

CLERGY AND PEOPLE

REV CHARLES LOVAT (Pastor of Yass 1839-1849)

A detailed study of this famed pioneer priest is available in the magazine "Footprints" in 7 parts (November 1980 to May 1982) under the title "Shepherd of Shepherds" by Peggy Jones.

Charles Lovat was born on 6 July 1799 at Preston, Lancashire, the son of Edward Lovat, a steward on the Townley Estate, Handbridge House, Burnley. Charles Lovat received his later education at the Jesuit novitiate and he later proceeded to Rome where he was ordained a Jesuit priest on 13th July 1824 at the Lateran Basilica. He returned to England in 1825 and was a teacher and librarian at Stonyhurst. On 10 May 1836 he was released from the Jesuit order and negotiated at that time with Dr Ullathorne the Vicar General from Sydney to join the Sydney Mission in NSW. The reasons for his decision are obscure but it may have been for his health as he was 'always very delicate' according to one report. He came with excellent testimonials to Sydney on the 4th December 1837 on the ship "Hindoo". There he was appointed President of St Mary's College seminary. Bishop Polding called Fr Lovat to accompany him on some missionary tours to the interior of the colony and he became known for a valuable ministry about Bathurst. He was with Bishop Polding in August 1838 when the foundation stone of St Augustine's Yass was laid.

In November 1839 Charles Lovat was appointed to the 'Argyle Mission' and signed himself as Pastor of Goulburn and Yass while resident at the latter place. There he completed the 4 roomed presbytery begun by Fathers Fitzpatrick and Brennan. He began also in 1847 a parish school in a slab dwelling behind Quails Hotel on the church lands. His ministry had taken him as far as Albury and earlier he had made circuits around Queanbeyan and even into Northern Victoria in 1845 perhaps for an emergency and unofficially. In failing health he was transferred in July 1849 to Liverpool. He carried the title of Dean since 1847. He went to Darlinghurst in March 1858 where he died in St Vincents Hospital on 20th June 1858. He was buried in the old Devonshire Street cemetery but reinterred in 1901 at Rookwood, Sydney.

Fr Lovat was the inspiration behind the building of the original portion of old St Augustine's Church between 1840-1844. The only pictorial illustration of the old church in its surroundings as Fr Lovat knew them is

given by the painting by Grube in 1858 which is featured on the cover of this book.

A tribute made by a Yass parishioner Michael Conlon to Fr Lovat is recorded in the Freeman's Journal of 10th February 1883. He said of Lovat:

He spent three weeks out of every four in the saddle journeying from near Goulburn to the Victorian border from Kiandra to the Lachlan wherever a white man was to be found, camping in gunyahs as primitive as those of the blacks and having the roughest of food.

A like tribute was made by Dr Morgan O'Connor who ended by claiming of Lovat:

The name of this holy priest is still remembered and revered in the hearts of the people and is ever associated by them with all that is saintly and good.

REV PATRICK MAGENNIS (Pastor of Yass 1849-1857)

Father Magennis succeeded Charles Lovat as Pastor in July 1849. He was born in Waterford city about 1812 the son of John Magennis and Ann (Foley) of that place. His father John was a hemp rope and flax manufacturer of moderate means. Patrick Magennis arrived at Sydney on 31st December 1838 on the ship "Francis Spaight" as a student of Holy Orders. He was in the company of Vicar General Dr William Ullathorne and other priests recruited by Dr Ullathorne including Fr Geoghegan who was soon to be the pioneer pastor of Port Phillip.

After short periods of study and service as a cleric in Sydney he was ordained deacon on 18th October 1840. He had studied for some time in 1839 at St Mary's Seminary under Fr Charles Lovat. From December 1841 to April 1842 he assisted Fr Geoghegan at Melbourne where the name of Patrick Magennis features frequently as the celebrant of baptism in the early register there. After priestly ordination at Sydney in September 1843 he served at Maitland and Newcastle until his transfer on 20th July 1849 to Yass where he served continuously until May 1857 when he moved to Berrima. In 1861 he was replaced at Berrima by Rev William Lanigan and moved to St Bedes parish Appin. There he died suddenly in 1866 and was buried in the churchyard close by the church door.

