



**UPPER HUNTER MUSEUM OF RURAL LIFE Inc
& Aberdeen Local Studies Group**

PO Box 140, Aberdeen, NSW 2336

NEWSLETTER - June, 2019

Old Newspapers

Thanks go to The Muswellbrook Historical Society who have donated a collection of old issues of the Muswellbrook Chronicle.

These bound volumes, dating from the 1970's and 1980's, can now be viewed at the Aberdeen Library.

Although the pages have yellowed and some are now very fragile, they all make for very interesting reading.



Next Luncheon & Movie

Tuesday, 9th July

~ THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER ~



Starring James Stewart & Margaret Sullavan
[DVD, B&W, 1940, 99min]

Bookings: Phone Daphne - 65 438 356

Next Meeting UHMRL

Wednesday, 26th June at 4pm

Aberdeen Library

New Members & volunteers always welcome.

**Next scanning afternoon for
local history collection of the
Aberdeen Local Study Group**

Friday, 28th June

2pm – 4pm at Aberdeen Library

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

www.aberdeenmuseum.org.au

Email: uhmrl@skymesh.com.au

Proudly supported by



The New Upper Hunter Tartan

The Upper Hunter's own official tartan has been registered with the Scottish Tartan Registry. The Committee of the Aberdeen Highland Games wanted to do something special to mark the 20th year of the Aberdeen Highland Games - the annual celebration of local Scottish heritage and tradition.

The vibrantly tartan is alive with colours representing the stories and history of the Upper Hunter.

The Upper Hunter Tartan is based on Campbell Tartan of Breadalbane with colours that intertwine to tell a story that is the blood and soul of the Upper Hunter Valley.



The **green** represents the lands where Lucerne supports the dairy, beef and equine industries.

The **blue** is for the waters of the Hunter and Goulbourn River valleys.

The **white** is for the milk and cream that flowed throughout the valley to the butter, milk and cheese factories.

The **black** represents the black coal seams.

The striking **purple** represents the grapes of the viticulture industry.

The **yellow** is for the golden cereal and canola crops as well as the golden wool clips produced.

Finally, the **red** is for the Light Horseman of the region and their horses who served in World War I.

The Scottish Thistle

For a long time Aberdeen has recognised their Scottish Heritage. Businesses such as the Meatworks and Butter Factory, as well as many clubs and organisations, have used a variety of thistle logos.

The thistle is beautiful, fierce and robust and is a perfect emblem. Throughout the Celtic region the thistle represents bravery, devotion, durability, strength and determination in overcoming even the most stalwart enemy.



The Legend of the Thistle:

The story has it that an Army of King Haakon of Norway, intent on conquering the Scots landed at the Coast of Largs at night to surprise the sleeping Scottish Clansmen.

In order to move more stealthily under the cover of darkness the Norsemen removed their footwear. As they drew near to the Scots it wasn't the only thing hiding under the cover of darkness.

The invading army endeavoured to sneak into the Scottish encampment, but one unfortunately stood on the spiny little defenders and shrieked out in pain and alerting the Clansmen of the advancing Norsemen.

Needless to say the Scots won the day and the invaders retreated and a spear of thistle was the hero of the day.

[JS]