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- **Rylstone doctor's story inspires book**
- **Private Athol KIRKLAND Killed (100 years ago)**
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RDHS Newsletter

MAY 2018

THE ALLEGED POISONING CASE NEAR RYLSTONE

On last Thursday, the 10th instant, at the Rylstone Police Court, Joseph Pitt and Jane Jupp were charged before Messrs. Hardwick, Davidson, and Nevell, J.P.s, with poisoning one, Samuel Jupp, the husband of the female prisoner. The case occupied the whole of Thursday and Friday, till 8 p.m. on the latter day, and the Court was densely crowded during the whole of the proceedings. Sub-inspector Carter examined the witnesses for the prosecution. The following are the more material points of the evidence:

Senior-constable D'Arcy deposed: I am stationed at Rylstone. On the morning of the 10th December last, Mrs. Jupp came, at about 10 o'clock, to the police station at Rylstone. She said, "Is Pitt in the watch-house?" She asked was Pitt arrested, or were the police looking after him. I replied "No". She said she had lent Pitt a horse to go home to his mother's, and that Jupp was very angry with her for doing so. While this conversation was going on, constable Ferris, of Ilford station, rode up with Pitt a prisoner. He was subsequently liberated, and shortly afterwards left with Mrs. Jupp, going in the direction of Jupp's house. About half-an-hour afterwards, Mrs. Jupp returned to Rylstone alone. She came to me again, on the 13th December, between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, and again asked had Pitt been

arrested, as he should have been at home last night. She said she had not gone home on Monday night, but stopped at Mrs. Todd's, and that when she went home she made some tea. Jupp said it was too strong and got in a great rage. She said, "My God! I thought he would have killed me". She told me Jupp was very bad and had been bad two or three days. I asked was he very bad, when she replied "Yes, I think he'll die". I said she had better take him a doctor if he was that bad. She said Jupp had told her if she brought a doctor he would not pay him. She then said she would go and see the chemist and went towards Mr. White's shop. Joseph Pitt reported Jupp's death to me, on the 14th December. He said, in reply to a question from me, "He has had cramps in his inside, and has been retching". I went to Jupp's place and made inquiries, and afterwards Mr. Hardwick, J.P., gave an order for the burial of the body. From something I afterwards heard, I went to the shop of Mr. White, chemist, Rylstone, and inquired had he recently sold any poison to Pitt. White looked at some documents and said he had sold Pitt one shilling's worth of laudanum, for tooth ache, and one pound of arsenic for poisoning dogs. About an hour after I received the documents from Mr. White, I saw Pitt and asked him did he buy any poison recently at White's. He

replied he did. In reply to a question as to what he did with the arsenic, he said he had left some at his mother's place, on a shelf in the kitchen, and the rest in his own bedroom at Jupp's. He said he had told his sister he had left some on the dresser at his mother's place. I then arrested Pitt on the charge of causing the death of Samuel Jupp, by poison. Pitt had been working for and living with Jupp for about eighteen months. I remember the commencement of the inquest on Jupp's body, on the 18th last December. On that day I received three bottles from Dr. Newton, numbered 1, 2, and 3 respectively. I had previously seen Dr. Newton perform a post-mortem examination on Samuel Jupp's body, which had been exhumed. I saw the doctor place some portions of the body in the bottles referred to. I took the bottles to Sydney, and on the 22nd December handed them in the same state as I got them to Mr. Watt, the Government analytical chemist. On the 18th December I went to Mrs. Jupp's house and told her she would be required at the inquest. I asked her had she any poison in the house. She said "No, there had been no poison since you arrested Jupp, except the ammonia you took away last night". I arrested Jupp some five [days] since. The night before this conversation I took from Jupp's house a bottle containing what I believed to be ammonia.

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Interesting News

Blue Mountains Historical Society Visit

The Blue Mountains Historical Society visited the Cottage Museum on Thursday, 12 April.

Bowdens Silver Mine

Guest speaker, Mr Anthony McCLURE, will attend the RDHS General Meeting on 26 May at 2pm. Mr McCLURE has been invited to address the society on the plans for the Bowdens Silver project at Lue.

Cottage Museum News

The collection is always under review and some different items have been added to the current display. Changes to the arrangement of displays has given the museum a 'fresher' look.

Trash and Treasure

The next Trash and Treasure day will be Saturday, 30th June 2018. The most recent Trash and Treasure day was quite successful and raised about \$700.

Motor Car Accident.

NEAR RYLSTONE.
CAR LOAD OVERTURNED.
NO SERIOUS INJURIES.

A large motor car party, out on Friday afternoon near Rylstone, met with an accident, the consequences of which might have been very much more serious than, happily, they were.

