

Site of the Traveller's Rest Hotel Stables

At approximately 2.45 pm on Monday, 10 February, 1879, Ned Kelly, in company with the Proprietor of the Traveller's Rest Hotel, Mr McDougall, Police Constable Richards, and the Teller at the Bank of New South Wales, Mr Living, arrived at the stables to inspect a racing mare "Minnie". Ned was aware of the mare's presence through information received earlier from a sympathizer.

Ned asked Mr McDougall what he valued the mare at, and on being told £50, Ned replied "if I take the mare away with me I will give you that amount for her".

At approximately 3.30 pm Steve Hart, acting on instructions given by Ned Kelly, arrived at the stables, having walked over from the Royal Mail Hotel carrying the hunting saddle belonging to Mr Living. He saddled up the racing mare "Minnie", which was actually the property of Miss Mary McDougall, the daughter of the hotel proprietor, and rode it to the Police Barracks to meet up with the rest of the Kelly gang.

Miss McDougall's mare was later let loose in the Police Horse Paddock for her to collect after a plea made by Rev. Gribble to Ned Kelly on Miss McDougall's behalf. Mr Living's saddle was also returned to him after a personal plea to Ned Kelly, also at the Police Barracks.

Luke Park

Luke Park, a project of the Lions Club of Jerilderie, was undertaken to complement adjacent Lake Jerilderie, which was officially opened on 11 February 1979 during the centenary celebrations held to commemorate the raid on Jerilderie by Ned Kelly and his gang.

Luke Park was officially opened on 21 October 1980 and, at the request of the Lions Club, was named in honour of a foundation member of the Club, Thomas Luke, who was also the driving force behind the establishment of the Lake.

Steel Wings Windmill

Made in 1910 by the Steel Wings Windmill Company of North Sydney, the windmill was originally erected at Goolgumbra Station for the owner, Sir Samuel McCaughey.

It was transported by rail to Jerilderie for transfer by bullock wagons to the Goolgumbra Station, 75km north-west of Jerilderie.

Until 1947 it provided water to the Station's homestead, ram sheds and dams along a 45 km irrigation channel system. It collapsed during a severe windstorm in 1977 and the then owners of the station, Dalgety's, offered it to Jerilderie as an historical exhibit.

Restored and relocated to Luke Park, Jerilderie in July 1979, the windmill is one of only six machines of this type ever made, and was the only one in operation throughout the world until 2004, when a second windmill was restored and erected at Taroom, Queensland.

The Steel Wings windmill stands 50ft high, has a 25ft diameter wheel, and a 24ft long tail piece. Its nose plate acts as a governor and automatically turns the machine out of high winds to save structural damage. It operates a 6" plunger on a 19" stroke, lifting 2 gallons per revolution, which is used to offset evaporation losses from Lake Jerilderie, adjacent to Luke Park.


