



TRIBUTE

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FREE PUBLICATION

St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter

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‘ Recording & Preserving the Heritage of St Marys ’

*From the Members of the
St Marys & District Historical Society*



*We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

2022 Remembrance Day Commemoration



Marie Koen (S), Robyn Gorman (VP), Lyn Forde (P) and member Eric Kent
Photo Courtesy of Kerrie Davies, Nepean News

Our members, Lyn, Marie, Robyn, Eric, Norma and Tom attended the commemoration of the 100th year of the WW1 War Memorial and the Remembrance Day ceremony in Victoria Park at St Marys. They arrived in 1922 costume and had a stall. Thankfully the day was beautiful and our President Lyn Forde spoke on the history of the memorial and the two new plaques placed there by Penrith Council and the RSL St Marys Sub-branch. Thank you for those who attended and Kerrie Davies Editor of the Nepean News for being our wreath bearer.

About 100 school children from 12 schools and over 100 others enjoyed the Service. There was a flypast by a RAAF Hercules airplane. Another guest speaker was Deputy Mayor Cr Todd Carney. Other dignitaries included Melissa McIntosh MP (Lindsay), Prue Car MP (Londonderry), Tanya Davies MP (Mulgoa), Greg Davies, Jackie Greenow and Det Insp Gary Morris.



ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Exert from - 'The Town and Country Journal - Wednesday 14th February 1917'

Old St Marys, N S W.

BY MARY SALMON.

When travelling in the Western train and passing the railway station of St. Marys one might think that the timber depot, cattle saleyards, and a modernly-built hotel made up the centre of settlement. Many memories run round the quaint old township of St. Marys (which is some distance from the railway station), and many of the men of the great western plains beyond in their boyhood were associated with the district — then known chiefly as South Creek — a fine farming and stock-breeding centre.

ST. MARYS OF TO-DAY.

The main street is the Great Western-road, known locally as Victoria-street, and as a great main highway its days of glory are past. But there is a prosperous air about it, owing to the presence of several good modern stores, a new Commonwealth Bank, and a few new stone or brick houses.

The suburban neighbourhood is represented by Queen-street and Mamre-street, where pretty cottages of modern architecture may be seen, with sweet-scented gardens in front, and a poultry run at the side, or gates and side road for a horse and buggy lead to the stables at the rear. Through the day-time the streets seem deserted, there being noticeably no men or lads loitering at street corners. "Where are all your inhabitants?" was asked of a local ex-hotelkeeper. "They are all at work," he answered, "St. Marys" has the unique distinction of absorbing all the labour available; and employers look with greedy eyes upon growing school boys, whom they are anxious to engage so soon as they may leave their lessons." He went on to say that no man or boy was idle there. "You see that old fellow," pointing to an ancient country man carrying a light sack. "He has work and is 82. He does light jobs, and can afford to be independent, as plenty of employment comes his way."

From the Editor: Over many years of research, I have frequently visited the Trove website to help flesh out the background of life in the St Marys area. I sometimes find myself curious as to the background of the journalist writing the article and therefore, here is a little about Mary Salmon.

Mary Salmon - Journalist

Birth name Mary Wright aka Mary Salmon was born at sea ca. 1853 during her family's voyage to Australia, and grew up in Sydney, where her father worked as a chemist. She initially trained and worked as a school teacher, then in 1888, she turned to journalism.

In her obituary Mary Salmon married in 1901, to James Salmon, son of James Salmon, an architect of Glasgow: they were married in Hornsby on 22 June 1901.

For a number of years, she was connected with the *Evening News* and its weekly stablemate the *Australian Town and Country Journal*, but she later wrote for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. She also contributed to Melbourne newspapers such as the *Argus* and the *Australasian*, and to regional newspapers such as the *Bathurst Free Press*.

Ref: www.austlit.edu.au

Vale Edward Miskeiwicz who passed away last month. Rest in peace. "Teddy" was my one-time neighbour, classmate and Vietnam Veteran who was called up after leaving school. Photo of the class of 1963 at St Marys High School. "Eddy" is in the top row second from the right. Photo from Lyn Forde President



The St Marys & District Historical Society meets every 4th Saturday of the month at 1 pm – at the St Marys Precinct “Chambers” Building – Mamre Road, St Marys.

No meetings in January or December

ALL WELCOME

Open to the Public on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 10.00am - 2.00pm
(meeting days till 1.00pm) and by appointment for Groups

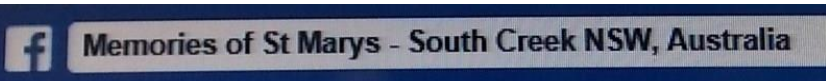
Please contact: Lyn Forde: 8840 8771 / Guest Speaker - Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307

Patron of our Society is Kerrie Davies.

Back issues of the "Tribute" can be found on our website at

www.stmaryshistoricalsociety.com.au

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(While care is taken to ensure that all articles are accurate, the opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society.) **Any comments on this Newsletter are encouraged.**

PLEASE, DON'T THROW OUT AUSTRALIAN HISTORY. OLD PHOTOGRAPHS, BOOKS, LETTERS, RECEIPTS, DOCKETS, NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU ARE NOT SURE ABOUT PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.