



The Faraday Farrago

NEWSLETTER OF THE FARADAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

ISSUE NO. 20 : November 2013

Northumberland Hotel – Golden Point Road Therese Horn

Whilst gold had been discovered at Golden point in 1851, alcohol was banned on the goldfields and therefore sly grog shops were plentiful. These grog shops were often just operated out of a tent and if they were discovered by the law, they would be burnt down and the culprits were fined 50 pounds. However these were not always successful deterrents as some of the establishments were relocated and burnt down as many as 2 – 3 times a week. It became clear that there was a need to restrict the sly grog trade and license more appropriate public houses.

The first licensee of the Northumberland Hotel on Golden Point Road, was Richard William Ward/Wood Hopper, he brought his wife & family of four children out to Australia sometime after 1851, as they were listed in the UK census for that year. Both Richard and his wife Elizabeth Safe had been married previously and they had resided in Northumberland, England, which no doubt explains the naming of the hotel.

The hotel was also the local Post Office from 1865 to well after the hotel closed down in 1913. Community social gatherings in the form

of foot races, horse racing and quoits matches were also enjoyed at the hotel and the Faraday Tea Gardens, which were established next to the Northumberland hotel for the non-imbibers. These gardens were also owned and operated by Mr & Mrs Hopper.

In the last 20 years of his life Mr Hopper was blind but this did not stop him from



Photo courtesy Chewton People and Places Collection. Richard Hopper standing in centre of photo

carrying out the business of his hotel with the help of his wife Elizabeth. Sadly when she died in 1886 he found it difficult to manage without her and he passed away not long after, in March 1887. The following are extracts from an article in The Mount Alexander Mail at the time of his death.

“But, though deprived of his eyesight he was able to carry out the business of the hotel, his wonderful instinct permitting him the serving of liquors, and giving correct change to his customers. Since the death of Mrs Hopper, which took place

a few months ago, the deceased had, however found it more difficult to conduct the business of the hotel.”

“Mr Hopper leaves a family all of whom are married. He was greatly esteemed by the residents and on some occasions has sung at charitable entertainments in the Oddfellows Hall thus showing that he was always willing to

assist as far as he could to help any deserving cause. His favourite song was ‘A life on the ocean wave’, and this he could render very well for one who was suffering from such an

affliction”

(Mount Alexander Mail, 11 March 1887)

Pubic records show that he died intestate but the estate was shared between his two sons from his first marriage, William & James sharing the estate valued at 340 pounds.

I am grateful to Ken James & Allan Dry for their new book ‘A history of Golden Point Chewton’ for some of my information including the article from the Mount Alexander Mail. This book should be available at the reopening ceremony of the Chewton Town Hall.

A Survey Of Dunstans Flat

Ian Johnson

In his ninth decade, but still very fit and active as an orienteer and naturalist; Ian has explored Dunstans Flat and mapped the area in detail, using only a compass, a scrap of paper, and his schoolteacher resourcefulness.

A sketch map he produced is

eating seedling trees, or maybe by rabbits which incidentally do not eat naturally seeding trees, only planted ones.

I saw no great quantity of native grasses, but thistles of the common sort are widespread with some proclaimed weeds as marked; together with horehound and blackberries but few gorse bushes. There are rocks too, some granitic, some metamorphosed.

(ie: more 'granite drops')

There had been a fox den earlier, but it is now filled with tyres. Dunstans Flat has no forbes or clovers, and I found soil-less places under trees, something uncommon with grassland and boxes.

Seepages and little waterholes were more common than expected.

