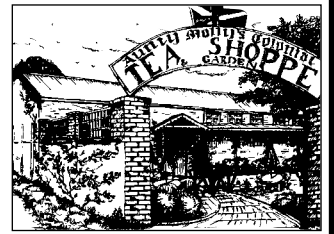


Aunty Molly's & **BAKEHOUSE NEWS**



NUMBER 17

BAKEHOUSE LANE (PO BOX 220) MORISSET NSW 2264
EMAIL: info@auntymollys.com.au WEBSITE: www.auntymollys.com.au

AUGUST 2010/2011

21 Years and Still Going Strong

Yes! Aunty Molly's celebrates 21 years of fun and festivity in 2011. In 1990, when the 24 seater Aunty Molly's Colonial Tea Shoppe and The Olde Bakehouse Furniture & Antiques was up and running, Toni was asked by a group organiser if she could cater a morning tea for a bus group. With the help of family, much of the stock from the furniture and antique shop, borrowed tables and chairs from a local hall, it was accomplished. Then someone else asked could she cater a 'roast lunch' for a bus group. She thought "hey, we're getting into the 'big stuff' here!!" But again, with family help and a lot of determination, using her own small home kitchen, she scraped through. It was only then that Toni realised that there was a niche market for Seniors Tours – they needed somewhere new to go. At that time, she was working 7 nights a week at the Argyle Tavern in Sydney, but thought perhaps that her talent as a performer and as a cook might be combined to produce a saleable product during the day.

Then, whilst strolling casually through a local shopping centre, she met Joe Clark, an old pommie friend and pianist, who had come to Australia with Tommy Trinder years



Toni and Joe in 1997

before and met and later married the love of his life, Nancy. Toni suggested to Joe, basically retired, that he might like to "do the odd gig" at Aunty Molly's. He agreed and the rest is history. Ten years later, quite understandably, Joe had to retire 'again' because the job was getting too much for him – by that stage, during months like July & December, they were doing 8-9 shows a week!

Toni tried out a couple of new pianists before Col Hanson came along. Col was, in those days, basically a jazz musician, but soon came up with all of the old songs our

seniors love. He has been at Aunty Molly's now for 11 years and has become, as the old saying goes, "part of the furniture".

Over the years Aunty Molly's has won several local and Hunter Tourism Awards bringing thousands of visitors to Morisset and the Hunter each year.

During the remainder of 2010 and 2011, Aunty Molly's looks forward to welcoming your group for varying monthly themes (see page 8) of entertainment which include morning tea, delicious two course lunch and lots of fun!



Toni and Col 2010

Welcome to our new E-Newsletter

Doesn't that sound impressive, but for those who have registered to receive this newsletter by email, we welcome you and now you will be able to take advantage of any specials we may have throughout the year. Also, of course, over the

internet, you receive us in full colour. We will still be mailing out to those who do not have computers but should your position change and you have access to a computer, please let us know as soon as possible and we will transfer you to the "E-List".

Also, if you know of anyone, be it a club or person, who you think would like to receive this newsletter, please let us know and we will be happy to include them. By the same token if you are getting double ups (mail plus email) it would be useful for us to know that too. Happy Reading!

TELEPHONE: (02) 4970 5105

Rallying Around

For several years, Aunty Molly's has been welcoming motor car and bike enthusiasts from all over NSW, Victoria and Queensland, with the Mercedes Benz Club visiting us again in May and in July we were happy to welcome the Ford Zephyr Club who were joined by some members of the Twin Lakes Classic Auto Club. Aunty Molly's is the perfect place for rallies, being situated just 3 km from the F3 Freeway and offering full conveniences. You can enjoy anything from morning or afternoon tea, delicious home style lunch in either of two air conditioned restaurants or al fresco barbecue in our beautiful garden setting. Of course, bookings are necessary.

Visitors from Deutschland

Anke & Joerg Bohnsack from Bonn in Germany wondered what had hit them when they visited Aunty Molly's for "Winterfest" Christmas in July!

This lovely couple, newly retired and taking full advantage of a worldwide house swap system. While they were house-sitting in Bonnells Bay, the Australian owners were looking after the Bohnsack's house in Bonn. What a great way to see and enjoy the world. Anke & Joerg certainly involved themselves in the spirit of the day and have some wonderful memories to take back with them to Germany.



