



UPPER HUNTER MUSEUM of RURAL LIFE Inc

P.O. Box 140. Aberdeen, NSW, 2336.

NEWSLETTER

June 2016

Disappeared

As you passed through Aberdeen recently you may have noticed the empty space in front of the Doctor's surgery where there once was a great tree. I don't know how or why it disappeared but it is gone and has disappeared into Aberdeen's history.

The Aberdeen Local Studies Group is searching for and collecting photos and stories, recollections and remembrances of the local features of Aberdeen that have disappeared from view but remain in our memories.

The largest obvious example is the Meatworks, once the focus of employment in town that has now been demolished, crushed up and cleared away. Other things that have gone from sight but remain in memory are the Town Hall, the Picture Theatre, the Zoo and the dozen Tennis Courts all around town. These were all part of the lives of people living and working in Aberdeen.

If anyone has photos, stories or recollections of any of the parts of Aberdeen that have passed into distant time please contact one of the volunteers or email:

uhmrl@skymesh.com.au



An aerial view of the meat works, all now demolished and gone. We are collecting photos of some of the important landmarks of Aberdeen that are gone but not forgotten.

Aberdeen Golden Oldies Luncheon
Tuesday 12th July 2016



To book ring Jan Sumner 6543 7150

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



Snowy Weather

It is often said that the weather has been more extreme over the recent years. While this is indeed true, maybe very little has really changed. Below are sample newspaper reports from Aberdeen's correspondent in the late 1890's.

“For the past four days the weather has been distinctly of a disagreeable nature: a storm blowing off the snow-capped hills to the north west and just enough rain to keep one constantly damp without being sufficient to do a great deal of good

Maitland Mercury – July 25, 1895

“During the cold weather of ten days or so ago snow fell near here on low-lying land where it would be expected by no one. A light fall was experienced at the Segenhoe Estate Homestead and a large quantity fell at Brushy Hill, about seven miles up the Hunter from Aberdeen.”

Maitland Mercury – July 3, 1896

“The weather during the past week has again been extremely cold, snow having been sighted on the ranges to the north and we have been constantly reminded of its presence by the northerly breeze that has been blowing.”

Maitland Mercury – July 17, 1896

Snow is occasionally visible on the Liverpool Ranges. If you think the weather that we are having now is starting to get a little chilly do you remember July 1965? The weather forecast for Sunday, July 18th, 1965 did not mention the possibility of snow falling in the Hunter region – but it did.

A strong cold front passed over NSW on the 17th leaving air as cold as -5°C in its wake. Winds turned southerly later in the day resulting in prolonged, widespread snow on the NSW ranges.

Although snowfalls in the Hunter are usually confined to the Barrington Tops, the snowfall was remarkable with fall in areas other than the traditional ones. The South Coast, Hunter, Central Tablelands and Northwest districts were amongst the heaviest and widespread on record with other places in NSW reporting snow for the first time.



A goods train is assisted over the range north of Murrurundi by an old steam train in the rear.

On Sunday morning snow not only fell in some Newcastle and Lake Macquarie suburbs. By sunrise the slopes of Mount Sugarloaf was covered with about 10cm snow and deeper falls lay around Maitland, Cessnock, Singleton, Muswellbrook, Denman Scone and Aberdeen. Heavy snow blanketed the Liverpool Ranges.



Snow near Newcastle at Mount Sugarloaf and the road to the transmission towers.



Do you recall waking up on that Sunday morning and not believing that there could ever be snow in your own front yard? For those of us that had never seen snow before did you too play in it just like the children? Did you have photographs of the snowfall?



Muswellbrook High School and sports oval under the snowfall of July, 1965.