



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

NEWSLETTER

November, 2015

THE BLUE STAR AWARDS

Formerly known as Tidy Town Sustainable Community Awards, this competition is sponsored by the NSW Environment Protection Authority and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Thank you Heather Ranclaud, Community Services Officer for the Upper Hunter Shire Council, for making it possible for the UHMRL president, Carol Ray, to attend The Blue Star Sustainability Regional Awards held in Gloucester at the weekend.

Aberdeen's Historical Heritage Storyboards in Taylor Park was the only one out of seven applications from the Upper Hunter Museum's Network to go onto the finals for the Cultural Heritage Award. Although not a place winner, we were in the final.

Heather Ranclaud was the MC for case studies on Saturday and all were very inspired. The Award's Night was attended by 170 people from all over the state.

Aberdeen Golden Oldies Christmas Luncheon & Movie

Tuesday, 8th December

~ Miracle on 34th Street~



Starring Maureen O'Hara & Edmund Gwenn

(DVD, B/W, 1947, 95 minutes, [G])

Enjoy a 3 course meal - Doors open at 11.30am
Bookings: **65437150** or **65425168**

Story Board N^o. 5 - Commercial Hotel

UHSC Cultural Activity Grants for 2016

Our thanks must go to The Upper Hunter Shire Council who have awarded the UHMRL Inc. a Cultural Activity Grant of \$500 to assist with our expenses.

The Aberdeen Local Studies Group was successful in receiving \$200. With this grant the group will purchase a Digital Voice Recorder so they can collect oral histories and stories from the residents of the area. They will continue with their scanning days and next year start recording the oral histories.

We will be interested in all types of stories – people, place or events - that you might remember, whether fully factual or not, they are the story teller's unique memories.

UHML Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 25th November at 4.30 pm
Aberdeen Library - New members and
volunteers always welcome

Next scanning afternoon for the
Aberdeen Local Study Group
Friday, 27th November

Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life Inc. raising funds to establish a Museum and Cultural Centre in Aberdeen.
www.aberdeenmuseum.org.au Email: uhmrl@skymesh.com.au

Proudly supported by



THE AUSTRALIAN INN

- Commercial Hotel -



The Australian Inn - circa 1890

During the early 1840's John Cundy, a blacksmith by trade, operated his business near the Segenhoe Inn and for a while even held the licence for the inn.

By 1847 Cundy was selling liquor in an unlicensed boarding house near Timor.

John Cundy returned to Aberdeen and in 1853 he purchased land along Fisher Street, near the Main North Road and opposite the Segenhoe Inn. This land was amongst the first allotments of Crown Land that were originally sold in Aberdeen in 1845.

By 1855 construction of Cundy's "Australian Inn" had begun. Built of locally made bricks from Hadoway's kiln at Red Hill, south of Aberdeen, the two storeyed building had a shingled roof and wide verandas on three sides.

Early maps show that at some time it appears to have operated as "The Australian Arms".

After John Cundy's death in 1876 the Inn was operated by family members. A series of owners and licencees were to follow and by 1903 the "Australian Inn" was delicensed and its doors closed.

In 1910 Mr. W.R.D. Stephens bought the Commercial Hotel at Moonan Brook and transferred the licence to the hotel at Aberdeen. He saw the growth in the Aberdeen Meatworks and the improving prospects for the town, so with a number of improvements he re-opened the once "Australian Inn" as the new "Commercial Hotel".

Further changes were made over the years and today the modern façade of the art deco styled "Commercial Hotel" surrounds John Cundy's historic old "Australian Inn".