The party consisted of Mr. J. R. Fletcher of Rylstone (President Rylstone Shire Council), Miss Ivy Fletcher, Mr. Hope (Engineer to the Rylstone Shire), Mrs. B. J. Naughton of Gulgong, and her son, Lieut. Ray Naughton, recently returned from the war.

As the car was being driven on the Sydney Road round a corner, at Hardinge, Tabrabucca, the back tyre on the driver's side, blew out, and the car overturned.

Mr Hope and Mrs Naughton were thrown clear of the car, and the other three occupants were pinned underneath it.

Mr Fletcher received injuries to the head.

Mrs. Naughton had her shoulder injured.

Mr Hope sustained injuries to his leg.

Miss Fletcher had several bruises and abrasions.

Lieut. Naughton sustained bruises and abrasions.

Mudgee Guardian, 27 May 1918, p4

Rylstone doctor's story inspires book

'Kitchener's One Hundred' tells story of WWI medicos

Rylstone doctor Jack FARRAR was one of 100 Australian doctors who answered the plea from British War Secretary Lord KITCHENER for help to bolster the war effort in 1915. More than 100 years after he enlisted Jack's story has inspired a 560 page account of the lives of his colleagues who would become known as Kitchener's One Hundred.

Lina STUNDEN never imagined a volunteer shift at the Rylstone Historical Society would lead her on a six-year investigation into the lives of a group of otherwise forgotten Australian trained doctors and surgeons who served in the First World War.

"I joined [the Rylstone Historical Society] and asked if anyone was writing a book on WWI, no

one was and they were happy for me to begin but then I got sidetracked by John William FARRAR or Jack as he was known," Lina said.

The son of publicans and farmers, Jack was fresh out of Sydney Medical School when he enlisted as a doctor on a hospital ship in the Pacific in 1914.

A year later he re-enlisted with 99 other young doctors, among them doctor Robert Burnside CARTER, who settled in Mudgee following the war. The men, most of whom were in their early twenties, were dispersed across the European front.

"Most of them were in their final months of university study and the British wanted single young men because they were seen as expendable," Lina said.

Lina discovered the British attitude toward the group was one of disdain.

"There were accounts that they were made to fill potholes and build toilet blocks with their fine surgeon's hands," she said.

"Kitchener's 100 were regarded as only temporary officers and colonial and looked down upon, their records were destroyed after WWI."

Without solid records Lina took her search to school and university records that often had copies of the men's published letters.

It was then a painstaking process to find living relatives on Facebook and in the White Pages.

"The whole process was great because I had no idea that I would uncover the lives of these amazing men and their families," Lina said.

More available online.

(Source: Mudgee Guardian, Rylstone doctor's story inspires book, available online by clicking [here](#), accessed 12 May 2018)

Private Athol KIRKLAND Killed (100 years ago)

Word came to Rylstone on Thursday that Private Athol KIRKLAND had been killed in battle, and the sad news was conveyed to his parents by the Rev. THOMPSON. Only Mrs. KIRKLAND was at home, but the good old soul received the sorrowful message with great fortitude, the rev. gentleman comforting her in her trial. We need not dwell on the events that have caused so much sadness in the world. Human souls are passing away in thousands in the terrible conflict, and the heart-breaking news of the death of friends or relatives at the front is an anguish that is ever present. Private KIRKLAND suffered a soldier's death. He gave all for his home and country, and this tribute to his memory should fortify his parents in bearing the loss of their son, who died in the fight for freedom.

[Mudgee Guardian, 25 April 1918, p.10]

Athol Goodwin KIRKLAND was born in 1895, son of Andrew KIRKLAND and Mary Clara KIRKLAND (nee PICKETT).

Athol, a labourer, enlisted in the AIF on 28 July 1916 and was assigned to the 34th Battalion 5th Reinforcements. He served on the Western Front in France. Later promoted, Corporal KIRKLAND was killed in action on 3 April 1918, aged 23, near Villers-Bretonneux and had no known grave.

For almost 100 years the remains of Corporal Athol Goodwin KIRKLAND lay in Crucifix Corner Cemetery, near Villers-Bretonneux in the Somme, under a headstone reading "unknown corporal of the 34th Battalion AIF".

A new headstone with Corporal Athol Goodwin KIRKLAND's name in bold letters above the epitaph, "I once was

lost but now am found", was officially dedicated on his grave in April 2015 by former Australian Prime Minister Tony ABBOTT.