The National Broadband Network Comes To Faraday

Peter McCarthy

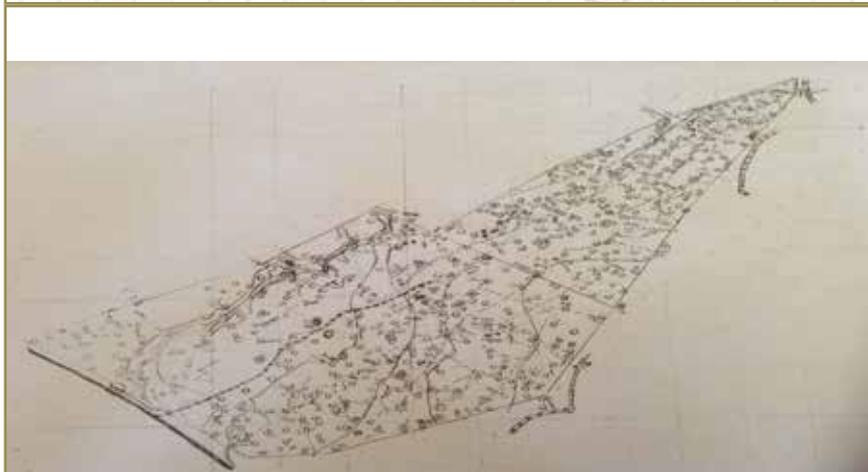
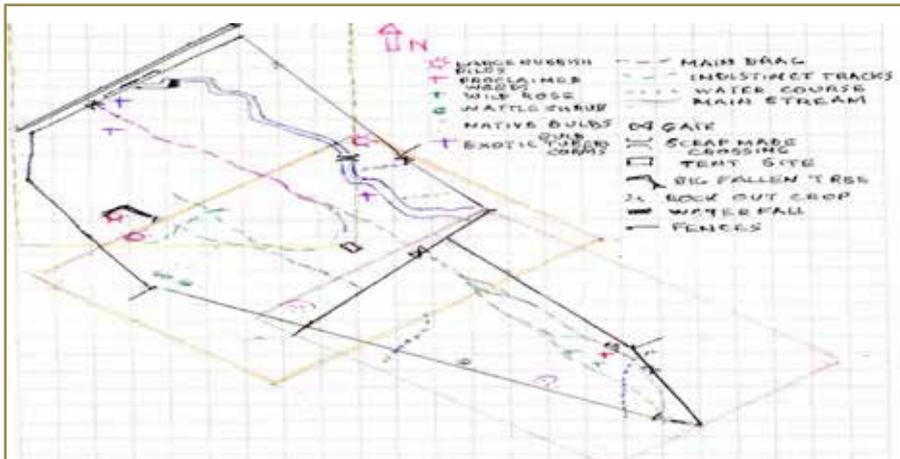
After hearing on the radio that the NBN was about to become available in an area from Harcourt South to Elphinstone I called into the Telstra office. Yes, it is about to arrive and will be a Fixed Wireless service from a tower that was started in July and is due to be completed in November. A map of the coverage can be found at <http://www.nbnco.com.au/when-do-i-get-it/rollout-map.html> Just type in postcode 3451.

Harcourt Rural

Modernisation Project

The project proposed is to replace the existing concrete and earthen gravity channel system with a network of pressurised pipeline, fed from two pump stations located at Faraday and Barkers Creek Reservoir, and a balancing storage tank on the side of Mount Alexander. There will be opportunity for some new customers to connect to the new rural pipeline. The pipeline will supply raw water and is not fit for human consumption, but is ideal for stock and domestic or irrigation purposes.

A new line will run from the Old Calder up the Faraday-Sutton Grange Road to service



included, and a more detailed map is available if members wish to follow and find the various tracks and objects identified.

From Ians' notes---*There are about 600 trees on the map but that is not all of them, just the ones to show patterns for ease of finding locations.*

Some stumps and fallen trees are shown as per the legend. The area is rather degraded, probably due to overgrazing and stock

There are very few native shrubs and only one species of wattle. The bulbs present are chocolate lilies and a few bulbine lilies.

There are also plenty of irises, all purple; and some South African corn plants near the gate.

Dumps of metal waste and wire were found, with tracks leading to them. Most of these dumps and tracks are of the farmer type.

It was fairly easy to find where the dams of rocks were by looking at erosion deposits and flood plains.

the vineyard of Harcourt Land Holdings. Unfortunately this branch line is unable to offer a service to several residents who were keen to obtain it for their orchards, as the line has been sized only for the existing customers and the pressure will be inadequate for other supplies. Meetings and discussions with Coliban Water proved fruitless, as the cost of upgrading the line further is said to be around \$200,000. This would seem to limit forever the development of further orchards and vineyards in our area.

The pipeline takes an interesting path, as easements through private property are easier to obtain than easements on public land along road verges. It's a wacky world!

Population Growth During 1970's and 80's

Alan J. Elliot

At the time of the Faraday School centenary in 1969, it was noted that 'less than a dozen houses (are) occupied today' (Thomas, L. 1969).

