



Taralga Historical Society
83 Orchard St
Taralga 2580

President: Maureen Long 0417 042 303
Secretary: Chris Ainsworth 0418 919 357
Treasurer: Judith Matthews 4843 3004

Aim: To preserve history of Taralga & District for future generations

Newsletter No 1, 2021

****MEMBERSHIPS DUE** \$20**

Presidents Report:

After a year of 'not much happening', we are looking forward to 2021 for a fresh start!

We all enjoyed a Christmas get together on 5 December after our first museum opening to the public since early March.

John Dymock returned the gifted Organ dating back to 1891 on that day, after his extensive restoration. Glenys entertained us with some Christmas Carols on the organ. Thank you so much John you did a fantastic job, and Glenys for your playing abilities.

It was so nice for members to finally have some social time catching up.

- Windmill repairs are continuing after the damage caused by a ferocious storm
- We are investing in security cameras and a card payment system
- The shed extension is underway with the slab poured and ready for completion

The AGM was held on 13th February:

ELECTED EXECUTIVE FOR 2020

PRESIDENT: Maureen Long

SECRETARY: Chris Ainsworth

TREASURER: Judith Matthews

VICE PRESIDENTS: Pat Murray, Tim Dowsley

HON AUDITOR: Glenys Wright **PUBLIC OFFICER:** Bob Blay

PUBLICITY: Karen Fishburn **NEWSLETTER:** Maureen Long

ARCHIVES: Mary Chalker, Helena Hopkins, Margaret McIntosh, Chris Ainsworth
Maureen Long

CATERING: Judith Chalker, Annette Chalker, Pat Murray, Elaine Connor
Margaret McAlister

GROUNDS: Matt Chalker

GARDENS: Annette Chalker, Elaine Connor

Maureen Long

Vale

Maureen Plavsic - Kerridge d. 20.11.20

Wife of Keith, and Mother.

Maureen received posthumously

MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA 2021

For significant service to the television industry, to the arts, and to charitable organisations.

Don Sanders

25.11.20 aged 93 years

Husband of: Betty

Father of: Michael, Jennifer, Robert, Jonathon, Martin

Betty Sanders was a valued member. Her daughter Jennifer was an Executive at the Powerhouse Museum and took our members for a look at the areas not seen by the public. They lived at 'Somerset' Taralga Road before moving to Wentworth Falls.



John Thrower

27.11.20 aged 73 years

Father of: John and Nichole

Formerly of Myrtleville



Alan McKenzie

29.1.2021 aged 89 years

Husband of Irene (Holt)

Father and Father in Law of: ;

Kerry and Greg Fagan and

Stuart and Joanne McKenzie



Barbara (Wilkins) Chaseling

26.1.2021 aged 80 years

Wife of Allan

Mother of: Donna and Brett. Grandmother



Marilyn Fleming

5.2.2021 aged 76 years

Wife of Hugh (dec)

Mother and Grandmother.

Barbara in 1952 photo - next page



SACRED HEART SCHOOL TARALGA
JUNIOR GRADE 1952

BACK ROW L to R: Robert McAlister, Mervyn Cummins, Garry Keough, Terry Dean, June Hanrahan, Brian Kelly, Tony Boys, Paul White, Graham Halls, Pat Walsh
3RD ROW L to R: Margot Young, Barbara Wilkins, Beth Dean, Pat Chapman, Terrie Connor, Margaret Wylie
2ND ROW L to R: Geraldine Wylie, Marie Webb, Kay Boys, Carmel Walsh, Susan Young, Douglas Craig
FRONT ROW L to R: Greg Moloney, Robert Bowerman, Wayne Hanrahan, Ron Moloney, Neville Galvin, Peter Galvin

Goulburn Herald and Chronicle Wednesday 20 July 1870

TARALGA

MEDICAL - Dr Perry paid a visit to this part recently. His object was to establish a medical club providing some two hundred persons would subscribe one pound each annually. The head of a family by paying one pound would himself and family receive medical treatments for twelve months. However much the object in view might benefit this part, it is doubtful if the required number of subscribers can be got here. Mr Robertson, who has now resided here a few years, has been very successful in setting broken limbs and otherwise prescribing and relieving the sick. Also, Mr Whiting junior prescribes and sells medicines; so that this neighbourhood is not wholly destitute of medical treatment. The sanitary conditions of the people is generally very good, though whooping cough among children is prevalent just now.

