

# HENRY DANGAR

- Surveyor and Explorer -

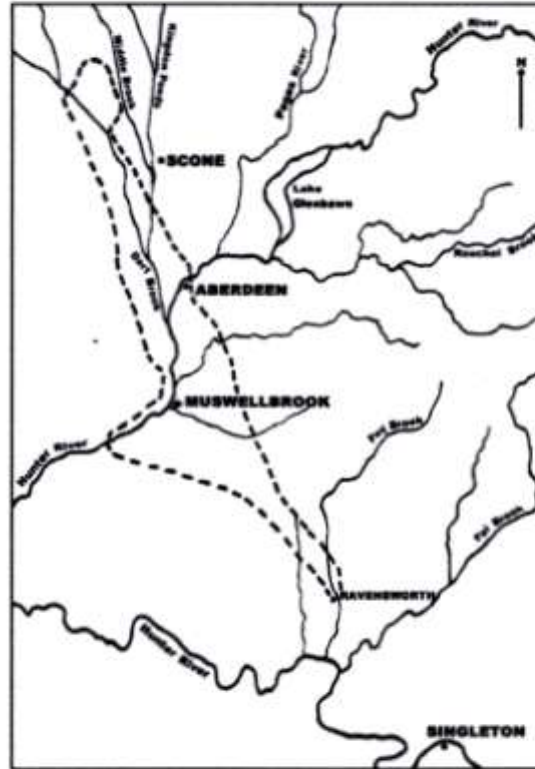
**H**enry Dangar (1796-1861) was born in Cornwall, England. In 1821 he emigrated to Australia as a free settler and was soon appointed to a Government position of an Assistant Surveyor.

Whilst Henry Dangar was surveying the ridges of the Mount Royal Ranges and the high country above the Fal Brook area north of Singleton, he saw the Liverpool Ranges to the northwest.

Leaving his camp near the Ravensworth area on 2nd August, 1824, Dangar and his party started an unofficial journey of exploration. As they set a course into unknown territory they became the first white men to travel into the Upper Hunter Valley.

Dangar crossed what is now Muscle Creek, proceeded over a "poor ironbark hill" above the present town of Muswellbrook and continued north along the ridges where he looked down on the Hunter River. The party continued on to the riverside where they camped that night. This camping area near the Hunter River was later to become the site for the Village of Aberdeen.

On the second day the party crossed the river and ventured further north through rich river flats and lightly timbered land. He named the Dart Brook and Kingdon Ponds west of the present day town of Scone. By 4th August, Henry Dangar and his party circled southwest and made their return journey home.



Later that same year Dangar made a second exploration of the Upper Hunter Valley with the objective of investigating a large stream he believed flowed from the west to join the Hunter River and to look for a pass through the mountain ranges to the north to access the grazing lands of the Liverpool Plains.

Henry Dangar's favourable reports of arable land, available timber and good water in the valley led to a rush of wealthy settlers seeking large land grants in the Upper Hunter. Many properties were established and the pioneer villages of colonial times were soon in their foundation.





UPPER HUNTER MUSEUM of RURAL LIFE Inc  
P.O. Box 140. Aberdeen, NSW, 2336.

## NEWSLETTER

July, 2015

### THANK YOU

The committee of U.H.M.R.L Inc wish to acknowledge receipt of a grant from Drayton Mine for \$4,500. Our sincere appreciation to Anglo American for their assistance which was provided via 2015 Anglo American Social Investment and Donations Program. These funds will greatly assist in the running costs relevant to our monthly Golden Oldies Movies and will provide ongoing support for our Story Boards Project.

For many years Anglo American has been a supporter of our group and have assisted us in many aspects.

Thanks to Liz Birch for the donation of an album highlighting the displays from past QUILT AFFAIRS held in Aberdeen. The album will be added to the collection of the Aberdeen Local Studies Group held at the library.

Such donations are gratefully accepted and will be held for the future interest.

The UHMRL is at present planning on the erection of another series of heritage story boards in Aberdeen.

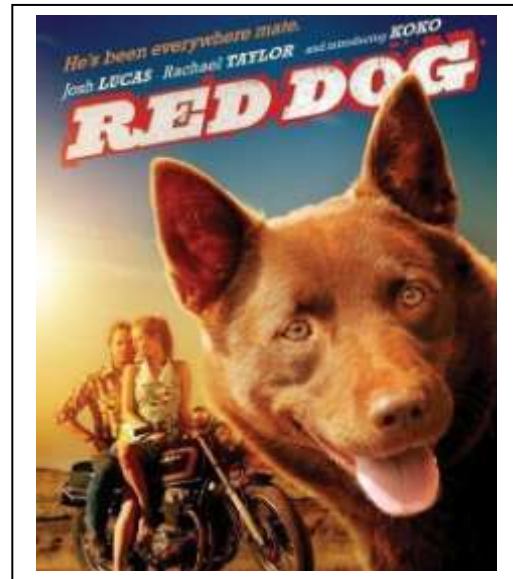
On the reverse of this newsletter you will find the text from one of the first story boards erected in Taylor Park.

N<sup>o</sup>. 1 - Henry Dangar, Surveyor and Explorer

Another to follow next month.

### Aberdeen Golden Oldies Luncheon & Movie Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> August

~ RED DOG ~



(DVD, Colour, 89 minutes)

Enjoy a 3 course meal - Doors open at 11.30 am

Bookings: **65437150** or **65425168**

**Next meeting UHMRL - 29<sup>th</sup> July at 4 pm  
Aberdeen Library - All Welcome.**

**Next scanning afternoon for the  
Aberdeen Local Study Group - 31<sup>st</sup> July  
2pm - 4.30pm at the Aberdeen Library**

*Thank you to all those who support our functions and generously  
donate  
to our monthly raffle.  
Hope you all enjoy today's function.*

Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life Inc. raising funds to establish a Museum and Cultural Centre in Aberdeen.

[www.aberdeenmuseum.org.au](http://www.aberdeenmuseum.org.au)

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