On leaving Yass he was given a testimonial of 146 pounds by the people of Yass, Jugiong, Burrowa, Bogolong and Binalong. Various anecdotes concerning his ministry have been handed down, eg, the meetings for friendly company and sacramental absolution arranged at central venues between Fathers Magennis (Maitland), Rigney (Port Macquarie) and Hanly (Brisbane). Patrick Magennis is considered to be the first priest to have celebrated Mass in the little settlement of Wagga Wagga. He narrowly escaped the disaster of the 1852 Murrumbidgee flood at Gundagai. He also began arrangements to build churches at **Burrowa and Tumut but did not see them completed.**

His departure from Yass was hastened according to the clerical historian "John O'Brien" by an incident at Burrowa which brought some disciplinary action against him by Archbishop Polding. The difficulty centred upon an incident in which Magennis offended some Burrowa parishioners who sought his attendance upon a man injured in a boxing match. Fr Magennis was angered by their non-attendance at Mass in favour of fisticuffs behind the pub. He had no sympathy for the injured man and told the Burrowa supporters so in very plain terms. "John O'Brien" wrote of Magennis:

He was a big strong man with hair as black as coal and plenty of it. He had a bright wit which could also bite and a hot temper which sometimes carried him away.

The generous testimonial indicates however that he had some loyal supporters on his side.

Fr Patrick Magennis had with him in the colony an older sister. She was residing with him at Berrima when the newly arrived Sisters of Mercy passed through there to Goulburn in 1859. She became the second postulant to join that Goulburn community in about 1861 as Sister Patrick giving long devoted service to the community.

His widowed brother Joseph Magennis born 1820 came also to the colony about 1852 and remarried soon after. The marriages were to:

- (1) Bridget Cody—in Ireland. She died perhaps in childbirth in Ireland. Their baby daughter died aboard ship according to one family tradition.
- (2) Ellen Sheahan of Jugiong in 1852. The issue of the second marriage were Ann, born 1852, married 1874 to Lawrence Roche. Patrick J., born 1854, married 1897 to Ann Elizabeth Hall.

Joseph Magennis died unexpectedly aged 35 or 36 on 27th December 1856. His widow Ellen (Sheahan) remarried to Richard Julian of Bookham or "Bogolong". The son Patrick J. Magennis became a well known grazier at "Bloomfield" Yass and sometime after 1910 he settled on Jeir Station. The move was occasioned by the land resumptions and developments linked with building the Burrinjuck Dam.

REV. MICHAEL McALROY (Pastor of Yass
1857-1861)

Since the vital role played by Father McAlroy at Yass is sketched in earlier pages, remarks here are confined to the basic points of his biography. He was born at Brackler County Westmeath near Tullamore on 4th July 1821 son of John McAlroy and — — Ulyer. He studied at Navan and Maynooth being ordained in 1849 for the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. After working at Carlow Cathedral he responded to Bishop Goold's invitation to come to Melbourne which he reached on 13th February 1855. After a few months at Geelong and Gippsland he fell out of favour with the Bishop and so in the company of Patrick Bermingham he transferred to Sydney archdiocese. They received a posting together at Yass in May 1857. In June 1861 he moved to Goulburn and was considered a likely appointment as Bishop for the new diocese to be erected at Goulburn. However this post went to Rev William Lanigan and McAlroy went to Albury as Vicar General to Bishop Lanigan in July 1868. At Albury he established the Sisters of Mercy. Father McAlroy died after a protracted illness on 14th July 1880 aged 59. He was revered by friends from Goulburn to Albury being remembered as the pioneer builder of 20 or more churches and convents. He was especially respected by the Sisters of Mercy at Yass, Goulburn and Albury and by the Presentation Sisters at Wagga, being involved in their foundations and developments. His burial place is behind the main altar in St Patrick's Church Albury.

REV. PATRICK BERMINGHAM (Pastor of Yass
1857-1861)

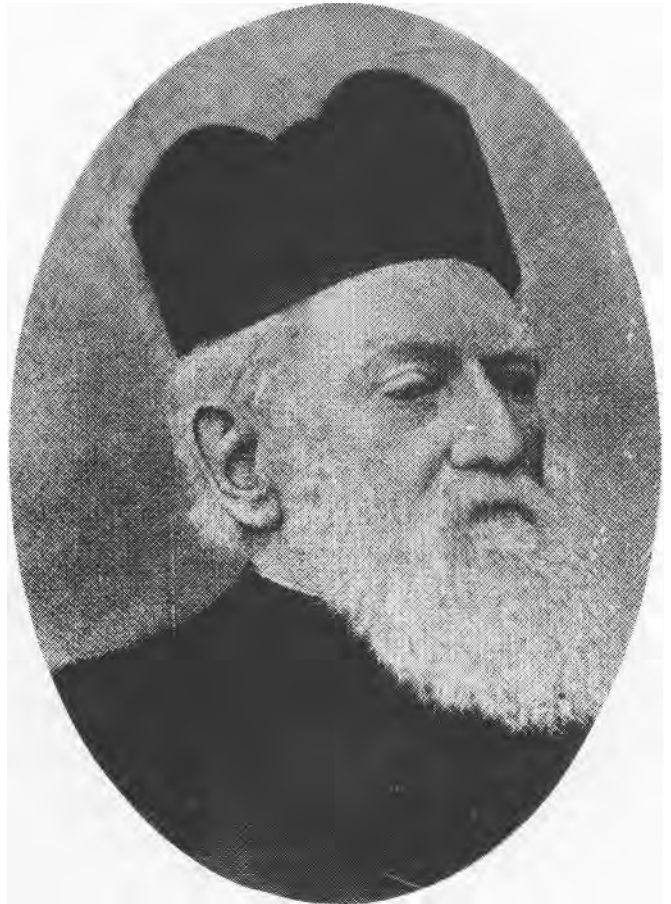
Although officially junior in the seniority list by ordination to Fr McAlroy he was so closely linked with him that they may well be considered co-pastors. Born at Kings County Ireland in 1828 educated at Carlow and ordained in 1852 he first taught at Carlow College before coming to Melbourne with Michael McAlroy and then to Yass in June 1857. He returned to Rome and Ireland in January 1861. After a long absence he returned to Wagga in 1874 as Pastor accompanying the newly arrived Presentation Sisters. He left Australia in early 1883 in bad health and died at London on 9th September 1883 being buried in Kensall Green cemetery.