OKTOBERFEST 2010 the Final Chapter



This year commemorates 25 years of Toni's Oktoberfest. The show was put together in 1985 at the request of the management of Rooty Hill RSL and was presented in Pharaoh's Restaurant. Since then the show has become bigger and better. Over the years, there have been many guest entertainers involved with the production. Mark Kristian, Stephen Fisher King, Johnny Smythe, Mary Schneider, Terry Kaff, Rex & Wendy Allison, James Galea and many more and it has appeared regularly in some of NSW biggest clubs such as Blacktown Workers, Bankstown Sports, Shellharbour Workers, Twin Town Services, South Sydney Juniors, Cabravale Diggers, Fairfield RSL, Smithfield RSL, Gosford Leagues, Wollongong Diggers... so many, way

too numerous to mention. But, all good things must come to an end and this year Toni has decided it's time to hang up the dirndl and the lederhosen.

The final few shows will be as follows:

9th October
Bankstown Sports Club

10th October
South Sydney Juniors

23rd October
Blacktown Workers Club

30th October
Toronto Workers Club

Naturally, this will not affect our Oktoberfest Theme at Aunty Molly's which will still be part of our annual calendar.

Albe Hits the Jackpot

Ten years ago, we reported that our old friend Albe Heathcote had celebrated his 80th birthday. On Saturday 10th July, Albe made the Big Nine-0! Always the life and soul of the party with his magnificent voice and bush poetry, he and his wife Marie, were regular customers at Aunty Molly's for many years and he never refused an opportunity to sing for our patrons, our favourite always being his rendition of "Wonderful World". We wish Albe many more years in this wonderful world and we celebrate his wonderful life giving so much pleasure to others.



A Bumper Winterfest Once Again

They come from far and wide to celebrate "Christmas In July" at Aunty Molly's. Many also make it part of a Hunter Valley experience with a two or three day tour included. With bountiful amounts of bon bons popping daily, full Christmas decorations and a delicious festive lunch – hundreds of happy travellers were treated to loads of laughs, they sang traditional Christmas songs and experienced a fun filled three hours. All Aunty Molly's Theme Days

commence at 11.15am with morning tea and include a two course lunch and all entertainment. The comfort of a tour bus is always preferable, but for those who are able, the train is another option, with the Sydney to Newcastle trains all stopping at Morisset. Elevators are available at the station, which is an easy 8 minutes walk from Aunty Molly's. Should you have anyone in your group who is not too mobile, then a car can be arranged to meet you.

It's A Family Affair



Toni's second daughter, Grace, is the fundraising manager for the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children at Floraville, near Newcastle, so when the staff decided to thank their volunteers, for the wonderful jobs they do, with a Christmas in July party, Grace called on the family, in their varying

capacities, to help out. Eldest daughter, Sarah, who now owns and operates Sarah-Jays Cafe in Morisset, prepared a sumptuous Christmas Dinner, whilst Toni provided the entertainment and son in law, Craig, stepped in as Santa. A great night, enjoyed by all, in appreciation of some very special people.

Rumours Still Flying

Rumour: "a generally circulated story, report or statement without facts to confirm it's truth". Toni looked it up in the dictionary because she wondered how in the world the news evolved that Aunty Molly's was "closed", Toni has "sold up", even "gone to live in Queensland" (she has no idea where that one came from!!!).

Just after Christmas 2007, Toni closed only the 'a la carte' side of the Restaurant and for 18 months it was used just as a Function and Entertainment Centre. The roadside

signs quite clearly stated this and the Theme Days continued as they always had done in the past. In August of 2009, Alice Polglase and Diane Stemp took over the catering side and opened up again as a 7 day a week business. Aunty Molly's (the entertainment side of the business) is still going strong with all popular themes being covered throughout the year, though not as regularly as in the past, due to Toni's increasing cruise schedule with Princess Cruises, but time is made each month specifically for Aunty Molly's customers, particularly during

Seniors Week 2011 – What a Hoot!!

Seniors Week is 21st March to 26th March 2011 and Aunty Molly's is offering some great specials during this special time. For only \$33.00 (our 2009 Price) your group can enjoy a totally different concept – it's our Aussie Bush Tucker Bash, featuring Australia's multi award winning Bush Poet Laureate CAROL HEUCHAN. She'll make you laugh – she'll make you cry, but they will be the finest tears you've ever shed. Commencing with morning tea from 11.15am and a three course lunch which features, Pumpkin Soup, quality Aussie Meat Pie, Mash 'n' Peas with gravy and, of course traditional Pavlova. Col will be here to have you singing along so there will be oodles of entertainment. But wait... there's more!! If you are the organiser of a group of 40 or more your day is on us – yes, you get a free ticket! So get your club, your friends and family together and take advantage of us with this one off price (for Seniors Week only).



the peak months such as March, July and October So everyone is still very welcome at Aunty Molly's.