ROAD - The trustees came on the scene of road marking once more, when many thought from what fell from one or two of the trustees that they would resign - that is, two of them. It appears now such is not the case, for last Monday the road was inspected by them and tenders invited for repairing the worst places. Mr Cardwine's tender was accepted for the erection of a bridge over Cowper's Creek, the material is to consist of wood. I believe the sum is £75. A culvert is to be erected at Martin's Creek; a cutting to be made at Tarlo River; and other repairs to be carried on simultaneously, so that teamsters and other travellers are in hopes of having a passable road are long.

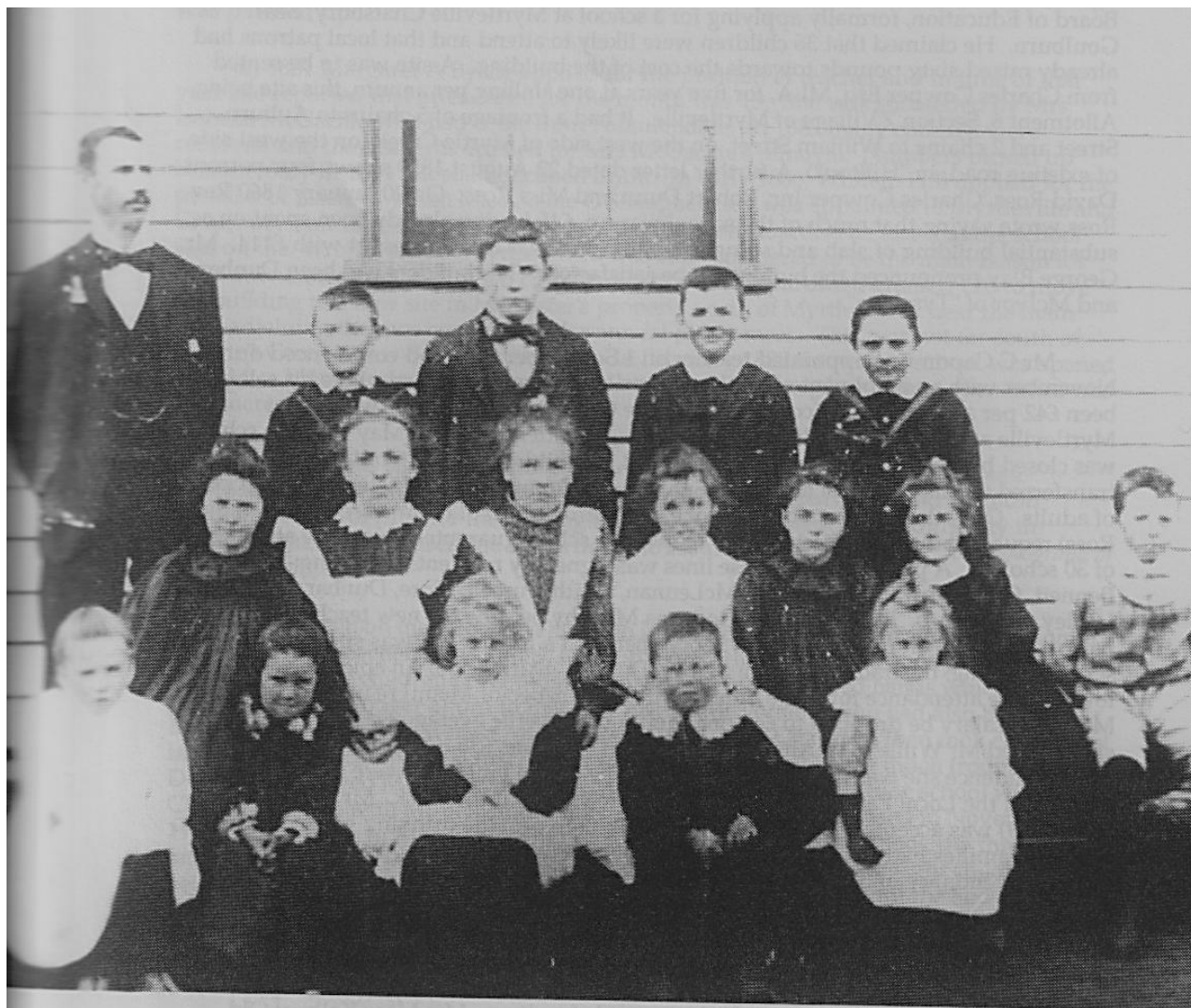
The streets here are in a wretched state. It takes a good deal of manoeuvring on foot or horseback to travel from one end of the village to the other. Surely something could be done by the villagers in the shape of a little repair to the worst places, more especially in