Rev. Patrick Bermingham

DEAN JAMES HANLY (Pastor of Yass 1861-1867)

Born in 1815 at Moorestown County Tipperary James Hanly was studying at St John's College Waterford when Bishop Polding made a recruiting visit and urged Hanly to come to Sydney. He accompanied Polding to Sydney on the ship "Templar" arriving 9th March 1843. He was ordained in September 1843 as a diocesan priest and first served at Moreton Bay convict settlement where he began the building of old St Stephen's church in 1847. He took up an appointment at Yass on 20th June 1861 replacing Michael McAlroy who moved to Goulburn. The church had only recently been expanded and the parish was flourishing. James Hanly was favoured by Archbishop Polding as a candidate for Bishop of the proposed new diocese of Goulburn. Indeed the Archbishop favoured the choice of Yass as the new See because of its splendid church. Hanly was appointed Dean to the chagrin of other clergy who considered him too well disposed to the Benedictine Archbishop and insufficiently nationalistic in the Irish cause. Hanly suffered much and declined the episcopal appointment. When William Lanigan the parish priest of Berrima accepted the appointment as



Dean James Hanly. Pastor 1861-67.

Bishop in June 1867 Dean Hanly revealed his intention to return to Sydney which he did in late 1867 where he became pastor at Penrith and later at Manly. Finally he became chaplain at Rosebank Convent Five Dock. He died at the Five Dock Presbytery on 3rd February 1895 aged 80.

REV. RICHARD DUIGAN (Pastor of Yass 1868-1870)

Richard Joseph Duigan was born at Kinnegad County Meath in about 1837-38. His father was a physician Samuel Duigan and his mother Anne Vaughan. He attended Mr Hogan's school in Mullingar before proceeding to All Hallows College in 1854 from which he was ordained priest for Sydney archdiocese in 1862. He served at Sydney first then at Deniliquin about 1866 before arriving at Yass in 1868 (February). Here he was assisted by Rev William O'Brien. Since they were both relatively junior clergy it is very likely that Bishop Lanigan arranged Yass to be a mensal parish from that time giving himself the pastoral oversight. Father Duigan died on 26th June 1870 and was buried close to the church door of St Augustine's although his tomb and headstone are now enclosed in a corner of the con-



Dean Patrick O'Keeffe. Pastor 1871-1906.



Rev. John F. Leonard. Pastor 1906-1948.

vent grotto somewhat out of sight. An interesting pamphlet has survived giving the eloquent and sentimental sermon preached at his Month's Mind by Fr George Dillon a priest friend from Sydney. This pamphlet was compiled and published by Doctor Morgan O'Connor's daughter who was a journalist. His period of administration was marked by financial confusion which brought some episcopal disapproval of him.