PHONE TONI McLEAN ON (02) 4970 5105

In Lean Times

Every so often, the history of the Old Bakehouse is brought to the fore by visits from people who are connected to our past. One such visit came in July when Joan Lean, whose husband, Bruce, is the son of Arnold Lean, owner of the other family bakery in Dora Creek. Arnold's brother (Bruce's uncle) was Clive Lean, who became a leading member of the Morisset community and one of Lake Macquarie's most prominent citizens. Joan travelled up from Sydney with Sans Souci Ladies Probus Club. A few years ago we featured an article called "History in the Baking" which was based on the findings of George and Joy Percival, residents of Linden in the lower Blue Mountains. To bring some of our new readers up to date with our history we have featured the story again in this issue. See page 5.



Toni & Joan.

She's Been Everywhere, Man!!!

In the words of her very good friend, Geoff Mack, writer of the famous hit song "I've Been Everywhere" Toni has become the ultimate sailor, performing on many Princess Cruises this year with many more scheduled well into 2011. It has come to the stage where she gets on and off the ship where they tell her to but often has no idea where that ship might be going in between. During 2010 Toni has already visited China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand, India, Dubai, Port Vila, Fiji and other Pacific Islands, plus several trips to New Zealand and Tasmania.

"I really admire some of the passengers that I meet, often on a regular basis on board various cruises. Many of them are elderly, some are single, but they are out there enjoying life to the full, often spending much of their life at sea. I know that Princess offer great perks,



Toni at the Great Wall of China.

the more you travel and it has often been said that it is cheaper to cruise on a ship than to live in a Nursing Home. What a way to go!!"

CRUISE SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS

Sun Princess: **9th August to 15th August** – Singapore to Fremantle
Sun Princess: **15th August to 21st August** – Fremantle to Singapore
Dawn Princess: **19th September to 1st October** – Fremantle to Sydney
Dawn Princess: **1st October to 6th October** – Sydney to Suva
Diamond Princess: **3rd Nov to 11th Nov** – Singapore to Hong Kong
Sun Princess: **21st November to 27th November** – Sydney to Napier
Pacific Jewel: **18th December to 23rd December** – Sydney to Port Vila
Dawn Princess: **30th December to 3rd January** – Auckland to Melbourne
Dawn Princess: **3rd January to 7th January** – Melbourne to Auckland
Sun Princess: **19th January to 25th January** – Wellington to Sydney
Sun Princess: **13th February to 20th February** – Napier to Sydney (?)
Sun Princess: **20th February to 26th February** – Sydney to Napier (?)
Dawn Princess: **23rd March to 31st March** – Fremantle to Darwin

Back to Seven Days Trading

In our last issue, we introduced you to our business owners, Alice Polglase and Dianne Stemp, who have now been running The Old Bakehouse Restaurant for over a year with great success, especially for weddings and private functions.

The restaurant is now open 7 days a week from 9am until 3pm for morning and afternoon teas and delicious home cooked lunches and for dinners Wednesday to Saturday from 6pm. On Wednesday evenings they feature special \$10 Schnitzel night and on Thursday it's specialty

Crepe Night (buy one, get a second half price). We are still BYO alcohol – soft drinks may be purchased and chilled water is always available. Come along and try us for your next day or night out.

For reservations simply ring Alice or Di 4970 5105.

History in the Baking

by Toni McLean

I have much admiration for people who are passionate about genealogy and who persevere in their pursuit to find out all about their ancestors.

In the case of George and Joy Percival of Linden in the Blue Mountains, their search for their family history proved to be also a great acquisition of information for Aunty Molly's, for Joy's grandfather did, at one time, run the bakery business here in Morisset.

Their thorough search revealed that the land on which the Olde Bakehouse now stands was a Crown Land Grant and was sold in 1888 to James Wellings. Then in 1894 it was bought by Henry Frost who was a baker by trade and, we believe, built the Bake House. In 1897 it was transferred to his daughter in law, Dinah Frost, who we surmise ran the business until around 1901. In 1901 and 1902 the business was listed to one, J. Taylor, as a Bake House and General Store. Joy's grandparents William and Mina Walker took over in 1902.