Macarthur street, As for Orchard street, it is in the hands of the road trustees; so doubt they will pay attention to it .

The plough is still at work for grain. A farmer near here received a few bags of spring wheat from Picton, as it is getting late for other kinds of wheat. It is said that this spring wheat is proof against rust.

WEATHER - The days last week were delightfully fine, accompanied by the usual sharp frosts at night. A complete change has taken place this week - frowning winter days accompanied by rain are experienced to the fullest extent just now.

BURRA LAKE SCHOOL



Burra Lake School c.1900

Teacher: Mr John Kelly who married Miss Whiting of Taralga

Back Row: Dave Mullaney, Ned Cusack, John Walsh, Harry Cusack.

Middle Row: Ethel Cusack, Kate Keogh, Maggie Keogh, Gertie Walsh, Beatie Cusack, Beatrice Walsh, Charlie McKenzie.

Front Row: Kate Walsh, Sylvia McKenzie, Lily McKenzie, Donald McKenzie, Pearl McKenzie

BURRA LAKE SCHOOL

The first Burra Lake School opened in a slab building as a provisional school in July 1881 in the corner of land originally owned by Mr J. McKenzie. It was on the opposite side of the road from John McKenzie's 'Marmont's Flat' home, north west from it.

Pupils from the old school were from Wright, McKenzie, Craig and Keith families. In 1882 the old school became public until May 1897, but from January 1898 until April 1904 it was half-time with Yalbraith. Then it became provisional again for two years and it closed for a short time in 1906. It reopened as half-time with Yorkborough from January 1908, but may have had a subsidised teacher in the meantime. The half-time situation continued until August 1912 when it was up-graded to a public school until December 1950 when it appears to have closed for a time. It closed for the last time in 1955.

After Burra Lake gained public school status a new building was erected on Croke's land opposite Howard's (now Moloneys) because more children now lived in that area

In the late 1920's this new building was in a neglected state and extensive repairs were carried out soon after Mr Emery came from Kempton. Mr W. Emery was successful in establishing a very good rapport with the parents and during his term there the Burra Lake School was thriving. Supporting him were the Walsh, Mooney, Howard, Cusack, Mullaney, Wright, Croke and McKenzie families. Mr Emery was very sports minded and encouraged the people to join the tennis club and other sporting activities. The end of year picnic became a very big affair in the bottom of the school grounds with events for adults as well as children.