DEAN PATRICK O'KEEFFE O.S.F. (Pastor of Yass 1871-1906)

Born at Trim County Meath in 1837 he joined the Franciscan Friars in 1859 receiving the name John Capistran. Though he studied in Rome he was forced to return to Ireland by ill-health being ordained in Ireland in 1864. He was superior of friaries at Athlone and Carrick-on-Suir. He was recruited at Waterford by Bishop Lanigan who was on a visit to Ireland at the time of the First Vatican Council in Rome 1869-70. Patrick O'Keeffe came to Goulburn diocese in 1870 probably only intending to stay for a limited period but he was formally incardinated to the diocese in 1879. However he retained some legal and spiritual link to the Franciscans for he had to send a copy of his will in 1888 to their minister-general. After short periods at Burrowa, Deniliquin and other places he went to Yass where he was appointed pastor in 1871 and Dean in 1882. When the Sisters of Mercy came in 1875 to Yass he vacated his presbytery for them until their convent was built in December 1877. His name became widely known when he opened a school for Aborigines who had been rejected from the public school in 1882. He exercised great zeal but also wisdom in the cause of Catholic education. As pastor of Yass for nearly 35 years he left his mark upon the people. His district included the areas of Gundaroo and Ginninderra parts of which are now within the Australian Capital Territory. He took leave in 1906 for a trip home to Ireland but did not return probably because of failing health. Dean O'Keeffe died during a visit to Rome about Christmas 1915.

RT REV. (MONSIGNOR) JOHN FRANCIS
LEONARD (Pastor of Yass 1906-1948)

For over forty years John F. Leonard shepherded the faithful of Yass. He was born 17th March 1872 in County Cavan Ireland son of Terence Leonard and Mary Whitney and educated at Mr Duffy's school Moyne. He was ordained from All Hallows College Dublin for Goulburn diocese on 24th June 1896. He then served at Goulburn Cathedral for some years before his appointment to Yass in 1906. Father Leonard presided over a parish much smaller than his predecessors had done but which had as many regular commitments because so many small district churches

were needed. He provided churches and regular Mass at the Burrinjuck worksites and supervised the development of new churches at Hall and Bowning. He made regular trips to Gundaroo, Ginninderra, Hall, Limestone, Bowning and Burrinjuck for many years. Monsignor John Leonard died on 17th June 1948 and was buried in Yass cemetery. The major developments during his pastorate were in the expansion of the Catholic schools (Sacred Heart Girls School and St Augustine's Boys School as well as Mr Carmel College).

MOST REV. GUILFORD YOUNG D.D.

(Pastor of Yass 1948-1954)

Guilford Young was born at Sandgate Brisbane on 10th November 1916 the son of a shearer Arthur Young and Mary Ellen Young. His father who was not a Catholic reared his family at Longreach Queensland but later the young lad Guilford was schooled by the Christian Brothers at Rockhampton. He began priestly studies for Rockhampton diocese at Springwood NSW and then proceeded to Propaganda College Rome. He was ordained priest on 3rd June 1939 at the Lateran Basilica. After appointments at Rockhampton Banyo seminary and the Apostolic Delegation at North Sydney he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop to Archbishop McGuire of Canberra and Goulburn on 15th July 1948 and became pastor of Yass. He was then aged 31 and the youngest Bishop in the church. He became Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese on 8th August 1953 when Archbishop McGuire retired and Auxiliary Bishop to the new Archbishop Eris O'Brien on 16th November 1953 until his transfer as Co-adjutor Archbishop at Hobart on 1st December 1954. At Yass also he gave considerable thought and ministerial attention to the aborigines of the district. Yass was often the focus in those days for large gatherings of laity and youth under his leadership. He was particularly vigilant and outspoken on issues of educational justice for Catholic schools. His departure from the diocese was keenly felt by clergy and laity. Archbishop Young died at Melbourne in hospital on 16th March 1988 and was buried at Hobart.

REV. MICHAEL CASEY P.P. (Pastor 1955-1969)

Born in County Clare he was ordained priest from St Patrick's College Carlow on 15th June 1924 and had a long period of service in the diocese of Goulburn before becoming pastor of Queanbeyan in 1936. He succeeded Bishop Young at Yass in 1955 until his transfer in 1969 to Gunning. After retirement from Gunning, Father Casey has lived in Dickson ACT and is the senior priest of the archdiocese having 64 years in the priesthood.



Rev. Michael Casey. Pastor 1955-1969

REV. DANIEL GREENE P.P. (Pastor of Yass 1969-1970)

Father Greene though only briefly the pastor of Yass, is well remembered and much loved as a colourful character. He was born at Doon in County Tipperary and educated for the priesthood at St Patrick's College Thurles from which he was ordained on 14th June 1925 for Goulburn diocese. He came to Yass in 1969 but retired through ill-health in 1970 and died in Ireland on 15th March 1977 in retirement there.

REV. DERMOT O'HURLEY P.P. (Pastor of Yass 1970-1981)

Father Dermot O'Hurley was born on 6th July 1910 at Knocklong County Limerick, and educated at Mungret College Limerick. He received his priestly education at the Irish College Rome but ill health forced his return to Ireland where he continued at St Patrick's College Thurles destined for Goulburn diocese. He was ordained at Thurles on 13th June 1937 and took up appointments at Goulburn, Weethalle, Lake Cargelligo, Crookwell, Koorawatha and Jugiong. He served also as an Army Chaplain in the Second World War.

