairman made a speech eulogistic of the many good qualities of Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds, and on behalf of the assembled company wished them Godspeed to their new home, and asked their acceptance of the accompanying gifts as small tokens of the friendship and esteem which they were held by the residents of the district.

Mr. Feagan then presented Mr. Edmonds with a handsome travelling bag, and was followed by Mr. C. McAlister, who handed Mrs. Edmonds a quilted travelling rug.

In returning thanks for Mrs. Edmonds and himself, Mr. Edmonds expressed his great pleasure at meeting so many old friends and neighbours, although he felt a certain sadness at leaving them behind, but should fate ever direct their steps to the north, they would find a hearty welcome at his new home. Mrs. Edmonds and he would cherish their valuable gifts as reminders of their friends in the Queanbeyan district.'

Yet another, longer report appeared in the Queanbeyan Observer on Friday 25 May 1906 page 3.

### **'Glenburn**

On Friday last a large gathering of the friends of Mr. J. J. Edmonds took to his residence to bid farewell to himself and family, on the occasion of their projected departure to take up residence in Glencoe, in the Northern part of the State. During the afternoon friends from Queanbeyan, Googongs, Bungendore, Ingledow, and elsewhere, continued to arrive until a late hour. Dancing was indulged in till midnight when adjournment was made to the supper tables, laden with the best of good things provided by lady friends, to which full justice was done. Mr. F. Feagan took the opportunity of presenting Mr. Edmonds with a handsome and serviceable travelling bag. The many friends who subscribed to the gift would feel his absence from their midst more than tongue of pen could tell, for he had many good qualities both as a friend and neighbour. He was always willing to do his part in the advancement of the district, and in his own line as grazier deserved special credit for his energy. His sheep were for all-round purposes second to none, the wool clip always securing top prices. In exhibiting at the show Mr. Edmonds was also very successful, and a willing and agreeable worker.

Mr. Edmonds, in responding, thanked the company for the compliment they paid him, and had he realised he had so many friends he might have hesitated before deciding to depart, none the less he had a duty to perform, and his wife and family to think of and hoped to prosper in the new home so as to be able to have ...(missing text) the pleasures of bring his wife and family amongst their many friends. In conclusion, he assured any one of his friends who might chance to travel in the vicinity of his new home that they would be as welcome as they were that night.'

On behalf of her numerous friends Mr S McAlister presented Mrs. Edmonds with a nice rug, and spoke in high praise of her ready assistance in all matters.

Mr. Edmonds suitably responded on behalf of his wife.

Dancing, interspersed with songs and other amusements, was continued till shortly before daylight, when the company, circling round Mr. And Mrs. Edmonds, accorded them musical honours and sang in chorus "Auld Lang Syne," wishing them and their family every prosperity in their new venture, bringing a very pleasant gathering to a close, the thought of parting with so valuable friend and neighbour being the only detraction.

The music was provided by Miss L. Bingley, Messrs. McAlister, A. Feagan , and McIntosh.

Messrs. J. Feagan and C. Lan being M.Cs

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**NOTE:** Please forgive any minor errors in transcription.

## **Attachment E**

### **Entertainment of Kowen School parents, friends and students**

#### **Kowen Public School Dance**

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### **Schools Picnic**

#### **'Black Creek and Kowen School Picnic**

(By a Special Reporter)

A combined picnic, organised by the parents and teachers connected with the above schools, was held on SATURDAY LAST NEAR THE Molonglo River at the Captains Flat Road. Being favoured with a beautiful day, the attendance of adults and children was very large, visitors coming from Queanbeyan, Bungendore, Burbong, Kowen, Woodfield, Sutton, and other places. The catering for Kowen school was done by Mrs. Coleby, whilst the Black Creek "good things" were supplied by the parents and lady helpers. The Children were regaled with a bountiful lunch, and an afternoon tea, while "sandwiched" (rather appropriate, Mr. Editor) between was a programme of "plain and fancy" sports for old and young. The energetic officials who conducted the games deserve great praise for their labours and attention to duty. They were as follows: Starter, Mr. J. J. Edmonds; judges, Messrs Joe Unwin and A. Taylor; handicappers, Messrs C. Lane, R. McInnes, and E. Graham. Results:

Boys, 8 years and under (No. 1), L. Seery 1, S Edmonds @: (No. 2) W. Lee 1, W. Unwin 2.