William died in 1906 at the age of 45 years, leaving his wife to bring up three children and run the bakery. Mina purchased the land adjoining in 1908 and would have been baking the bread in fuel stoves. The first hand written account for the building of the first the baking oven, as we see it today, was in 1911. Mina's son, Wells,



Clive Lean 1886-1957.



William Walker 1861-1906.

was taken out of school at the age of 11 years to help run the business and later, Arthur Clive Cole Lean became involved. Clive Lean, as he was known, leased the business in 1914 and ultimately purchased the property in 1918. He became a leading member of the Morisset Community and helped to bring much prosperity to the town as a very active member of the Progress Association and he served on Lake Macquarie Council from 1931-1937. It was Clive who added the extension to the old bakery, (we believe in the mid thirties) making it into the building you see today, the additions being obvious by the different coloured brickwork. The Lean family operated the business until 1956, when it was sold to the Ingram's, who sold off the other block to the Waterboard. The remaining block passed to J. & R. Bakery which, we are told, were the Sylvesters, now of Cessnock.

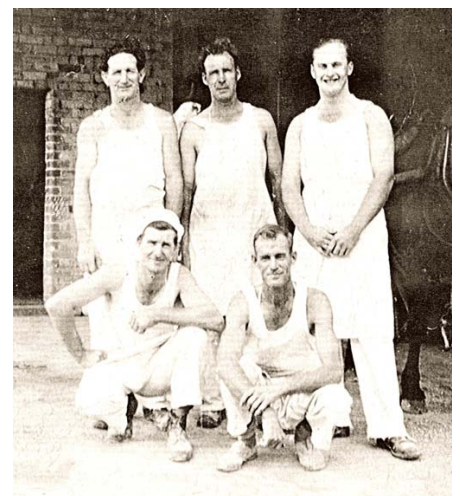
So in the early sixties the bakery was closed down and was subsequently used for various purposes, mainly an antique shop, then discount wares until my husband Jim and I purchased it in 1989. There are a couple of extraordinary coincidences too. I was born in Staffordshire, England, so was William Walker. The Lean's ran



this business for many years. I am a Mc-Lean (same clan).

My passion is renovating old buildings and the Olde Bakehouse, even though work is still in progress, has been brought up to perhaps much better than it's former glory, with beautiful gardens where, I am delighted, many of our customers are able to enjoy delicious food 7 days a week and many weddings and private parties are now being held. The Stables Café, thus named because it is where the horses were bridled and made ready for deliveries, is one of two fully air conditioned restaurants.

With George & Joy's passion and my passion combined, I am convinced that the ghosts of the past are very content and I am always happy to be able to say "You're Always Welcome at Aunty Molly's"



The bakers; Garth Lean, Bon Coggan, Ken Auston, Don George, Bert Argent.

Happy Hunter Travellers

Recent changes of ownership have not altered the unique service offered by Hunter Valley Buses formerly Toronto and Morisset Bus Service. With several visits every year to Aunty Molly's either for Entertainment Theme Days or for Morning Tea en-route to other places of interest, the company continues to be one of the most popular in the Hunter for touring local groups. Cost has much to do with it and Sue Ashby, their tour co-ordinator, makes sure that every group gets the best price, without compromising on quality of service.

Hunter Valley Buses travel far & wide specialising in seniors & school groups. Day tours are their speciality and enjoyable days like the one at Aunty Mollys can be arranged and all bookings taken care of for the group. Our coaches are air conditioned, seat belted and have rest room facilities.



HVB transports Wallsend Ladies Probus.

Contact Sue 4959 1233.

On the final day of Winterfest, we welcomed a friendly group with Stone Street Coaches from Queensland, who were on tour in

NSW. The passengers were from the Gold Coast, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Brisbane and several other places in the Sunshine State and they certainly brought the sunshine with them.

Raising the Roof

Toni has supported many charities over the years, but none so close to her heart as Southlake Refuge, here in Lake Macquarie. The Refuge supports women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. They provide shelter, counseling and, eventually, re-housing of many broken families.

It is run almost totally on donations and their volunteers provide a rostered 24 hour care. Their major sources of income are from their Charity Shops in Cessnock and Toukley. The roof of the Cessnock Shop was badly damaged and desperately needed major repairs for the shop to remain functional and extra funds were badly needed.

Once again, Toni called on some of her show biz mates and organized a concert "Raising the Roof" at Toronto Workers Club. The stars were Lucky Starr and Francine Bell, with Carol Heuchan, Liam Burrows, Kerry



Left to right: Toni Stevens, Carol Heuchan, Kerry Grant, Liam Burrows, Lucky Starr & Francine Bell.