Father Dermot worked as pastor of Yass until May 1981 when he became Pastor Emeritus continuing an active ministry within the parish and an inspiration to all who knew him both laity and clergy. His subtle humour and gentle prayerfulness encouraged all and it was a deep disappointment when declining health required him to move to the retirement village at Young in 1986. He had always been a great enthusiast for horse racing and loved to see the Melbourne Cup.



Mr Terry Sheahan M.L.A. and Rev Philip Buckley
P.P. (Presbytery restoration opening 1985).

REV. PHILIP BUCKLEY P.P. (Pastor at Yass
1981-1988)

"Father Phil" was born at Nimmitabel NSW on 6th May 1943 the youngest son of Jack Buckley and Josephine (Brogan). He received his early education from the Sisters of St Joseph at Nimmitabel and then proceeded to St Patrick's College Goulburn. His priestly studies were made at Springwood and Manly seminaries from 1960-1967 and he was ordained priest at Braddon ACT by Archbishop O'Brien on 22nd July 1967. His various appointments have been at Young 1968, hospital chaplain in Canberra residing at Garran February 1973, Braddon 1976, as assistant priest and Administrator at Boorowa May 1978, as Administrator Bungendore 1979 and assistant at Yass from November 1979, becoming Pastor in May 1981.

REV. WILLIAM CRAHAN P.P.

Since February 1988, the Parish Priest has been Father William Crahan, born at Kilinstown, Navan, County Meath. He was educated at St Patrick's College Navan and at St Finian's College Mullingar as was Father Michael McAlroy and Father Pat Bermingham over a hundred years before. (Rochfortbridge, Ireland from which the Sisters of Mercy came to Yass is also in the Diocese of Meath). Father Crahan studied for the priesthood later at the Irish College and Lateran University in Rome and was ordained Priest in February 1953 for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. Since his arrival in the archdiocese in 1954 he has served in many parishes, coming to Yass from North Goulburn.



Rev. Michael McAlroy



Rev. William Crahan P.P. 1988-

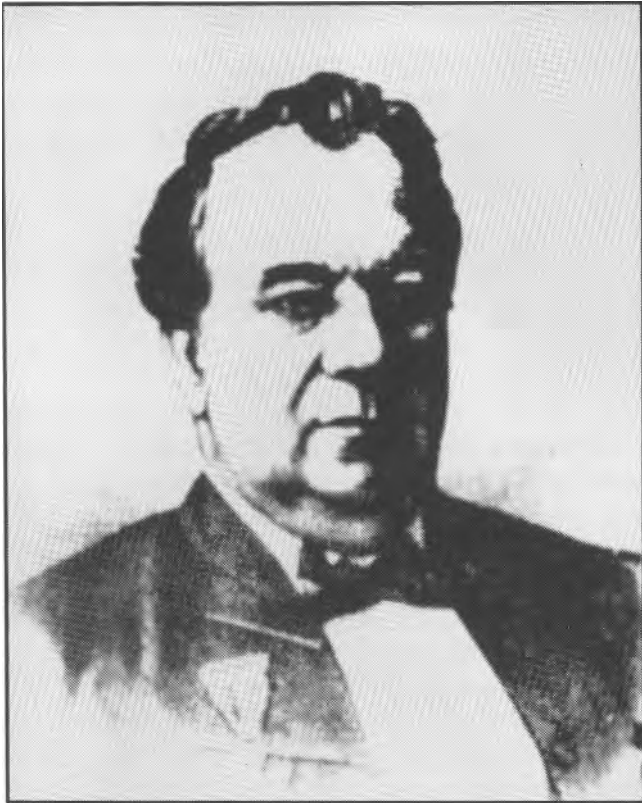
HENRY AND CORNELIUS O'BRIEN

These brothers were significant figures in Yass Catholic history. Unlike many of their fellow Catholics they were free settlers, educated and moderately wealthy. These three marks enabled the O'Brien brothers to have entry to the respectable levels of society. They were sons of Henry O'Brien a farmer and Catherine Browne both being born at Holymount County Mayo about 1793 and 1796 respectively. After their father's early death they were brought up by their maternal uncle William Browne. He was a prosperous merchant at Galway and Calcutta who established himself on a good farm "Abbotsbury" near Prospect NSW in 1815. Later he set up Cornelius O'Brien as manager of his lands at Illawarra. Meanwhile, following the exploratory trips of Hamilton Hume, Henry O'Brien settled at "Douro" by 1829, when he was able to provide hospitality and guidance to Charles Sturt on his journey of discovery. By 1833, it was reported that Henry O'Brien had 12,000 sheep on pasture. By 1836 he was joined by Cornelius, his brother who took up land at "Hardwicke" and "Bendenine". Henry who built a 2-storey house upon "Douro" near Yass also had become very prosperous, was appointed a magistrate and elected for a short term to Parliament. In August 1840 he auctioned land blocks on an estate adjacent to Yass village which he described as "O'Connell" a private town. This gradually has become absorbed as a part of Yass Town.