Corporal Athol Goodwin KIRKLAND
(Item in Cottage Museum collection)
(Photo: Dan HATTON)

THE ALLEGED POISONING CASE NEAR RYLSTONE (continued)

On the 27th December I again went to Mrs. Jupp's house and arrested her. I told her I arrested her on a charge of having poisoned her late husband, Samuel Jupp. She made no reply. I took her to the lock-up at Rylstone. On the evening of the 30th December, about 9 o'clock, constable Dundes asked me to go and hear a conversation taking place between the two prisoners (Mrs Jupp and Pitt) in the lock-up. I went there and listened. Mrs Jupp said to Pitt, "I wish this had never happened". Pitt said, "Why are you sorry?" Mrs Jupp replied "I am, the way things have turned out, I'll never go back there again till you come with me, let it be sooner or later." There was a lull in the conversation, after which Mrs Jupp exclaimed, "Pitt, Pitt my God, I thought he was never going to die."

[It may be stated the prisoners were in two adjoining cells in the Rylstone lockup, with a grating between them.]

Sarah Jane Todd deposed: I am the wife of John Todd, free selector, residing on

Spring Flat. On the Thursday before Jupp's death Mrs. Jupp came to me and told me he was very ill. She asked me to go to the house. When I got there, I found Jupp in the bed undressed. There was no one else there, except the children. I said to him I heard he was ill. He replied, "I am worse than ever I was in my life, I have cramps in my stomach and legs and arms". He complained of being very thirsty I gave him some water, and some weak tea. Shortly afterwards he vomited some green substance. I also saw some similar vomit in a bucket, with little lumps of blood in it of a dark colour. About 11 o'clock in the day deceased died. His wife was drinking some tea when he asked her for some she gave him some in a saucer, and when he drank it he asked her what she put in it, complaining of its bad taste. Mrs Jupp asked me to taste the tea and I did so and found no disagreeable taste. Mrs. Jupp also tasted it. Mrs. Jupp, Pitt, and I were present when Jupp died on the following day, just as daylight was breaking. I went into Pitt's room, at Jupp's place to call. When I entered the room, I saw Pitt in bed asleep,

and Mrs. Jupp seated on the side of the bed. She did not enter the room with me, she was there before me. It was rather dark in the room before I took a light. I woke Pitt, and left the room, taking the candle with me. At this time, the dead body of Jupp was in the house in another room. Mrs. Jupp had on a dark skirt and jacket. I remember Mrs. Jupp returning from Rylstone on the Thursday evening preceding Jupp's death. She brought him a bottle of medicine, but he refused, in my hearing, to take it. During the evening I gave Jupp three doses of castor oil. Mrs Jupp told me to give him the oil. None of the children were sick, nor any person in the house but Jupp.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE
NEXT RDHS NEWSLETTER

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS
WELCOMED



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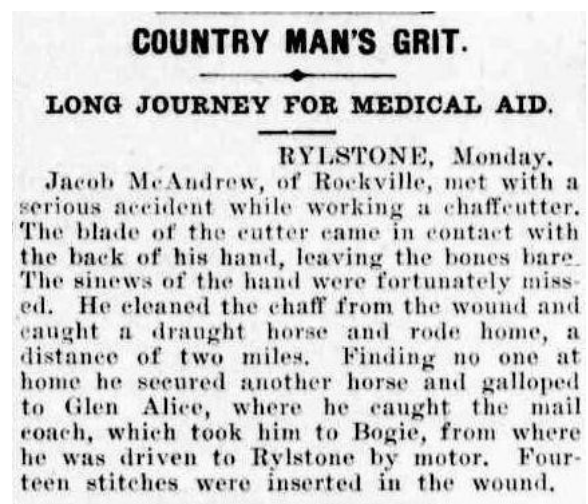
A Memory of Rylstone

We lived in Rylstone for six months in a caravan in 1973, leaving in Oct to return to England. Our eldest, Neil, went to High School in Kandos. If he missed the bus, he'd start walking and sometimes was picked up by the ambulance driver. Our two younger children, Rebecca and Brian, attended the small school in Rylstone. A couple from NZ became friends, Prue and Ted, who lived in a caravan next to us. We have wonderful memories of the beautiful little town and the stunning countryside around. My husband was a contract draftsman in Kandos cement works. I loved shopping in the old, local store which sold everything. It rained for weeks at first then turned warm. My friend and I had a swim in the

clear water of the pool, created by damming of the creek with oil drums. We also played tennis on the old court near the caravan park. A family opposite kept guinea fowl. The creek flooded and the water rose to almost the height of the diving board. Muddy water all round the two vans and we paddled to the shower blocks. Great times, great memories. We will be returning for a trip in Jan 2019. We, being Marion and Bruce KIRBY, from the small town of Midhurst, West Sussex.

(Source: Marion KIRBY, posted on the Rylstone and District Historical Society's Facebook page, permission granted to republish here)

Country Man's Grit



(Source: 1918 'COUNTRY MAN'S GRIT.', *Lithgow Mercury* (NSW : 1898 - 1954), 26 April, p. 3. , viewed 23 Apr 2018, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article218476384>)