Mrs Emery taught sewing to the girls and many were successful in their show exhibits at the time. Mr Emery's pupils also excelled at writing, another feature of the show. Mr Emery retired about 1931 and his place was taken by Mr Costin until 1934 when Mr Neil Halloran came. Mr Halloran established the Junior Farmers' Club in the area. This was a wonderful opportunity for country children and young adults of the area to further their social and occupational education and many past members are very grateful to Mr Halloran who still continued these activities after he moved to Taralga School.

When Mr Halloran first came to Burra Lake, Mrs Hugh McKenzie taught needlework, but Mr Halloran married during his time at Burra Lake and then Mrs Halloran took over this task. Although the school had been closed for many many years, a reminder of the public spirit of citizens still remains there where Mr Len Walsh and others worked to construct a contour map of the world out of concrete. This map could be filled with water to give the children a picture of oceans, continents and mountain ranges in the world, and, although of course it had to be flat, old pupils say it gave them a very good idea of the shape of things. The map is about 10 x 15 ft and was built under Mr Halloran's supervision.

Other teachers over the years have been Mr O'Neill, Mr Michael Phelan, Mr Folkhard, and Mr Adrian McDonnell who was the closing teacher there.

When Burra Lake School finally closed, the remaining children came on Phil Whipp's bus to Taralga. Late the bus was driven by Ron Hansen from Golspie.

FOLLOWING A STUDENT OF GOLSPIE AND BURRA LAKE SCHOOLS

Crookwell Gazette Wednesday 19 January 1949

Burra Lake Public School had two boys sit in October for the annual bursary examination - Bob Walsh and Alan Moloney - and word was received last Saturday that both had passed, the bursaries to be tenable at St. Patrick's College Goulburn. This is an excellent result from a small country school and reflects a great deal of credit on both the lads concerned for their industry and on their teacher, Mr Adrian MacDonnell.

Alan Moloney had been a pupil of Golspie Public School until that school was closed about six months ago, so a certain amount of credit for his pass must be given to Mr W.H. Hannaford, his former teacher.

Congratulations to you both, boys and to your teachers.

Moving to 2014



Dr Alan Moloney received an OAM for service to the community of Ballarat. In his case it was Rotary, Apex and St Vincent de Paul

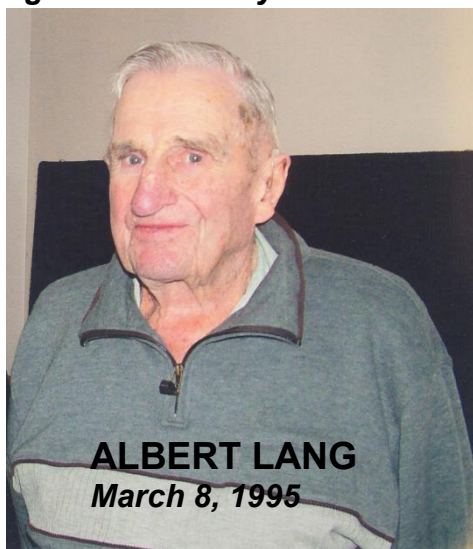
Work-wise, Dr Moloney had a dental practice in Nhil before becoming the chief dental officer at the Ballarat Base Hospital Dental Clinic between 1975 and 1995.

He has been married to Ann for 54 years (2014) has five children and fifteen grandchildren.

Alan is the son of John and Hazel Moloney, brother of Marge Cook (dec), Ken, Greg, Helen Wilkins and Ron

Taralga Historical Society has Alan's photo on our wall of Australia Day Recipients.

Albert Lang interviewed by Lorna Parr



ALBERT LANG
March 8, 1995



Alfred Whipp m Ellen Connor
1888
Alf built 'Adavale' Homestead

I was born in Taralga where my father owned a big stone house, but he had property at Wombeyan Caves - very extensive property known as 'Rock Lily'. I was born in Taralga.. Dr. Lyons had just started practising there. I started my early childhood at 'Rock Lily' and Dad later bought extensive properties through the mountains at Bannaby and we moved to 'Adavale' where I grew up. I went to Bannaby Public School.