Henry O'Brien had two marriages:

- (1) Henry O'Brien married Isabella McDonald
- (2) Henry O'Brien married Elizabeth Cruden

His only son Henry died at age of 20 in the Army College of Sandhurst after schooling at Eton. Cornelius married Rebecca Broughton of Campbelltown in 1822 and died without issue. Cornelius sold the original dwelling known as Cooma Cottage to Hamilton Hume, and finally settled at "Bendenine" where he died in 1869. He too was a J.P. and magistrate employing a large number of Irish convict servants and Irish immigrants. Henry O'Brien died at "Douro" in 1866. The O'Brien memory is perpetuated in fine stained glass windows in St Augustine's Church and also in St Clements Anglican Church where the wives of both men worshipped. Though they left no descendants, the O'Brien brothers, as trustees and benefactors of St Augustine's parish, deserve a place in its history.



Dr Morgan O'Connor, M.D., K.S.S.

DOCTOR **MORGAN** O'CONNOR M.D., K.S.S.

Dr O'Connor a medical practitioner at Yass left a valuable record of early Catholic life in a pamphlet titled "Rise and Progress of the Yass Mission" which he published in 1861 and which was republished in facsimile in 1984. Dr O'Connor was recognised in his day as a scholar, author and lay leader. He was born in 1829 at Mullingar County Westmeath and graduated in medicine from the University of Louvain in 1851. After a short period of medical practice in London he arrived at Sydney in early 1860. He came soon to Yass where he became a great supporter of Fathers McAlroy and Bermingham not least by supporting them in forming a Literary Institute to provide reading, debate and study. Though Fr Bermingham departed for Ireland in early 1861 on Dr Morgan O'Connor's medical advice and Fr McAlroy was transferred to Goulburn in mid 1861, Dr O'Connor pressed their claims for recognition in his pamphlet listing the great achievements of organisation which they accomplished. Dr O'Connor also provided the pencil sketches for the pamphlet. In December 1872 he moved to Wagga Wagga. His contribution to church life was recognised in the award of the Order of St Sylvester conferred by the Pope. This award was ceremonially bestowed upon him in 1874 by Father Michael McAlroy at Albury. The ceremonial sword is kept at Mr Erin convent Wagga Wagga. Morgan O'Connor died on 12th August 1895 and was buried at Wagga cemetery.

The issue of Dr Morgan and Mary O'Connor were:
Agnes who married Hogg
Josephine not married
Mary not married

No descendants of Dr O'Connor are known in further issue. Josephine who worked as a journalist and Mary who was a piano teacher both left Wagga for Sydney. A recently discovered item of interest is that Doctor O'Connor's brother Rev. John O'Connor worked for several years about 1870-72 as a priest at Yass and Burrowa. He returned to Ireland after receiving bad injuries in a buggy accident at Burrowa. This Father O'Connor had earlier been in difficulty if not in danger of life. A letter in the diocesan archives dated February 1871 reveals that a meeting was held at Yass early in 1871 to satisfy a group of parishioners who were questioning whether church funds had been used to settle personal debts, probably the debts of the recently deceased Fr Duigan. Although there were documents to settle the case, another medico of Yass Dr Isadore Blake leader of the discontented faction attacked the Bishop and Vicar General verbally. "After Fr O'Connor the priest in charge declared the meeting closed Dr Blake attacked him with his walking stick". "All this before the eyes of the editor of the Yass Courier"! says the embarrassed Fr Dunne who was writing of the matter to the Bishop.

The same writer Fr Patrick Dunne also wrote in shame of a confrontation between the Rev O'Keefe and (the same) O'Connor not about the saving of souls but about the few pounds which may be got at a certain station between Burrowa and Binalong. O'Keefe arranged privately to say Mass at the station in question. O'Connor on hearing of it warned the people not to attend. "The boundaries" concluded the letter writer P. Dunne "ought to be defined as soon as possible (Dunne to McAlroy 7.3.1871).

OTHER EARLY PARISHIONERS

A list of 80 subscribers to the Catholic Church Building Fund (1837) at Yass has survived. While it can be safely assumed that most are Catholics, at least 10 were not. Many of them were settled far beyond the limits of Yass, as for example, Ned Ryan and Roger Corcoran at Galong and Burrowa. The majority of the names were not to endure in the district and some of them would certainly be lonely convict shepherds or emancipist labourers who never married.