But the approval of a number of subdivisions of former farmland by the Shire of Metcalfe would soon lead to considerable growth in our local population.

One hundred and eighty acres formerly owned by George Cribbes, adjoining the western side of the Calder Highway to the South of the school, were subdivided into smaller lots of 5 to 12 acres.

Known as the Caelli subdivision, the first stage of 10 lots released in 1973 are between the water race reserve and the highway. Release prices ranged from \$1,700 to \$2,500,

excepting for lot 10 on which is located the original Cribbes granite cottage.

In the early 1980's Faradale Drive was constructed to the east of the water race, and a further thirteen lots were released.

Power (SEC) and 'phone (PMG) were progressively extended throughout, homes sprung up and many young families settled in.

By 1979 there were a total of eighteen school age children catching the daily bus to Castlemaine from this area of Faraday alone.

Ironically, our local school had only been relinquished by the Education Department three years earlier, following it's closure in 1972, and continued use as an outdoor education area until 1976.

Further subdivisions followed during the late 1970's including Brian Parsons' Chewton Bushlands, much of which is in the parish of Faraday.

It was some years before these blocks, many with one-roomed stone cottages built by Brians' men, became occupied. First, as occasional weekenders, later with more permanent dwellers.

During the 1980's further existing lots were built on in Kennedys Lane, Bubbs lane, and Sutton Grange Road.

Parcels of land on the western side of the highway north of the school were subdivided and our population grew.

The children of the 1970's/80's have long since grown up and mostly left the area; and changes to the local planning scheme following amalgamation nominally require land of 40ha (approx 100acres) for a building permit.

No doubt our population will continue to wax and wane but the number of homes occupied today is many times what it was in 1969.

Faraday Community Association AGM

On the 6th October a picnic and meeting under warm, sunny conditions was enjoyed by members. New committee members: Christine Brooke and Jenny Lieshman join continuing members: Anthea Matley, Peter McCarthy, Therese Horn, Robert English and Alan Elliot.



LIST OF MEMBER'S GOODS AND SERVICES

Support these members who support our Association

Terry Collins	Plumber	0438 504 353
Rev. Mark Dunn (Uniting Church)	Marriage Celebrant, the setting is your choice	0409 009 443
Ray Fowler	Master Painter	5474 3109
Heather & Alan Harris	East End Servo, Chewton Service Station	5470 5444
Matthew Hough	Elphinstone Firewood Supplies	0458 387 378
Bianca Joyce	http://thoroughbredsoffthetrack.com.au	5657 3302
J & P Leishman	Olive oil, electric and general rural fencing, agricultural consultant	0427 931 391
Brendan McCarthy	Photographer	0402 077 137
Anthea Matley	Granite Springs Olive oil	5474 2601
Simon Moten	Sanctuary Hill Wines	0447 733 242
"Mister Workman" (Grant)	Home handyman services: carpentry, building, painting, landscape design	0414 269 842

Any financial member may have their goods and services listed free in each issue. Please contact The Editor: 5474 2601 or email: faradayfarrago@yahoo.com.au.

MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW DUE. Please see below for details for payment.

**Thank You Again To
AMC CONSULTANTS
for the printing of the
FARADAY FARRAGO**

Faraday Rainfall
Aug 2013 83.5mm
Sept 2013 72.5mm
Oct 2013 36.5mm
Nov 2013 39.5mm



**FARADAY FROLICS
Dunstans Flat at 6:30pm on
Saturday 7th December
Marquee will be erected
Pizza and nibbles provided
Please bring drinks and chairs**

Our modest journal takes considerable volunteer time and resources to produce, and distribute. We appreciate the assistance provided by the organisations acknowledged for the printing and paper costs. The 'Farrago does NOT accept paid advertising and hence has no source of revenue other than members' subscriptions. Non-members are encouraged to contribute the modest sum of \$10 (\$15 for families) for annual membership.

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Please forward articles to be considered for inclusion in the next newsletter to PO Box 257 Chewton 3451 to the attention of the Editors (Anthea Matley & Peter McCarthy) or to our email address: faradayfarrago@yahoo.com.au

**For new membership please contact Robert English at renglish@melbpc.org.au
For renewal : direct credit Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-108 a/c no. 137897070 in the name of Faraday Community Association. Please put in sender's name and initials. Family/couple \$15.00
Individuals \$10.00**

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