'Adavale' is close to 'Hillasmount' where I was able to observe much of the life of what was considered the "aristocrats of Bannaby". The Hillas', Pearces and Jamiesons.

Dad was grazing, all grazing mostly sheep - very little cattle because it was all mountain country. He seemed to have a desire for mountain country because besides 'Adavale', all the rest of the country was mountain country. He selected all the country around 'Rock Lily' in the latter part of the 19th century. He had been around Bannaby many years because in the early days he shored for Hillas' and Jamiesons. He used to tell of the rough conditions that they shored under - about twenty men sleeping in the one hut.. He spoke of washing the sheep in the 'Swallowtail' wash-hole and how the sheep were brought back to Bannaby to be shorn.

There were about two men in the water - actually it was more like a race across the waterhole. Two men stripped off and went in there, The other men then put the sheep in just the same as putting them in a dip. Then as they went past each man rolled them and sloshed them about and rubbed them all over then let them out into a draining pen. As soon as they were dry they shored them. They considered that the water cleaned all the dirt out of the wool and it was easier to shear. There were extensive sheep washes. There was also one on the Woolshed Creek. Dad shored in the early days until he made his money. He shored at Bannaby in the 1880's - 1890's but then later on he gave the shearing away. He has seven sons by the first family so he always said he had bred a shearing team. Those days he took a lot of the early shearing at Bannaby and then 1870's he went westward to Trangie, Narromine and all out there, shearing - he took pack horses and was shearing by hand. He never used the machines - never knew those days. Although he had shearing machines very early, anything mechanical came about he seemed to get it. Actually he had the first motor car in Taralga district in 1914 - a Hudson 6, an American car. The company sent a man up from Sydney for a month especially to teach him to drive. He drove that out through Wombeyan Caves, a fairly rough trip in those days. The people hated him coming to Taralga because there was always plenty of broken bridle reins and stampedes when he drove up the street.

I used to go rabbiting, fencing, ring-barking and general station work. I never left to go shearing just as an amateur. The rest of the time I did general work. I never had much association with the Wombeyan Caves area. I mostly concentrated on Bannaby - the two properties we had at Bannaby

The house we had at 'Adavale' was built way back by the original settler Alf Whipp. It was built back in the 1890's but it was a very substantial house even though it was slab and lined with pine boards - a very substantial house that one.

The Depression didn't affect me a great lot because my father had substantial means behind him. He had a large family but had property and he was able to keep his sons in work. No one in our locality had to leave their farms, I didn't know of anybody who did in the Taralga district. They were very very lucky.

At Bannaby Station, the shearer's hut was always left open, and it was always full of swagmen who came through from Marulan short cutting going west through Swallowtail. Swaggies used to come to the house begging a little food. That's one thing there were plenty of swagmen. Travelling the roads you would see them all the time. Looking back you realise how hard it must have been for people in those days.

If you sent sheep away you drove them to Taralga or Goulburn, and the wool went out by horse teams. 'Rock Lily' wool was taken into Roslyn by the teamsters - the Webbs, The Bergins and Quinns. By the time I can remember the wool going from Bannaby, Webbs had updated to an old hard tyre motor truck. It was in the mid-twenties when I start to remember those, but everything was driven. There was a train started from Taralga about 1925 and there used to be a lot of sheep trucks. If you bought sheep in Goulburn they came out on the roads. I can remember driving hundreds and hundreds of sheep.

Before the Wombeyan Caves were open to the public, I can remember my father saying; when his father and mother went out on the other side of the caves in 1870, they used to have parties down on the flat in front of the caves. They weren't open, but they'd go into them. He used to tell about how they'd dance down there. They'd all get together and have a big picnic afternoon and I suppose there'd be the old Chalkers and Langs - you wouldn't know who there was in those days.