The donors of windows in St Augustine's Church represent a group of families or individuals who became established members of the Yass Mission. The names are Coen, Dawes, Grogan, Kearns, Moore, Murray and Roche. Brief details of some are:

COEN: Michael Coen arrived in N.S.W. on the ship "Hotspur" on 5 December 1863, aged 20. He was the son of Timothy and Mary Coen of Clunemare near Tuam County Galway. He became a shopkeeper at Dubbo, married and was widowed. He remarried to Margaret Trainor about 1878 or 1879 and moved to Goulburn, then Yass where he set up shopkeeping and became a local household word in the "Australian Stores". He was a town alderman and became Mayor three times, introduced gas lighting to the town and promoted the tram line to Yass Junction. His family were:

- John — Became Fr. Alphonsus, Passionist Priest
- Timothy — Orchestral musician
- Michael J. — "King" shopkeeper, married Bess O'Dwyer
- Joseph — Doctor
- Barney — Doctor
- Francis — Barrister
- Evangelista — Convent, Sisters of the Sacred Heart
- Trix — Convent, Sisters of the Sacred Heart
- Ina — Convent, Sisters of Mercy
- Molly — Convent, Sisters of Mercy
- Ann — Died age 5, from diptheria
- Kathleen—Not married

DAWES: This family of 'Good Hope' district outside Yass has connection to many of today's Yass residents.

The children were:

- John H. — Married Mary Ann Duffy
- Catherine — Married Frederick Patmore
- William — Married Franklin
- George — Not married
- Mary — Married Michael Duff



Rev. Dermot O'Hurley. Pastor 1970-1981.

GROGAN: William Grogan arrived in N.S.W. by the ship "Isabella" on 16 December 1823. He was the son of Brian Grogan and Mary Madden of County Kildare, Ireland. William's wife Ann followed out in the ship "Caroline" 6 August 1833 with a son Bryan or Bernard aged 11. Seven more children were born from 1834. Bryan (Bernard) Grogan married 1841 to Sarah Cahery and in 1847 to Mary Jordan. A son of this first marriage William J. Grogan married Jane O'Brien of Kilrush (County Clare) in 1863 and William J. and Jane Grogan became the window donors. Grogan descendants became numerous and successful in the district at "Grogansworth", "Limestone" and "Illalong".

KEARNS (KEARINS): Paul Kearins was born in Ireland in 1821 and married Katherine Lennox, daughter of a Scottish lord who had Irish estates. A family story claims that the marriage was an elopement. They came to Yass and raised a family of five girls and a boy. Katherine Kearins died in 1871 at Yass and Paul Kearins remarried to Margaret O'Rourke. There were no children of his second marriage and Paul died in 1894. The church window recalls Paul and Margaret Kearins. Bridget Kearins, a daughter married James Duffy. The Kearins were residents of Yass River, but son, John Kearins who married a Duffy moved to Cootamundra.



Renovations 1987.

MOORE: Patrick Moore was born in County Kerry, probably in the village of Kilmanahan in 1788. He married at the age of 40 to the 19-year-old Anastasia Roach in 1828 and a son Maurice was born there in 1830. Patrick came to N.S.W. on the ship "Blenheim" arriving 14 November 1834. His wife Anastasia and son Maurice arrived per the "Ramillies" on 11 July 1850, joining Pat at Blakeney's Creek. It is this family of three who are commemorated in the St Augustine's window. They had been reunited after an absence of over 18 years. A second son Patrick was born to them in 1851.

Maurice Moore married Winifred Tully 1854
(seven children)

Patrick Moore Jr married Julia Purcell 1874 (six children)

Maurice and Winifred Moore developed a property "Mooreville" but their progress was shattered in 1866 with Maurice's death. Winifred remarried to Thomas Roche and a son Thomas David Roche was born in 1874.

Old Patrick and Anastasia Moore continued as innkeepers at Blakeney's Creek into old age. Their inn was

the scene of visits by bushrangers. The family of Patrick Jr and Julia Moore seem to have left the district and are untraced. The seven children of Maurice however remained mostly attached to the district.

Mary Moore married William Heffernan
Winifred married Harry McGann
Anastasia married Francis Kelly
Elizabeth — Mother Claver, Sisters of Mercy
Michael married Elizabeth
Patrick married Emily Kennedy
Maurice married Mary Clancy

ROCHE: James Roche from Cooleen, Thomastown, County Kilkenny came to N.S.W. as a student for the priesthood. He arrived on the ship "Templar" on 9 March 1843, accompanied by Bishop Polding who recruited the young student in Ireland. James Roche took the name 'John Paul' in the Benedictine Order, being ordained during 1846 at Sydney, St Mary's Monastery. By 1850 he was pastor at Campbelltown, N.S.W., but retired through ill-health in 1877. He was cared for in retirement by his niece Bridget Garry at "Mylora" near Bookham, where he died on 9 November 1880. His tombstone in Yass cemetery records "Rev. J. P. Roche O.S.B. qui obiit apud Mylora".

