

## *Armidale and District Historical Society Inc.*

'Dumaresq Chambers', Corner Faulkner St and Cinders Lane, Armidale  
PO Box 692, Armidale, NSW, 2350

website: adhs.org.au

e-mail: contact@adhs.org.au

President Judith Grieve 6775 1205

Newsletter Editors \*Judith Grieve

Secretary Sue Tanner 0439240348

Ruth Thomas

Treasurer John Burrell 0438187848

### **Newsletter for August 2021**

**There will be no August meeting it is not possible to arrange with the uncertainty of the Armidale Regional Council Local Government Area being in lockdown to 15<sup>th</sup> August.**

The August meeting was also to be our AGM, which will now be postponed to the next meeting which, Covid 19 precautions permitting, will be on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Dumaresq Chambers will be closed until lockdown conditions no longer apply.

**Journal 64:** Editor Alan Hardaker is formatting the Journal and it would be appreciated if all articles could be submitted as soon as possible.

**For the Golfing Historians:** *AE15/9/1908.* Mr Harry B. Wood of Manchester possesses probably the most valuable collection of golf curios in the world. There is a fine specimen of a left-handed club, once the property of the famous champion, Thomas Robertson, better known at St Andrews as 'Kill the Coddie', from his having accidentally killed a donkey with a golf ball. Amongst other clubs collected by Mr Wood are several by a famous maker named Philps, whose clubs were in great demand in the early part of the nineteenth century. They have been extensively imitated in consequence, though not with more success than has crowned the efforts of violin makers who have sought to reproduce the perfect form and rich tone of a Stradivarius. Used and owned successively by old Tom Morris, his sons Jimmy and young Tom, is a putter which bears all the characteristics of Philp's clubs – the gracefully modelled neck, the grain of the wood and tapering shaft. Another specimen is a fine baffle spoon, formerly the property of Mr Fulton, who used to play in the early days of the Manchester Club, founded in 1818. The head is made of apple wood and the joint is wrapped with thick twine, the strands of which were rolled together and afterwards waxed. There is also a putter made in 1870 by David Brown, an ex-champion and brother to 'Lang Geordie', a St Andrews player famous for overcoming stymies.

**A Trip down Memory Lane:** Topics for August meetings each decade.

**1961:** No Meeting

**1971:** No Meeting

**1981:** Jillian Oppenheimer – Shearing 'Difficulties' in New England in 1888

**1991:** Arnold Goode – Henry Sheldon Goddard and the New England Foundry

**2001:** Graham Wilson – Cobb and Co and the Railway to Tenterfield

**2011:** William Logan – Armidale's Cordial King: William Henry Logan 1868-1949

### **Snippets of History:**

#### **R.Furnifull/ W.Mutlow/ Mutlow and Weaver/ B.Weaver/ Handcock /DDH Fayle Pharmacy.**

Gloucester-born twenty-one-year-old William Mutlow arrived in Australia in 1840 and after managing squattages, came to Armidale in 1857 to purchase a partnership in Robert Furnifull's small Pharmacy. The shop was on the north side of Beardy St beside what is now Bing Lee's (old Capitol Theatre) on Section 1, lot 3. Mutlow had relatives in the UK who were chemists. He soon married twenty-year old Mary Brazier and when an old school friend Charles Weaver was appointed to Armidale as Police Magistrate, Charles bought out Furnifull's share of the business.

Weaver became a stock and station agent and in 1869 was elected State Member for New England (1869-1871). In 1874 he took his own life on the grave of his thirteen-year old daughter who had died in 1871. The Mutlows had no children and helped Mrs Weaver and her family, taking teenage Benoni Weaver into the business, (although it was later mentioned that he worked from 7am to 9pm and only received food and clothes for the first year) which later became 'Mutlow and Weaver, Chemist, Druggist, Bookseller, Stationer and Seed merchant'. A younger brother Harry Weaver became a solicitor, and partner in the firm Weaver, Gentle and Harrison.

William Mutlow was included in the Australian Register of Pharmacists in 1877, accepting his many years of experience as a chemist. Sadly his wife Mary, was committed to Gladesville Mental Hospital in 1881, where she died in 1892. Mrs Jacoba Weaver cared for Mr Mutlow until his death in 1900, when Benoni Weaver inherited his share of the pharmacy. For many years the business had traded as Mutlow and Weaver and after forty years in the shop/residence, the site was required for the erection of the Hardaker building and Weaver needed to move to new premises

Weaver's new state of the art premises was opened and in a detailed description (*AE 6/11/1897*) the shop/residence was described as an 'ornament to Armidale'. The building had been vacated by Mr S.W. Hodges, draper when he returned to England and was adjacent to the vacant block on the west side of City Bank (Commonwealth Bank, now Boobooks). Congratulations were extended to Mr Hern who had designed the plans and undertaken the radical alterations and enlargements to the building. Here Benoni traded, for some time still as 'Weaver's (Late Mutlow and Weaver)' until 1922 when he sold to Returned Soldier J.E. Handcock who came from a pharmacy in Goulburn. Handcock was welcomed at a large gathering to farewell Benoni and his brother and sister when they were presented an illuminated address and a wallet with money to purchase easy chairs for a well-earned rest in their Sydney home. Ethel received a tortoise shell toilet set and the Weavers were thanked for the many contributions they had made to the civic life of Armidale over the years and particular thanks were extended to Ethel for her war work.

Handcock ran the pharmacy for five years and in 1927 sold to D.D.H. Fayle from Ballina, who, in 1935 were still advertising Weaver's Black Antiseptic Pastilles (1/-per box) and in 1952 Weaver's Sheep Drench could still be purchased.