Somewhere about 1870 the Langs went out. Grandfather selected out on top of the Tellygang, that's overlooking the Wollondilly River. Various members of the family selected around. He and his brother selected a lot of country there. As it went down through several generations, of course it became too many on each property, so they all sold out. Chalkers seem to be the only ones that hung on.

People would select, then they;s move out, and other people would move in. At one stage at Bannaby School when I was there, there were just over 40 pupils in the school, but of course they were big families. Some of them travelled a long way to school. Hilary Connor and I went to school there. Hilary was a bit younger than me. He's from that locality too. He had further to go to school than I did. I only had a mile and a half in the old terms. If you can fancy a teacher today with six classes with 40 children. They knocked a bit of something into us.

The War years: There was a shortage of manpower, shortages of people to work the properties. And of course if you were involved in a property they didn't allow you to go because they had to produce wool. I was called up, but I was sent back. O course we weren't in real trouble, but mother was a widow. She had property and that, but like a lot more, we were sent back. The same with growing potatoes. They sent people back to grow potatoes, then they sent them back from the army to harvest them ,due to food shortage.

3a.

RICHLANDS (ESTATE MANAGEMENT) - GEORGE MARTYR and reference to GOULBURN - TARALGA SURVEY -
 ALICIA & MARIA PENTLAND - WILLIAM STEWART & CHARLES HENRY CASWELL - CATHOLIC
 CHURCH (TARALGA)- REV. JAMES SAMUEL HASSALL - JAMES RICHARD STYLES - JOSEPH MARTYR

Extracts from Family Research carried out by Alan Charles Bolton (unpublished)

"" George Martyr came to Australia in 1847 ... to take up the post of Superintendent of the Macarthur's Estate, 'Richlands', near Taralga. In Sydney he met and married Alicia Pentland in 1848 and together they lived at 'Richlands' for 13 years or until 1860 (sic) when he moved in to Goulburn and began his practice as a surveyor and land agent While in Taralga, George Martyr is credited with having 'put into order the huddle of huts and work places' which was Taralga. 'He surveyed the area and set out town building blocks and streets' In 1860 George Martyr became first a surveyor and land agent and later, Goulburn Town Clerk in 1868 (acting) and again in 1870. He was also, at one time, Reporter on the Goulburn Herald and Editor of the Goulburn Penny Post in 1879.... He was Secretary of the Volunteer Corps and an Alderman of the City for many years. The Goulburn Saleyards were planned by him. In 1857 when Governor Dennison visited Goulburn, there was a Ploughing Match as part of the entertainment, with 20 teams entered. The judges of the contest were George Martyr of 'Richlands' and James Richard Styles of 'Reevesdale', Bungonia Joan (Twynam) told me: 'I met a man at the Taralga Show (1986) who was investigating the history of the Roman Catholic Church in the Goulburn and surrounding district. He, Mr. Austen Mooney, said that in 1859 there was held a meeting of Roman Catholics to discuss the building of a church in Taralga. The man who acted as Chairman for this meeting was Mr. George Martyr, Manager of Richlands Estate. It was moved at the Meeting, that in appreciation of the way Mr. Martyr chaired the meeting that he be presented with a medal' George Martyr's life was distinguished for his service to Goulburn and District. George's only son Joseph (born at Richlands) also excelled, but in a very different way! ... Joseph was born .. on 5th August 1857 ... apparently ... a most colourful "" and resourceful bushman(Ref. 'Adelaide Register 6th July 1928). ""

Some Visitors to the Martyrs at Richlands during the 1850's

c. 1850 Rev. James Samuel Hassall visited the Martyrs at Richlands: "I found him and his wife very hospitable people" (Ref. Angela Lind, Killara)

22nd February 1853 The marriage took place at Richlands between William Stewart Caswell and Maria Anne Pentland, sister of George Martyr's wife, Alicia; Caswell Drive in Canberra is named after Charles Henry Caswell, the son of William and Maria Caswell; he was short-listed in the competition for the design of Canberra. (Ref. Angela Lind, Killara)



Goulburn Herald and Chronicle, Saturday 8 July 1876

TARALGA

NEW BUILDING - Mr H.W. Whiting's two-storey stone building for a store in Orchard Street has a neat appearance, and is substantially built.