Boys, 10 years and under (No. 1), F. Taylor 1, W. Unwin 2: (no. 2), A. Gibbs 1, W. Lee 2.

Boys, 15 years and under (No. 1), S. Lee 1, W. Lee 2; (no 2), S. Seerey 1, W. Curley 2.

Boys, 17 years and under (all comers), J. Sheehan 1, C. Gibbs 2.

Kicking football ( drop kick), S. Seery 1, C. Gibbs 2; (place kick) C. Gibbs 1, S. Seery 2.

Three legged race, Seery and Curley 1, Swan and McInnes 2.

Boys' hifh jump (15 years and under), W. Curley 1. S. Lee 2; (10 years and under), W. Lee 1, W. Unwin 2.

Girls' races, 8 years and under (no 1), V. Taylor 1, M. Curley @; (No 2), Jean Taylor 1, M. Curley 2.

Girls 10 years and under (no 1), E. Curley 1, E. Cullen 2.

Girls, 15 years and under (no 1), K. Seery1, E. Cullen 2,; (No. 2), E. Curley 1, M. Cullen 2.

Girls' skipping contest – 8 years and under, Mary Curley; 10 years and under E. Curley1, M. Cullen 2; 15 years and under, E. Curley 1, K.Seery 2.

Ladies skipping contest, Miss A. McInnes 1, Miss r. Gibbs 2.

Young ladies' race ( No. 1), Miss Gibbs 1, Miss Kennedy 2, Miss B. Coghlin 3; (No. 2), Miss Barnett (necklet 1, Miss R. Lees (muff chain and pendant) 2, Miss A. Earnshaw ( chain purse) 3.

Married ladies race, Mrs A. Swan (teapot) 1, Mrs A. Hyles (claret jug) 2, Mrs. N. Smith (butter dish) 3.

Kicking football (adults), R. McInnes (spurs) 1.

All-comers Race, 100 yds, Prize, bridle – L. Lee 1, R. Mcinnes 2.

Married Men's race, prize, pipe, Mr. M. Seery 1, Mr. Aaron Taylor 2.

Guessing number of grains in cob of corn ( correct number 1049), Mr. W. Curley (1 000) 1; Mr. Syd Kelly (1 099) 2.

During the day a display of ambulance and first aid by the children of Black Creek School under the supervision of Mr. C. McAlister. Great interest was taken in the demonstration, and the little patients looked real "break-ups" and "wrecks" swathed in bandages, etc, The stretchers, splints and bandages, were improvised and prepared by the children.

The sections treated were :

No, 1, girls' squad – fractured forearm and fractured jaw,

No. 2, girls' squad – Arresting bleeding (arterial) on hand, foot and face.

No. 3, boys' squad – Fractured thigh.

No.4 – stretcher drill, showing method of lifting, carrying, and setting-down injured persons.'

From the Queanbeyan leader, Friday 6 April 1906, page 2.

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**NOTES:**(i) Black creek School was located in Carwoola about 7km south-east of the Kowen School.

(ii) Please forgive any minor errors in transcription.

**Attachment F**

### **The Coppins early life**

Catherine Sheedy was born in County Tipperary, Ireland about 1831 and arrived in Sydney in 1855.

John Coppin was born in Kent, England in 1840 and arrived in Sydney in 1857.

They married in 1859 shortly after making a hasty retreat from their employer's home (John had been unfairly dismissed and Catherine is believed to have said 'if he goes, I go').

They spent 2 months walking to the Majors Creek goldfields, working on the way.

It did not work out and after being advised to seek work in Ginninderra, they spent several days walking there.

Catherine was heavily pregnant and gave birth to her first child, John, shortly after arriving. At the time, John and Catherine were living in a tent in the bush.

Work was hard to get. But the clincher was that John could play cricket!

John worked as a shepherd at the Goat Station on the northern banks of the Molonglo (now known as Coppins Crossing) where they raised 7 children.

Catherine received a small allowance and food rations to cater for travellers that they accommodated on the way to the goldfields.

In 1878 John conditionally purchased 200 acres on the southern side of the Molonglo where he built a home. All that remains are a couple of fireplaces, a female Osage orange tree and some other trees. (This is now within Molonglo Stage 2.)

The property was sold to Frederick Campbell in 1891 – it became part of the Yarralumla Estate.