

## Wentworth Historical Society

### **Background:**

The Wentworth Historical Society was formed in 1979 to record the history of the region. A small group of people gathered at the home of Mr Jeff Whyte in Cadell Street for many years before the society was given the opportunity of housing its collection at the Wentworth Shire Library when a new shire facility was built in 1995. The room is called the Jeff Whyte Local History Room after the society's inaugural president Mr Jeff Whyte.

### **Meetings:**

Meetings are held bi-monthly commencing with the first Thursday in February each year. The meetings commence at 5.30 pm at the Wentworth Shire Library.

### **Publications:**

The society publishes a **newsletter** six times a year. These are available at all Shire branch libraries and are a regular feature in the New South Western Standard Bulletin. Wentworth Community Branch of the Bendigo Bank assist with distribution costs.

The society is collating details to publish a **Pioneer Register**. Details of Pioneers can be lodged for inclusion in the publication. Forms are available and can be posted out or collected from any library.

### **Publications for sale:**

**"Maud's book of houses: 19th century houses of Wentworth"**. \$14.00 includes P&H

**"Maud's 2nd book of houses: 20th century houses of Wentworth, Curlwaa & Mainstreet Development"**.

\$25.00 includes P&H

### **Please send me:**

Book 1 ..... Book 2.....

I have enclosed a cheque for \$.....

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode.....

Phone Number:.....

**Send to:** The Treasurer, Wentworth Historical Society,

37 Adelaide St

Wentworth, NSW 2648

**If the public is interested in assisting with the growth of the historical collection they can: -**

- *Donate any material relating to the Wentworth Shire e.g. family papers, documents, clippings and souvenir booklets, family histories, organisational material such as sporting clubs and service clubs. If you wish to keep the originals we will be happy to photocopy or scan.*
- *Advise the society of any publications, newsletters or articles (old or new) that have Wentworth area content.*
- *Donate copies of family research to be housed in the Jeff Whyte Local History Room. (arrangements can be made to copy your material).*
- *Bring in photographs of local area to be scanned. The society has facilities to copy photographs on the spot and is interested in both historical and current images.*
- *Assist the Wentworth Historical Society with volunteering work, including indexing.*
- *Supply information on past Mayors, Presidents, Councillors, Alderman and employees of the Wentworth Shire Council.*
- *Provide assistance for the Oral History Project.*
- *Volunteering interviewers and interviewees are urgently required. **Training will be provided.***
- *Consider making a bequest to the Wentworth Historical Society of your family or local history research relating to the Wentworth district.*

**For more information contact**

**Leanne Watmuff**

**Wentworth Historical Society**

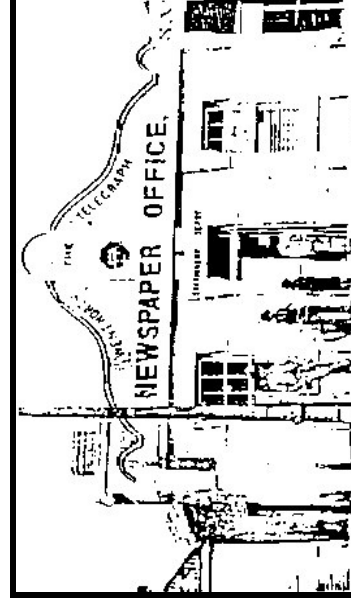
**C/- WENTWORTH SHIRE LIBRARY**

**Short Street Wentworth, NSW 2648**

**Telephone 03 5027 5060**

**Email: [historical@wentworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:historical@wentworth.nsw.gov.au)**

# Introduction to the Jeff Whyte History Room Wentworth Historical Society Collection 2006



*Wentworth Telegraph Office  
Wharf Street*

## The Collection

The Wentworth Historical Society collects and preserves material, both historical and current, in the Wentworth shire area. The objective is to endeavour to meet the requirements of the members of the local community and of persons from outside the area in their quest for information on aspects of life in the past and in the present in the Wentworth district.

### **POSTAL ADDRESS:**

The Secretary  
Wentworth Historical Society  
37 Adelaide Street  
Wentworth NSW 2648

### **ACCESS**

Jeff Whyte Local History Room  
Wentworth Shire Library  
Short Street  
Wentworth NSW 2648

### **TELEPHONE:** (03) 5027 5060 (Library)

**FAX:** (03) 5027 2137 (Library)

### **LIBRARY HOURS:**

Monday - Friday 10.30 am - 5.30 pm  
Saturday 10.00 am - 12 noon

### **Tuesday and Sundays CLOSED**

### **Public Holidays CLOSED**

The local history collection is open to the public during normal library opening hours and is **free** to use but donations towards the maintenance and preservation of the collection are always welcome.  
Library staff will assist with your request if no historical society members are available.

Charges apply for Photocopying, scanning and photo prints.

### **RESEARCH:**

This service is available to people who are not able to access the collection in person. A research fee of \$10.00 is charged. Additional costs may be incurred if photographs are required. The research is conducted by volunteers and inquiries are asked to personally check all material supplied.

## **Material held in the Jeff Whyte Local History Collection.**

The **Jeff Whyte Local History Collection** has a wide variety of materials available for research. Items in the local history collection are **not for loan**.

### **The following types of material are held in the collection:**

#### **Published Books:**

Books relating to the Wentworth area on local history, local families, genealogy and Australian history are held in Dewey order on the library shelves. These items can be accessed by using the library catalogue via the OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue).

#### **Church and cemetery records:**

The society holds transcriptions to all shire cemeteries, including some isolated station burials and lone graves along with copies of many of the church registers.

#### **Newspapers:**

The library in conjunction with the society has endeavoured to obtain as many locally produced newspapers on microfilm as possible. These newspapers can be accessed during library opening hours and include papers like *“The Deniliquin Pastoral Times” 1859-1881*, *“The Wentworth Telegraph” 1882-1885*; *“The Mildura Cultivator” 1888-1910* and *“Federal Standard” 1898 - 1911*.

Other newspapers with local content have been indexed and references to events can be sourced using this information at major city libraries holding the original material.

#### **Vertical File:**

The vertical file holds various types of material collected on many different subjects and are housed in a series of filing cabinets. Information from various sources including newspapers, books, periodicals and pamphlets are filed in subject order. Unpublished family histories and research are also filed in the Vertical File.

#### **Photographs:**

The society has a large collection of photographs relating to events and places within the Wentworth Shire area. An appointment is necessary to view the photographs. (Library (03 5027 5060) The society has facilities to copy private photographs to include in the collection.

#### **Maps:**

A selection of historical, geographical, topographical and Parish maps of the district are held. These have been indexed which provides vastly improved access.

#### **Holdings include:**

Curlwaa Fruit Growers Association; Wentworth Pasture Protection Board; Wentworth Graziers Association; Curlwaa Centenary Celebrations; John Hobbs field books; Coomealla Soldier Settlers Auxiliary; Curlwaa History book manuscripts; Wentworth Memorial Rest rooms Association; Wentworth Racing Club; Wentworth Combined Pensioners Association; Wentworth Red Cross Association; Wentworth CWA; Wentworth Masonic Lodge and many more.

#### **Donations:**

Items can be lodged with the Wentworth Historical Society either as a **gift** to enhance the collection or as a **loan** item. Organization and sporting clubs are asked to consider depositing their records for safe keeping where they are boxed and housed in atmospherically controlled conditions. Items of a sensitive nature are restricted or **CLOSED** to the public.

Further details can be obtained by [contacting](#)

**Leanne Watmuff**

**historical@wentworth.nsw.gov.au**