Messrs W. Donald and Malcolm were the constructors for the masonry, and have executed the work in a manner which shows their competency and skill in that line.



Building between the 2 Whiting buildings was a Chemist dispensary.

Goulburn Evening Penny Post 14 March, 1893

TARALGA - COACH ACCIDENT - SERIOUS SMASH UP -

When Mr M. Larkin's passenger coach was coming down Chalker's Hill last night (Wednesday) into Taralga, the horses became unmanageable and bolted, throwing Larkin off near the brink. They then raced down the street, and opposite the post office turned the coach completely over, getting loose with the pole attached, and finally coming to grief at the rear of Mr Walsh's residence against which they collided. When Larkin was thrown off he was dragged about 30 yards along the metal, and sustained fearful injuries, it being at first thought he was killed. Fortunately, however, this was not the case, and I am glad to say that this morning Larkin is much better. He sustained a severe scalp wound in addition to other injuries all more or less severe. Luckily there were no passengers. The coach is a complete wreck, and much sympathy is expressed for Larkin, who will be a heavy loser. Larkin is a very careful driver, and beyond the fact that one of the horses was a young one no other reason has yet been assigned for the accident.



**This is of Taralga buildings - cost is very reasonable
If you would like a sketch of your home/buildings please contact:**

HISTORICAL TOWN LANDSCAPES - by Steve Ayling

Prints/Originals/Commissions

Facebook/Instagram/Etsy

Email: historicaltownlandscapes@gmail.com - Mobile: 0412 302 116

Framed copy





Museum Duty

Saturdays 10am-2.30pm

March

Saturday 6 Mick & Annette Chalker, Peter Davies, Jim Dean
 Saturday 13 Jeff & Judy Chalker, Graham & Sue Lambert
 Saturday & Sunday 13 & 14th **TARALGA SHOW DAYS**
 Saturday 20 GENERAL MEETING 2PM MASONIC HALL
 Saturday 20 Maureen, Joan, Elaine, Pat, Karen Fishburn
 Saturday 27 Glennis & Max Wright, Bob Blay, Brian Moloney, Tim Dowsley

April

Saturday 3 **EASTER WEEKEND**
 Saturday 3 Matt & Vicki Chalker, Peter Davies, Graham Lambert
 Saturday 10 Chris Ainsworth, Danielle Thomson, Brian Corby, Tim Dowsley
 Saturday 17 Maureen, Joan, Elaine, Pat, Karen Fishburn
 Saturday 24 Mick & Annette Chalker, Pat Keough, Bob Blay

May

Saturday 1 Jeff & Judy Chalker, Jim Dean, Tim Dowsley
 Saturday 8 Graham & Sue Lambert, Helena Hopkins, Margaret McIntosh
 Saturday 15 Maureen, Joan, Elaine, Pat, Karen Fishburn
 Saturday 22 Margaret & Peter McAlister, Judith Matthews, Robert Rabjohns
 Saturday 29 Chris Ainsworth, Jenny & Peter Haigh, Galina & Vlad Balashov

June

Saturday 5 Chris Ainsworth, Danielle Thomson,
 Saturday 12 Matt & Vicki Chalker, Brian Corby, Brian Moloney
 Saturday 19 Maureen, Joan, Elaine, Pat, Karen Fishburn
 Saturday 26 Chris Ainsworth, Danielle Thomson, Tim Dowsley, Brian Corby

If anyone has any problems with their days, please change with
 someone else or contact Maureen.

****MEMBERSHIPS DUE** \$20**

Direct Banking:

Taralga Historical Society

BSB: 062 545

Acc: 1004 0942

PLEASE ENTER YOUR NAME