

Opening of Glen Aplin Hall

STANTHORPE: The culmination of several years of hard work and planning by Glen Aplin residents will be reached tonight when the Glen Aplin Memorial Hall will be officially opened by the Minister for Works and Housing (Mr. P. J. R. Hilton).

The story of the hall is one of achievement, a story of long range planning, co-operative effort and selfless service to the community embodied in an enduring alliance which will perpetuate the memory of men of the district who served in two world wars.

Those responsible for its erection have had a long hard battle against shortage of building material and finance, but now, with their goal in sight, they feel that the battle was worthwhile.

The building, which is of concrete brick construction, cost over £4000, despite the great amount of work done by voluntary labour, and, with a dance floor 70 feet by 40 feet, is the largest hall in the Granite Belt.

About three years ago residents of Glen Aplin held a public meeting to decide on a fitting way to erect a memorial to the servicemen of the district. It was then decided to erect the present structure and a committee was formed with Mr. H. L. Lyons as chairman and Mr. Calvert as secretary.

Under their leadership, voluntary labour cleared the site, laid the foundations and has generally played a major role in the construction work.

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The finished work will long stand as an inspiration to the people of Glen Aplin, an example of what vision, enterprise and co-operation can achieve.

The opening will be performed at a gala ball to be held in the hall tonight and this promises to be a memorable event.

Beside Mr. Hilton and Mrs. Hilton, the chairman of the Stanthorpe Shire Council (Cr. Rogers) and Mrs. Rogers will be in attendance the president of the Stanthorpe R.S.L., local C.M.F. units and representatives of the Army Corps at Wallangarra.

Compere for the night will be Bob Strath, amenities officer at Greenslopes Military Hospital, and a prominent entertainer of troops during the war. Numerous competitions (all free) include prizes for the most charmingly frocked lady, most original fan, most colourful tie and a balloon waltz.

Visitors from Tenterfield, Warwick and all adjacent centres will ensure that the ball will create new records in this district.