Grant and Toni as host and compere. Also donating their time were six top musicians: Colin Hanson, Chris Dawson, David Jones, Alan

Cantwell, Warren Shaw and Brian Goldsmith. It was a wonderful Sunday afternoon of fun, raising almost \$6,000 for the Refuge.



CHRISTMAS

AT **The Olde** **Bakehouse** **2010**

THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS PARTY VENUE

*With a la Carte or Set Menu, Buffet or Garden BBQ.
Bring your friends, your family, your workmates too
To The Olde Bakehouse Restaurant.*

*Relax in air the conditioned comfort of one of
our two restaurants or dine Al Fresco in our
beautiful garden setting.*

*With or without entertainment – your choice
of music – Disco: Karaoke: Live Band or Cabaret*

FOR SENIORS' AND SOCIAL GROUPS

Celebrate Christmas from Mid November

With morning tea from 11.15am,
three course Festive Lunch and Entertainment

“Christmas Crackers”

with your Host Toni Stevens

BYO Alcohol Reservations Essential

**FOR SENIORS DAYS &
ENTERTAINMENT CALL TONI OR
FOR PRIVATE FUNCTIONS & EVENTS
CALL ALICE ON 4970 5105**

AUNTY MOLLY'S 2011 THEME SHOWS & A LA CARTE SPECIALS

*Tours and Bus Groups are most welcome (by appointment) for morning or afternoon tea and lunch.
Small Groups, Couples and Singles are welcome to join our theme days or nights at any time.*

*Please note: Theme Days include morning tea from 11.15am, a delicious three course lunch
and entertainment. Our Theme Nights include three course dinner, unlimited tea and coffee with
entertainment. We are BYO Alcohol only – soft drinks pay be purchased.*

*Set menus are designed to reflect the traditional cuisine of the represented country.
Special dietary needs can be catered with prior notice.*

JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Restaurant open 7 days for morning or afternoon teas and lunch for touring groups. Limited availabilities for entertainment days. Please phone us for dates.

MARCH

1st to 19th

"ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL"

With lots of shenanigans & great traditional Irish lunch

21st to 26th

SPECIAL FOR SENIORS WEEK

It's our AUSSIE BUSH BASH with Poet Laureate CAROL HEUCHAN, Col Hanson at the piano and delicious authentic Aussie tucker

APRIL

"THE OLDE BULL & BUSH"

Our most popular Pommie Pub Days Celebrating Her Majesty's official birthday & ANZAC Day.

MAY

"HIGHLANDS & THE HAGGIS"

We toast the Tartan in true Scottish style with heaps o'hoots mon in our Caledonian Capers.

Sunday 8th May

MOTHERS' DAY

Remember mum on Mother's Day.
Breakfast or Lunch.

JUNE

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Join us for a fun filled day in true Aussie style

JULY

IT'S "WINTERFEST"

Yet another amazing midyear Christmas celebration and festivities with all the trimmings and heaps of fun!"

AUGUST

"A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY"

SPECIAL TREAT FOR ALL FANS
OF TRADITIONAL COUNTRY MUSIC

featuring Toni, back where she started (guitar and all)
with special guest, sensational yodeller Angela Hayden.

SEPTEMBER

"MAGIC MEMORIES"

We present a tribute to the Divas – Vera Lynn,
Gracie Fields, Gladys Moncreiff, the Dames Melba
& Sutherland and many other great legends
with a very special classical interlude.

SEPTEMBER

"FATHERS' DAY"

...and don't forget the ol' fella on FATHERS' DAY!
That's on **Sunday 4th September** for Breakfast or Lunch.

OCTOBER

"OKTOBERFEST"

This has become one of Aunty Molly's great favourites
with lots of oom-pah-pah and heaps of fun.

NOVEMBER

1st to 18th NOVEMBER

"It's your choice of theme!"

For this pre-Christmas season you might prefer a
Pommie Pub, Music Hall or a Scottish Day.

FROM 21st NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

"CHRISTMAS CRACKERS"

Choose from several menus to suit everyone's budget,
includes Lunch or Dinner, Set Menu or a la Carte,
Garden BBQ – with or without entertainment.

**Please note: The above themes are offered at the time
of print and as pre-booked by groups.
Some may be changed according to availability.**

**Email: info@auntymollys.com.au www.auntymollys.com.au
Aunty Molly's & The Olde Bakehouse... A great place to party!**

TELEPHONE: (02) 4970 5105