Father J. P. Roche O.S.B. had two brothers, Patrick and Laurence, and a sister Bridget follow him to Australia. Patrick Roche with wife Mary (Brennan) and six children arrived at the colony of Victoria on the ship "Clangregor" on 14 February 1855, after it ran aground in Port Phillip Bay. They eventually settled as farmers at Chidowla near Bookham. The younger brother Laurence married Ann Dalton at Adelong in 1858, settling at Adelong where they raised numerous descendants. The sister Bridget Byrne also settled in Tumut district. Anastasia Roche, the eldest daughter of Patrick and Mary Brennan had preceded her family by some years to work as housekeeper for her uncle, the Rev. 'John Paul' at Campbelltown. The Roche family with their 'Uncle Paul' provide an interesting example of chain migration, and in turn left numerous descendants in Yass district.

Other families associated with the Yass-Jugiong district were:

GARRY: They spring from James Garry who arrived from County Meath as an immigrant on 10 March 1839 and became involved with the coaching trade from Campbelltown to Albury. He built up a big depot of horses at Bogolong, before obtaining the well known grazing property "Mylora".

SHEAHAN: This family springs from another immigrant from Shanagolden County Limerick who arrived in N.S.W. on the "Aliquis" on 16 March 1839. After his association with James Garry was established, John Philip Sheahan established an inn at Jugiong, the Sir George Tavern, which is still held by descendants. It is of some interest to note that James Garry and John P. Sheahan arrived as young men, recently married, to the colony only a week apart in March 1839. They became associated with John Hurley, a successful Irish businessman at Campbelltown, and it seems likely that the 'Garry and Sheahan' coaching service was largely established and financed under Hurley's direction. They seemed to have responsibility for the Yass-Gundagai section of the coaching service, and the delivery of mail by government contracts.

HINGERTY: John Alexander Hingerty arrived on the "Jane Clifford" on 13 February 1841 from Templemore, County Tipperary. After marriage at Goulburn in 1845 to Isabella MacDonald, they raised a family of 10 children at Yass, some of whom were linked with old Yass families Hilly, Duffy and Galvin.

Many families such as Duffy, Hilly, Hingerty, Galvin, Toohey, Renehan and Maguire left Yass district in the 1870-1880 period to become pioneer settlers of Cootamundra and Temora districts when new Crown land became available for settlement.

The old chain of connection with Yass, which was a human feature of early days in the Riverina when Yass was the principal southern settlement, was thus extended with the internal migration of families following out the new railway system to newly developed areas during the 1870-80 decade. Yass was truly the 'mother town' of many other settlements in the south, as well as being the mother-church for the Catholic communities of southern N.S.W.

JULIAN Richard Julian, born in England, came to settle in the Bogolong-Bookham district. There he married Ellen Magennis, nee Sheahan, the widow of Joseph Magennis who died on 27th December 1856. Ellen Magennis/Julian raised 2 children from her first marriage and 7 children from her second marriage. The children were:

Anne Magennis 1852	m. Anne E. Hall
Patrick J. Magennis 1854	m. Lawrence Roche
Francis Julian	- died age 8
Philip Julian	
Richard Julian	m. Mary Clare Gallagher
Mary Julian	- Not married
Greatorex Julian	
Alfred Julian	
Florence Julian	- Became a nun

The widow Ellen, who died in 1924, lived to an age of 99 years and 9 months. She was a sister of John P. Sheahan, pioneer of Jugiong. Richard Julian became the owner of Bogolong station on the Yass end of Bookham village. There his stepson Patrick J. Magennis was the licensee of the early Bogolong Inn, but he later turned to grazing activities at "Bloomfield" and still later at Jeir. Mary Clare Gallagher was the niece of Bishop John Gallagher who had encouraged her to migrate to Australia, where she married Richard Julian Jr. They had 3 children surviving i.e.:

Patricia Julian	m. Dr Kevin Fagan
Nario Julian	m. George Walker
John Julian	m. Patricia Donohoe

Peter Walker, a son of George Walker, and grandson of Mary Clare (Gallagher), is a present member of various parish organisations. The Julian story provides an interesting link between pioneer settler families such as Sheahan, Magennis, Roche and Garry.



Bishop John Gallagher D.D.